

# Facing power?

A dark comedy on the college stage asks how to react to chilling authority. See Arts + Leisure.



### Volunteers

A special section inside honors those who give time & talents throughout Addison County.



### Recreation

Summer is on the way - really! Learn what the Midd. Recreation *Department has to offer.* 

# ADDISON COUNTY

# INDEPENDENT

Vol. 79 No. 17

Middlebury, Vermont ◆ Thursday, April 24, 2025 ◆ 80 Pages

\$2.00



VERMONT SECRETARY OF State Sarah Copeland Hanzas, left, Attorney General Charity Clark, center, and Treasurer Mike Pieciak spoke at Middlebury's Town Hall Theater on Saturday during a forum on state officials' approach to protecting Vermonters from the Trump Administration's seemingly capricious actions.

# Vt. officials join the battle against Trump policies

### AG has filed 10 lawsuits — so far By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Some of Vermont's top elected officials converged on Middlebury this past Saturday to spread a united message during these tumultuous early days of the Trump Administration: The Green Mountain State will pull out all the stops to safeguard its citizens from the growing threats of reduced federal funding, as well as any assaults on free speech, voting procedures and immigrants' rights.

That was a major takeaway

from an April 19 panel discussion at Town Hall Theater that almost filled the main low-income, hall with folks hungry to hear about how the state is preparing for — or reacting to the myriad executive orders and budget signals coming from a White House and GOPled Congress bent on delivering on their 2024 campaign promises.

Those promises - which don't seem to be shared by most Vermont natural disaster aid. residents include cutting

"It's going to land on middle-class people the hardest, because (Trump's tariffs are) essentially a regressive sales tax."

— Mike Pieciak

frightening as many foreign nationals as possible; obliterating efforts to make American society more equitable; restricting voting following false claims of a rigged 2020 presidential election; eliminating gender affirming rights; and dismantling federal agencies that oversee public education, human services and

billions in government

spending; deporting or

(See Trump policies, Page 11A)

### Porter Hospital readies for its 100th birthday

**By JOHN FLOWERS** 

MIDDLEBURY -Medical Center has accumulated more than its fair share of compelling stories during its first century as Addison County's cradle-to-grave health care hub.

Thousands of births spanning multiple generations of some families since Porter Memorial Hospital was built in 1025.

Patients vanquishing lifethreatening illnesses under the expert care of seasoned health care providers.

Terminally ill folks showing incredible perseverance and dignity as they live out their final days surrounded by support and compassion.

New facilities and technological advances that have made surgeries, physical rehab and medical records keeping more efficient and effective.

There's a lot to celebrate, and Porter stakeholders are invited to do just that at a centennial birthday party on June 14 on the Porter campus off South Street in Middlebury.

In addition to enjoying food, music and fun at the birthday (See Porter, Page 10A)



Addison County's employment rate was measured at 2.7% in March, down from the February rate of 2.9%, according to the Vermont Department of Labor. There were 578 people seeking work in March out of a total Addison County workforce of 21,791, according to the state. The statewide unemployment (See By the way, Page 14A)

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Can't wait for Easter

YOUNG KIDS ARE literally climbing the gate before it is opens and releases them into the Eddy Farm fields in Middlebury on Sunday morning for the annual Easter Egg Hunt and Open Barn. Thousands of eggs, beautiful spring weather and a rather large rabbit in jacket and tie greeted the children. See more photos inside.

Independent photo/Steve James

# Ferrisburgh fire dept., town eyeing merger

### Future seen as a municipal entity

By ANDY KIRKALDY

point in the not-too-distant future, municipal umbrella. the Ferrisburgh Volunteer Fire Department could change from members and fire department being an independent nonprofit leaders have been batting around

entity to a department operating FERRISBURGH — At some under the town of Ferrisburgh's

Ferrisburgh selectboard

that idea for a while. But recently talks have become more serious about a change that both parties say has advantages for the town and fire department alike.

"The most obvious benefit is that it really ensures the long-term viability of our community fire

department," Selectboard Vice Chair Chris Campbell said.

"If they get brought into the fold, they're a piece of our town government," Campbell added. "Not that we would ever in any way, shape or form micro-manage

# Vt. farmers struggle with federal actions

### Bemoan immigration policies, funding cuts

VERMONT — Farmers are trying to figure out their next steps as they reel from changes to federal agriculture policies in the past three months that were capped this week when U.S. border agents arrested migrant farm workers at a dairy farm in Franklin County.

"Vermonters know these family farms are the lifeblood of our communities When farm workers are living in fear that they will be snatched up, it doesn't make us safer," Vermont Congresswoman Becca Balint said in a Tuesday statement on the farm worker arrests. "It leaves us without food on our tables and real families without parents or siblings at home. The Trump administration is yet again intent on not only ripping apart families but taking our agriculture industry down with

It started in March when two U.S. Department of Agriculture cancelled programs that support local farms by paying them to provide food for specific local markets. One supported 80 Vermont farms, which in turn

(See Farm workers, Page 7A)

# Lincoln chef plans to serve up free meals around the country

By MARIN HOWELL

LINCOLN — As chef and co-owner of the former Smoke and Lola's restaurant, Lincoln resident Wayne Johnson would often whip up free, nourishing meals for community members.

During its run at 28 North St., the Bristol eatery served an estimated 9,000-plus cups of "Pat's Soup of the Day," a free soup offering that paid homage to Johnson's late friend, Pat Peters. A former chef at Middlebury College, Peters would whip up free soup for the community on her days off.

Now, Johnson is gearing up to take his culinary talents — and the spirit of Pat's Soup of the Day on the road. He's launching Don't Panic Catering, a self-sufficient,

mobile catering business that will travel around the country providing high-quality catering services and use surplus revenue to offer free meals.

And that's not all Johnson's hoping to provide. The effort is aimed at creating "a safe space for people to gather, converse, connect, eat and start to heal the divisiveness within our communities across the nation."

"The biggest goal for me is to have people sit down who don't agree and break bread essentially and share thoughts and ideas that have nothing to do with their differences, and only to do with the things that make us all human," Johnson said during a recent interview.

(See Wayne Johnson, Page 9A)



DON'T PANIC CATERING will operate out of a former military mobile kitchen trailer that Wayne Johnson and several community members are refurbishing. The fully functional kitchen folds up into a more compact trailer, which will allow it to access a variety of venues around the country.

### Green Up Day is just around the corner; time to make a plan

ADDISON COUNTY — On the first Saturday in May Vermonters head out to roads, streams and fields to pick up trash on the state's annual Green Up Day.

But, although that day is still more than a week off, Vermonters who are moved by signs of spring don't need to wait to pitch in, says Lowell Bertrand, Green Up coordinator in Vergennes.

"Although Green Up Day is May 3, volunteers can start picking up trash anytime between now and then," he said, pointing out that citizens can stop by Vergennes City Hall anytime through May 2 to pick up special green bags for collecting roadside trash. "Our supplies have been ordered for the effort of greening up Vergennes, but I would not dissuade volunteers from picking up trash anywhere they see it. Our overall goal is to Green Up Vermont."

Green Up Day is overseen by a state organization, but the organization is really done at the local level — even at the level of each household. That's because it is up to each Vermonter to decide to take action individually, and then go out and pick up trash and dispose of it in the proper place.

Each town has a Green Up coordinator to help make things happen in their own locality.

For example, Peggy Lyons is Weybridge's Green Up coordinator. She recently reached out on Front Porch Forum to tell residents they can find green trash bags, gloves, information sheets/cards and a signup sheet/road map at the Recycling Center.

"Please use the highlighter to mark the road section you will be cleaning," Lyons wrote. "Add your name to the sheet with the next sequential number AND write that number by where you highlighted the road section. Please list the number of people in your party helping to clean up. The state organization asks for this information.

She noted that it is first come/ first claimed, but noted that "people are rather protective and claim 'ownership' to sections they have cleaned for years."

Becky Trombley is the Green Up Day coordinator in Starksboro. She said that starting on April 23 people

could pick up Green Up bags at the Jerusalem Store, Starksboro Public Library and town clerk's office during normal business hours.

"If they are Greening Up on a state road they can just leave those bags on the side of the road (Route 17 or Route 116)," Trombley told the Independent. "If they're on a town road we're asking people to bring those bags to the transfer station between 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on May 3."

She said that people looking for a way to get involved or get more information can call her at 802-453-7350. She added it's nice if people call and mention where they are greening up, the mileage they cover and the number of bags.

"I would just like to put out appreciation for everybody that contributes," Trombley said. "We have people that have been coming out to green up every year for a really long time, and that's really appreciated."

You can find your town's Green Up coordinator on the state website at greenupvermont.org/ towndetails.

Beyond town-organized activities, others also plan Green Up events.

Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT) is partnering with Addison County Solid Waste Management District and Pollinator Pathways of Addison County on a May 3 event.

It includes picking up bags, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at College Park adjacent to the Academy Street Bus Stop. In addition to light snacks and water until 1 p.m., MALT Interim Executive Director Erica Harris and MALT board members will be there until 10 a.m. and welcome community insight regarding the organization's leadership transition and MALT's next phase of growth.

Drop off Green Up bags in Middlebury at the same location until 3 p.m.

If you wish to grab a Green Up bag before May 3, do so at the MALT office in the Marble Works or at the Middlebury town offices.

In conjunction with this event, Pollinator Pathways will offer a Potting Workshop 10 a.m. to 11:30

In Vergennes, Bertram and his Co-Coordinator and daughter Sierra Bertrand will be stationed at



### Release the children!

VISIONS OF COLORED Easter eggs dance in the eyes of kids racing into a field at the Eddy Farm in Middlebury on Sunday at the start of its annual Easter Egg Hunt. Children were invited to find some of the thousands of eggs that staff hid throughout one field, and then see horses in the open barns.

# Starksboro to vote on \$1M for municipal projects

By MARIN HOWELL

STARKSBORO — Starksboro voters next month will be asked whether to bond for up to \$1.1 million to support the Jerusalem Community Center and Fire Station Project.

The effort — estimated to cost \$1.3 million — has been in the works for several years and is aimed at renovating the Jerusalem Schoolhouse into a year-round, fully accessible community center and building a new, stand-alone fire station at the site to better meet the needs of the department and residents.

"We are hopeful that residents will see the value that this project provides the community, both in terms of recreation and essential services," selectboard member Carin McCarthy told the *Independent*.

Voting will take place at the town offices on Tuesday, May 6, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., or by absentee ballot. An informational meeting is set for Monday, April 28, at 6:30 p.m. at Robinson Elementary School. There will also be an open house at the Jerusalem Schoolhouse this coming Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m.- PROJECT HISTORY

McCarthy noted the Jerusalem Schoolhouse has served Starksboro residents for 151 years. Located at 397 Jerusalem Road, not far from Route 17 in South Starksboro, the one-room schoolhouse was built in 1874 and served local students until 1968. A 1930s addition to the building now contains "a heating oil tank, the water system, a second abandoned bathroom and unused storage space," according to a project history on the town's website.

Residents continue to use the schoolhouse for events like birthdays and educational activities. But during the winter the water is shut off, and the space is only heated for short periods.

"The building is not currently ADA compliant and is poorly insulated, limiting use and requiring it to be closed for the winter months, McCarthy said.

The schoolhouse also has several structural issues and is in a general state of disrepair, according to the project history.

The 0.52-acre lot also houses Starksboro Fire Station #2.

type garage structure" attached to the schoolhouse after the town identified the need for a fire department substation in South Starksboro in the early 1970s.

"The current structure that houses the second fire truck is in poor condition and is prone to flooding," McCarthy said.

The project history notes that the lack of a proper foundation has taken a toll, and the concrete slab has sunken significantly.

"When standing in the station you can see underneath the foundation of the attached schoolhouse, and the sinking foundation is causing the structure to pull away from the schoolhouse," town officials wrote. "Additionally, due to the lower grade, every time it rains the station fills up with several inches of mud and silt."

Over the years, the Ladies Home Circle and the Friends of the Jerusalem Schoolhouse have encouraged use of the building and raised funds for necessary renovations. The town's selectboard utilities are already in place." decided in 2017 that a plan needed CONSTRUCTION PLANS to be developed for construction of

Volunteers constructed "a lean-to- a new fire station and transformation of the schoolhouse into an accessible building that could be used yearround.

The town formed the Jerusalem

Community Center Committee in 2018, and the group was tasked with "figuring out where and how to construct a new fire station, and how best to rehabilitate the historic schoolhouse.' Over the past eight years, the

commissioned surveys and energy audits, as well as gathered other necessary information. Those reports can be found on the town website. The group also worked to engage

committee has met regularly,

with the Starksboro community about the project, mailing out a survey to all residents and hosting a series of public meetings.

"After much discussion it became clear that — while it would be a tight fit — locating a new fire station on the existing property was preferable," town officials wrote in the project history. "Not only is the land already owned by the town, but all necessary

The committee contracted with GVV Architects for designs and drawings of the structures. Plans call for leaving the historic schoolhouse untouched, largely demolishing the 1930s addition to allow for a new, well-insulated addition that will contain bathrooms and a kitchen. Those renovations will also allow for the entire building to be ADA compliant.

"The planned renovation will improve accessibility to enable all members of the community to utilize the space and provide efficiency updates to enable year- round use," McCarthy said.

As for the fire station, a new two-bay facility will be built on the property.

"Having a two-bay garage will

(See Starksboro, Page 3A)

CO-OP

**MEMBER DEALS** 



Saturday, May 3 10AM-1PM MIDDLEBURY NATURAL FOODS CO-OP (outside patio)

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Questions: middleburytreecommittee @gmail.com

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4PM **FREE Guided Walk &** Talk-Tour the trees with Tim Parsons, learn about tree health, structure and risks Meet at COLLEGE PARK, 94 S. Main St

This year Arbor Day is Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Arbor Day is intended to help bring awareness about how to conserve and protect trees and forests.



Greenhouses open Saturday, April 26th!

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Apr 23 - Apr 29





### Rite of spring

THE EASTER BUNNY arrives in style at the Eddy **Farm School for Horse** and Rider on South Street **Extension in Middlebury** on Sunday morning. The holiday hare came to oversee an Easter Egg Hunt that drew droves of children, including 3-yearold llene Quade, left, who came from Burlington for the eggciting event.

Independent photos/Steve

### Passenger killed in apparent DUI crash Deputy St. Cyr — who had been minor injuries in the crash.

NEW HAVEN — A 20-year-old manslaughter.

Brayden Hemingway of Waltham on April 18 pleaded not guilty in Addison Superior Court, criminal division, to manslaughter; driving under the influence of drugs, death resulting; and grossly negligent operation, death resulting, in connection with the April 17 crash, which killed his passenger, identified as Jaida Cram, 20, of Bristol.

Addison County Sheriff's Deputy James St. Cyr said he spotted Hemingway driving on Plank Road at around 10:16 a.m. on April 17. According to a press release prepared by St. Cyr and Addison County Sheriff Mike Elmore, the former said he recognized Hemingway as someone whose license was under suspension.

WWW.GSTONEMOTORS.COM

woman from Bristol was killed in traveling in the opposite direction a one-car crash on Thursday, April - said he pulled into a driveway Hemingway into custody and 17, and the 16-year-old driver faces to turn around to investigate. At brought him to the Vermont State multiple charges — including this point, according to St. Cyr, Police barracks in New Haven for Hemingway "accelerated quickly and drove away at a high rate of

> As he was trying to catch up to Hemingway, St. Cyr said he saw the vehicle Hemingway was driving crash, flipping over and landing in a ditch.

> St. Cyr noted that a female passenger in the car — later identified as Cram — was ejected from the vehicle and was laying in the ditch, critically injured. St. Cyr performed first aid until Bristol Rescue arrived and continued lifesaving efforts.

> Authorities called a rescue helicopter, but Cram was taken by ambulance to UVM Medical Center in Burlington, where she succumbed to her injuries.

Hemingway sustained only

Sheriff's deputies processing. A Vergennes Police Department drug-recognition expert evaluated Hemingway and determined he had been under the influence of marijuana at the time of the crash, according to the ACSD.

The Addison County State's Attorney's Office has elected to charge Hemingway as an adult in this case, according to the sheriff's department. Hemingway was held without bail Thursday night at the Marble Valley Correctional Facility in Rutland pending his April 18 court arraignment.

Sheriff's department officials thanked Vermont State Police, Vergennes police, Bristol Rescue, Middlebury Regional EMS, and the New Haven Fire Department for their assistance at the crash scene.

# Green Up Day

(Continued from Page 2A) City Park on May 3 from 8 a.m. to noon handing out bags and gloves to anyone who wishes to volunteer and/or drop off any items they have collected. And volunteers may leave their collected items along roadside anywhere within the city limits that day so the Bertrams can pick them up after noon, or the city Public Works Department can collect on that Monday.

If citizens want to contribute financially, they can do so by donating to Green Up Vermont on Line 23 of their Vermont tax return, Bertram pointed out. And he had a big-picture observation.

"Although Green Up Day is always scheduled for the first Saturday, volunteers are encouraged to make is a year round activity," he said.

Contributors to this story were Andy Kirkaldy, Marin Howell, John Flowers and John S. McCright.

### Starksboro

(Continued from Page 2A) allow the existing truck to be better protected from the elements and enable prospective growth in the future, should an additional vehicle be necessary," McCarthy explained. "The fire station will also increase space for emergency service providers to store lifesaving equipment onsite. The proximity of this site to the high density residential zone, as well as nearby outdoor recreation sites, makes this a particularly important capacity

McCarthy noted the projects have been awarded American Rescue Plan Act funds, as well as a Municipal Energy Resilience Program grant. The project history states that funds raised by the Friends of the Jerusalem Schoolhouse will support the effort, and if voters approve funding for the project, the town could pursue historic preservation and accessibility grants that require matching funds.

building opportunity for the town."

"The town has explored multiple funding options including loans through traditional lenders and has applied for a low interest USDA Community Facilities loan," town officials wrote. "The town continues to seek additional funding sources and has applied for Congressionally Directed Spending to cover the costs in part, or in whole."

Town officials noted some work has already been done on the building, including replacement of the schoolhouse roof in 2021 and replacement of the failing wastewater system in 2024.

"At present, the Town Energy Committee is working on identifying improvements that can be addressed with the use of a Municipal Energy Resilience Program grant that the town was awarded specifically for the Schoolhouse," the project history reads.

Town officials also pointed to the various benefits that both projects could offer the Starksboro community.

"While Starksboro Fire Station #2 will have a very specific use, a new and updated station will mean the





STARKSBORO VOTERS ON May 6 will be asked to bond for up to \$1.1 million to support a project aimed at transforming the historic Jerusalem Schoolhouse into a year-round, accessible community center and building a new fire station at the site to replace the deteriorating Fire Station #2, which is seen on the right side.

Independent photo/Steve James

town pays lower energy costs to heat the space and will ensure a longer duration for apparatus replacement saving money over the long term," they wrote. "A new facility will also ensure the fire department has a place to keep equipment within the high-density zoning district in South Starksboro.'

As for the schoolhouse, Starksboro residents have offered several ideas of what they'd like to see the building used for, such as adult learning classes, co-working hours or private events like game nights sometime in the fall.

and potlucks. "Until updates to open the second floor of the library are complete, this will be the largest open municipal space in Starksboro. We look forward to what the property will be used for in the future," the project

history reads.

McCarthy noted that it will be a few months before town officials hear about additional grants and approval for funding options, but if the vote passes, they'd hope to be able to put the projects to bid



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#### ADDISON INDEPENDENT

# **Editorials**

# Migrant workers arrest should shock Vermont dairy farmers

When federal agents from Trump's "big-brother" government descended on the Pleasant Valley Farms dairy in Franklin County this past Monday, they arrested eight migrant workers in their homes and placed them immediately into the Northwest State Correctional Facility in Swanton, where they are currently held.

The farm, which is Vermont's largest with 3,000-plus cows on 10,000 acres, is owned by Mark and Amanda St. Pierre. Their son Jamie is part of the management team, along with his wife, the Olympic runner Elle

In a story reported by Seven Days, Amanda St. Pierre said they had not been told why their employees were being detained, and said the employees "were hired following the federal and state employment requirements. We remain supportive of our employees and appreciative of the valuable role they play in our community preforming essential work on our farm."

The arrests should send shock waves through Vermont's farm community, which employs about 850 year-round migrant farmworkers — all crucial to the state's dairy industry.

Thomas D. Holman, Trump's "border czar" and a North Country native, stressed that the raid on the farm "wasn't a raid," but rather the outcome of a pursuit of two other people who had crossed the border by foot and walked onto the farm. Holman said the migrant workers were arrested during a search of a house on the farm in pursuit of the two walkers. One of the two suspected walkers was also arrested. Holman has previously pledged to support dairy farms and their employment of migrant workers.

The Migrant Justice community isn't accepting excuses, and neither should Vermonters. "What happened... was an injustice," said Cristian Santos, a member of the group's Farmworker Coordinating Committee.

Gov. Phil Scott added his voice saying "migrant workers are an essential part of our communities," and called on Congress and Trump to pass immigration reform that would make it easier for migrant workers to work here without being "forced to live in the shadows." He's right, of course, but it's unlikely to happen with this Republican Congress and with this president — not until, at the very least, massive waves of people stand up against them.

Dairy farmers should join other farmers upset by federal cuts to nutrition programs — and others upset with cuts to a host of programs and services that harm Vermonters (as reported in a front-page story in today's paper) — and let this Republican Congress know they'll be losing their votes if they don't restrain the rogue at the head of their party and speak out against his destructive policies.

Angelo Lynn

# Trump sells out Ukraine; a travesty of U.S. policy

If the folks of Independence, Mo., felt the ground shift this past Wednesday, it might have been former U.S. President Harry Truman turning over in his grave. That's because Vice-President JD Vance, on orders from President Trump, outlined plans for a ceasefire between Russia and Ukraine that called for Ukraine to concede almost 20% of its land to Russia, and agree to a prohibition to becoming part of the NATO alliance.

In short, in one of the weakest and most embarrassing displays of American capitulation, the Trump administration caved to Russia's demands on all fronts. Moreover, Trump admitted to the world that America — at least under his administration — was no longer willing to help defend free nations against the aggression of dictators.

It's as shameful as it is unnecessary.

Since the end of WWII, America and its democratic allies have mostly been successful in preventing the conquest of sovereign territories by invading armies whose intent was to occupy that land as their own. The exception was China's invasion of Tibet in 1950 and its subsequent occupation, and, arguably, North Vietnam's war with South Vietnam and its subsequent takeover. Other nations have witnessed invading armies — Kuwait, Afghanistan, Iraq, South Korea — but mainly for regime change or to put down revolutions, but not to take over and occupy.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, and its invasion of Crimea in February 2014, is not just an outlier that violates international law, but a throwback to a world in which stronger nations believed they were entitled to rule over weaker neighbors. In a world with weapons of mass destruction, and armed drones that inflict heavy casualties, such political thinking is a recipe for world-wide disaster.

President Joe Biden's strong support of Ukraine to help it fend off Russia's superior might during the past three years, and his ability to rally European and world support to Ukraine's side, showed promise to stave off Russia's aggression, with the hope that Ukraine would one day partner with the NATO alliance — had only Trump stayed the

That result, after all, would have conformed with the thrust of America's foreign policy since the onset of the Truman Doctrine in 1947. That doctrine recognized that global affairs did have significant impacts on America's national security, and that containing the spread of communism (mainly through Russian and Chinese aggression) was a national interest. In 1948, a Republican-led Congress went a step further by approving the Marshall Plan, a massive financial aid package to help rebuild war-torn Europe and reinforce stable democratic governments. A year later, the Truman administration designed and enacted NATO - a peacetime military alliance of Western democracies designed to prevent the expansion of Soviet power westward into Europe. It's been one of the most successful military alliances ever established and one of the reasons many scholars consider Truman one of the 10 most influential American presidents.

Trump's decision to turn America's back on Ukraine, and abandon our European allies in that fight against Russia's dictatorial aggression, will be another black mark on Trump's already disastrous second term. And it goes against everything America's foreign policy has worked toward these past 80 years.

Angelo Lynn

### ADDISON COUNTY 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

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### Easter pals

LUCY CORMIER AND Gigi Crodette take a break from the frenetic Easter Egg Hunt at the Eddy Farm on Sunday so they can show a photographer their delight in the beautiful weather, the loving camaraderie and the excitement of the chase.

Independent photo/Steve James

## In uncertain times, let's be kind

Ways ot

By Mary E.

Mendoza

feels like the world is falling apart. For others, daily life may feel normal though still tenuous. Our basic necessities have grown increasingly expensive, and prices may continue to rise. We watch as neighbors and friends are removed from their homes. People are not acting as kind to one another as they previously were. In this climate, some of us may have the impulse to close ourselves off to protect what we have and not make waves. Others may want to

get out there, protest everything that is happening, and fight.

I recently heard someone get frustrated that a friend of theirs was not more actively pushing back against everything happening around us right now. It gave me pause to hear this coming from someone who seems generally

aware of societal inequity and different levels of privilege. The person they criticized is someone who may be at risk if they draw attention to themselves. So, I asked my acquaintance to consider that not everyone is standing on even ground and we are all doing what we feel we can do.

There is no wrong way to resist. Some people get out there, protest, and put their bodies at risk, and that is a choice that they get to make. Others fear retribution, deportation, incarceration, or death, so they choose to stay home. There is no reason to make each other feel badly for those choices.

It seems to me that, in this climate of uncertainty, what we all need is more kindness and understanding. Not everyone comes to every issue in the same way — that is part of the reason we are where are — but

There is a lot going on right now. For many of us it if we begin to accept that we are in this together and treat each other with respect, we may find that, despite our different ways of showing up, we have much more common ground than we might have thought. Now is the time to come together, not bicker about the best way to burn everything to the ground. There are plenty of people out there who want to focus on total destruction. My guess is that most of us do not.

In that vein, I implore you — my neighbors — to

show up for each other in whatever way you can and to avoid judging others because they may not choose to engage the way that you do right now. A couple of weeks ago, some neighbors of mine came over to help me when something of mine broke in my house. They spent more than an hour diagnosing and fixing the problem, then followed

up to make sure I was okay. I felt well held and cared

for in a way that I have not in a long time. Yes, change only happens with action, but kindness and support are also action. Love is action. Sometimes just getting up in the morning and doing your job is action. In a world where our children fear getting shot or stabbed at recess, living by example and being a good citizen matter just as much as going out and marching in the streets. Showing up in the way one feels comfortable is enough right now. People are struggling. Our neighbors are hurting and, in a world as unpredictable as the one we are facing, we cannot ask more of people than that.

Mary E. Mendoza is an assistant professor of history and Latino/a Studies at Penn State University.

# Holding true to Vermont's values

Freedom

and

Unity

By Fable

Hawthorne

This week's writer is Fable Hawthorne, the facilitator of Queerly Beloved, an LGBTQIA2S+ support group, and a Midd Pride member.

Second in a series.

Vermonters love to talk about supporting local businesses. We love to talk about how we are leaders in human services, and we read about all the good providers are doing in articles complete with pictures of smiling faces and people holding large checks.

Reality for the people providers serve differs greatly from what we allow ourselves to see. As a young human services worker, I often equate it to being asleep. We dream of an ideal, less painful world we'd rather be living in, lying to ourselves about how tough things can get.

I have stood among crowds of angry people, a gas mask at my side, a first aid kit on my belt. I have placed myself beside those of us who have suffered enough, who have been awake too long. And yet, not a single day has gone by that I wish I could close my eyes to the reality we find among the unhoused under bridges, in the cries of single mothers struggling to find their way, in the angry and uncertain voices of my fellow queer and trans Americans.

It is true that Vermont has a plethora of nonprofits,

many with beautiful mission statements. Too often, they get hijacked by a system of expectations set by grant providers. Funders whose bureaucrats demand cold, hard data about "cases" to prove their money is

well spent. These people never set foot in the places where those funds really need to go to. People are not "cases." We are not numbers. Aggregated data will not tell you the story of a life in crises or a life that's being transformed.

I have seen both sides of the human services field, and can confidently say that when the work of these organizations is reduced to scrambling to quantify the number of interactions and other data required for grants, the people paid in those organizations lose sight of the needs of the

people they're supposed to serve. They focus more on the system than our neighbors, and that system is at least as broken as some of the people it's supposed to serve. Broken human service systems will almost always either cover up its fragility or lash out from that fragility to defend itself. The system and its conspirators keep telling the marginalized to keep climbing that ladder out that's supposed to get them out of hell, even though that ladder is on fire. And while it isn't fair to us, it is our responsibility to go

(See Freedom and Unity, Page 5A)

# **Letters** to the Editor

### Spare your lawn for biodiversity

It's almost that time of year. The air will be filled for hours with the enchanting buzz of neighbor lawn mowers. It's so tempting to get outside to tidy up the yard with a haircut.

Still, what are we ignoring by setting off our house, apartment or condo with a carpet of short green grass? Biodiversity for one thing. Along with our use of plants cultivated for eye appeal, our swaths of one plant, a mix of turf grasses with the fertilizer and watering to keep it green, provides nothing for insect pollinators essential for our vital food web.

Consider seeing different parts of your outdoor space like your indoor space: in front a tidy entranceway, another area for meals, a level area for games and relaxing and an area of flowering "weeds" for insect pollinators.

By sharing your lawn, pesticidefree, you will be part of a growing movement to preserve food, clean water and medicines we depend on. Jill Vickers

### Heading down an ominous path

**Bridport** 

FASTER THAN A SPEEDING BULLET. In Project 2026, the next iteration, government support of education, with secret help from the Kremlin, will be reduced to sound-bite slogans, until intelligence reaches a level lower than the Toddler-President, who constantly cries, "I want, I want. I'm very, very psycho-perfect, great at merger and acquisition," the merger of policy with insanity, the acquisition of any object within reach.

Meanwhile, an effective way to eliminate immigration: Continue the chaos. De-humanize new enemies, foreign and domestic. (Ordinary Americans will prefer to live elsewhere.) The promotion of fear, anger and autocracy as entertainment could replace baseball. As a decorated veteran of a foreign war, a "loser and sucker," I should prepare for deportation, reminiscent of Europe in the 1930s.

A question that once seemed implausible: How much longer will the Constitution be relevant?

> Alec Lyall Middlebury

### Tech, nature are out of synch

I have been thinking this Earth Day about modern technology and our environment and how much they are out of touch with each other. Last summer, my wife and I traveled to Fairbanks, Alaska, for a wedding. While there, we went to the Museum of the North at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks. It was an amazing experience. Although I had been familiar with traditional Native hunting, fishing, travelling, and living techniques for decades, what really hit home for me was just how in tune Native technology was with their environment.

Yes, there was often starvation and horrible deaths, but the technology they developed was 100% based on what they had to work with — and they respected their animals, their waters, their land. A salmon-skin rain parka at the museum was one of the ultimate ways that they did this.

Our technology today so often works against the very environment that we depend on for life. Take the incredible amount of energy that is required to run massive data centers for artificial intelligence. Does it really make sense? AI cannot create new land, new water, new air. Is supposedly making our lives "better" really worth it? I have my doubts.

Let's always remember that life is dependent on what the earth gives

**Ed Blechner** Addison

#### Work safety is under threat

More than 50 years ago, Congress passed the Occupational Safety and Health Act, promising every worker the right to a safe job. Working people have fought hard and are fighting hard to make

(See Gates letter, Page 5A)

### **Letters** to the Editor

### Gov. Scott should take stand on Trump policies

Dear Governor Scott, Where are you? We ne

Where are you? We need you! It's long overdue for you to take a stand for Vermonters against the illegal and unconstitutional actions of the 47th president and his administration. Vermonters are losing their jobs, their First Amendment rights, their right to due process, their right to vote, and their autonomy. Our state is being bullied by a fascist along with the rest of the U.S.A. You already know all of this and yet have thus far failed to take a stand. Our U.S. congressional Representative and Senators are standing up for Vermont. Our

Secretary of State and Attorney General are standing up for the law and Vermonters' rights. Please join them! We need you!

This Saturday Senator Ruth Hardy organized an eyeopening panel of state officials. I was dismayed to learn of the outrageous budget shortfall projected by Treasurer Mike Pieciak and Representative Robin Scheu. If the federal assault continues unchecked, including devastating cuts to Medicaid, it's in the billions and the "rainy day fund" is around \$300 million. Sorry Governor, we're sunk. Our Brave Little State has no hope of making up

the difference. Please defend us. We need you!

Personally, my family needs you. We adopted our son through DCF, a tragic victim of physical abuse as a newborn infant. He suffered a life-altering brain injury and is dependent on SSI and Medicaid. Without these programs Vermont fails him all over again. Please speak up for him. He needs you!

I am pleading with you, do the right thing by Vermont and for America, for the U.S. Constitution. Speak up! We need you.

Heather McConville Durante Ripton

### Commerce Department should stop micromanaging

An open letter to Commerce Secretary Lutnick:

Inefficiencies are caused by micromanagement. Your control of all contracts over \$100,000 is disabling Commerce agencies; perhaps that is your goal? Stop micromanaging. We, the people, value the work done at all Commerce Department agencies.

Inefficiencies are caused by those in charge who are not available, or willing, to do the job of leading (not dismantling). Your time spent giving superficial interviews, which is significant and unproductive for America, should be spent supporting, not dismantling Commerce initiatives.

Inefficiencies are caused by inaccurate information. Your attack on PBS is a decades-old conservative diatribe against truth. PBS is an incredibly important informational resource—balanced,

fair, researched, accurate.

PBS offers balanced information with a wide variety of perspectives. PBS offers accurate history. PBS offers a wide variety of accurate science resources and

programming.
PBS offers a wide variety of musical and other artistic programs.

Note the use of the word "offers." No program is selling a change in culture — that is a myopic argument. As with all media, consumers have a choice to engage I grew up watching PBS. My children have grown up watching PBS. I used PBS programming as a teacher, to support science and social studies inquiries. None of the programs sell a perspective; they all offer information and offer opportunities to discuss and further investigate. The programs offer opportunities to think, not be indoctrinated. Why are you afraid of offering opportunities to think and be engaged?

Government support of PBS enables those across the complex United States to have a choice to view the programs. Removing government support will remove that public access and opportunity. Removing government support will be another step toward impoverishing already impoverished rural America. Drive through rural America, as I have, and see the isolation and poverty that has grown much worse in the past 40 years. Everyone deserves the opportunity to have access to free, balanced, excellent information.

Shame on you for imposing your own life of greed and mean spiritedness on the American people. We, the people, will not forget!

Christina Wadsworth Weybridge

# Freedom and Unity

(Continued from Page 4A) down and lift those people out.

While this may seem like a bleak banner to fight beneath, I find more hope in the trenches with the disenfranchised than anywhere else. In a way, they are the least fragile. People who are resilient and care about the others suffering around them, the members of their community. They use whatever strength, skills, and resources to help others, not because some grant requires them to or it pays a salary, but because it's the right thing to do. These people are wide awake, and focused on the needs of the marginalized.

Why don't we do that? Let's all unify and focus on helping neighbors who are slipping through the cracks of this broken system. The

multiple marginalized communities of Vermont fight every day just to survive. After you march and demonstrate with other privileged folks, go connect and create relationships with the marginalized. Demonstrate that you care. They will recognize authentic generosity and selflessness when they see it, and that might get us back on track to "freedom and unity."

# Gates letter

(Continued from Page 4A) that promise a reality — winning protections that have made jobs safer and saved thousands of lives.

April 28 is Workers Memorial Day — a time for workers, unions, and communities to remember those who have lost their lives, been injured, or fallen ill due to their jobs. This is a time for us to organize for a safer future for all workers. The workplace protections we have today exist because workers organized, fought, and died for them. Yet each day in the United States, 360 workers lose their lives due to their job — 14 a day from injury alone — and millions more suffer from chronic work-related injuries or illnesses.

Job safety agencies play a critical role in protecting workers from unsafe working conditions, and agencies such as the Occupational Safety and

MIDDLEBURY, VT

VERGENNES, VT

WWW.HARE.DOG

Health Administration (OSHA) have open, active investigations against Elon Musk's companies. Yet the Trump administration is granting Musk, through the so-called "Department of Government Efficiency," access to workers' confidential data from safety investigations, workers' compensation claims, and other filings. This is an outrageous breach of privacy that puts many workers at risk of retaliation and discourages workers from wanting to come forward about unsafe working conditions. Additionally, it is unfair to businesses, as it gives Musk unfettered access to confidential business information about his competitors.

The government's role is to protect workers from unsafe

workplaces that inevitably lead to serious injury, illness, or even death on the job. But now, our entire worker protection structure is under threat. I call upon our Congressional delegation to demand that the Trump administration uphold the workplace protections we've fought so hard to secure.

As this solemn occasion of Workers Memorial Day approaches, I recall the words of Mother Jones (1837-1930), prominent union organizer, community organizer, and activist of blessed memory. She said, "Pray for the dead, and fight like hell for the living!" May we wisely follow her advice.

Garland Gates Bristol





# Here comes the sun!

With longer, sunnier days ahead, now is the perfect time to SPRING into solar!

Give GMS a call to discuss your solar energy options!

(833) 832-8122

76 Ethan Allen Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403

### Jessie Raymond's column will be sorely missed

I actually got to open this week's Addy Indy promptly this Saturday morning, instead of my usual three weeks later as I dig it out of the stack of books, newspapers, newsletters, and iPads on my side table. As is my wont, (wont is a silly word, but this is a silly letter,) I flipped immediately to the Opinion section, glancing past Angelo's usual polemic, (he got Trump AND Scott in the headline this week!) I was initially confused and disappointed to see "Ways of Seeing" in Jessie Raymond's usual place at the bottom of the page. I'm sure I'll enjoy Becky Dayton's piece about... books, I suppose? when I get around to it in three weeks, but isn't this Jessie's week, I thought?

Perhaps my triple-week reading stack time-keeping system could use improvement. Of course, then I noticed Jessie's column had moved up a position on the page, to right below the dog ignobly photographed on his way home from having been snipped. What a classy paper. A bargain for only \$120 a year!

I smiled as I began reading, wondering what amusing foibles of modern life Jessie and her chickens would reveal to me this week.

Despite imagining myself a stoic and capable handyman like her husband Mark, I know deep down that I definitely relate far more to Jessie and her zany sense of humor.

I suspect Mark and my wife Esther could go toe to toe in an eye-rolling competition. (Good grief. Mixing toe and eyeball metaphors, Kris? What are you thinking? See, this is why Jessie's the professional.) The column this week was titled "Around the Bend and into the sunset." Wait a minute. This can't mean....? Can it?? As I quickly scanned the rest of the piece, I uttered a forlorn "Oh no!" When my wife entered the room, I said it again in case she hadn't heard me.

"What?" she said, glancing at me, and then back at her phone.

"Jessie Raymond is ending her column!" I wailed.

With a grimace, my wife sighed and said "Oh no" too. It's the little moments like these, where spouses meet at a crossroads of thought, that strengthen marital bonds and make me think maybe we are figuring out this lifelong partnership thing after all. "The weather says it's going to rain," she finished.

Always on the same page, that's

Many times over the years, I've stopped Esther on her way to check the weather, exclaiming "Hun, hold on, you've got to hear this," waving the Addy Indy at her like a NASCAR flagman. "Okay, remember how Jessie's always struggling with gardening...? What? No, Jessie RAYMOND. How many other Jessie's do we know?

Yeah, yeah, I know I don't actually KNOW her, know her, but — God, you're such a Mark. What's that? Yes, I'll close the windows before it rains." I've always been happy to be able to share the joy Jessie brings me with others.

Working at the EastView retirement community last week, I was doing a reading from a bound collection of Erma Bombeck, and funny as she was, I found myself just wishing I was reading Jessie instead. (For readers under 50, Erma Bombeck was a hugely successful mid-twentieth century humor columnist, not entirely unlike Jessie Raymond, for example.) Erma was great, don't get me wrong, but I don't think she ever had chickens. And when I'm reading jokes to elderly Vermonters, a lack of chickens is a serious detriment.

All this is to say, Jessie, I doubt I'm alone in saying we will miss you terribly. (And by "we" I mean myself and the rest of the Addison County reading public, not necessarily myself and Esther.) I have a hunch I'll be pulling up a lot of your old columns on my iPad to read at EastView, but if you ever wanted to publish a collection, I'll be first in line at your book signing! Maybe Becky Dayton will even write about it!

With sincere fondness,

Kris Diehl Middlebury

# Elderly Services, Inc.

### **Spring 2025 Community Education Series**

#### **May 6:**

Combatting fraud in the digital age

Learn how to protect yourself from the growing threats of fraud targeting older adults. This session will cover current computer, telephone, and mail scams, including impersonation fraud, check fraud, phishing and more. Learn how to recognize common fraud tactics and discover practical steps to safeguard your personal information, bank accounts, and businesses. We'll provide easy to understand tips on protecting yourself from identity theft, securing your digital banking, and avoiding falling victim to fraudsters.

Presented by: National Bank of Middlebury Security Team May 6 at 4:30 p.m. at National Bank of Middlebury Community Room

#### May 15:

You're not alone—Caring for your elderly loved one

Are you worried about an aging relative? Wondering whether to intervene or how to help? We'll discuss these questions and address family roles, paid services, resistance to help, and concepts of safety and negotiated risk.

Presented by: Joanne Corbett Social Worker/Center for Positive Aging at Elderly Services, Inc. May 15 at 4:00 p.m. at Middlebury Congregational Church

#### May 29:

Dementia and home safety: Helping older Vermonters create a safer environment

This session will cover essential fall prevention strategies, ways to reduce the risk of wandering, and key considerations for kitchen safety, medication management, and personal emergency response systems like Lifeline. Whether you're living with dementia or caring for someone who is, this presentation will offer practical tools and strategies to enhance safety and support independence at home.

Presented by: Rachel Wiley MS. Occupational

Presented by: Rachel Wiley, MS, Occupational
Therapist, The Dementia Collaborative
May 29 at 4:00 p.m. at Middlebury
Congregational Church

#### June 5:

Managing diabetes in older age

In the US, 14.7% of adults aged 18 years or older have type 2 diabetes. For those 65 years and older the percentage is 29.2%. More than 55,000 Vermonters have been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, and one out of four Vermonters do not yet know that they have diabetes.

Type 2 diabetes is not inevitable. You can manage the disease to prevent further health complications, and take steps to prevent or delay type 2 diabetes. Learn about lifestyle changes proven to help improve the condition as well as delay or prevent the onset of type 2 diabetes.

Presented by: Margaret Young, MPH, RDN, LD Diabetes Educator, UVMHN/Porter Medical Center June 5 at 4:00 p.m. at Middlebury Congregational Church

#### **June 12:**

**Driving and aging—challenges and strategies**Have you thought about what happens if you

or a loved one can no longer drive? Join us for an informative session on the challenges older drivers face in Vermont. Learn about the Yellow Dot Program, a statewide initiative that gives first responders quick access to important medical information during a crash or emergency. Discover helpful tips on staying independent, safe, and mobile behind the wheel.

We'll also cover how to approach the difficult conversation about driving retirement and start planning for the future. Don't miss this chance to plan ahead and stay prepared!

Presented by: Andrea Spinale, Vermont Department of Health June 12 at 4:00.p.m. at Middlebury Congregational Church



ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

To RSVP or learn more, call Susan Bruce at Elderly Services: 802-388-3983 • www.elderlyservices.org

# Obituaries

### Bruce H. Stocker, 68, of Bridport

BRIDPORT — After a long illness, on Tuesday April 15, 2025, Bruce H. Stocker left his pain in this world.

Bruce was born March 11, 1957, in Windsor, Vt., to his parents, Richard and Pauline (Rumrill) Stocker. Prior to his illness, Bruce was a Jack of all trades; something needed fixing he was there. He worked at K & K Sawmill for years; then he went on his own in construction, small engine repair, and snow plowing. He was Bridport town Constable, Forest Fire Warden and animal control for years. His most treasured service was being a 34-year member of Bridport Fire Department, in which he held the office of Captain and Traffic 1. He also helped Townline First Response with any call and fundraiser or anything that was needed.

You could always find him making coffee or doing odd jobs at Pratt's Store. It became a running joke that Pratt's was his office. He

SHOREHAM — Michael C.

mind and being the one to call to

repair a broken piece of equipment

or devise an innovative solution.

After moving with his family

to Bridport, Vt., in 1962, Mike

graduated from MUHS and

Providence College. While in

college, he developed a love for

historic New England architecture

from the many examples around the

When his future wife, Linda,

encouraged him to try building a

home for her and her many dogs,

his career as a homebuilder was

launched. His talents and interests,

combined with Linda's design

skills, formed an ideal partnership.

They grew the business with their

nearby, whether working at job

sites or studying historic houses on

He was driven by a sense of

responsibility to build homes that

would stand the test of time in

both design and quality. When

demand for these beautiful,

historically accurate homes grew

beyond Vermont, Mike pioneered

a manufacturing process he

family vacations.

cities of Providence and Newport.

God's creation.



**BRUCE H. STOCKER** 

was always there looking forward to a good cup of coffee, a Reese's Peanut Butter Cup, or a Saturday morning donut and a good conversation — or at a poker table playing a friendly game of Texas Hold'em or dealer choice, which he did weekly with a great group of friends.

He is survived by his wife, Susan 

Michael C. Connor, 77, of Shoreham

(Welch), whom he married in 1976: his sons, Jeremy Stocker (Tiffany), Fred Stocker (Krystal) and Kevin Stocker (Lyndsay); and daughter, Jennifer Stocker (Larry); his grandchildren, Paige, Erin, Colby, Logan, Abigayle, Jayceeleigh, Sophia, Emily, Hannah, Abel, Ezra, Elijah, and Dustin; soonto-be great-grandchild; and his constant companion, Echo who protected him fiercely. He also leaves his brothers Curtis, David, Greg and Dennis and his sisters Jean and Linda. He also leaves many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was predeceased by his parents and brothers Wayne and Kevin and sisters Tinker and Gayle.

Calling hours are Thursday, April 24, from 4-6 p.m., at Sanderson's in Middlebury. A remembrance service will be held Friday, April 25, at the Bridport Town Park at 11

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Bridport Fire Department. ◊



Joyce Ann Paquette, 78, of New Haven

JOYCE ANN PAQUETTE

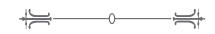
Joyce leaves behind her daughter Debbie Cousino and husband Jeff of Lincoln; granddaughter Sara Lynn Nezin (Lucas), great-grandson Connor Benjamin Nezin, grandson Andrew Jeffrey Cousino, son Dennis Paquette (Amber Trudo) of Bridport, granddaughter Megan Elizabeth Allen (Roger), greatgrandson Troy William Allen, grandsons Joshua Robert Paquette

and Jason Dennis Paquette; along with two sisters, Rita Geno (Kevin) of Rutland; Harriet Murray (Dan Essex) of Essex; and one brother, Leonard Barrett (Linda) of Weybridge, sister-in-law Janet Barrett of Bridport. She also leaves behind many cherished nieces and nephews.

Joyce is predeceased by her husband, Robert, her parents, sister Pauline Bryant and brothers Robert, Harold and Howard Barrett.

The family would like to thank our family and friends for the love, prayers and support and kindly requests that memorial donations be made to St. Ambrose Catholic Church in Bristol, Vt.

Visiting hours will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 23, at Brown-McClay Funeral Home in Bristol. A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 24, at St. Ambrose Church in Bristol. To send online condolences to her family please visit brownmcclayfuneralhomes. com. ◊



Adam Racine, 39, of Middlebury

"I don't want my life to be defined by what is etched on a tombstone. I want it to be defined by what is etched in the lives and hearts of those I've touched.

NEW HAVEN — Joyce Ann

worked for several years at Clark's Nursing Home in Vergennes, and

then later became employed at

Porter Hospital, where she retired

after 25 years of providing nursing

Joyce was a woman very

committed to friends and family.

Throughout her life she was a

wonderful daughter, sister, mother,

wife, grandmother and friend. You

always knew how very much you

were loved — she will be greatly

MIDDLEBURY — It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Adam Racine, 39, who left us way to soon on April 11, 2025, in the arms of the love of his life. He is lovingly remembered by his devoted wife, Dakota Lynn Odell-Racine, and their two cherished sons, Calvin Andre Odell-Racine and Spencer Michael Racine. He also leaves behind his father and mother, Michael and Barbara Racine, his special little brother, Michael Odell, and Walter Odell IV. Adam was predeceased by his brother Matthew Racine.

Adam was a man of great warmth, kindness, and strength. He lived his life with passion and love, always putting his family first and offering unwavering support to those who knew him. His kindness was infectious, his spirit generous and his love boundless

Born on Feb. 27, 1986,

Adam grew up in Middlebury, Vt. Middlebury, He graduated from MUHS, where he developed his love of sports. He was the varsity basketball captain and helped coach so many sports. He earned a basketball scholarship to St. Joseph's College. true New Englander, Adam religiously followed the Bruins, the Celtics, Patriots and the Red Sox. Adam worked many jobs, but his passion was food, dedicating

himself to his work with the same 2 p.m., at the Middlebury VFW. In commitment he showed in his role lieu of flowers, the family requests as a husband and father.

professional Beyond his achievements, Adam was a husband, a father, a son, a brother and a friend, known for his compassion and willingness to lend a helping hand. He treasured the at sandersonfuneralservice.com. ◊



ADAM RACINE

memory will live on in the hearts of his family and friends, a beacon of light in their lives.

moments spent with

his sons, teaching

them the values of

kindness, courage,

Though his time

with us was far too

short, the legacy of

love and strength

he leaves behind

will continue to

inspire all who had

the privilege of

knowing him. His

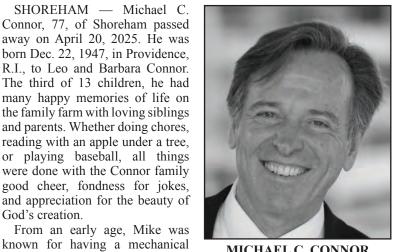
A celebration of

and perseverance.

Adam's life will be held on April 25, at

donations, if you can, be made to Dakota, Calvin and Spencer's Gofundme page. Arrangements under

direction of Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home. Online condolences



MICHAEL C. CONNOR

called "mill-built architecture." Hundreds of Connor homes now exist throughout the northeast and beyond as a lasting testament to his and Linda's work. Their company was asked to design a collection of homes for Winterthur Museum and became the only builder of an entirely new home to be featured in a season of This Old House.

Mike showed an interest in music at a young age. His first guitar was purchased by his mother using Green Stamps, a sacrifice that he remembered his whole life. Gifted with a beautiful tenor voice, he sang and played banjo and guitar with Snake Mountain two young daughters always Bluegrass for over 40 years, and played every evening at home for his family, for fun, and for his cat, Caroline, Peter, and Jonathan; and Gromit who listened happily from his seat inside the open instrument

But his most enduring legacy is of love and humor. Never one to engage in pomposity or to get worked up over little things, almost any situation — from sibling squabbles, to cleaning the horse

barn, to the stresses of business ownership — could be improved by his signature blend of jokes and humorous poetry. Some of the greatest appreciators

of his good humor were little kids, who surrounded him all his life, from younger siblings, to his daughters and grandchildren. It's difficult to say if he brought them more joy or if they brought him more, but he was always happy to have them nearby, whether he was working or playing. Blessed with an understanding of human nature and a belief in everyone's good intentions, kids and adults alike went to Mike when they needed a sympathetic ear or empathetic advice. The greatest beneficiaries of his gentle nature were his daughters, who as children knew that he was always available to them for silliness or comfort, and as adults for loving guidance or a helping hand.

He is predeceased by his parents and his infant brother, Joseph. He is survived by his wife, Linda; daughters Tabitha and her husband Michael Gillim of Millburn, N.J., and Sarah and her husband Charlie Horn of Manassas, Va.; grandchildren Bennett, Henry, Catherine, Genevieve, Charlotte, Elizabeth "Bonnie", and George; siblings Jerry, Billy, Paul, Chris, many brothers- and sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated Saturday, April 26, at 10 a.m. at St. Mary's Church in Middlebury. Calling hours will be Friday, April 25, from 4 to 6 p.m., at the Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home.



FERRISBURGH — Beverly Ann Ross passed away April 14, 2025, at her home, with her daughter and granddaughter by her side. She was born Dec. 25, 1940, daughter of Henry and Francis

She is predeceased by her husband of 45 years, Charles Henry Ross; her parents Henry and Francis (Abare) Kandzior; her beloved brother, Gerald Kandzior; sister Lori Kandzior; brother-inlaw John Jerdo; and sister-in-law Diane (Osgood) Kandzior.

She is survived by her beloved daughter, Kimberly; cherished granddaughter Chelsea (Jesse) Bashaw and great-granddaughter Chloe; as well as her siblings, Reginald Kandzior, Theresa (Harold) Charbonneau, Henry Kandzior, Karen (Richard) Ethier,



**BEVERLY ANN ROSS** 

Florence Jerdo, Loren (Debbie) Kandzior, Sheryl (Carl) Lavigne and many special nieces and nephews.

Beverly was a very talented, courageous, determined and kindhearted woman who dedicated her life to her family, the homestead, and working part time cutting meat at a local butcher. She loved being outside and spent many hours in VT 05753. ◊

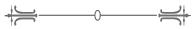
her flower, fruit, and vegetable gardens. Then she spent numerous hours inside canning and making preserves, as well as teaching others the fine art. She was an awesome cook, with an emphasis on desserts as she had a sweet tooth

Her love for animals and birds was displayed as she and her husband raised German Shorthaired Pointers and pheasants. In her later years, she fed and watched the birds on her back deck, even a couple turkeys jumped up to visit and eat.

But most of all, Bev loved her granddaughter and greatgranddaughter and just seeing them always brought a smile to her face!

She will be greatly missed by all. A celebration of life will be held at the Ferrisburgh Town hall on Saturday, May 17, at 1:30 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Homeward Bound, Addison County Humane Society, 236 Boardman St., Middlebury,



#### Alvin W. Cobb celebration of life

died Jan. 16, 2025, will be held on Hall, 52 East River Road, Lincoln. Saturday, April 26, at the Lincoln

LINCOLN — A memorial cemetery. A celebration of life will service for Alvin W. Cobb, who follow from 1-3 p.m. at Burnham



#### Gunnar Urang celebration of life MIDDLEBURY—A celebration held at St. Stephen's Episcopal

**──**○ <del>``</del>

of life for Gunnar Urang, who Church, Main St. Middlebury, on passed on Feb. 19, 2025, will be Saturday, May 3rd at 2 p.m.

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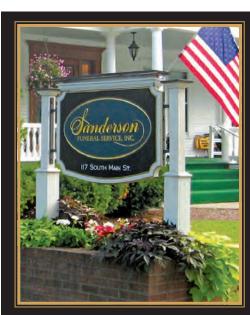
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The Independent will publish paid obituaries and free notices of passing. Paid obituaries cost 25 cents per word and will be published, as submitted, on the date of the family's choosing. For those who do not wish to purchase an obituary, the Independent 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.



### **Planning**

Planning for Your Funeral, the Smart Thing to Do...

Many people are planning for their funeral in advance in a sincere effort to ease the stress loved ones will face at an emotional time. It takes only a little time and can be handled in the privacy of your home or at the Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home.

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DOZENS OF COMMUNITY members congregated at the USDA offices in Middlebury on April 16 as part of a regional "Farmer Day of Action" to show support for farmers and hear from members of the ag community about how they've been effected by federal funding cuts and other action taken by the Trump

Photo courtesy of Emily Landenberger

# Farm workers

(Continued from Page 1A) produced food that was distributed to people experiencing poverty in 13 Vermont counties through free CSA programs, pop-up markets and food shelves, according to the Vermont Agency of Agriculture. The other focused on getting more local food into schools and childcare centers.

Nationally, the programs cost about \$1 billion, and in Vermont, the USDA will no longer award roughly \$1.7 million that it had previously pledged, the agency said.

Then on Monday, U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents arrested eight migrant workers at Pleasant Valley Farms, a dairy in the Franklin County town of Berkshire, VTDigger reported.

Border agents were responding to a call from a concerned citizen who had observed "two individuals carrying backpacks exiting a wooded area and crossing ... into private farmland," according to Ryan Brisette, a spokesperson for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, reported VTDigger's Habib Sabet.

"Agents apprehended one of the individuals on scene, while the second fled," Brisette said in a written statement. "During the ensuing search of the area. agents located and apprehended additional individuals determined to be illegally present in the United States.'

apprehended were farmworkers at not only Vermont but across the Pleasant Valley Farms, and that country," Tebetts said. the arrests had occurred there.

an injustice," said Cristian Santos, a member of Migrant Justice's coordinating Farmworker committee. "Dairy workers were arrested by Border Patrol in their own homes, a violation of their human rights. We work hard to working long hours for low wages. doing work that U.S. citizens don't want to do."

workers were detained in their homes on farm property."

ADDISON COUNTY —

Middlebury Indivisible and other

Indivisible groups from around the

state have organized an Indivisible

VT car caravan support rally to

show solidarity with our Canada

neighbors and for Canadian Sovereignty on Saturday, April 26. Indivisible activists will be peacefully rallying at the U.S.

side of the border to show their support for Canadian friendship,

"It is essential for us to mobilize in order to differentiate the feelings

of U.S. citizens from the actions

of our current administration in

regard to Canada," said Indivisible

Participants will meet at the Exit

12 Park & Ride off Route 2A in Williston at 10 a.m. At 10:45 a.m. a

caravan of 40-50 cars will leave the Park and Ride and proceed up route

I-89 to the Highgate Border. Cars will leave at exit 22 so participants

can use the Route 7 overpass bridge to hang banners and show

independence and sovereignty.

co-owner of the dairy, said she did not know the reasons for the arrests.

"We have fully cooperated with (CBP's) instructions. Our employees were hired following the federal and state employment requirements," St. Pierre said. "We remain supportive of our employees and appreciative of the valuable role they play in our community performing essential work on our farm. We hope this matter is resolved quickly.

According to Lambek, one of the workers is currently in asylum proceedings, a process he had already initiated prior to his arrest. The immigration statuses of the other individuals are unclear.

Pleasant Valley Farms is Vermont's largest dairy farm. The incident represents the largest immigration enforcement action against migrant workers in Vermont in recent memory.

"I have long been clear: migrant workers are an essential part of our communities," Gov. Phil Scott said in a Tuesday press release following the incident. "They are our neighbors and friends, have kids in our schools, shop at our businesses, and play an important role in our economy and workforce."

That statement was echoed by Agriculture Secretary Anson Tebetts in an interview with VTDigger.

In a Tuesday press release Vermonters to understand that, and ended the gathering with a following the incident, Migrant migrant workers, they do play collective call for federal leaders Justice, a nonprofit advocacy essential roles at dairy farms and group, said all eight of the people farms across Vermont — and

Nazareth, executive Vijay "What happened last night was director of the Champlain Valley Farmer Coalition, said on Wednesday that he was still getting details on the arrests and didn't yet know what actions local farmers could take.

"It certainly adds to the concerns that already exist within support the economy of this state, the farming community," he said. Just last week saw the regional "Farmer Day of Action," which included gatherings — including Will Lambek, a spokesperson in Middlebury — aimed at for Migrant Justice, said in supporting farmers and calling an interview that "most of the attention to the effects that federal action like shifting tariffs, immigration crackdowns and cuts In a written statement to to the USDA has had on farms, VTDigger, Amanda St. Pierre, farmworkers and federal workers.

Indivisible caravan to the border planned

friendship for Canada.

Highgate border crossing.

signs, and demonstrate support and

From 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. a support

rally will take place at the Route

7 overpass bridge, just before the

Dozens of community members gathered in Middlebury on April 16 to hear from farmers about how they've been impacted by federal funding cuts and other action taken by the Trump Administration.

Community members gathered outside the USDA offices in Middlebury for the event, which was organized by Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont (NOFA-VT). The gathering "highlighted the urgent need for federal policy that supports small and organic farms, values farmworkers, and invests in just, sustainable agriculture and a more just and thriving future for all," according to NOFA-VT.

"You know things are bad when you have vegetable farmers coming out on April 16. I have a todo list that can stretch from here to Bar Harbor and back," Huntington farmer Stoni Tomson said in a NOFA press release. "I think the on-again, off-again tariffs — all the chaos — it's really part of a larger full-frontal assault on our community food systems...I want to see all our farmers flourish."

Several attendees carried longhandled spoons — a nod to the parable of the long spoons, which "reminds us we already have the tools for food security; we just need to use them to reach across the table and feed one another," according to the press release.

Community members brought "I think it's important for food to share with one another to "prioritize people over profit and to reinvest in the future of small-scale, regenerative farming."

"As we've all witnessed, the current swamp administration down in D.C. is gutting the support systems for our food system. And this isn't just radical existential dread for the policy wonks or bureaucrats. We're talking about real harm to real people," Jacob Powsner, a Rutland County maple producer, said in the release. "This is a systematic gutting of food security in favor of harmful, racist immigration policy and of 'border security.' We're done with waiting and seeing. We're here to say, 'No more."

This story included the work of Habib Sabet and Emma Cotton of VTDigger.org and Marin Howell of the Independent.

For more info contact Heidi

Willis at redsprings@myfairpoint.

net or 802-377-1783, or backup

contact Al McKibben at alan@

lakechamplainpub.com or 802-

# McGill tallies up hit to non-profits

**By JOHN FLOWERS** 

MONTPELIER — State officials are working feverishly to keep a running tally of federal funding cuts being handed down by the Trump administration and the Republican-led Congress (see related story on Page 1A). Vermont House Appropriations Committee Chair Robin Scheu, a Middlebury Democrat, gets frequent reports from Vermont's Joint Fiscal Office.

While state government has an information pipeline to Washington, D.C., to help it account for confirmed or potential federal cuts to programs Medicaid, environmental protection, land conservation and food for hungry Vermonters, what about the hundreds of nonprofit organizations in Vermont that rely on federal money that doesn't filter through state agencies like the Department of Health?

"There's a lot of federal money that comes in directly to organizations around the state that doesn't pass through state government," said Rep. Jubilee McGill, D-Bridport. "It's money that's being used to support Vermonters and provide essential services. So if we're not adequately tracking that, we're only telling part of the story."

McGill, a member of the House Committee on Human Services, has been selected by her legislative

peers to tell that story. She's doing She's put out the call through state it by compiling information on non-governmental agencies and associations that receive direct grants or other kinds of federal aid.

According to Common Good Vermont, the state is home to 6,409 nonprofits. Not all of them receive federal grants, but McGill said it's safe to say that many hundreds of them do. Some have dozens of staff members; others are led by a single part-timer. And relatively few can afford D.C. lobbyists to monitor and advocate for their financial interests.

In her professional life, McGill is assistant director of the nonprofit Vermont Coalition of Runaway and Homeless Youth Programs (VCRHYP). As its name implies, the coalition works to preserve and strengthen the statewide safety net of services for kids in trouble.

"We have six federal grants that don't pass through state government, but that assist runaway and homeless youth in a variety of ways," she said. 'And that's just (the VCRHYP)."

McGill recently brought her concern to her committee chair, Rep. Theresa Wood. The Waterbury Democrat asked McGill if she could compile a list of Vermont nonprofits that receive their federal assistance independently, and she agreed.

It might seem like a Herculean task, but McGill is getting help. state.vt.us.

channels and email. Nonprofits who collaborate and touch base often through the course of the year — are reminding each other to send along

their info. On March 11 McGill began soliciting the federal grant info from the state's nonprofits. Last week, she developed a spreadsheet on which to log the data. She's hoping to complete the project by May 2.

In the long-term, state officials believe the completed spreadsheet can become a living document that could be updated periodically to reflect Vermont nonprofits' federal funding needs that are independent of the state's legislative accounting system.

In the short term, the list will allow the state and its federal delegation to more effectively advocate for Vermont's nonprofit sector amid the flurry of federal cuts that have been handed down — or are currently being discussed — by the Trump Administration and Congress.

McGill is asking nonprofit respondents to give the name of their organization, the specific name of the federal grant(s) they're receiving, and a contact name/number if more info is needed.

Respondents are asked to email that info to McGill at jmcgill@leg.

### Two Addison County men cited in sex cases

ADDISON COUNTY — In separate cases. Vermont State Police this week cited two Addison and Families throughout the County men for sexual misconduct involving children.

In one case, troopers charged Danel Cioffredi, 39, of Middlebury. They said they began investigation into

Cioffredi after receiving March 23 reports involving a 15-year-old female. Police allege

March 2025, Cioffredi committed the offenses of luring a child; promoting a recording of sexual conduct; disseminating indecent material to a minor; and dispensing cannabis to an individual under age

On Monday, April 21, police took Cioffredi into custody without incident and drove him to the New Haven barracks for processing. At the request of the Vermont Attorney General's Office, they cited Cioffredi for those offense and released him with an order to answer the charges in court June 2.

Detectives were assisted by members of the Department

Homeland Security and the Department for Children investigation.

The other case involved 22-yearold Cody F. LaDuc of Orwell.

On April 8 state police began investigating reports involving LaDuc and

a 7-year-old female. Troopers say Police Log determined that in June 2024, LaDuc committed that between September 2024 and the offense of lewd and lascivious with a child. On Tuesday, April 22, police arrested LaDuc without

> him with a June 2 court date. The Department for Children and Families assisted in this investigation as well.

> incident, formally cited him at and

transported to the New Haven

barracks for the offense, and released

Separately, state police cited others for driving under the influence, or DUI, in the past week.

The first incident was on April 17 just after 9 p.m., when tropers stopped a car on River Road near Route 7 in New Haven. They cited Nancy B. Sawyer, 69, of Cornwall for DUI, and they issued her a \$220 ticket for driving outside her lanes. Troopers were assisted by Middlebury police.

About 25 hours later, on April 18, state police stopped a car on Route 7 near Three Mile Bridge Road in Middlebury and cited Gina M. Morrissey, 56, of Salisbury for DUI. They also ticketed her for not using her signals, not having her vehicle inspected, driving without proof of insurance, and driving without her license on her. Altogether, those tickets could result in \$333 in fines and 4 points on her license.

They issued the third DUI the next evening at around 5 p.m. on April 19, after state police were notified of a two-vehicle crash on Lake Street near Watch Point Road in Shoreham. The operator of an ATV had fled the scene.

Police reported that Michael J. Harris, 40, of Mount Holly had been driving an ATV with three passengers, and that he had fled the scene of the accident. Troopers later located Harris at a nearby home. They cited him for DUI, leaving the scene of an accident and three counts of reckless endangerment.



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### **6th Annual Addison County Home Health and Hospice** No Show Mother's Day Gala!!!!

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Donations made now through May 11 will help support our Food for the Soul program, which provides weekly deliveries of restaurant and home cooked meals to hospice patients and their caregivers. Visit achth.org to make a secure donation and we will send a beautiful card acknowledging your generosity to your honoree. No need to drag her out of the house for yet another event — this year show your mom, grandma, or other important woman in your life how much you love her by giving just what she'd give to another!

100% of donations will go to supporting our services

# Fire truck arrives in **Ferrisburgh**

By ANDY KIRKALDY

FERRISBURGH Ferrisburgh Volunteer Department had to wait a long time for a short fire truck, and Chief Bill Wager said its arrival earlier this month was much better late than

Wager said the new vehicle fills a critical need for the department because it's about 10 feet shorter than the department's 34-footlong, full-size pumper truck. The new truck thus has the ability to maneuver in tight quarters, particularly in crowded seasonal along neighborhoods Lake Champlain.

The department's existing, longer pumper truck can only reach about a third of the lakefront camps in some areas, while the new truck will be able to reach a large majority of them, according

"One of the things we discovered was the need to have a vehicle that would be able to navigate a lot of the close confinement we have at Long Point and Fort Cassin." he said. "And there are a lot of other places in town where this truck is going to be valuable, where we cannot get a full-size fire truck

paid for and ordered in November — a number of those in five



THIS NEW PUMPER truck recently arrived at the Ferrisburgh Fire Department's Route 7 station. The truck's shorter length will allow it to work in crowded quarters, and it dispenses hefty amounts of non-toxic firefighting foam despite its smaller size.

Photo courtesy of Bill Wager

2001 and came fully equipped for roughly \$350,000 — that was \$297,000 for the truck itself. The department bought the truck, which replaces a 36-year-old vehicle, without needing to ask residents to back a bond.

Wager said funding included \$100,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money approved by the selectboard in November of 2021, and department fundraising that totaled around \$60,000 — Wager said residents bought plenty of pancakes and barbecued chicken at meals offered at the department's Route 7 station. The balance came from what Wager called a generous citizen, The HME brand vehicle was foundation and business donations

figures.

But why is the truck only arriving now?

"There were a lot of issues, COVID issues, supply-chain issues, getting the chassis, getting the components to build (the truck," Wager said.

The good news is that figuring in inflation, the truck purchased today would cost as much as \$150,000 more if purchased from the same New Hampshire dealer, Wager said.

'We really did get a bargain when we paid for it four-and-ahalf years ago, which was good for us," he said. "Unfortunately, we did have to wait a long time to get the truck, but, again, in today's dollars it would be quite a

"We really did get a bargain when we paid for it four-and-a-half years ago; ... in today's dollars it would be quite a bit more."

— Fire Chief Bill Wager

bit more.'

Wager offered more details on what he called "a little truck that has the capability of a large truck."

The truck has a pump and can carry four firefighters and three air-packs on a chassis based on a commercial Ford F-F550 truck frame. It does carry a small

reservoir of water, but its main calling card is its ability to pump a substantial quantity of ecofriendly foam fire suppressant. "On of the unique things

about this truck is it supports a compressed-air foam system, and the foam system will help improve firefighting capability, especially with limited resources, meaning limited manpower." he said, adding, "It carries a small amount of water, but because it carries the foam, it gives you the same firefighting capability you would have with a full-size engine."

The foam it deploys is approved for use by the National Park Service, Wager said.

"It's very environmentally safe, to and what we have for staffing.

it does not have any fluorocarbons in it. It's designed for forest fires, but it's very functional for structural firefighting," Wager

The truck is also four-wheel drive, he added, giving the department better access to fires in muddy or snowy conditions.

In most cases, the department's larger engine will remain the goto vehicle, with the new truck for backup.

"This is going to be our Engine Two. We still have our primary engine, which is a large engine," Wager said. "But this is going to be our backup truck, and in many cases the primary truck, depending on what we're going

# Ferrisburgh

(Continued from Page 1A) any part of how they run their show, but it just allows us to be able to say we have our own town fire department and we can make sure it's funded without having to rely on what kind of fundraising they are doing.'

Ferrisburgh Fire Chief Bill Wager and Campbell both said the department could also save Ferrisburgh money if it could directly access grants that are typically awarded only to towns, while the town's purchasing power could mean savings.

"It also gives us a lot more opportunities for grant funding for our department," Wager said. "There are a lot of advantages for pricing things under the umbrella of the town."

Wager explained why the Ferrisburgh Volunteer Fire Department isn't already a town entity. The answer is rooted in remain volunteers under any new Vermont's history, he said, but arrangement, he confirmed. times are changing.

fire companies. They popped up throughout Addison County, Chittenden County, and so on. There were concerned citizens who wanted to develop fire companies to deliver aid to people. But it was never officially a town entity," Wager said. "But through the years, now we're seeing the need for sustainability to be actually part of town government."

Ferrisburgh residents will have the final say in townwide balloting either at a March town meeting, possibly as soon as next year, or at a special town meeting/election called for that purpose.

Campbell said, "There are a lot of incremental steps" before a vote can be warned, beginning with a memorandum of understanding between the selectboard and the fire department.

members of the department would sufficient, the better it would be

But the department charter "A lot of departments back and other paperwork would in the day were independent need revisiting before the status selectboard and fire department

change. And Wager said things like insurance policies for the department members would have to be evaluated to ensure municipal policies are comparable to current coverage.

Movement toward this change began a couple years ago, Campbell said, when Ferrisburgh officials were in lengthy negotiations with Vergennes about what the town should pay the city fire department to be the first responder for West Ferrisburgh (which can only be reached from the rest of the town by going through the city) and

some of southern Ferrisburgh. "We all started to recognize that we were, for better or worse, really tied to the Vergennes Fire Department for a lot of our fire services," Campbell said. "And it left us understanding that the Not all would change. The more we as a town could be selffor our citizens not to be at the mercy of another municipality's situation."

Those discussions prompted the

leadership alike to consider the larger picture, Campbell said.

We began as a selectboard to look at what other municipalities had done, and at the same time Bill and his guys began to do the same thing. So I think it all grew out of that," Campbell said.

In the meantime, Wager explained how things have worked up to this point and, at least for now, will continue to work.

"We are a private fire company. We are a contractor to the town," he said.

For example, the department recently bought a new \$355,000 fire truck, using \$100,000 from Ferrisburgh's American Rescue Plan Act funding (thanks to the selectboard), \$60,000 of its own fundraising, while funding the rest with grants and business and individual donations.

The last time Ferrisburgh bonded for the department was in the early 1990s, for a pumper truck and the construction of its Route 7 fire station. The department also obtained its 2016 truck through a municipal lease arranged through the town.

"It's been kind of a handshake between the town and the fire department, where the selectboard and the town will take over the obligation," Wager said. "The station belongs to the town. Our current Engine No. 1 belongs to the town ... The other apparatus actually belongs to the independent corporation."

the department on budgeting," Campbell is in favor of that change in status occurring ASAP.

Reviewing that list, Wager

concluded that if the department

joins the municipality, "You're

going to maintain more

transparency between the town and

"We have not laid out anything specific (on a timetable), Campbell said. "I know I would like it done sooner than later."

## Leicester

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

LEICESTER — The Leicester Historical Society is sponsoring Prize Bingo on Sat., May 10, at 1 p.m., at the Senior Center at are interested in helping, contact the Four Corners. Refreshments Diane Benware at 802-458-7234. served and all are welcome.

Plans are coming together for be held at the Four Corners from Green Up Day, May 3. Many folks 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., on May 3. have agreed to clean up particular Your lunch ticket doubles as a road segments in town. Several areas remain unclaimed: Fern Lake syrup, garden tools are some of the Road from Route 7 to the Delorm/

Shackett Road intersection, Delorm Road from the Brandon town line north to 777 Delorm Road. If you A free lunch for volunteers will

raffle ticket. Restaurant gift cards,

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# Wayne Johnson

(Continued from Page 1A) DOING THE IMPOSSIBLE

In addition to cooking at Smoke & Lola's, Johnson's culinary background includes stints at Middlebury eateries Otter Creek Café (now Otter Creek Bakery) and American Flatbread, as well as time abroad learning from chefs in Peru and Jamaica.

Asked about the inspiration behind his latest food-related endeavor, Johnson pointed to Peters and "I got this little the ideas the pair would

window of think up together. time on this "She and I were those dreamer types, and we planet; I could always wanted to see, choose to be 'What could we do to, miserable not change the world, ... or I could but be an effective choose to be example of something worth doing," he involved and explained. "(Peters's to participate free soup movement) and hope to be was phenomenal. She an example of didn't feed a ton of lifting folks." people, but she made a statement with it."

Johnson said he and Peters would often come up with "grandiose ideas," ideas would consist of setting a seemingly impossible goal, such as traveling to Machu Picchu, and then trying to meet it.

"Basically, our conversations were, 'Don't limit yourself based on what you're told you can and can't do,"" he recalled.

Shooting for what seems impossible has remained a motivator for Johnson and was part of what led him to start Don't Panic Catering.

"That was another part of the inspiration for me, was knowing ... I got this little window of time on this planet; I could choose to recluse, be miserable, be happy despite what's going on around me, I could choose all these kind of dynamics, or I could choose to be involved and to participate and hope to be an example of lifting folks up for simply the purpose of knowing that it feels good to be lifted," he said.

Through Don't Panic Catering, Johnson is looking to provide 300 people three meals a day.

an opportunity for people across different walks of life to come together over food.

"I'd like to see how many conversations could be started with people who may not have ever been willing to speak other than in anger, and I think that food is the best vehicle for that because it's something we all need and find

some level of joy in," he said.

The initiative is also intended to help foster "dignity, respect, and support for those in need." Johnson was homeless for a couple years in his youth and recalled how challenging it was to find food, and how doing so at times required exchanging your dignity for a meal.

"When you get stuck into those depths of a learned helplessness and hopelessness like homelessness and poverty in general, or catastrophic weather

incidents where people

who have no insurance are now left with nothing, those before she died in 2015. Those kind of dynamics — you've done all the right things, you've worked hard, you've tried to make sure that you've dotted all your I's, and you still wind up having to beg or go through that situation," he said. "It's crushing, and it creates a fear and an anger that winds up spreading, so then you wind up

Johnson

In short: Everyone deserves to have a free meal.

haves and have-nots."

with this further division of the

"My inspiration comes from the idea of being able to provide people with the idea of dignity and that we care about each other on a scale that we might not say or recognize," he said.

#### KITCHEN ON WHEELS

Johnson is in the process of refurbishing a former military mobile kitchen trailer that will house Don't Panic Catering. The fully functional kitchen, which folds into a more compact trailer, will be towed by a bus, and have the capacity to serve an estimated

Johnson and several friends lending their talents are currently working to install a bread oven, refrigerator and a sink. The goal is ultimately to make the mobile kitchen self-sufficient, complete with solar and water.

Johnson's plan is to run a lowprofit corporation, traveling to spots around the country to cater events and using the proceeds to serve free, nutritional meals. Johnson noted the mobile kitchen's ability to be compact will allow Don't Panic Catering to access all sorts of venues.

"I'm thinking anything from different kinds of extreme sports where you've got to get out to a hard-to-reach place, mountain bike racing, different things like that, or high-end stuff because I love doing high-end culinary," Johnson said of the types of events he'd be able to cater. But he's open to all types of

Johnson's hoping to cater Don't Panic Catering's first pop-up event by June and be officially on the road by this fall. The goal is to reach each of the 48 contiguous United States

What'll be on the menu? Johnson said he plans to talk with residents in the places he visits to learn more about the types of food they like to eat, though he added that he enjoys cooking international food. At Smoke & Lola's, Johnson whipped up dishes from a variety of different places, from Lebanese food to Kurdish cuisine.

"Food is a great way to communicate about a people or a group that you don't necessarily know or will never meet," he said.

Johnson's found that serving food from different regions can help break down barriers and biases.

"I like to cook food from regions that people don't know a lot about, so that way it creates conversation and it makes the world smaller, and people will be able to feel less apprehensive about one another when they're talking because they at least know a little something," he said. "(To share) the diversity in food cultures ... is a really neat way to open people's eyes about the commonalities in the things

LINCOLN RESIDENT AND chef Wayne Johnson is gearing up to travel across the country with Don't Panic Catering, a mobile catering business that will provide high-quality catering services and free meals. Panic Catering, a mobile catering business that will provide ingli-quality outsing.

Here, he stands inside the former military mobile kitchen trailer that will house the business.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

that we share love and desire for."

Ultimately, the hope is for Don't Panic Catering to become a vear-round operation that provides disaster relief assistance, though Johnson noted he's still working through the training and other requirements that would allow for

In the meantime, he's working to get things up and running. Several community members are lending a hand, with friends helping out with things like electric and water for the mobile kitchen, along with other aspects of the effort.

Johnson's learning how to weld and plans to take an online diesel mechanic class, so he's able to address any repairs needed on the

"I'm trying to learn as many different things as I possibly can," he said.

Those interested in supporting the effort can find a GoFundMe at tinyurl.com/dontpaniccatering or contact Johnson at wajohnson 802@ comcast.net. Johnson said he welcomes any help in spreading the word about Don't Panic Catering's mission or other ways community members want to get involved.

Get free ADDY ALL-STARS swag

when you bring back a full bag!

"I figure anybody that feels inspired that wants to be part of something different, even if it's just a conversation, I'm really open to it," he said.

Johnson's hope is for the operation to be community-driven, and ultimately, to build something bigger than a catering business.

"Food is my favorite. I love

feeding people; sitting down and watching someone enjoy something where silence just takes over and they're just stuck in that moment, that's like the best, but most of that's ego, most of that's my feeling like I've got value," he said. "The idea of people recognizing that we're in it together, that would be the magic."





## Porter

(Continued from Page 1A) bash, Porter Medical Center (PMC) boosters are being invited to support Porter in two special ways — by offering some heartfelt words that could find their way into a time capsule to be buried somewhere on the hospital campus, and by contributing to a new patients' support fund.

Logistics and specifics of the Porter 100th are still being sorted out. But PMC Director of Development Amy Barr said she's been looking toward this celebration since she joined Porter

"The actual brainstorming started last fall," she said.

Officials knew they wanted it to be more than cake, candles and ice cream. And since Barr's main duties include raising money to help support the nonprofit institution's causes, she wanted to make sure a "giving" opportunity was in the mix.

Turns out a philanthropic blueprint was already in place, at the Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital in Plattsburgh. The CVPH's patient support fund offers relatively small contributions to low-income patients whose insurance won't cover items that improve quality of life and/or allow them to stay out of the hospital. Examples, according to Barr: money for walkers, wheelchairs, inhalers, or transportation that would allow a stranded, discharged patient to get

"There was a domestic-abuse patient who needed her meds immediately, but it wasn't safe for her to retrieve them from her home where her partner lived," Barr said, citing another example. "A CVPH case manager tapped into the (patient support) funds to purchase new prescriptions for

Barr knew a support fund would be a great idea for Porter, and thought PMC's birthday would be a perfect time to seed it. So Porter on March 6 launched a



**AMY BARR** 

"100 Contributions In 100 days" campaign that will end on June 14, the day of the birthday bash.

If the campaign achieves the 100-contribution mark in time, the Porter Medical Center Auxiliary will sweeten the pot with a \$10,000

As of April 21, the campaign had yielded 32 contributions totaling \$14,000,

"A lot of impact

can be made

many people

in this and

can participate

— Amy Barr

around according to Barr, who said gifts of any size are welcomed and count toward the with modest pledge total. You can donations. So contribute by going to tinyurl.com/3yvb7tpz.

"A lot of impact can be made with modest donations," she said. make a "So many people can difference." participate in this and make a difference."

Maureen Conrad is a member of the Porter Auxiliary, a volunteer-led fundraising arm of the institution. The auxiliary raises money for important items, services and causes that might not fall within PMC's budget.

Since its creation in 1934, the Porter Auxiliary has contributed more than \$2.5 million to PMC, including \$100,000 to the recent Helen Porter Rehabilitation & Nursing improvement project, and \$50,000 to help Porter meet

unanticipated expenses due to the COVID pandemic.

"The patient support fund really resonated with us," Conrad said. "As soon as we heard about it, we

#### A TIME CAPSULE

Conrad, who volunteers on many fronts in addition to serving as development director of Addison County Home Health & Hospice, is also helping with another aspect of PMC's birthday bash: The time capsule. Organizers as of this week were still determining what the capsule will look like and where it will be interred for a future generation to dig up and open decades from now. At this point, organizers are inviting submissions of "photos, milestones memories, and wishes."

"We will choose items which will be educational, some that portray an emotional connection to the hospital and some that are just fun," Conrad said.

Plans call for the capsule to be opened 50 years hence. That would allow some folks to attend both the capsule interment and

retrieval.

officials Porter invite folks to drop off their time capsule submissions at the volunteer desk (just inside the door of the main hospital entrance), on Mondays through Fridays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Want to contribute comments electronically? Go to the PMC centennial

message board, at tinyurl. com/3tc9muuj.

Or, you can send your heartfelt message via email at Centennial@ PorterMedical.org.

Here are a few of the messages that now appear on the centennial

· "I feel incredibly grateful, not only to be a patient of Porter Hospital, but also be work at this wonderful institution. I still cannot believe I landed at such a gem of a



PORTER HOSPITAL IN the 1920s looked similar to how it does now, but there are several more buildings surrounding the hospital, including the nursing home, birthing center and Open Door Clinic.

hospital in rural Vermont!"

— Jodi Brown

• "All 5 of my children were born at Porter Medical Center (Helen Porter Hospital) between 1951-1965. I also ran the coffee shop in the '50s when my older 3 children were young. Happy 100th birthday!'

— Lorraine Barr

In addition to processing the community messages, the time capsule custodians will curate health care-related submissions from Porter employees. These might include hospital garb, PMC's employee handbook, immunization guidelines, and hospital/auxiliary letterhead.

Conrad believes newspaper articles pertaining to health care, a list of current grocery store prices, popular music tunes of 2025, and uncirculated U.S. coins will also make it into the time capsule.

"There have been numerous improvements and innovations in health care through the years and much has changed. What has remained the same over the past 100 years is the quality of the care provided by Porter for the community, and the concern and skill of the hospital's employees," Conrad said.

Barr promised additional opportunities for folks to create and contribute to the time capsule on Saturday, June 14, during a centennial celebration slated for 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The centennial party will boast live music from the "Loose Monkeys," food, activities and fun for people of all ages. Bocce, crafts, a Round Robin pop-up store, lawn games, a quilt raffle and free health screenings will be available.

Middlebury Regional EMS, Middlebury police, the Middlebury Fire Department and the University of Vermont Medical Center have been invited to make appearances with their trucks, vans and/or ambulances.

Porter Director Communications & Engagement Christopher Morris is assembling a timeline for the hospital that will use words and photos to denote important milestones in PMC's history.

PMC President Bob Ortmyer will share a birthday message with the crowd, and state Sen. Ruth Hardy will share a legislative proclamation honoring Porter on its 100th.

**HOSPITAL ORIGINS** Ortmyer is likely to reference

Northeast and have that wonderful



Porter Hospital building on a sunny day around 60 years ago. Porter Medical Center will host a 100th birthday party for the organization in June 14.

**Photo courtesy of Porter Medical Center** 

Porter's beginnings, as former Sheldon Museum of Vermont History Director Jan Albers did in an Aug. 2, 2007, essay in the Independent.

She noted PMC owes its existence to William Porter, whose rags-to-riches career trajectory allowed him to donate the thenhuge sum of \$50,000 toward a facility that would serve as both the community hospital and Middlebury College infirmary.

When Porter was 15, his family had faced financial ruin and was forced to sell its beautiful farm in Middlebury. They started over in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., where William got a job at a local inn.

"A wealthy banker who was staying at the hotel (one day in 1878) watched the boy at work and was so impressed with his intelligence and work ethic that he offered him a job at his bank in New York City," Albers recounted.

the president of the Chemical National Bank in 1908 and a member of J.P. Morgan and Company."

William Porter never forgot Middlebury.

"In giving the money (for a hospital), he expressed his wish that the hospital should be 'erected on some part of the College land where it would face to the

view of the Green Mountains," Albers wrote.

Plans for the new county hospital were first imagined in 1914, but were tabled during World War I. Porter, by then a Middlebury College trustee, kicked in another \$50,000 after the war. The new building was finally dedicated on June 15, 1925.

"It provided Addison County with a medical facility far better than most small towns of the era could boast, including two operating rooms, fitted to Porter's specifications, with the best modern equipment," Albers

The PMC campus has changed a lot since William Porter's era. It now includes multiple buildings, including Helen Porter and the Open Door Clinic. The organization includes around a dozen affiliated medical provider practices.

"Today, Porter Hospital is the "(Porter) climbed steadily heart of the health care system in through the ranks, until he became this region," Albers concluded. "It sits on the very site of the farm William Porter's family lost when he was a boy, overlooking the beautiful view he loved so well. The small-town boy had turned his childhood hurt into a place of hope for the whole community."

For updates on Porter's centennial plans, go to tinyurl.com/ mt972fkk.

John Flowers is at johnf@ addisonindependent.com.





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# Trump policies

(Continued from Page 1A)

Addressing those and other issues on Saturday were Attorney General Charity Clark, Secretary of State Sarah Copeland Hanzas, Treasurer Mike Pieciak, Middlebury State Rep. Robin Scheu (Chair of the House Appropriations Committee), and state Sen. Ruth Hardy, who organized the forum.

Hardy, a Democrat in her seventh year representing Addison County, Huntington, Rochester and Buel's Gore, said the Legislature is doing what it can to protect Vermont and prepare for potential federal restrictions on funding and civil

She specifically pointed to legislative efforts to protect reproductive rights, gender affirming healthcare, shield laws, and immigrants' rights.

Each of the speakers framed federal impacts on Vermont's budget and state services and described ways they're trying to negate or forestall those impacts. PIECIAK: RIGHT VS.

#### WRONG

In addition to being the state's banker and chief investment officer. Pieciak co-chairs Vermont's 2025 Task Force on Federal Transition. That panel's charge includes advising the treasurer's office on "federal policy, legal changes, and the opportunities or challenges they create for the Vermont economy, future state fiscal or financial policy, or for Vermonters' households and businesses."

Pieciak took an informal poll of the crowd on current federal policy, including asking how many attendees had been affected — or had seen friends or family affected — by Trump policies so far in 2025.

More than half of those present raised their hand.

"The emotion I'm "It's really feeling now is anger," a blatant Pieciak said. "This moment, it's more than attack on our being Republican or democracy Democrat. It's so much and the bigger than ideology function of our and party differences. elections." This moment is all about what's right and what's wrong."

The treasurer condemned Trump's funding, immigration, DEI and other major

initiatives as being "wrong — not because they are policy failures; they are wrong because they are moral failures.

Force on Federal Transition has Constitution is being violated, or produced some basic, disturbing numbers that "tell the story about what we're dealing with":

• One in five Vermonters works for a nonprofit. Pieciak said the state's nonprofits collectively receive more than \$600 million annually from the federal government. He noted 40 nonprofits in Addison County receive a combined \$30 million each year.

Without the federal buy-in, Pieciak estimated 68% of Vermont's nonprofits likely wouldn't be able to meet their basic expenses.

"That's a significant risk for our economy," he said.

• Vermont businesses are bracing for \$1 billion in increased costs stemming from the new tariffs Trump has imposed on countries throughout the world — including Canada, Vermont's main trade partner.

"This is the highest tariffs have been since 1934, when we were in the depths of the Great Depression," Pieciak said.

He noted Vermont businesses affected by an additional \$1 billion in Trump tariffs will have to pass along at least some of those higher costs to consumers.

"It's going to land on lowincome, middle-class people the hardest, because it's essentially a regressive sales tax," he said.

Pieciak said he spoke last week with representatives of one Vermont business that reported a \$9 million tariff on a single inventory shipment.

"They don't get that money back until they increase their prices and sell their goods," he said. "They have no idea if their customers are going to buy goods at the higher prices. It's total insanity."

• Vermont ranks fourth per capita in Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement. Part of the reason is the state has been contending with a lot of flood-damage.

In an April 4 press release, FEMA

Infrastructure and Communities program and canceled all BRIC applications from 2020-2023.

While finances are his domain, Pieciak said his biggest concern doesn't involve dollars and cents.

"It's the erosion of civil liberties that we're seeing," he said, citing as an example a Palestinian student (Mohsen Mahdawi) who on April 14 was arrested in Colchester by U.S. Justice Department officials who have yet to say why he's being detained. Mahdawi, a Columbia University student, has been a vocal critic of the war in Gaza.

Mahdawi is one of several foreign students with legal status who've been detained and temporarily jailed by ICE — ostensibly for sharing political

views not shared by the that should Trump Administration. continue and emblematic fight for our of a number of democracy. individuals who've Exercise your had their due process and civil liberties right to speak stripped from them by ир." this administration,' Pieciak said. 'anti-American values'... It's not what

we are as a country. I'm also mad about the amount of glee and joy the president and his administration seem to get from doing these horrible things to

people living in the U.S." Pieciak encouraged Vermonters to join a growing chorus of voices opposing the deportations of those living legally in the U.S.

He said if one person's rights are flouted, "we all have that threat of having our own rights eliminated in some way.'

#### AG FIGHTS BACK

Secretary

Copeland

of State Sarah

As Vermont attorney general,

Clark represents the state in all legal matters, providing legal counsel to state agencies and the Legislature, while enforcing state laws.

The public is used to seeing its AG go after large corporations over fraud, pollution or other transgressions.

But the latest and most frequent target of Hanzas her legal action during the past four months has

been the Trump Administration. Clark said her office has, since Jan. 20, sued the Trump Administration nine times — a 10th suit was announced Wednesday. "I will Pieciak said the Vermont Task continue to sue as long as the federal laws are violated," she said.

Clark — her remarks interrupted several times by applause — voiced pride that her office, in concert with other Democratic attorneys general, had filed successful court challenges that have either blocked or forestalled the administration's proposals on several issues, including:

- A birthright citizenship ban.
- A federal funding freeze.
- The "plundering of Americans" data" by billionaire Elon Musk and DOGE.
- The "illegal firing of federal employees at 18 different agencies.'
- The "illegal dismantling" of the U.S. Department of Education.
- "Illegal and sweeping voting
- restrictions," and • The "dismantling of small
- federal agencies that support minority-owned museums, businesses and libraries.'

"We are focusing on every single executive order, and every action the Trump Administration is taking, to ensure it's legal and Constitutional," Clark said.

You'll find a complete list of the Vermont AG Office's actions against the Trump Administration by logging on to ago.vermont.gov/ ago-actions.

Clark said that her actions have fortunately received little pushback so far from the administration.

"The good news is that we've found that so far, in our suits, the Trump administration has complied. Sometimes it takes them a couple of days — like a toddler who doesn't want to go to bed but eventually, they do," she said.

She's also been heartened by the U.S. Supreme Court's rulings thus far on Trump's executive orders.

"It appears that Chief Justice (John) Roberts is having none of it," Clark said. "Federal judges are not used to being disobeyed, and they do not like it."

Clark and her staff have been ended the Building Resilient heartened by a growing number

of thank-you cards and letters her office has received during the past four months. The messages span two large bulletin boards in her

"It's so touching; it really means a lot," she said.

She concluded by tipping her cap to Jeffrey Amestoy, a former AG and former chief justice of the Vermont Supreme Court. One of Amestoy's favorite quotes is attributed to Judge Learned Hand (1872-1961).

"Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women; when it dies there, no constitution, no law, no court can even do much to help it. While it

"It is liberty

in our hearts

lies there it needs no constitution, no law, no

court to save it." With that in mind, Clark said, "it is liberty in our hearts that should continue and fight for our democracy. Exercise your right to speak up.' **ELECTIONS** 

### **UNDER FIRE**

Copeland Hanzas — Attorney said she remains "laser-General focused on (preserving) Charity Clark free, fair and accessible elections." She pointed

to a March 26 executive order issued by Trump that tracks with the SAVE Act, which recently passed the U.S. House. The SAVE Act would, among other things, require all Americans to prove their citizenship by presenting documentation — in person — when registering to vote or updating their voter registration information. Copeland Hanzas said voters would have to produce a passport or birth certificate as proof of citizenship.

In addition to placing a travel burden on the frail and elderly, more than 140 million American citizens don't possess a passport, and around 69 million women who've taken their spouse's name don't have a birth certificate matching their legal name, according to the Center for American Progress.

"It's a really blatant attack on our democracy and the function of our elections," Copeland Hanzas said.

She noted Vermont is fighting the executive order in court. "In my view, (the SAVE Act)

is a blatant disregard of the Constitution, which says states shall determine the time, place and manner of elections — and only Congress can make laws and put certain parameters around that."

The proposed law, Copeland Hanzas added, includes criminal penalties for those who register someone to vote in the absence of required documentation.

"As a town clerk, even though you've lived next to Mrs. Jones for your entire life and know she was born here, you'd have to tell her. 'No, I can't register you to vote until you have a birth certificate; how or if your name changed when you were married, and a current photo ID," she said.

"Of course we don't want non-citizens voting," Copeland Hanzas added. But she pointed to a non-citizen voting study performed by the Brennan Center for Justice which, among other things, revealed that the rate of potential non-citizen voting is 0.0001%.

**SCHEU: CRUELTY REIGNS** As leader of Vermont House's top money committee, Scheu has a tough task under ordinary circumstances. But this year has been far from ordinary. State officials have said federal funding directives from Trump and his cabinet leaders tend to come

on a whim. Scheu said the state is counting on more than 36% — or roughly \$3.1 billion — of Vermont's \$9 billion fiscal year 2026 state budget to come through federal dollars.

suddenly and can change seemingly

She noted around \$1.5 million of the fed's anticipated contribution relates to Medicaid, which subsidizes healthcare for lowincome citizens.

"All Vermonters have the potential to be affected in some way," Scheu said of potential federal cuts.

Vermont maintains what Scheu called "rainy day funds" that total around \$300 million. But those would only go so far in a crisis.

"We don't have the ability to backfill cuts the federal government can make," she said.

House Appropriations asked department heads in state government to testify on "the nature and status of the federal funds they're responsible for," according to Scheu. "We're asking, 'Could that program continue in a reduced capacity if your (federal) funding was cut or eliminated, or would the program have to go away?"

Those department heads are also being asked who'd be harmed if the program in question were eliminated or reduced.

"There's no way to predict what's going to happen," Scheu said. "But... we want to understand as much as we can, so that if and when something happens — and we know it will — we'll be better able to respond."

She acknowledged federal funding bombshells could fall after the Legislature adjourns later this spring. If that happens, the



VERMONT ATTORNEY GENERAL Charity Clark, left, talks here with Addison Central School Board Chair Barb Wilson and Middlebury selectboard member Andy Hooper at Saturday's forum at Town Hall

state's Joint Fiscal Committee and Emergency Board can make some financial decisions independent of the House and Senate. Scheu is a member of both of those panels.

At this same time, she conceded the General Assembly could be called back into an emergency session if the Trump Administration announces draconian federal funding cuts.

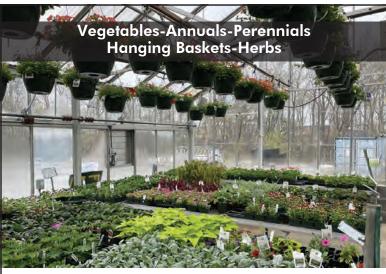
Scheu lamented the federal addisonindependent.com.

Independent photo/John S. McCright government's current priorities.

The U.S. House-passed budget contemplates \$880 billion in Medicaid cuts, while at the same time advancing \$5.3 trillion in tax cuts during the next decade.

"Cruelty seems to be the point," she said. "It's stressful. Be kind to yourself, be kind to others.'

John Flowers is at johnf@



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# **Spotlight on Vergennes**

### **City farmers market gets** approved for longer hours

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The Vergennes Farmers Market will return to the city's central downtown green as scheduled on June 12, but with longer hours as proposed by the market's new coordinator.

The Vergennes City Council on April 8 approved a request from the market to set up shop on Thursdays from June 12 to Oct. 9 from 1 to 8 p.m., not the previous hours of 3-7

Other provisions approved at last week's meeting were similar. The



council agreed to close Park Street between Main and North streets to through traffic during the market's open hours "to ensure vendors and customers have easy access to parking," and to keep Vergennes City Hall restrooms open to the public during the market's business

In March the council also met, via Zoom, new farmers market coordinator Sarah Stillman. She already coordinates farmers markets in Shelburne and Bristol and has taken over that role in Vergennes longtime city market coordinators Chris and Sandy Reck. The Recks stepped away this past fall at the end of the Vergennes farmers market's 2024 season.

Stillman told the council then she would strive to create the same mix of vendors in Vergennes as the Shelburne market offers: 50% farmers, 30% sellers of prepared food, and 20% artisans.

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# **Art Cohn's Erie Canal** story gets published

### The Lois McClure makes the cover

"The

underwater

on the bottom

**By JOHN FLOWERS** 

FERRISBURGH — Art Cohn has been anything but idle since stepping down as founding director of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum back in 2011. The Independent has reported

on but a fraction of his post-LCMM exploits, including comprehensive, six-year underwater mapping of New York's Seneca Lake, in tandem with Tom and Pat Manley, both emeritus professors at Middlebury College.

learned from." The Independent was also there in 1997 when Cohn unveiled

to the world some of the amazing shipwreck findings yielded through the LCMM's underwater mapping of Lake Champlain. The most prized discovery of that project was the Spitfire, a Revolutionary War gunboat that was part of a small fleet commanded by Benedict Arnold during the Battle of Valcour Island on Oct. 11, 1776.

The LCMM director emeritus has not put down his pen and swim fins, and his sea legs still get a regular workout. Those who want to see what he's been up to lately should check out an article he's authored for the spring 2025

edition of New York Archives Magazine, a publication of the New York Archives Partnership Trust. The article, titled "Ambitious Waterway," is about the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825.

magazine, cultural heritage of our waters is 'a new archive' to be managed, preserved and — Art Cohn

> goodwill expeditions to ports along Lake Champlain and beyond. The Lois McClure, lovingly built and generously financed by its namesake, was retired in 2023 and transferred to the Canal Society of New York State.

> Cohn continues to mourn Lois McClure — the person and philanthropist — who died this past Jan. 26 at age 98.

> "She was such a special person to me and so many others, that to have her maritime namesake presented so majestically, with her name so visible, is quite special," he said of the magazine cover during a recent email exchange with the *Independent*.

> The Lois McClure is one of Vermont references in Cohn's New York Archives Magazine article.

> Among other things, the author shines a literary spotlight on the opening of the Champlain Canal in 1823, two years earlier than the Erie Canal's debut. Cohn notes the Gleaner of St. Albans was the first vessel to transit the Erie Canal. The article also focuses on the

The writeup is the lead article in the which is festooned with including a wonderful

glorious photos shot of the Lois McClure, a replica 1862 canal schooner that was at times based at the LCMM and enthralled thousands of locals and visitors during two decades of educational and

> in the latest edition of New York Archives Magazine. The magazine cover boasts a photo of the Lois McClure, a replica 1862 canal schooner that made goodwill voyages to ports on Lake Champlain and beyond, until its retirement in 2023. sinking of the General Butler off 'a new archive' to be managed,

**LAKE CHAMPLAIN MARITIME Museum Director Emeritus Art Cohn** 

has penned an article about the Erie Canal that is the cover story

Isle La Motte in December 1876 during a so-called 100-year storm.

NEW

YORK

"It was the discovery of the shipwreck General Butler on the west side of the Burlington Breakwater that led to the rediscovery of the forgotten Lake Champlain sailing canal boat," Cohn said.

"The article connects the discovery of the General Butler, the years of in-water study and the years of archival study at enriching our understanding of human history and the building of the exact replica Lois McClure," he added. "The case I try to make is that underwater cultural heritage on the bottom of our waters is preserved and learned from."

Canal

Anyone interested in getting a copy of the magazine featuring Cohn's article can go to nysarchivestrust.org.

Meanwhile, Art Cohn will continue to stay busy, both on land and on the water. In addition to his scholarly pursuits and adventures, he has since 2001 been an active first responder with the Ferrisburgh Volunteer Fire Department. He's also a member of the Green Mountain Critical Incident Debriefing Team, and serves as the Ferrisburgh fire department's chaplain.

John Flowers is at johnf@ addisonindependent.com.





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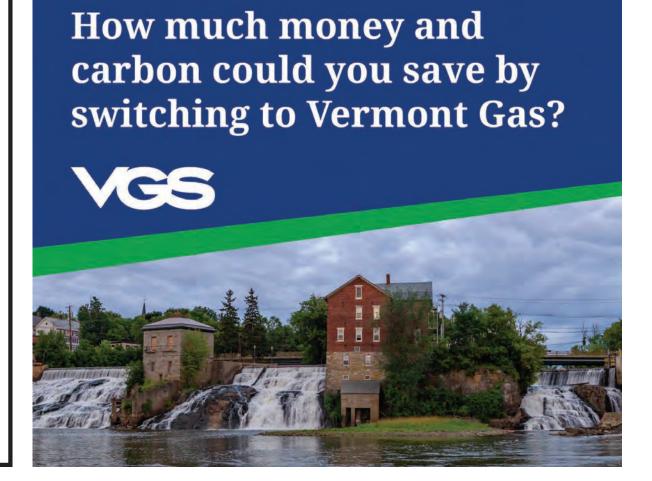
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# Native leader to speak at Addison Historical Society

the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the formation of the United States of America. As the country gears up for the events and celebrations of the 250th we will learn and hear much about the colonists' and British perspectives and experiences.

The Addison Historical Society thought it would be interesting and appropriate to look at Vermont's 250th anniversary from the perspective of the Abenaki First Peoples.

of the Coosuk - Abenaki Nation will talk about the Abenaki culture and beliefs, what peoples were in this area, how the area was used, what settlements existed and what they would have looked like.

In addition to Chief Stevens' insights, the ATHS has been gifted with some Addison area early artifacts (stone tools, points, clay pipes) from the late Raymond "Bud" Bodette that will be discussed. Attendees

ADDISON — The year 2026 will mark At its meeting on Sunday, May 18, at 2 are encouraged to bring related samples of the 250th anniversary of the signing of p.m., Chief Don Stevens, Nulhegan Band their own local artifacts and where they were located. A labeled plastic or paper bag will help identify whose artifact is whose. Please contact Geoff Nelson, 802-349-3305 with any questions.

The meeting will take place at the Addison Fire Station at 44 Route 17 West. For those comfortable walking a bit, please consider parking across Route 17 in the town lot in case the firefighters are called out.

LEFT, AN EARLY grinding stone donated by Raymond "Bud" Bodette to Addison Town Historical Society, will be discussed at the Society's May 18 meeting. A quarter has been placed on surface for scale.

**Photo courtesy of Geoff Nelson** 

# City police cite two motorists for DUI

VERGENNES — In separate incidents last week, Vergennes police cited two motorists for driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

On April 14 police stopped a vehicle driven by Timmy Evarts, 66, of Colchester on Main Street for allegedly failing to yield the right of way to an ambulance. Police then also processed him and cited him for allegedly driving under the influence of drugs, as well as ticketing him for failing to yield for the emergency vehicle.

On April 18 city police responded to a report of erratic driving on Route 7 and ended up stopping a vehicle driven by Christopher Swinton, 28, of Ticonderoga, N.Y., near the highway's intersection with Round Barn Farm Road. Police took him to the Vermont State Police barracks in New Haven, where he was processed and cited for DUI, first offense.

In other action between April 14 and 20, city police conducted nine traffic stops, eight cruiser patrols and two VIN inspections; processed two fingerprint requests; responded to two false alarms and a 911 hangup call; and also:

On April 14:

- Received a phone call from an inmate at the Marble Valley Correctional Facility asking about the status of their case and apologizing for their behavior when they last interacted with a city officer.
- Calmed a verbal family
- argument on West Main Street. • Took a report of damage to a parked car at Shaw's Supermarket him.

## Vergennes Police Log

for insurance purposes.

- Served a notice of intent to pursue a no-stalking order on a Vergennes resident.
- · Responded to a report of juveniles smoking marijuana after hours behind Vergennes Union Elementary School.

On April 15 issued diversion paperwork to a Vergennes Union High School student found to be in possession of alcohol and tobacco products.

On April 16 took a report of a lost wallet within Vergennes.

On April 17 went to the state police barracks to perform a drug influence evaluation, a task performed following a fatal motor vehicle accident.

On April 18:

• Went to a city home to evaluate a report of neglect of an elderly individual. Following the investigation, police determined there was no case of neglect or abuse, but they forwarded the issue for a resource referral.

· Responded to a minor car accident in the Shaw's Supermarket parking lot.

On April 20 were told by Monkton Road homeowners a man had been sleeping on their porch, but left peacefully when asked, saying he had to pick up a car parked at VUHS. Police searched the area, but did not find

### Salisbury, VT Homeowner **Recommends Bristol Electronics**

We had Bristol Electronics install three heat pump systems for us in November of 2023. One system covers our bedroom. The other two systems cover the front side of our home.

We spoke with four different companies before deciding to go with Bristol Electronics. They weren't the least expensive, however their reputation and presentation was, by far, the best out of all of the proposals we received.

The installation team did an excellent job. They were professional, friendly, neat and tidy and left the job with nothing to be cleaned up afterwards.

We have saved money and we feel more comfortable. During our first winter, our heating bill went down by \$200 - \$300 per month while our electricity costs only went up by \$100 per month, saving us \$100 - \$200 per

You would think you'd notice the units on the wall, but they really blend in. We don't even notice they are there except that we are more comfortable with them than we were before them.

During our first summer, we sold the three window air conditioners we had been using. We can see out the windows and won't have to put the a/c units in and out when the seasons change. The heat pumps have only needed to be on "low" to keep the temperatures comfortable. We notice we can hear each other better and we don't have to turn the television up to get over the loud air conditioners like we did before. These systems are so quiet.

The heat pumps have provided more consistent heating and cooling than our old heating and cooling equipment. We are saving money, are more comfortable, can hear each other and can see out of our windows.

Wayne & Diane Smith, Salisbury, VT







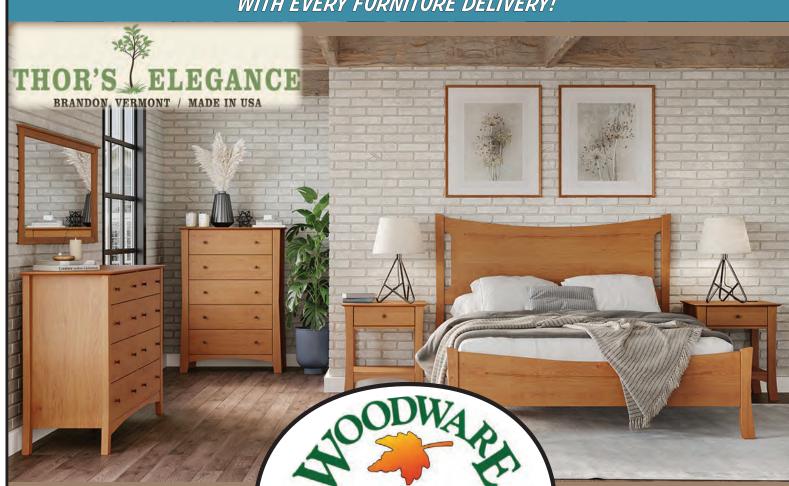


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Town Hall Theater is pleased to present the film's Vermont premiere. Sponsored by Porter Medical Center's Palliative Care Department.

**About "Other Side":** After three separate cancer diagnoses, and undergoing nauseating and difficult treatment for each one, Connecticut-based activist Lynda Bluestein set her sights on Medical Aid in Dying. Lynda's story is not just one of resilience in the face of terminal illness; it's a testament to the power of advocacy and the fight for patient-directed care.

WHEN: Thursday, May 1, 2025 at 5:30pm WHERE: Town Hall Theater, Middlebury, VT **FOR TICKETS:** Visit: https://tinyurl.com/other-side-tht **Email:** tickets@townhalltheater.org Call: (802) 382-9222

# ANWSD students excell on History Day

By ANDY KIRKALDY

Northwest School District students in grades 7-12 competed — and five individuals and one team won awards — in the Vermont Historical Society's annual Vermont History Day Contest, presented by the Vermont Historical Society on the Saint Michael's College campus on Saturday, April 5.

Three of the students qualified to compete at the National History Day event on June 12 in Maryland, just outside of Washington, D.C. Their trip will include a visit to the nation's capital.

The 14 ANWSD students, grades 7-12, joined more than 300 competitors from around the state in presenting their historical research projects to a panel of

The award-winners were:

•12-grader Sophia Johnson, Vermont History Award, senior division, for "Home Sweet Home: COTS Journey to Fight Homelessness in Vermont.



QUINCY **JUNIOR** Sabick won a first-place award at Vermont History Day for her paper on "The Right to Read: The First Amendment and Book Banning in Vermont.'

• 12th-grader Jing Williams, COLCHESTER — Fourteen First Place, senior division, for a paper: "The Natural Rights of Human Nature: How the Vermont Constitution and Responsibility Vermont felt for Gay Couples led to Marriage Access for All." Williams won the George Edmunds Memorial Prize and qualified for the National History Day event.

• 11th-grader Quincy Sabick, First Place for a senior division paper: "The Right to Read: The First Amendment and Book Banning in Vermont." Sabick earned second place for the George Edmunds Memorial Prize and qualified for the National History Day event.

• 9th-grader Charlotte Coffey, Third Place for a senior division individual exhibit: "Women and World War Two: Few Rights, But Many Responsibilities."

• 9th-grader Georgia Kunkel, Second Place, senior division individual website for: "History & Heritage: How the Green Mountain State Highlights a Nationwide Discussion of Identity



THE TEAM OF Vergennes Union Middle School 7th-graders Eli Morrill and Keegan Lisko won a Vermont History Day prize for their group exhibit titled, "Injustices Against Women in Iran."

Photos courtesy of Josh Brooks

and Culture." Kunkel won the Freedom and Unity Civics prize and qualified for National History Day event.

• The team of 7th-graders Keegan Lisko & Eli Morrill, Third Place for a junior division group exhibit: "Injustices Against Women in Iran."

The local students began participating in October under the auspices of the ANWSD Fusion Afterschool program. They were coached by ANWSD humanities Rebecca teachers (Vergennes Union High School) and Josh Brooks (Vergennes Union Elementary School).

All 14 chose a topic suited to this year's overarching National History Day theme of "Rights and Responsibilities in History." Their work included reading and citing primary sources, taking notes, writing annotated bibliographies, and putting it all together in a final presentation chosen from among five categories: website, documentary, exhibit board, research paper, and performance.

"The entire ANWSD team did a fantastic job at this year's History Day competition," Brooks wrote in an email.

This program is funded by the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program, a federal grant administered by the state of Vermont to support high quality afterschool and enrichment programming.

Author's note: A pop-up message at the National History Day website points out that the Trump administration has canceled more than \$336,000 in National Endowment of the Humanities funding over the next two years for the National History Day program.

County to 5.7% in Orleans based," etc. — such as plates, County, according to state cups, napkins, cutlery, bowls, figures. Meanwhile, the national or other packaging — are not jobless rate in March was 4.2%, accepted. Even if these items are an increase of one-tenth of compostable or accepted in other one percentage point from the parts of the state, the facility revised February estimate. used by the ACSWMD doesn't accept these materials. Unless Speaking of jobs, the Vermont you're placing these items into Department of Labor will hold a backyard compost system, spring job fairs in May and these are trash. This includes June, including in Middlebury compostable liner bags. Mistakes and Vergennes. The Middlebury happen, but please remember to Job Fest is set for Thursday, check local guidelines to help May 1, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. keep our compost clean from at the Middlebury Recreation contamination. Center at 154 Creek Rd. The "Job Fair at Job Corps" will be held on Thursday, June 5, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Northlands

The statewide unemployment accepts food scraps, tea bags,

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)

rate held at 2.6% in March.

The March jobless rates for

Vermont's 14 counties ranged

from 2.1% in Chittenden

Job Corps, 100A MacDonough

Drive in Vergennes. These hiring

events are free and open to the

public. Employers interested in

participating in a job fair should

sign up at labor.vermont.gov/

event-types/job-fairs. Individuals

needing assistance with résumé

preparation, interview skills, or job

search strategies are encouraged

to visit their local Vermont Job

Center ahead of time for one-on-

one assistance. To find a local job

center, go to labor.vermont.gov/

locations. According to the Bureau

of Labor Statistics, Vermont has

approximately 17,000 available

iobs. For more information, visit

labor.vermont.gov or contact the

Department of Labor at 802-828-

**Addison County Solid Waste** 

Management District officials

are reminding residents that

"compostable containers" are

not accepted at the district

transfer station, town drop-off,

or in curbside bins picked up

from a hauler for composting.

Homeward Bound, Addison County's Humane Society, is turning 50 and you're invited to a gala celebration and fundraiser on Friday, May 16, from 5:30-10 p.m. at the Brandon Inn. If your life has been touched by Homeward Bound at some point during the last five decades, organizers hope you'll come out and show your support next month. To learn the details and purchase tickets, visit Homeward Bound's 50th Anniversary Gala at tinyurl.com/48556rrc. Questions? Contact Hannah at 802-388-1100 ext. 101 or development@ homewardboundanimals.org.

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coffee grounds, and coffee

filters. Any products labeled

or sold as "compostable," "biodegradable," "plant-

Average gasoline prices in Vermont rose 2.8 cents per gallon during the past week to \$3.08, according to GasBuddyPrices are 2.4 cents lower than a month ago and 52.6 cents lower than a year ago. The state's cheapest gas was \$2.79 and the most expensive was \$3.29. Meanwhile, the national average price has fallen 3.4 cents per gallon during the past week to \$3.10. The national average is down 1.8 cents from a month ago and 54.6 The privately owned composting cents from a year ago.



**VUHS 9TH-GRADER GEORGIA** Kunkel won a prize for the website she created focused on "History & Heritage: How the **Green Mountain State Highlights** Nationwide Discussion of Identity and Culture.'



**VUHS SENIOR JING Williams** won a first-place award at Vermont History Day for her paper on "The Natural Rights of **Human Nature: How the Vermont** Constitution and Responsibility **Vermont felt for Gay Couples led** to Marriage Access for All."

### WHAT IS ENERGY NAVIGATORS?

**Energy Navigators is an initiative that connects** homeowners and renters in Addison County with energy coaching to make homes more efficient and comfortable and lower utility bills, while also reducing greenhouse gas emissions in our county.

### **HERE IS HOW WE CAN ASSIST YOU:**

- Meet with you to discuss your home energy priorities.
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- Support you while we navigate barriers and match you with technical & financial resources.

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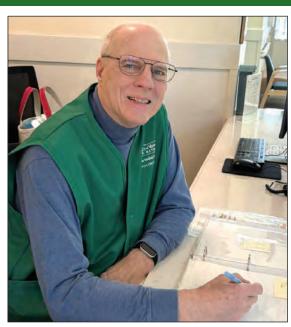
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> > University of Vermont HEALTH NETWORK

**Porter Medical Center** 

EAGLE FRESHMAN NORA Hurlburt slides safely into second base with a fifth-inning double. She later scored the Eagle softball team's sixth run in a 7-6 win over visiting Missisquoi on April 17. ndependent photo/Steve James

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Section THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025

#### ALSO IN THIS SECTION:

- School News
- Classifieds
- Legal Notices
- Police Logs

# Eagle softball defeats defending D-I champion Missisquoi in walk-off style

By ANDY KIRKALDY

BRISTOL — The Division II Mount Abraham softball team on April 17 improved to 2-0 with its second win over a D-I team, this one a dramatic 7-6 walk-off victory over defending D-I champion Missisquoi. The Eagles had opened by defeating host Champlain Valley, 26-13, earlier last week.

Against Missisquoi, Mount Abe junior shortstop Gen Forand and senior third baseman Abba Parker teamed up in the bottom of the seventh to snap a 6-6 tie and end a

back-and-forth battle.

With one out, Parker legged out a bunt single and stole second. That brought up Forand, who had already laced a two-run first-inning homer and another hit off T-Bird hurler Lizi Bourdeau.

The T-Birds chose to pitch to Forand even with first base open, and they soon regretted the decision. Forand drilled another shot, this time a liner that bounced over the center-field fence. Parker trotted home with the winning run on the ground-rule double, and

their teammates happily greeted both players.

Forand said the Eagles believed from the start they could knock off the T-Birds, and that it was an important win for a team with just two seniors, Abba Parker at third base and catcher Elise Parker.

"It's pretty big for us, especially because they won the D-I championship," Forand said. "We were pretty confident after our win at CVU, and I was confident in my team that we could do something. And it's always nice to take down

the top dog."

For and said she also felt confident in the batters' box even though as a sophomore she had not delivered a big hit in a couple similar situations. She explained why.

"I knew from my other at-bats, because I had another couple nice drives, that she didn't really want to pitch to me. And I heard their coach saying, 'Outside,' outside.' She didn't want to give me anything to hit. But she just made a mistake, like we all do, and I was hunting anything for me to hit," Forand

said. "And I know Abba can get home from anywhere."

The game was competitive throughout, with many players from both teams contributing.

Missisquoi took a 1-0 lead in the first. Josie Maguire singled, and Lillianna Fournier followed with a bunt hit. The runners moved up on a double steal, and Fournier scored on a throwing error. Eagle junior pitcher Gretchen Toy limited the damage by striking out the next two

In the bottom of the first, ninth-

grader Nora Hurlburt singled — she had eight straight hits to start her career, five against CVU and three more against Missisquoi. Forand then belted an offering from T-Bird pitcher Addison Gates over the fence in left center to make it 2-1.

The T-Birds answered in the second inning. The first two batters reached on a walk and an error. That put runners on second and third after a stolen base was mixed in. Singles by Madyson Spears and Avery Guyette scored the runs.

(See Eagles, Page 3B)

# Score

**HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS** 

Baseball
4/19 Thetford vs VUHS 8-7
4/22 VUHS vs Richford 6-4
4/23 MUHS at Mt. Mansfield Late
Softball
4/17 Mt. Abe vs Missisquoi
4/17 U-32 vs MUHS 15-8
4/19 Thetford vs VUHS25-0
4/22 Richford vs VUHS23-5
4/22 OV vs Springfield 15-3
Girls' Lacrosse
4/17 Essex vs MAV 15-5
4/19 St. J at MAV 12-4
Boys' Lacrosse
4/17 MUHS vs CVU 13-5
4/18 St. J vs MAV14-6
4/18 OV at Randolph Postponed
4/19 MUHS vs Rice14-5
4/21 MUHS vs Woodstock 8-3
4/22 Rutland at OVCanceled
Boys' Tennis
4/16 MUHS vs Colchester6-1
4/18 MUHS vs S. Burlington 5-1
Girls' Tennis
4/18 MUHS vs St. Albans7-0
Girls' Ultimate
4/17 Mt. Mansfield vs MUHS 5-3
COLLEGE SPORTS
Women's Lacrosse
4/19 Midd vs Trinity 19-10

4/23 Williams at Midd.....Late

Men's Lacrosse

4/23 Midd at Williams ..... Late

4/19 Midd vs Williams ...... 11-9

4/19 Midd vs Williams ...... 12-10

4/21 Midd vs Amherst ...... 16-8

4/22 Midd at Plattsburgh ...... Canceled

Softball

4/19 Midd vs Hamilton.....8-2

4/20 Williams vs Midd ......7-0

4/20 Williams vs Midd ......7-6

4/19 Midd vs Hamilton.....

Baseball 4/18 Midd vs Williams ......11-10 (10)

**Schedule** 

#### **HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS** Baseball

4/24 VUHS at Burlington ...... 4:30 PM 4/24 OV at Mt. Anthony......4:30 PM 4/25 MUHS at Colchester .........4:30 PM 4/29 Mt. Abe at Spaulding .......... 4:30 PM 4/29 Bellows Falls at OV ...... 4:30 PM 4/29 MUHS at CVU ......4:30 PM 5/1 St. Albans at MUHS ...... 4:30 PM 5/1 OV at Mt. Abe......4:30 PM

5/1 Peoples at VUHS ......4:30 PM (See Schedule, Page 4B)



MUHS SOPHOMORE GOALIE Levi Nuceder celebrates after netting a coast-to-coast goal to open the Middlebury lacrosse team's win over visiting Woodstock on Monday. Independent photo/Steve James

# Tiger boys' lax moves to 4-0

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY Middlebury Union High School boys' lacrosse team with a veteran defense and a reconfigured offense is off to a strong start this spring. Monday's 8-3 victory over visiting Woodstock pushed the Tigers' record to 4-0.

Monday's result vs. the Wasps

means the Tigers have yet to allow an opponent to score more than five goals. And their victims include Champlain Valley (by 13-5), winner of 11 of the past 12 Division I titles — including in overtime in 2024 vs. MUHS.

This season marks the second that the back line low defenders senior George Devlin, juniors

Marshall Eddy and Cooke Rinev. and senior long-stick middie Cam Whitlock have operated as a unit in front of sophomore goalie Levi Nuceder.

Coach Matt Rizzo said the group has improved because it has matured as a unit and individually

(See Tiger boys, Page 3B)



TIGER JUNIOR ATTACKER Logan McNulty fires home a goal during the Middlebury boys' lacrosse team's win over visiting Woodstock on Monday. Independent photo/Steve James

# MAV girls' lax drops pair

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The Mount Abraham-Vergennes cooperative girls' lacrosse team lost two road games late last week dropping their early-season mark to 0-3.

The Commodores are next scheduled to host St. Albans this Saturday at 11 a.m.

On April 17, host Division I Essex defeated MAV, 15-5. Addison Stratton led Essex with five goals and two assists, and Reese Holcomb scored three goals. Freshman Ada Hellier led the MAV

Commodores with three goals, and goalie Kendra Jackson made 14 saves, a total matched by Essex goalie Izzy Cady.

On this past Friday, St. Johnsbury defeated visiting MAV, 12-4. Maggie Langlais and Molly Kimber led St. J with three goals apiece, and goalie Ella Blanchard made 10 saves.

Meredith Dufault tossed in three goals for the Commodores, and Esme Visco-Lyons added one. Jackson made another 10 saves for

### Tiger girls' tennis wins opener

By ANDY KIRKALDY

ST. ALBANS — After two early postponements, the Middlebury Union High School girls' tennis team opened on April 18 with a 7-0 win at St. Albans.

The Tigers are off until they host North Country on April 28 at 4 p.m. In this past Friday's individual matches against the Comets:

(MUHS) defeated Lily Zekos (BFA), 6-1, 6-0.

At No. 2 singles, Anna Wolosinski (MUHS) defeated Tessa Rouchleau (BFA), 6-3, 6-0.

At No. 3 singles, Piper Farnsworth (MUHS) defeated Sophia Oszurek (BFA), 6-1, 6-0.

At No. 4 singles, Olivia Kearley (MUHS) defeated Kylah Holsopple (BFA), 6-0, 6-0.

At No. 5 singles, Addy Taylor (MUHS) won by forfeit.

At No. 1 doubles, Clara Chant & Subia Khan (MUHS) defeated At No. 1 singles, Sophia Boise Emily Ackle & Aubrey Benedict, 6-1, 6-1.

At No. 2 doubles, Sophia Nicolai & Maryam Khan (MUHS) won by forfeit.

### Panther baseball clinches **NESCAC** West top seed

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY Middlebury College baseball team clinched the top NESCAC West seed for the league tournament in style. The Panthers won four straight road games between this past Friday and Monday against their closest competition for first place.

And they did so by scoring at least 11 times in each game. The Panthers swept three games from then second-place Williams: 11-10 in 11 innings on Friday, and then 11-8 and 12-10 on Saturday. Friday's game was Coach Mike Leonard's 300th college coaching victory.

And in a Monday makeup game at Amherst, the Panthers bashed five homers against the team that had taken over second-place after Middlebury swept the Ephs, and Middlebury won going away, 16-8.

Both the Panthers and the Mammoths had entered that game with two NESCAC West losses, Middlebury at 9-2 and Amherst at 6-2. The result left Middlebury with a completed league record of 10-2

(19-10 overall), thus clinching the NESCAC West crown.

The league results mean Middlebury will host a best-ofthree quarterfinal series against the NESCAC East fourth-place team on May 3 and 4. Results this coming weekend will determine their opponent.

Bowdoin, in first place in NESCAC East heading into the final weekend, has been tapped to host the NESCAC Final Four on May 9-11. The league's automatic bid to the NCAA Division III tournament will be at stake there.

The Panthers will wrap up their season with a series of nonleague games while waiting for the NESCAC tournament. They will visit Skidmore for a noon doubleheader this Saturday, and Skidmore will return the favor by coming to Middlebury for a doubleheader beginning at 1 p.m. on Sunday. The Panthers are set to wrap up their regular season by hosting RPI this coming Wednesday

(See Panthers, Page 4B)



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE OFFENSIVE lineman Thomas Perry #67 protects the quarterback in NESCAC action against Wesleyan University last fall. The Division III Áll-American hopes to play in the National Football League.



AT AN APRIL 15 press conference Thomas Perry answers questions about his professional football aspirations and his experience as a student at Middlebury College.

# Thomas Perry is playing football and trying to 'get better' every day

Photo credit: Will Costello

Every morning when Thomas Perry wakes up, often as early as 4 a.m., the first thing he sees is a note to himself, written in pencil on a ripped-out page from an 8x11 notebook. It asks: "How will you get better today?"

Then it's up and at' em for a full day, getting better.

The big event in the U.S. sports world this week is the annual college draft of the National Football League, held this year in Green Bay, Wisconsin, just outside historic Lambeau Field.

There is a genuine possibility that Thomas, a Middlebury College senior, will be one of the 250 players selected to join the approximately 1,500 players in the NFL — not on the first night, Thursday, when only the first round is completed, but perhaps on Saturday when the last few rounds (of seven) take place.

Thomas is a 6'2", 315-pound offensive lineman who earned All NESCAC first team honors for three years and was a Division III All-American, among a host of other honors. He earned an invitation to the East-West Shrine (All-Star) Game at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, in January, where he played admirably against top players from major football

conferences. The Shrine game is an audition for those players headed to the NFL, or aspiring to be, largely from those big-time college

Thomas's presence in Texas,

and his performance in the game, brought him considerable media attention. The New York Times (a formidable Addison Independent competitor) ran an extensive article on Thomas on April 9, "The Smartest Toughest NFL Draft Prospect You've Likely Never Seen Play."

(When you finish this column, go straight to the *Times!*)

If Thomas's name is not called on one of the draft nights, there's a likelihood that he will nonetheless find himself in an NFL training camp this summer, as each year about 100 undrafted players are signed as priority free agents.

Thomas Perry is anything but onedimensional. He is also a

brilliant student, with a Molecular Biology and Biochemistry major and Math minor. He has followed a premedical track and will head to medical school and become a doctor when he is finished with football. He has a 3.92 GPA.

Thomas's path to Middlebury was complicated by the pandemic. He comes from the small Connecticut town of Haddam and attended the public high school there, Haddam-Kilingworth. College visits were compromised by COVID protocols and his entire senior football season was programs. NFL scouts, coaches, wiped out, so he was not widely and executives were there in great exposed to college recruiters, mentioned his mother, who was Middlebury's good fortune.

football coach, then the defensive coordinator, as Connecticut was his area of recruitment. "We never saw him play but we liked his junior film. He was a good student and that matters! His high school raved about him, and we liked that he was a wrestler too. He was good candidate for us."

Over the course of his years at Middlebury, according to Coach Mandigo, Thomas "has developed into an incredible

athlete. He has a work ethic and focus like I've never seen before. It's ridiculous! In January, on Saturday mornings, I'd come to the rink with my son, and Thomas would be doing agility drills in the field house.

"His strength numbers would be the best in any NFL locker room. He

will be an NFL player. "I'm betting on him."

Sports (Mostly)

KARL

**LINDHOLM** 

Thomas comes from a football family: his dad was an All-Ivy League player and his Uncle Bill was an All-American defensive lineman and is in the Brown University Hall of Fame (Thomas wore number #67 at Middlebury to honor Bill, who died of cancer in 2017). He has three cousins who also played football at Brown and another cousin who played professionally with the Seattle

When asked about his heroes and role models, Thomas quickly a lacrosse player as a student at He was recruited by Doug Union College. "I look up a lot to the only Division III player there, Mandigo, now Middlebury's head my mom. She's an attorney (like temperament, ability to navigate

his dad), and a math teacher, and she's also a writer — she's written a murder mystery and is working on a sequel."

Thomas is the oldest of four boys, all athletes, no football players among his brothers. Tyler, 20, is a rower at Union; Michael, a soccer player, is a senior in high school (interested in Middlebury); and Ryan, an 8th grader, enjoys lacrosse and basketball.

"We all get along well," he says, "except they don't like it when I steal their food."

Thomas brings a similar intensity to his studies that he does to football. Having finished all his undergraduate premedical studies, he is taking Senior Independent Study this last semester in the lab of biology professor Erik Solhaug.

"Thomas is a perfect and unique mixture of youthful curiosity, enthusiasm, honesty and hard work," Prof. Solhaug says. "Every day he comes into lab with a smile on his face, and I can tell he is genuinely excited to do science in my lab.

"In the classroom, he is always very engaged, sitting at the front of the class, and demonstrating a deep understanding of the material. He's not afraid to ask questions or be wrong, a crucial skill for a scientist. In all, he is a joy to work with!"

Thomas's premedical advisor at Middlebury, Hannah Benz, M.D., wrote in an email that she considers Thomas "not simply an excellent student, but also a human being capable of great empathy.

"His unflappable and steady

nuance, and his compassionate character combined with stellar academic abilities will make him an outstanding physician."

Middlebury was the first school that made a commitment to Thomas. In an April 15 press conference, Thomas described driving over the mountain on Route 125 on his first visit to Middlebury: "I said, 'Holy Cow,' I can't imagine going to a school only 20 minutes from a spot like this!" He committed to Middlebury the next day.

The landscape, the natural world, is Thomas's release. "I just love being outside in Vermont," he says. "I'll walk on the TAM, or if it's not muddy, I'll go biking." He has done 20 mile-plus hikes and 100-mile bike rides. During COVID, he started playing disc golf and still plays as often as twice a week. "They just built a disc golf course next to the golf course. I get my teammates to come with me."

He also has enjoyed his relationship to the town and the townspeople he has met, "from other disc golfers, to the staff and students at Mary Hogan School (where he is involved with a football team mentoring program), to the gamers at Tinker and Smithy (where he plays games on Thursday nights) there is something special here in

Middlebury." About his future, he says, "I have no idea what will happen. I don't think too far from the present. I can't control what I can't control.

"I can just get up every day and try to get better."

Karl Lindholm, Ph.D., taught in the American Studies Program and served in Student Affairs at Middlebury College for 34 years. He can be reached at lindholm@ middlebury.edu.



NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE prospect Thomas Perry is a Molecular Biology and Biochemistry major and Math minor at Middlebury College whose GPA over his four years of study is 3.92.



type of pet personality: Funny Faces COUCH Potato Best Pals Model Shot Action Shot Work Companions

Entering the contest is easy! Submit your entry online at addisonindependent.com/contests or drop off your entry in person or by mail at 58 Maple Street, Middlebury.

Don't forget to include your pet's photo, name(s), approximate age(s), and a brief description of why they're the best at what they do. Entries are welcome until Sunday, May 4th at 11:59 PM. Late entries will not be accepted.

Voting will take place on the **Addison Independent Facebook** page from Monday, May 5th to Sunday, May 11th. And yes, you can vote for more than one pet!

The winners will be announced on May 15th in our special Animal Issue of Arts + Leisure. Each top winner in their respective category will receive a prize from Middlebury Agway.

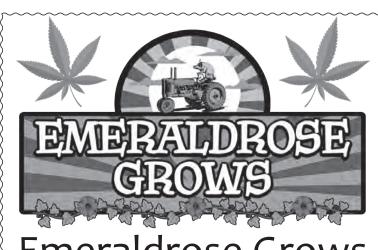
**Questions?** 

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EAGLE SOPHOMORE REAGAN LaFreniere slaps a tag on T-Bird Josie Maguire at first base during Eagle softball's 7-6 win over visiting Missisquoi on April 17.

Independent photo/Steve James

# Eagles

(Continued from Page 1B)

The Eagles retook the lead in the third with a three-run rally aided by the T-Bird right fielder struggling with the tough late-afternoon sun.

Sophomore leadoff hitter Leah Tierney started the rally by stroking an opposite-field single past the third baseman and then stealing second. Hurlburt singled her home and moved to second on a wild pitch. With one out, Forand lofted a fly ball to medium-depth right field that went off the outfielder's glove for a tough error and scored Hurlburt. With two outs, the outfielder let Elise Parker's fly down the right-field line bounce off her glove, and Forand raced home from second base to make it 5-3.

The T-Birds tied in the game in the fifth even though the Eagles turned a double play. The leadoff batter reached on an error, but the second popped up a bunt that Toy caught before doubling the runner off first.

But Missisquoi's next three batters reached base. Bourdeau singled, Gates walked, and Kirby King singled Bourdeau home, moving a courtesy runner to third base. That runner then scored on

a wild pitch to tie the game at 5-5 before Toy struck out the next batter for the third out.

Each team scored in its next at-bat. In the Eagle fifth, Hurlburt laced a leadoff double and scored on Abba Parker's double. In the T-Bird sixth, Ava Howe led off with a single, moved to second on Brooklyn Cota's bunt single and to third on ground out before scoring on Maguire's sacrifice fly. Eagle leftfielder Brooklyn Ryersbach made a running catch of Fournier's foul fly ball to end the inning.

Toy limited the T-Birds to a harmless single in the top of the seventh, and the stage was set for the veterans' heroics in the Eagles' final at-bat. Toy finished by allowing three earned runs on nine hits and two walks, striking out seven. For Missisquoi, Gates allowed five earned runs on eight hits and one walk while striking out 12.

Eagle Coach Donnie McCormick was pleased with his pitcher's effort.

"Gretch battled. Her curveball was really working, and she kept the ball low against a good hitting team," McCormick said.

His team was headed out over the weekend to a week of practices and games in South Carolina that he hopes will iron out a few wrinkles. McCormick named one in particular.

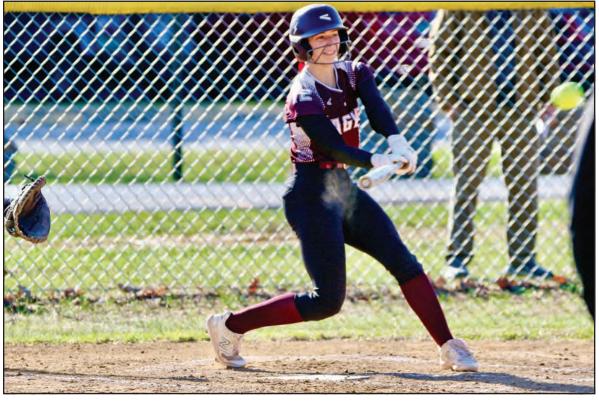
"We're going to Myrtle Beach next week, and we're going to work on our bunt defense. We're better than that and we'll fix it," he said.

Overall, however, he believes the Eagles should once again be in contention for a D-II title, citing what team speed can do for the Eagles during their at-bats.

"We're young right now," he said. "But I'm really happy with our offense ... When I've got those athletes, and I know I can use all those different tools, it's really exciting. We've had better powerhitting teams, but this team, top to bottom, they're just good athletes."

Forand also had a rosy outlook when asked how the team views itself.

"We feel pretty good," she said. "And we're just starting out. We're still just starting ... I feel like we mesh as a group pretty well. We're all friends, too. I feel like that really helps. I feel like our chemistry is really up there."



MOUNT ABE JUNIOR shortstop Gen Forand launches a line-drive homer in the Eagle softball team's 7-6 win over visiting Missisquoi on April 17.



# Tiger boys

(Continued from Page 1B)

"I think they are now stronger physically. They've filled out a bit, and they're a little more athletic, and that allows us to be just a little more aggressive. And we've been working on that, to pick your opportunities to press out a little bit and play pressure defense," Rizzo said

And Nuceder behind them gives them extra confidence.

"Levi is a very good goalie, and when you've got a good goalie it allows the defense to feel a little bit better about being aggressive, too," Rizzo said.

Graduation left the team with more holes to fill up front and at midfield, and Rizzo responded by juggling personnel and asking talented players to fill new roles in what he acknowledged is still at times a work in progress. The Tigers scored 13 straight goals vs. CVU after falling behind and 14 vs. Rice in a Saturday win, but had more trouble against Woodstock's tough defense and goaltending, totaling 15 goals in two wins.

He listed changes:

Senior Angus Blackwell has played some wing attackman rather than posting up near the net; senior middie Luke Nuceder and junior middie Ben DeBisschop have moved up from being defensive specialists to playing key roles in the attack; and senior midfielder Landon Kean and sophomore midfielder Brady Lloyd have been asked to carry a bigger offensive loads this year.

"These guys are in new positions, but more importantly they're playing together, and it's absolutely a work in progress," he said. "So we're working on that. We're trying to understand our spacing a little bit, how to play with each other, and how to believe in each other is a big thing for us, too."

He hopes and expects the group will gel.

"They all have potential, but none have done it before," Rizzo said. "So there's potential, but we sort of don't know how much potential there is. And when you don't have experience playing together, and some people don't have experience playing the position, it's just going to take a minute to hit that ceiling."

All those question marks aside, Rizzo did acknowledge a couple facts.

"We're 4-0. We beat CVU pretty handily," he said. "We're in pretty good shape."

Against Woodstock on Monday, early offense came from an unexpected source. After the Tiger D forced a Wasp turnover (a regular event) Levi Nuceder scooped up the ball near his goal and started running up the field. The Wasps covered his outlet passes, so Nuceder never stopped, eventually the Tiger goalie getting close enough to bounce a shot into the upper left corner of the Woodstock goal and give MUHS the lead with 1:13 gone.

The Tigers added three more scores in the quarter: DeBisschop tossed in a bomb from near the top of the box, Luke Nuceder hit the lower right corner from the left side, and DeBisschop fed Blackwell out front for a 4-0 lead with 2:07 left in the period.

The Wasps got on the board early in the second period when a Levi Nuceder foray up the field ended less well than the earlier one. Wasp Caeden Perreault picked off his pass at midfield and set up Kyler Eaton for the empty-netter.

DeBisschop curled from behind the left side of the goal and found the lower left corner at 4:57 to make it 5-1. Two minutes later, Eaton struck again, this time from the left side after taking a feed from

Asher Emery.

But the Tigers escaped the quarter with their four-goal lead intact with a pretty transition goal. Devlin raced out of the back with a clear down the left side and fed Luke Nuceder steaming down the middle. As he reached the box, Nuceder fed Logan McNulty cutting in from the left, and McNulty picked the far corner at 2:05 to make it 6-2.

Goals were harder to come by in the second half. Each team scored once in the third period. Blackwell converted another goalfront feed from DeBisschop at 6:54, while Caleb Brytowski did the same with a Samuel Mikula pass for the Wasps. Kean added the final Tiger goal, a long-range shot early in the fourth that also created the final score.

Both goalies played well. Woodstock's Rowan Larmie stopped 14 shots, while the Tigers' Nuceder made nine saves.

Back on April 17, the Tigers won a rematch of the 2024 Division I title game, 13-5, over visiting Champlain Valley. MUHS spotted the Redhawks a 5-0 lead and then scored 13 straight goals.

McNulty scored six of those goals, and Blackwell tossed in three. Goalie Levi Nuceder backstopped the win with nine saves, and Cal Boulanger won 14 of 19 faceoffs.

said he and the team will follow its process and take their chances. "We have four pillars that we

As for the big picture, Rizzo

think about in our program," he said.

• Get a little bit better every day

- Get a little bit better every dayCompete hard every day
- Take care of each other along the way
- Have fun.
- "So I feel like if we take care of those four things every day, the rest of everything else will take care of itself," Rizzo said.



MUHS SENIOR FACEOFF specialist Callan Boulanger battles Wasp Cole Little for the ball during the Middlebury's home game vs. Woodstock on Monday.

Independent photo/Steve James



### Thanks for a Great Season!

The MBA is proud of the hard work and many accomplishments of all of our local basketball teams this past season! Thank you to the coaches, administrators, referees, parents, fans, and athletes that made this season successful.

The MBA continued to support K-12 basketball programs by contributing time, energy, and funding throughout the year, including:

- · organized the mini-metro program
- purchased equipment for multiple programs
- provided away game meals for High School teams
- contributed time and swag for the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade fun games
- purchased goodie bags for the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade tournament
   provided financial existence for families in need.
- provided financial assistance for families in need
- supported teams through social media posts/updates

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### Schedule

Ochicadic	
(Continued from Page 1B)	•
5/3 VUHS at Randolph3 PM	
Softball	
4/24 OV at Rutland5 PM	
4/25 MUHS at Colchester4:30 PM	
4/29 MUHS at CVU4:30 PM	
4/29 Bellows Falls at OV4:30 PM	
4/29 Mt. Abe at Spaulding4:30 PM	
5/1 OV at Mt. Abe4:30 PM	
5/1 St. Albans at MUHS4:30 PM	
5/2 OV at Burr & Burton4:30 PM	
5/3 Mt. Abe at Rutland3 PM	
5/4 MUHS at Mt. Mansfield4:30 PM	
Girls' Lacrosse	
4/26 St. Albans at MAV	
4/28 MUHS at Rice4:30 PM 4/29 MAV at Lamoille4:30 PM	
4/30 MUHS at S Burlington4:30 PM	
5/2 Lyndon at MAV	
5/3 Essex at MUHS3 PM	
Boys' Lacrosse	
4/25 OV at Hartford6:30 PM	
4/30 S. Burlington at MUHS4:30 PM	
4/30 MAV at OV6 PM	
5/2 MAV at Lyndon4:30 PM	
5/2 OV at GMVS4:30 PM	
5/3 MUHS at Essex3 PM	
Boys' Tennis	
4/28 MUHS at S. Burlington 3:30 PM	
4/30 Rice at MUHS4 PM	
5/2 MUHS at Burlington3:30 PM	
Girls' Tennis	
4/28 N Country at MUHS 4 PM	
4/30 MUHS at Rice3:30 PM	
5/2 MUHS at U-323:30 PM	
Track & Field	
4/29 VUHS/MUHS at Mt. Abe3:30 PM	

4/30 RPI at M	1idd		4 PM
N	ESCAC	Playoffs	
5/3&4	TBD	at Midd	(2 out of 3)
May 9-11	Fi	nal Four	at Bowdoin
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4/26 Colby at	Midd (2	)	1 PM
5/1 Keene at	Midd (2)		3:30 PM
5/3 Midd at W	/esleyan	(2)	Noon
N	ESCAC	Playoffs	
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**Boys' Ultimate** 

**COLLEGE SPORTS** 

Women's Lacrosse

**NESCAC Playoffs** 

Men's Lacrosse

**NESCAC Playoffs** 

Baseball

4/27 Skidmore at Midd (2)...... 1 PM

....Midd vs TBD

..Noon

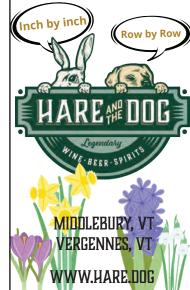
4/30 MUHS at CVU

4/26 TBD at #1 Midd.

4/26 Midd at Skidmore (2)

4/26..

5/2 MUHS at Burlington ..



Email it to:

# Tiger softball drops opener

U-32 High School rolled past the Middlebury Union High School softball team in its April 15 season opener, 15-8.

Winning pitcher Megan Pittsley tossed a complete game, limiting the Tigers to nine hits and four earned runs and also contributing two hits. Her teammates Grace Noyes and Emily Tringe each knocked out four hits, and Mya Gould and Abbie

afternoon.

#### **Panthers** got the save. **GAME THREE**

(Continued from Page 1B)

#### at 4 p.m. **GAME ONE**

In a game called due to darkness on Friday and finished on Saturday morning, the Panthers got on the board in the first inning on a basesloaded walk to Anthony Pellagrini. The Ephs then scored three times in the bottom of the inning and added a run in the third to make it 4-1.

A Nathan Samii RBI double highlighted the Panthers' three-run rally that tied the game in the fourth, but the host Ephs regained the lead with two in the fifth. Sacrifice flies from Kyle McCausland and Gus Parker in the sixth briefly tied the score, but Williams took a one-run lead in the bottom of the inning.

Middlebury scored four runs over the seventh and eighth innings for a 10-7 lead. Samii chipped in with his second run-scoring double. Williams responded with three runs in the eighth to deadlock the contest at 10-10. The Ephs threatened to walk it off in the bottom of the tenth on Saturday morning, but Parker threw out a runner at the plate from center field.

In the top of the 11th and final inning, Aiden Han singled, and McCausland doubled to score the winning run. Winning pitcher Dylan Knightly struck out the side in the bottom of the inning to nail down the result.

#### **GAME TWO**

Saturday's doubleheader was scheduled for seven innings each. Middlebury took a 2-0 lead in the second inning of the opener. One run scored on a balk, and Pablo Spielman-Rodriquez singled home another. Samii pushed the lead to 3-0 in the third by doubling and scoring on two errors.

Williams rallied for five runs in the third, a rally highlighted by a three-run homer from Anthony Lods. The hosts added three runs in the fifth to build an 8-3 cushion. Middlebury made it 8-7 in the sixth. Spielman-Rodriquez lofted a two-run homer to make it 8-5. Next, Samii plated Will Ashley with a sacrifice fly, and Han scored on a throwing error.

A Carter Chi RBI infield hit in the seventh then tied the game. The Panthers took the lead in the top of the eighth. With one out, pinch-hitter Isaac Rosario smacked a double, and Spielman-Rodriquez plated Slaughter with his third hit of the day to move the lead to 11-8.

Williams pushed one run across the plate in its at-bat but could not get any closer. Jacob Sherf earned the pitching win, and Stefano Yozzo

Cameron,

Whitney and Ireland Hanley each

finished with two hits for the Tigers.

Whitney went the distance on the

The Tigers have two road games

next on their schedule, at Colchester

this Saturday morning and at

Champlain Valley on Tuesday

mound, striking out five.

Lexi

Stanley doubled.

Meredith

The Panthers grabbed a 1-0 edge in the second inning of the next game when Spielman-Rodriquez scored on a wild pitch. Williams scored twice in the bottom half of the inning to take a 2-1 lead. McCausland's RBI hit tied the score in the third, and a solo shot by Samii and Ben Slaughter's two-run homer in the fourth made it 5-2.

Then the teams started trading big innings. The Panthers added four runs in the fifth on a two-run McCausland single, a Samii RBI double, and a Slaughter sac fly. Williams answered with four runs in its at-bat to cut the deficit to 9-6.

The Panthers then scored three in their next turn at the plate. McCausland launched a two-run homer, and Rosario stroked an RBI single to push the lead back to six. The Ephs responded again, with four runs in the sixth to make it 12-10. Then Panther reliever Nico Tambascia came in to settle things down. He earned the save with two innings of scoreless ball, allowing one hit and fanning three. Pellegrini earned the win.

During the series Samii went seven-for-15 with six RBI and seven runs. He also reached 100 career hits plateau and now sits at 105 in a Panther uniform.

#### Amherst Game

Monday's game was a make-up contest for one rained out; the Mammoths probably wished for more bad weather.

The game was tied after three innings. Middlebury scored in the first on a McCausland double and a Samii two-run homer, and one in the second on a walk to Parker and Joe Basso's RBI double. Amherst answered with single runs in each of the first three innings. The Panthers took the lead for good with seven runs on four hits in the fifth. McCausland highlighted the rally with a grand slam, and Spielman-Rodriguez drilled a two-run homer.

The Mammoths responded with three scores in the bottom of the inning to make it 10-6, but in the seventh Ashley launched a leadoff home run, and Slaughter and pielman-Rodriquez added hits to push the lead to 13-6.

Amherst scored twice in their half of the seventh, but McCausland and Spielman-Rodriquez reached to lead off the ninth, and a Slaughter sacrifice fly and a two-run Parker homer set the final score. Jacob Sherf (3-0) earned the win with 1-1 innings of scoreless relief, and Yozzo tossed a scoreless ninth. All nine Panthers in the batting order had at least one hit, while eight drove in and scored runs.



Home plate celebration

THE EAGLE SOFTBALL team welcomes junior Gen Forand at home plate after she drilled a firstinning home run against visiting Missisquoi on April 17. Independent photo/Steve James

## Commodore baseball begins season with split

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The Vergennes Union High School baseball team opened its season by splitting a pair of close home games in the past week.

1-1 Commodores are scheduled next to visit Burlington this Thursday and host Peoples Academy on this coming Thursday, May 1.

The Commodores opened on this past Saturday with an 8-7 home loss to Thetford. Both starting pitchers were roughed up, and the game was tied at 6-6 after three innings. Thetford's Miles Lawrence came on in relief to earn the win; he

allowed only one earned run on four hits in 5.2 innings while striking out five. Commodore Gabe Scribner allowed eight runs, seven earned, in six innings while taking the loss, but settled down after a rocky start.

Offensively for Thetford, J.D. Farrell had three hits, scored twice and drove in a run, and Andrew Spooner doubled and drove in three runs

For the Commodores, Reese Paquette singled, walked, scored twice and drove in a run; Aiden Fuller had two hits, scored a run and drove in a run; and Scribner singled in a run.

On Tuesday, the Commodores edged visiting Richford, 6-4, as Ryan Wright earned the pitching win. Wright allowed two earned runs on two hits and four walks in five innings. Liam McGuire retired three straight batters in the bottom of the seventh to earn a save.

Richford starter Mikey Cunningham went six innings in taking the loss. He struck out 10, but struggled with his control, walking eight. He allowed six runs, one earned, surrendering only one hit, to Fuller. Fuller also walked and scored twice. Wright picked up two RBI for VUHS.

# Tiger boys' tennis takes two at home

**MIDDLEBURY** Middlebury Union High School boys' tennis team won two home matches late last week, defeating Colchester, 6-1, on April 17 and South Burlington, 5-1 on April 18. The victories evened the Tigers' record at 2-2.

Next up for Middlebury is a rematch with South Burlington on April 28 on the Wolves' home

In individual matches this past Thursday vs. Colchester:

At No. 1 singles, Jackson Murray (MUHS) defeated Josh Bieber (CHS), 6-0, 6-0.

At No. 2 singles, Charles Young (MUHS) defeated Lucien individual matches the results defeated Sten Woodward and Sean Timmerman (CHS), 6-0, 6-0.

At No. 3 singles, Nate Cook-Yoder (MUHS) defeated Nate Myers (CHS) 6-4, 6-3.

At No. 4 singles, Ben Shaper (CHS) defeated Kaden Hammond (MUHS) 6-4, 5-7, 1-0 (11-9).

At No. 5 singles, Baker Nelson (MUHS) defeated Tristan Badillo (CHS), 6-2, 6-3. At No. 1 doubles, Kirin and

Paras Biancosino (MUHS) defeated Brock Payea and Max Russel (CHS), 7-6, 7-6. At No. 2 doubles, Jackson Lind

and Jonathan Carpenter (MUHS) defeated Quang Le and Colbin Richer (CHS), 6-2, 6-2.

Friday's match was played at

At No. 1 singles, Murray (MUHS), defeated Peter Lyon (SB), 6-1, 6-1.

At No. 2 singles, Young (MUHS),

defeated Spencer Higgins (SB), 6-0, 6-0. At No. 3 singles, Cook-Yoder

(MUHS) defeated Evan Xia (SB), 6-1, 6-4At No. 4 singles, Nelson

(MUHS) defeated Henry Folifka-Rivas (SB), 6-0, 6-1. No. 5 singles was uncontested.

At No. 1 doubles, Cody Eagle and Ayush Kyasa (SB) defeated Kirin and Paras Biancosino

(MUHS), 1-6, 6-4, 1-0 (10-6). At No. 2 doubles, Jackson Lind Middlebury Indoor Tennis. In and Jonathan Carpenter (MUHS) Sweeney (SB) 4-6, 6-2.

# MAV boys' lacrosse falls to St. J, 14-6

ST. JOHNSBURY — On this Wednesday, April 30, starting at 6 past Saturday, host St. Johnsbury posted a 14-6 victory over the Abraham/Vergennes cooperative boys' lacrosse team.

The Eagles' early-season record dropped to 0-3. They will look to break into the win column in their next game, an away date on

p.m. at Otter Valley's Markowski Field. The facility's lights are likely to be turned on before the contest concludes.

The Hilltoppers late last week got four goals each from Noah Poleorski and Jacob Emerson and three from James Hatch in

grounding the Eagles. Two St. J. goalies combined for eight saves.

Asa Root-Pratt scored three times to pace MAV, and Addy Halby (three assists), Lincoln Painter and Baxter Montgomery added a goal apiece. Joe Sullivan added three assists. Eagle goalie Connor Nason made 10 saves.



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#### **FRIDAY**

Vermont Freedom to Marry silver anniversary at Middlebury College. Friday, April 25, 2-5 p.m., Davis Family Library, 110 Storrs Ave. Celebrate 25 years of marriage equality with the folks who made it happen. Join Middlebury Special Collections for a panel discussion with speakers involved in the Vermont Freedom to Marry Task Force and the landmark Baker v. Vermont case, one of the first judicial affirmations of the right of same-sex couples. Also hear remarks from Processing Archivist Anna Hurd on their experience arranging, describing and creating the finding aid for the Vermont Freedom to Marry records, with an open house in Special Collections featuring highlights from the collection before and after the presentation.



crafters Middlebury. Saturday, April 26, 9 a.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Local artisans will sell their wares. With live music by Michael Stridsbery.

Bingo in Vergennes. Saturday, April 26, 5 p.m., St Peter's Parish Hall, 85 S. Maple St. Doors open at 5 p.m. and games start at 6 p.m. A family friendly event. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold. Sponsored by the St. Peter's Historic Preservation Committee to benefit the ongoing restoration efforts for the bell tower and

Ag Appreciation dinner and dance in Middlebury. Saturday, April 26, 5-10 p.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. in Middlebury. Program includes a panel on Vermont and national important legislation, an Italian dinner prepared by the Addison County Farm Bureau board, and dancing to music by the Hitmen. A family event and a fun evening open to farmers, ag businesses, and anyone with an interest in agriculture. More info and registration at wjscottjr@comcast.net or 802-881-8836. Bring a dessert to share and some non-perishable food items for the food shelf.

Stargazing: Lyrids Meteor Shower with Middlebury Astronomy Club in Middlebury.
Saturday, April 26, 8:30-10:30 p.m., location
TBD. Join MALT and Catherine Miller, the
observatory specialist at Middlebury College, to view one of the oldest known meteor showers in a watch party to observe the Lyrids Meteor Shower. Materials, such as telescopes, will be provided. Bring snacks and water and weather-appropriate clothing. Free. More info and registration at www. maltvt.org/events.

#### **SUNDAY**

Bingo in Vergennes. Sunday, April 27, 1:30-4 p.m., American Legion, Armory Ln. Game packets \$15 for one sheet of three cards for each regular game. 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. More info contact Michelle Eastman at 802-349-6370 or at auxiliaryunit14@gmail.com.



may

#### **MONDAY**

Cribbage night in Bristol. Monday, April 28, 7-8:15 p.m., Libanus Lodge, corner of North and Elm St.

#### **TUESDAY** American Red Cross blood Drive

in Vergennes. Tuesday, April 29, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Victory Baptist Church, 862 Route 7. As spring travel and activities fill calendars, volunteer blood donations remain essential to critical medical care. Book a time to give blood or platelets now by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App. All who come to give April 14-30 will get an exclusive Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last, plus be entered for a chance to win a \$5,000 prize. Community forum on federal changes in Bristol.

Tuesday, April 29, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Holley Hall, 1 South St. People from all backgrounds who are concerned about federal changes impacting Bristol and surrounding towns are invited to the 2nd Bristol Community Forum on Federal Changes. Hear from local experts on health and libraries and pick a topic to discuss in a small group. Doors open at 6 p.m. for tea, cookies and chocolates. Free and professionally facilitated.

#### THURSDAY

Ladies Aid Industria spring rummage sale in Lincoln. Thursday, May 1, 1-7 p.m., Burnham Hall, 52 E. River Rd. Seasonally appropriate items may be dropped off on Wednesday, April 30, from 1-7 p.m. We do not accept donations of helmets, children's car seats, baby equipment or

Rally to support workers' rights in Bristol. Thursday, May 1, 4:30-5:30 p.m., Town Green. Join the Bristol Rally on International Workers Day in solidarity with 18 Vermont unions and Migrant Justice's events in Williston and Montpelier to protest the 100 days of disruption from D.C. Bring signs. Show your support for working families, livable wages, civil rights, an economy that benefits the many, rather than the few. Sponsored by Northeast Addison County Indivisible.

"Other Side" screening and panel discussion in Middlebury. Thursday, May 1, 5:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 42-46 Main St. Join Diana Barnard, M.D, for the Vermont premiere of the film "Other Side," with a Q&A to follow discussing Death With Dignity. The film, part of the Death Differently documentary series, features Connecticutbased activist Lynda Bluestein, who, after three separate cancer diagnoses, and undergoing nauseating and difficult treatment for each one, set her sights on medical aid in dying. This film contains sensitive content related to end-of-life care, terminal illness, and medical aid in dying.

Lyme disease in Vermont presentation in **Monkton.** Thursday, May 1, 6:30 p.m., Russell Memorial Library, 92 Monkton Ridge. Monktonite



### That's some backdrop

PAINTED THEATER CURTAINS like this one will be the subject of a talk by Christine Hadsel, director of Curtains Without Borders, on Thursday, May 1, at 7 p.m., at the Starksboro Public

Julie Mitchell will offer a free program about Lyme disease in Vermont. Be proactive and inform yourself as to what Lyme disease is, how it's transmitted and how to protect yourself and your family. Email russellmemlibrary@gmail. com to sign up.

Vermont's Historic Theater presentation in Starksboro. Thursday, May 1, p.m., Starksboro Public Library, 2827 Route 116. Christine Hadsel, director of Curtains Without Borders, provides a glimpse into the world of talented and often sophisticated theater curtain artists who were part of the rural cultural scene, illustrating the rich cultural history of small-town Vermont before World War I. Free and open to the public. Light refreshments provided.

#### **FRIDAY** may

Aid Industria spring rummage sale in Lincoln. Friday, May 2, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Burnham Hall, 52

Rummage sale in Salisbury. Friday, May 2, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. All proceeds will go to support area food shelves. Donations will be accepted at the church from 9 a.m.-noon, April 28-May 1. More info call Gloria at 802-989-2155 or Mary at

# may

### **SATURDAY**

Green Up Day - in all towns and cities across Vermont. Saturday, May 3. More information online at greenupvermont.org/towndetails.

Ladies Aid Industria spring rummage sale in Lincoln. Saturday, May 3, 8-10:30 a.m., Burnham Hall, 52 E. River Rd. Spring Cleaning Saturday on the TAM in

Middlebury. Saturday, May 3, 8:30 a.m., location TBD. MALT's Trails & Volunteer Manager, Liam, will be awaiting volunteers at the trailhead in the mornings with donuts, coffee, and tea for about an hour or so. Enjoy a warm drink and chat, then head out to work, either hiking the section of trail yourself as a group with Liam. Work includes clearing dead branches and small fallen trees, pruning new growth, and picking up trash. More info and registration at www.maltvt.org/events.

Bike Swap in Middlebury. Saturday, May 3, 9 a.m.-noon, Cannon Park. Make the annual Middlebury Bike Swap part of your Green Up Day. Find the perfect new-to-you bike, sell that old bike that's been taking up space in your garage all these years, or better yet, do both. More info contact Frog Hollow Bikes at froghollowbikes@gmail.com or call 802-388-6666. Rain or shine.

Rummage sale in Salisbury. Saturday, May 3, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. See May 2 listing.

Vermont Old Cemetery Association annual meeting in Vergennes. Saturday, May 3, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall, 85 S. Maple St. Martin Arthur Fleming will be the guest speaker at VOCA'd Spring meeting. He will discuss Vermont in the Civil War, covering Vermont's contribution to the war effort and exploits of some of its units. Fleming's greatgrandfather was a member of the 9th Vermont and served in Company C, which recruited from Addison County. Lunch of baked penne (gluten-free and dairy-free options), garden salad (gluten-free and dairy-free options), assorted breads and rolls, assorted desserts, and beverages will be offered

American Red Cross blood Drive in New Haven. Saturday, May 3, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Town Hall, 78 North St. Volunteer blood donations remain essential to critical medical care. Book a time to give blood or platelets by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or using the Red Cross Blood Donor App. All who come to give May 1-18, will get a \$20 e-gift card to a merchant of choice and will be automatically entered to win a U.S. trip of choice for two. For details, visit RedCrossBlood.org/May.

Book sale in Middlebury. Saturday, May 3, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Middlebury United Methodist Church, 43 N. Pleasant St. For this sale, we have a lot of graphic novels, for both youth and adults. The sale in lower level. Entrance at the back by the gravel parking lot.

Arbor Day tree info in Middlebury. Saturday, May 3, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op, 9 Washington St. Members of the adhoc Middlebury Tree Committee will be available outside to field questions and offer free information about tree health, tree diseases and pests like the Emerald Ash borer and Spotted Lantern Fly. A limited number of free oak saplings, along with clear planting and care instructions, will be available on a first-come first-serve basis. Free and open to the public.

Guided history walk in Orwell. Saturday, May 3, noon-4 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 472 Mt. Independence Rd. Learn about and see the traces of the Revolutionary War defenses. This is a great time of year to explore before all the leaves come out. Revolutionary War expert Mike Barbieri, Mount Independence Coalition President Stephen Zeoli, and site administrator Elsa Gilbertson are your guides. The focus is on areas and features normally not seen. Tickets \$5 adults/\$1 for ages 6 to 14/free for children under 6 and Mount Independence Coalition members. Wear sturdy boots, be prepared for off-trail walking, and dress for the

#### may **SUNDAY**

Pancake Breakfast in Salisbury. Sunday, May 4, 7:30-10:30 a.m., Salisbury Community School, 286 Kelly Cross Rd. This annual breakfast buffet will raise funds for the Salisbury Fire Department. Cost \$15.

Turkeys: Brooms and Biology in Addison. Sunday, May 4, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Dead Creek Visitor Center, 966 Route 17. Join Vermont Fish & Wildlife and local artisan Nora Woolf of the Woolf Den Homestead to learn all about turkeys and develop a new skill: broom making. Come by during open hours to learn and engage with materials all about turkeys. From 10 a.m.-1 p.m. sign up for Nora's broom workshop. Cost \$55, which goes directly to the instructor. Sign up at woolfdenhomestead.com/workshops-gatherings.

#### **TUESDAY**

"Protecting Yourself — Combatting Fraud in the Digital Age" in Middlebury. Tuesday, May 6, 4:30 p.m., National Bank of Middlebury, 30 Main St. Brought to you by Elderly Services, this seminar will focus on protecting yourself or your elderly

loved one from the growing threats of fraud including computer, telephone and mail scams. The program will provide tips on protecting yourself and your personal information and how to avoid falling victim to fraudsters. Free and open to the public

#### **WEDNESDAY** may Historical Society meeting in

Shoreham. Wednesday, May 6:30 p.m., Stone Schoolhouse, Route 22A. Rachel Sherman, coauthor of the Green Mountain Boys Project, will talk about Shoreham's Green Mountain Boys.

#### may 10

#### **SATURDAY**

Rokeby Museum season opening in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, May 10, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 4334 Route 7. Rokeby opens for the season with half-price opens for the season with half-price admission. Rokeby was a nationally recognized stop on the Underground Railroad and home to four generations of the Robinson family for nearly 200 years. Enjoy the main exhibit, "Seeking Freedom: The Underground Railroad and the Legacy of an Abolitionist Family," and the 2025 Seasonal Exhibit, "Inspired by Nature: The Art of the Women of Rokeby." More info at rokeby.org. Prize Bingo in Leicester. Saturday, May 10, 1 p.m., Senior Center, Leicester Four Corners.

Refreshments served and all are welcome. Bingo in Vergennes. Saturday, May 10, 5 p.m., St Peter's Parish Hall, 85 S. Maple St. Doors open at 5 p.m. and games start at 6 p.m. A family friendly event. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold. Sponsored by the St. Peter's Historic

Preservation Committee to benefit the ongoing

restoration efforts for the bell tower and the church.

#### **SUNDAY** may

Breakfast buffet in Vergennes. Sunday, May 11, 8-10 a.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall. Omelets to order, scrambled eggs, French toast, bacon, sausage, fruit, plain and blueberry pancakes, maple syrup, sausage gravy on biscuits, corn bread, home fries, mini muffins, juice, milk, and coffee. \$13 adults. \$8 children 8 to 12 years. No cap/cost on family cost. Sponsor: Vergennes Council Knights of Columbus. Wednesday, May 14,

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Check winning amounts at MiddleburyLions.org!



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# SPRING **FLING**

### **Spaghetti and Meatballs Dinner and Dance**

Saturday, April 26,2025 • 5:00-10:00 PM American Legion Post #27 • 49 Wilson Road, Middlebury, VT

Live music with the Aaron Audet Band.

Cocktail Hour (cash bar): 5:00-6:00 рм • Dinner: 6:00-7:00 рм

Dancing: 7:00-10:00 PM • 50/50 Raffle \$20.00 per ticket advance/\$25.00 per ticket at the door

Tickets on sale now at:

American Legion Post #27, Middlebury, VT; Pratts Store, Bridport, VT; Okay 22 Park Eatery, Brandon, VT; Squadron #27 Officers.

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# **Reader Comments**

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

### A subscriber from Salisbury writes:

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Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.





### Mt. Abe is in national Scholars' Bowl

finish at 2025 Vermont-NEA Scholars' Bowl Playoffs, the Scholars' Bowl team from Mt. Abraham Union Middle/High School in Bristol proved themselves worthy to play on a national stage. On Friday, April 25, the team will represent their school in a 148-team national competition: National Academic Quiz Tournaments' Small School National Championship Tournament.

Quiz bowl is a competitive, academic, interscholastic activity for teams of four students. It is the national version of the game that is often locally called Scholars' Bowl. Ouiz bowl teams use buzzers to answer questions about science, math, history, literature, mythology, geography, social science, current events, sports, and popular culture. The matches feature a blend of individual competition and team collaboration, since no individual player is likely to be an expert in all subject areas. Participation in quiz bowl both reinforces lessons from the classroom and encourages players to develop new intellectual interests.

This will be Mt. Abraham's first time attending the Small School National Championship Tournament. In 2024, 2023, 2020, 2018, 2016, 2015, and 2014 they qualified but were not able to attend.

The SSNCT is the only quiz bowl national championship pitting small schools against each other. It has one division containing nonselective public schools with 500 or fewer students in their top three grades, and another division for other schools with 350 or fewer students in their top three grades.

The team, in the Traditional Public Schools Division, will be captained by Cole Putnam and Sam Schoendorf, who will be joined by Ada Fisher, Eliza Ruble, and Maria Martin Tortosa. The team will be coached by Vicki Bronson and Simone Skerritt.

Tournament results will be updated throughout the three days of competition at http://www.naqt. com/go/stats/1601 so everyone can follow along and see how the team does. You can also follow #ssnct on Instagram.

# Historic theater curtains talk set

Hadsel, director of Curtains Without Borders, will be presenting Vermont's Historic Theater Curtains at the Starksboro Public Library Thursday, May 1, at

Between 1880 and World War II, painted theater curtains were artistic features of most New England villages and towns. In Vermont, painted curtains graced stages in town and grange halls, opera houses, and community theaters. A culture of local variety shows and traveling, professional talent flourished in front of those

STARKSBORO — Christine curtains in remote Vermont communities. In a tour of some of the 177 curtains in Vermont, Hadsel provides a glimpse into the world of talented and often sophisticated artists who were part of the rural cultural scene, illustrating the rich cultural history of small-town ADA compliant lift.) Vermont before World War I.

The Starksboro Public Library, originally built as the Town Hall, has a Theater Curtain upstairs. The 1911 Starksboro Town Hall grand drape, "Cape Wrath," was painted by L. L. Graham of Brooklyn, N.Y. Hadsel and her team of professional conservators

and Starksboro volunteers cleaned and conserved the curtain in 2002. (We may or may not be able to view our Town's curtain after the presentation, depending on the Library's exciting new construction project to install an

This presentation is free, open to the public, and accessible to those with disabilities. It will last 45-60 minutes, with time for questions at the end. Light refreshments will be provided. The Starksboro Public Library is located at 2827 Rt. 116 in Starksboro.

### Spring history walk with guided tours in Orwell

Independence State Historic Site is offering a spring guided history walk on and off the trails on Saturday, May 3, from noon to 4 pm to learn about and see the traces of the Revolutionary War defenses. This is a great time of year to explore before all the leaves come out.

Revolutionary War expert Mike Barbieri, Mount Independence Coalition president Stephen Zeoli, are your guides. The focus is on areas and features normally not seen. It's a special opportunity before the site opens for the 2025 season on Friday, May 23.

Meet for orientation in front of the museum; restrooms will be available at the start of the program. The fee is \$5 for adults, \$1 for ages 6 to 14, and free for children under 6 and Mount Independence Coalition

ORWELL — The Mount and site administrator Elsa Gilbertson members. Wear sturdy boots, be prepared for off-trail walking, and dress for the weather. Bring your lunch to enjoy ahead of time if you like, and bring water. The walk is co-sponsored by the Mount Independence Coalition.

The site and museum will be open from May 23 through Oct. 19. Regular hours will be daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 802-759-2412 for information about the hike.

# **DAR** chapter honors veterans at annual luncheon

VERGENNES — The Seth Warner – Rhoda Farrand Chapter of the DAR held its 11th annual lunch for area Vietnam Veterans on April 12. The chapter partners with the Vietnam War Commemoration Committee to thank and honor our Vietnam era veterans for their service. Nineteen Vietnam Veterans attended. Especially moving was the pinning ceremony, officiated by Veterans Outreach Specialist, Program Stock. A beautifully decorated cake was donated by Costco. Musicians from the Panton Community Church sang a

medley of patriotic tunes prior to the lunch.

Anyone who served between November 1, 1955, through May 15, 1975, is eligible to receive a special lapel pin. There are also pins available to surviving spouses of veterans, for POWs or their surviving spouses, and the unaccounted for. This program will officially end on Nov. 11, but the chapter plans to continue our annual lunches for Vietnam Era Veterans.

For more information or if you'd like to be invited to our next lunch, email Joy at swrfdar@gmail.com.



# STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

# **Middlebury Union High School**

#### **Margaret Orten**

Margaret Orten, the daughter of Mark and Jenny Orten, is Middlebury Union High School's latest Student of the Week. She lives in Middlebury with her parents and her three sisters. Her older sister, Rebecca, is studying at Middlebury College, and her younger sisters, twins, Eleanor and Louisa, are in the ninth grade at MUHS.

Margaret is enrolled in the full International Baccalaureate Diploma Program at MUHS. She has enjoyed all of her classes and has appreciated her teachers and gives a special shout out to Ms. Brigger and Mr. Harrington. She has also taken a couple of courses at the neighboring Hannaford Career Center: Introduction to STEM and Mechanical Science. Margaret is grateful to her teacher at the Career Center, Mr. Mills, for his inspiration. While at the Career Center she got involved in Skills USA, a nationwide organization that helps students focus on becoming career-ready community members. She traveled to Atlanta, Ga., and won gold two years in a row as a representative for the state of Vermont at the national Skills USA competition. Upon returning home. Margaret founded a local chapter of Skills USA and currently serves as the President. The club has seen rapid growth, having recently added 43

In addition to her coursework, Margaret is active in music and athletics. She was a founding member of the MUHS volleyball team and has been a member

of the basketball team, Nordic ski team, and lacrosse team. Margaret volunteered as a member of the youth advisory board for Atria in her junior year and attended meetings and workshops. She participated in a panel at a local elementary school and helped with training adults in becoming comfortable in asking "askable" questions for at-risk youth.

Margaret has been a food runner at Fire and Ice restaurant. She also volunteers at her church's nursery and has participated in the youth group's mission trip to Philadelphia, where they engaged in a range of service activities. Margaret plays the French horn, trumpet and mellophone in the MUHS concert band. She is also a member of the school's pit band and marching band. Margaret is excited to participate in the Memorial Day parades with the Tigers!

Margaret's future includes college. She plans on studying at a smaller, four-year, liberal arts college in a setting somewhat like Middlebury where she can pursue a pre-med major. We are certain that a bright future awaits and wish her all the best.

# **Vergennes Union High School**

### **Mary Cosgrove**

Mary Cosgrove of North Ferrisburgh is Vergennes Union High School's Student of the Week. She lives with her parents, two siblings, a dog, a bird and a guinea pig.

Mary makes consistent appearances on the VUHS honor roll, either with high honors or honors. She has been inducted into the VUHS National Honor Society for her academic skills and her leadership. Mary has also been involved in the Addison Repertory Theater program at Hannaford Career Center and says it has been her favorite. She really enjoys the more advanced theater classes.

At VUHS her favorite teacher is Ms. Choromanski because she has been very supportive over the last four years and her positivity has made each school day better. Outside of ART and VUHS academics, Mary also plays soccer for the Commodores and is on both the indoor and outdoor track and field teams. She plays the flute in VUHS's symphonic band and bass guitar in jazz band, participates in the school musical, and writes for the VUHS newspaper.

During the summer she works as a camp counselor at Very Merry Theater, where she works with kids in a theater setting, including choreographing and directing plays. When not in school or working, Mary like to go out for runs, practice her embroidery, spend time baking, and hang out with her family playing board games.



Mary Cosgrove **VUHS** 

She also enjoys being with all of her friends. Mary says the most important lesson she has learned in high school was how to breathe. "Sometimes life gets a little hectic between school, sports, homelife, and all of the other things high school students are tasked with, but the most important thing to do is take a minute and breathe," she says. "Everything will end up OK as long as you keep on breathing. It took me a while to learn how to do that, but I think it's something everyone should keep in the back

This fall Mary will attend Russell Sage College in Troy, N.Y. There she will major in theater and is super excited to be able to pursue theater further. All of us at VUHS wish her well.

**CONGRATULATIONS STUDENTS!** 

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**Margaret Orten** 

**MUHS** 

Students of the Week from all area high schools are entered

into a raffle to win a \$100 gift card to The Vermont Book Shop.

The winner will be chosen at the end of the school year.

Students of the Week are chosen by school teachers

and administration.

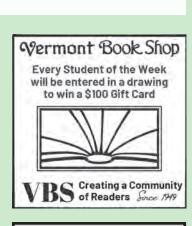
Best of luck to all Addison County students!

If you are interested in advertising in Student of the Week











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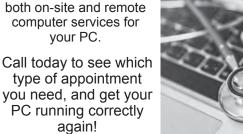
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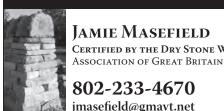


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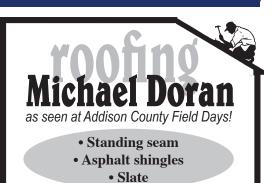
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#### **Notices**

LEICESTER CLEAN UP On April 27th at noon there will be an effort to pick up litter along Route 7, meeting at the pull off. Gloves and bags provided.

#### **Public Meetings**

**AL-ANON OFFERS HELP** and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking. Middlebury hosts an online meeting Sunday night 7:15pm and a face to face one Wednesday at 1:30pm at CVUUS (2 Duane Court Middlebury near the high school) that you can also access by Zoom. Visit vermontalanonalateen.org for links and list of other meetings in the region. If you'd like to speak to an Al-Anon member, call our answering service (866-972-5266) and an Al-Anon member will call you back.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONY-**MOUS in person meetings are available. For a list of local virtual meetings visit http://bit.lv/district9aa For more information visit https://aavt.org/ or call the 24 hour hotline at 802-802-AAVT (2288).

#### **Public Meetings**

**OVEREATERS ANONY-**MOUS 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.



Wanted ads can be found on Page 10B.

**Help Wanted** 

at Otter Creek

RN/LPN

\$10,000 FT sign on bonus

Ask about our:

PT and FT travel allowance

Free meals

**Competitive Benefits** 

On call with pay

No uniforms required!

Are you looking for work life balance?

Need to be home during week and only

available on the weekends?

Just looking for a few hours a week or even

a month? We have per diem positions!

We have fun!

Feel appreciated and valued!

Apply today.

Go to our website to apply

The Residence at Otter Creek

350 Lodge Road, Middlebury, VT 05753

www.residenceottercreek.com

**Opportunities** 

**Opportunities** 

#### **Public Meetings Public Meetings**

inclusion without judgment VERGENNES FREE THINKERS Founded in or exception. If you think 1935 on the principle of we can help, please join one alcoholic helping anus on Thursdays at 6pm by contacting Vergennesother to achieve sobriety, A.A. is an effective and freethinkers@gmail.com for Zoom and in-person enduring program of remeeting information. covery that has changed countless lives. A.A. has always been committed to making its program of re-

covery 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 dis-

belief 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

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

**CONSTRUCTION: ADDI-**TIONS, 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. Resi**dential and commercial. Fully insured. Great rates Reliable and thorough cleaning. 802-345-6257.

**Help Wanted** 

**Services** 

REFRESH YOUR ROOF Roof Cleaning and Exterior House Washing 802-989-3352 or www.refreshyourroof.com

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** 

**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

#### 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!

#### **Garage Sales**

THIS SATURDAY 4/26. 9am-4pm. 3045 Quaker Village Road, Weybridge. We have a barn, filled with construction materials and some tools. Great prices.

#### **Help Wanted**

**BLACK DIAMOND BUILD-**ER'S Looking for a few new members to join our team. Carpenter/Laborer. Qualifications: Have some knowledge in carpentry and general labor duties, familiar with carpentry tools and equipment, ability to work as part of a team, strong attention to detail and safety protocols, willing to learn new things/will train the right person. Benefits: Full time employment, paid holidays and vacation, pay is dependent on experience,

#### **Help Wanted**



PART-TIME PERSONAL **CARE** assistant wanted to help 76 year old man in Addison for 3-4 hours a day for 4 days a week. Help with housekeeping, cooking, and chores. \$25 an hour. Reply to eresnik@ rcn.com.

**Help Wanted** 

401k. If interested contact

802-345-2760

**Help Wanted** 

#### **Help Wanted**

# **AGWAY**

#### **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.

### **Elderly Services** Office Administrator

Do you have great organizing skills? **Enjoy working with numbers?** Comfortable with technology? Work well with others in a team setting? Join our administrative support team!

Elderly Services is looking for a half-time office administrator, with opportunities to make a full-time position if desired. Enjoy rewarding work, great coworkers, delicious meals, and an uplifting environment in a beautiful setting.



**Applicants** should be patient, flexible, cheerful, tolerant, funflexible, loving, and thrive in a team setting. They should enjoy supporting a large part-time staff, following through on projects, tracking many details to completion, and helping the organization continue to improve

administrative systems in our growing agency. A bachelor's degree is required; experience in office administration and skills in Microsoft Office and Google Suites strongly desired; experience with databases, Quick Books and social media/web pages a plus.

For more information or to apply, go to https://elderlyservices.org/job-opportunities/

#### deny their own. Meetings are held with a high regard for compassion and **Help Wanted**

**Help Wanted** 



### **Med Techs and RCAs** 12-hour shift opportunities!

PT and FT travel allowance Free meals **Competitive Benefits** 

Calling all compassionate caregivers! Are you or someone you know ready to make a meaningful impact in healthcare?

that will ignite your passion. Now offering 12-hour shift opportunities! FT, PT and Per diem positions also available

Need to be home during week and only available on the weekends?

Visit our website to apply. The Residence at Otter Creek

Feel appreciated and valued!

www.residenceottercreek.com

Ask about our:

We have an exciting opportunity

Are you looking for work life balance? We have fun!

350 Lodge Road, Middlebury, VT 05753

**Opportunities** 

**Opportunities** 



**Opportunities** 

Come

build

with us!

**Opportunities** 

☐ Vacation Rentals

# Become an RSVP volunteer!

RSVP of Addison County connects volunteers age 55 and up with organizations that need their support. RSVP provides a wide range of opportunities from delivering healthy meals to neighbors, helping community members with transportation, to reading to a companion, or providing support to children of all ages. RSVP will help you find an opportunity to fit with your causes, interests and schedule.

### Learn how you can make a difference!

To learn more, please visit www.volunteersinvt.org or contact us at 802-468-7056



Addison Independent

# SSIFIED 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: • Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted Address: ■ Notices ■ Work Wanted Att. Farmers Phone: ☐ Card of Thanks ☐ Help Wanted **Email:** Personals ☐ For Sale Cars Services ☐ Public Meetings\*\* ☐ Trucks **Or,** submit your classified ad on our website: addisonindependent.com ☐ Free\*\* ☐ For Rent SUVs DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m. ☐ Lost 'N Found\*\* ☐ Want to Rent Snowmobiles ☐ Garage Sales ☐ Wood Heat Boats ☐ Lawn & Garden ☐ Real Estate Wanted • 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad □ Opportunities □ Animals ☐ Real Estate Wanted • 50¢ internet listing for up to 4 issues • minimum 2 insertions

Adoption

\*\* no charge for these ads Spotlight with large \$1

ADDISON INDEPENDENT 58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753 802-388-4944 addisonindependent.com • email: classifieds@addisonindependent.com

PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

	Number of words:
	Cost:
The Independent assumes no financial	# of runs:
responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error oc-	Spotlight Charge:
curred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors	Internet Listing: \$
which may occur after first publication	TOTAL

# Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

#### For Sale

1952 FARMALL CUB TRACTOR with side mount mower, starts and runs, has wheel weights, & tire chains. Does not charge, needs minor work on battery box and brakes. \$2200. cabessette@juno. com or 802-598-2476

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



#### Lawn and Garden

**CUB CADET GT 2544** lawn tractor with mower deck, tire chains, wheel weights, and small cart. \$975. cabessette@juno. com or 802-598-2476

**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.

#### For Rent

1000 SQUARE FEET OF **RETAIL** available with parking on Bakery Lane in downtown Middlebury. 802-349-8544.

5,000 SQUARE FEET available. Exchange Street. Middlebury, VT. 802-349-

ALL REAL ESTATE ad-

vertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Tollfree at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC

**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.

area please call HUD at

426-3500.

### **Help Wanted**

SummitPMG.com.

### For Rent

**BRIDPORT:** Charming and spacious home with Adirondack views! Active woman in her 60s who loves biking and camping, seeking housemates to share her comfortable home 8 miles from Middlebury. \$650/ month, with no services needed. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview. references, background checks required. EHO

CO-WORKING OFFICES in Marbleworks professional office building. Handicapped accessible w/ elevator. 802-349-2008

COMMERCIAL/OFFICE SPACE - 3000 sq ft - Middlebury. Loading dock. Tall ceilings. \$2,500.00 p/ month. 802-558-6092.

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAM-PUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

**UPSTAIRS 2 BEDROOM** APARTMENT Kitchen, living room combo with office. Pets negotiable. \$1800 / month, all utilities included. Call 802-349-8344

#### **Wood Heat**

DRY OR GREEN firewood for sale. Delivery available. 802-349-4212.

#### **Real Estate**



BUILDING LOT approximately 1/2 acre Daisy \_ane, East Middlebury, village water, underground utilities, designed septic. Established neighborhood with Little League field. \$105,000. Tel 802-388-2502. Jack Brown.

#### **Att. Farmers**

1ST CUT. SMALL square. \$3.25. 2nd cut small square, \$4.25. 802-377-5455.

WHITNEY'S CUSTOM FARM WORK Pond agitating, liquid manure hauling, drag line aerating. Call for price. 462-2755, John Whitney.

**Help Wanted** 

### Help Wanted Town of New Haven **Road Crew**

Full-time road crew position. Applicants must have a Class B CDL; and be willing to learn dump truck operation and maintenance, along with snowplowing, road building, and small equipment operation. Must be able to get along well with others and be willing to work outdoors in all types of weather. Must pass a drug test and medical exam for CDL drivers prior to employment.

Good benefits package: 12 paid holidays, medical insurance, and sick leave; pay based on experience.

> **Application and job description** available at Town Clerk's Office and www.newhavenvt.com.

Submit applications to Town Office: Town of New Haven, 78 North St., New Haven, Vt. 05472, email newhavenclerk@gmavt.net, or call 802-453-3516

78 North Street, New Haven, VT 05472 802-453-3516



### For breaking news & updates wherever you are!

@addisonindependent

#### **MARKET REPORT ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES**

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT Sales for 4/17/25 & 4/21/25

		СО	ST
BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$
Tudhope Farm	1200	1.65	\$1980.00
Vorsteveld	1995	1.64	\$3271.80
Correia	1550	1.60	\$2480.00
Wilcon	1590	1.57	\$2496.30
M+L Quesnel	1775	1.45	\$2573.75

	COST							
CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$					
Goodrich	87	13.00	\$1131.00					
Savello	85	13.00	\$1105.00					
Forbes	92	12.00	\$1104.00					
Barnes B&W	86	11.90	\$1023.40					
Deer Valley	96	11.00	\$1056.00					

Total Beef - 124 Total Calves - 168

We value our faithful customers. Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs. call 1-802-388-2661



#### **ATTENTION FARMERS!!!**

### ANNUAL SPRING MACHINERY/ FARM AND GARDEN CONSIGNMENT AUCTION SATURDAY MAY 10TH - 10 AM

HELD AT ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES BARN RT 125 EAST MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT

#### All Good Consignments Welcome! \*\*Please No Household Items / No Tires\*\*

WE ARE ACCEPTING QUALITY CONSIGNMENTS NOW!

\*CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK\*

#### THIS ANNUAL SALE ATTRACTS MANY - DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CASH IN!!

LARGE SELECTION OF TRACTORS, FARM EQUIPMENT, LAWN AND GARDEN,

A MUST SALE TO ATTEND!

ACCS 802-388-2661 OR 802-989-1507

T.G. WISNOWSKI & SONS AUCTIONEER-JOHN NOP

www.accscattle.com

#### **Email your** Public Notices to legals@ addisonindependent.com

and Jenna makes sure it gets in the paper

#### **CORNWALL CENTRAL CEMETERY**

Annual Meeting 7pm on Friday, May 9th at the Town Hall. For info call 802-324-9499.

#### **VERMONT AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION PUBLIC NOTICE** HERBICIDE SPRAYING

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) has requested from the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets, a permit to apply the following herbicides: Garlon 4 ULTRA, Garlon 3A, Oust Extra, Escort, Krenite S, Polaris, and Roundup Custom to control unwanted vegetation along all State highways. Operations are authorized to start approximately May 15th, 2025, but will not begin until the appropriate notification requirements are completed. The application will be made by certified pesticide applicators using mechanically controlled equipment and hand-controlled methods. The methods employed are intended to avoid or eliminate drift. Residents along the rights-of-way (ROW) are encouraged to protect sensitive environments or water supplies within 100 feet of the ROW limits, and to avoid entering the ROW as spray trucks pass and until products dry. Residents should notify VTrans of the existence of any water supplies within 100 feet of the State's ROW. Citizens wishing to inform VTrans are urged to contact the nearest District Transportation Administrator as follows: District 1 - Bennington - (802) 447-2790, District 2 - Dummerston - (802) 254-5011, District 3 - Mendon - (802) 786-5826. District 4 - White River Junction (802) 295-8888, District 5 - Colchester - (802) 655-1580, District 6 - Berlin -(802)-917-2879, District 7 - St. Johnsbury - (802) 748-6670, District 8 - St. Albans - (802) 524-5926, District 9 - Derby - (802) 334-7934. The contact person at the State Highway Department Headquarters is Brandon Garretto, Vegetation Management Admin, 2178 Airport Rd, Dill Bldg Unit A, Barre, VT 05641 or brandon.garretto@vermont.gov. Contact can also be made using the VTrans Internet Web page at <a href="https://vtrans.vermont.gov/operations">https://vtrans.vermont.gov/operations</a>.

The appropriate place to contact with comments other than VTrans is the Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets, Public Health & Agricultural Resource Management Division at 116 State Street Montpelier, VT 05620, 116 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, (802) 828-1732. The link to their web page that would describe the VTrans herbicide application permit request can be found at https://agriculture.vermont.gov/

#### ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**Leicester Municipal Planning Consultation** 

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) will meet on May 13, 2025 at 6:00PM, for a public hearing with the Town of Leicester's Planning Commission.

The meeting will take place in person at the Leicester Clerk's Office, 44 Schoolhouse Road, Leicester, VT 05733.

As per 24 V.S.A. §4350, ACRPC will consult with Leicester in regards to the municipality's planning efforts, ascertain Leicester's planning needs, identify needed assistance from ACRPC, and confirm that the municipality:

- (1) is engaged in a continuing planning process that, within a reasonable time, will result in a plan that is consistent with the goals contained in section 4302 of this title:
- (2) is engaged in a process to implement its municipal plan, consistent with the program for implementation required under section 4382 of this title; and
- (3) is maintaining its efforts to provide local funds for municipal and regional planning purposes.

Questions, please call either:

Rebecca Elder, Community Planner Addison County Regional Planning Commission 802-388-3141

Julie Delphia, Town Clerk Town of Leicester 802-247-5961

# **Public Notices Index**

Public Notices for the following can be found in this ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 10B and 11B.

Addison County Courthouse (1)

Addison County Regional Planning Commission (1) Bridport (1)

Cornwall Central Cemetery (1)

Lawrence Memorial Library (1)

Middlebury (2)

Prospect Cemetery Association (2)

Starksboro (3)

VTrans (1)

#### **TOWN OF STARKSBORO DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD NOTICE OF HEARING**

Alan and Nancy Norris submitted a subdivision application (25DRB04SD) for sketch plan review of an Eight-Lot Subdivision located on a 84.89-acre parcel (ID 10815) at 2798 VT Route 17. The proposed subdivision is in the ASRR, LDRC and HDRC Districts.

The Starksboro Development Review Board will conduct the hearing on May 8, 2025, starting at 7 p.m. at the Starksboro Town Office with remote access (info below). The application is available to review by request of the Starksboro zoning office.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §§ 4464(a)(1)(C) participation in this local proceeding is prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

> Access via Zoom: Meeting ID: 878 8416 6793 Passcode: stk@drbl Phone 1-929-436-2866 Passcode: 44885153

Robert Karmin Zoning Administrator Date: April 17, 2025

#### **TOWN OF STARKSBORO DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD NOTICE OF HEARING**

The Jerusalem Road Nominee Trust submitted a subdivision application (25DRB05SD) for sketch plan review of a Five-Lot Subdivision located on a 154.6 acre parcel (ID 10409) at 1901 Jerusalem Road. The proposed subdivision is in the ASRR District.

The Starksboro Development Review Board will conduct the hearing on May 8, 2025, starting at 7p.m. at the Starksboro Town Office with remote access (info below). The application is available to review by request of the Starksboro zoning office.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §§ 4464(a)(1)(C) participation in this local proceeding is prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

> Access via Zoom: Meeting ID: 878 8416 6793 Passcode: stk@drbl Phone 1-929-436-2866 Passcode: 44885153

Robert Karmin Zoning Administrator Date: April 17, 2025

#### **TOWN OF BRIDPORT INVITATION TO BID**

The Town of Bridport seeks bids for doing air sealing work and hot water pipe insulation work in its Town Office Building and Highway Garage. A bid may be made on just one of the two types of work. A bid is to include details on the work to be done, cost thereof and when the work would be completed. The air sealing work needs to be done by a BPI-accredited air sealing contractor. The Town's contact person for information (specifications, etc.), viewing the buildings and receiving bids is its Selectboard member David Bronson (email: chipper@ gmavt.net, tel. no. 802-758-2546). Bids will be received by him until **noon on** May 29, 2025 either by email or to his attention at the Bridport Town Office at 82 Crown Point Road, PO Box 27, Bridport, VT 05734. Bids need to be received by the deadline, not just postmarked by then. The Town reserves the right to waive any information in, or to reject any and all bids, or to accept (with or without negotiating final terms) the bid deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of Bridport.

#### **TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY** MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT 2025 MUNICIPAL PAVING CONTRACT ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for the construction of the 2025 Municipal Paving Contract will be received by the Town of Middlebury, Vermont, at the Public Works Building on 1020 Route 7 South Middlebury, VT 05753, until 11:00 a.m. local time on May 7, 2025, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. The Project consists of shim and overlay sections of the following roads: Otterside Court, Chipman Heights, Short Shannon Street, Warming Hut Road, Rec Park Sidewalk near the Memorial Sports Arena, Boardman Street, School House Road from Munson to Burnham Drive, Pond Lane and Upper Plains Road. Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum and unit price basis, as indicated in the Bid Schedule.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Otter Creek Engineering, Inc. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office, 404 East Main St., Middlebury, VT 05753, on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below.

Printed copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office, during the hours indicated above, upon payment of \$50.00 for each set. Checks for Bidding Documents shall be payable to "Otter Creek Engineering, Inc." mailing address: P.O. Box 712, East Middlebury, VT 05740. Upon request and receipt of the document payment indicated above, the Issuing Office will transmit the Bidding Documents. The date that the Bidding Documents are transmitted by the Issuing Office will be considered the Bidder's date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for issuing Addenda, if any, to parties obtaining Bidding Documents from sources other than the Issuing Office.

Electronic copies of Bidding Drawings and Documents will be provided to all parties recorded as having officially received the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office, as portable document format (PDF) files, on a flash drive.

A pre-bid conference will be held at 11:00 a.m. local time on April 25, 2025 at the Town of Middlebury Department of Public Works, 1020 Route 7 South, Middlebury VT 05753. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is highly encouraged but is not mandatory.

Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

Owner: Town of Middlebury, Vermont By: Mr. Mark Pruhenski Title: Town Manager Date: April 14, 2025

# Man cited for driving without a license

BRISTOL — Bristol police on April 12 cited Jordan Atwood, 30, of Rutland City for driving with a criminally suspended license and without an interlock device, following a traffic stop on South 116 Road, also known as Route 116 South.

Between April 6 and 19 Bristol police completed 45 foot patrols and three car patrols, conducted 40 traffic stops and checked security at Mount Abraham Union High School 13 times, at Bristol Elementary School 13 times and local businesses 12 times.

Police also processed 25 fingerprint requests, verified one vehicle identification number, conducted three welfare checks and responded to one burglar alarm activation that appeared to be a malfunction.

In other recent activity, Bristol police on:

- April 6 received a report of a vehicle stolen from School Street. An investigation is ongoing.
- April 7 removed an object from the roadway on Rockydale Road.

# **Bristol**

Police Log

- April 7 assisted Mount Abe with a truancy concern.
- April 7 received a report of
- loose cows on Monkton Road. • April 9 enforced a parking violation on South Street.
- April 11 received a report of lost property in the Main Street
- April 11 were told of a vehicle operating erratically on West Street. Police located the vehicle and observed no signs of impairment from the driver.
- April 13 participated in a sobriety checkpoint with Vermont State Police on S 116 Road.
- April 13 received a report of gunshots in the area of East Street and Rockydale Road. Police reported the noise may have been from a vehicle, which was gone when police arrived.

citizen dispute on North Street.

- April 16 assisted Bristol Elementary with a truancy concern. • April 16 recovered an
- unattended bicycle on Prince Lane. • April 16 responded to East Street for a motor vehicle
- complaint, but the vehicle was gone before police arrived. April 17 assisted Bristol
- Elementary with a truancy concern. • April 17 met with students at Mount Abe about drugs, alcohol
- and law enforcement. · April 17 helped someone get transportation.
- April 17 received a report of a dog running loose on Maple Street. The dog was contained, the owner was located, and police issued an ordinance violation for dog at large.
- April 18 issued a parking citation for parking on the sidewalk on Mountain Street.
- April 19 initiated a property watch for a police district resident.
- April 19 received a report of an assault that occurred on Burpee • April 16 received a report of a Road. An investigation is ongoing.

• On April 17 charged a

16-vear-old with drunken driving,

second-degree murder and grossly

negligent driving following a

traffic crash on North St in New

Haven. A passenger in the vehicle,

Jaida Cram, 20, of Bristol, was

killed in the crash. See a full story

prisoner to the Courthouse for a

· On April 18 transported a

• On April 18 completed a

• On April 19 provided security

• On April 19 provided a

for a special event in Middlebury.

transport for Middlebury police

for a person who was arrested on

New Have a news tip?

Contact Kim Callahan at kimcallahan99@gmail.com.

NEWS -

Welcome to the first edition of New Haven News! We are happy to have a space where we can share news and information for the community. Don't hesitate to reach out with something you would like to share.

Did you know that the Village Green Creemee stand is now open? Yippee! You can find the flavor of the day/week on their Facebook

Green Up Day is Saturday, May 3. Green Up Bags will be available for pick up at the New Haven Town Office/Library from 9 a.m.noon. Please leave full bags along roadsides for the town crew to pick up on the Monday following Green Up Day. Thank you to everyone who participates to help keep our roadsides clear of litter.

The Blooming Circle is a new support group for postpartum moms partnering with the New Haven Library every other Saturday beginning on April 19. It meets from 10:30-11:30 a.m. This is a nurturing and inclusive group for moms looking for support and connection during the transformative journey of motherhood. This newly founded group will meet at the library where moms (at every stage of motherhood) come together (with

#### **FULL PASSPORT SERVICE**

in the Frank Mahady Courthouse in Middlebury is available to accept passport applications and

> **REGULAR HOURS** Monday - 8:30am to 4:00pm

Tuesday - 9:00am to 12:30pm Wednesday - Closed Thursday - 12:30pm to 4:00pm

**APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED** For appointment, go to www.addisoncountyclerkvt.com

The Addison County Clerk located provide passport photos.

Friday - 9:00am to 12:30pm

or call 802-388-1966.

**DOCKET NO.: 21-CV-03168** 

# Addison County Sheriff's Log

ADDISON COUNTY Deputies in the Addison County Sheriff's Department joined with other law enforcement agencies on April 14 for a high visibility enforcement of laws forbidding drivers from using cell phones. The sheriff's department issued seven tickets for illegal cell phone use.

Between April 13 and 19, deputies completed patrols in multiple towns each day, and report stopping 68 vehicles for various motor vehicle violations. They also fingerprinted 11 people for background checks, did a VIN verification for a county resident and checks and completed a car seat inspection for a family.

In other activity, deputies: • On April 13 provided security

- for a special event in Middlebury. • On April14 assisted the
- Chittenden County Sheriff's Department with prisoner transports.
- On April 14 assisted Middlebury police with transporting an intoxicated person to Grace House in Rutland.

- On April 15 transported a prisoner to the courthouse for a hearing.
- On April 15 checked on a vehicle parked on Leicester's Old Jerusalem Road with no one in it. The deputy found that the driver was out running. They moved their vehicle out of the road after speaking with the deputy.
- On April 15 received a complaint from the town of people camping in tents at the Ferrisburgh Town Beach. The deputy gave the campers a few days to find a new place to camp.
- On April 15 spoke to a driver's education class in Addison and answered questions.
- On April 16 assigned several more deputies than usual to Courthouse services due to the number of hearings scheduled.
- On April 16 transported a prisoner to the Courthouse for a
- On April 17 helped with traffic control at a Middlebury fire scene. On April 17 assisted Middlebury police with a call on

### Tree giveaway set Saturday, May 3

information about tree health, tree the public.

MIDDLEBURY — Members diseases and pests like the Emerald of the adhoc Middlebury Tree Ash Borer and Spotted Lantern Committee will be available Fly. A limited number of free oak outside of the Middlebury saplings, along with clear planting Natural Foods Co-op from 10 and care instructions, will be a.m. to 1p.m. on Saturday, May available on a first-come first-serve 3, to field questions and offer free basis. The event is free and open to

### Public Notices can be found in this

ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 10B and 11B.

#### PROSPECT CEMETERY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING PUBLIC NOTICE

The Officers and all Persons interested in the Prospect Cemetery Association are hereby warned to meet at the Sarah Partridge Community House in East Middlebury on Monday, 12th of May at 7:30 P.M. for the following purpose:

- To hear the reports of the officers.
- To hold election of officers for the following year.
- To vote on fees for the maintenance of the cemetery grounds.
- To transact any other business that may come before the meeting.

Elaine Newton, Secretary

#### TOWN OF BRISTOL, VERMONT Lawrence Memorial Library, www.lawrencelibraryvt.org NOTICE OF AMENDMENT OF TRUSTEE BYLAWS

On April 15th, 2025, the Lawrence Memorial Library Board of Trustees of the Town of Bristol, Vermont, adopted amendments to the existing "Lawrence Memorial Library Board of Trustees Bylaws" pursuant to V.S.A. Title 22, chapter 3. This notice is published pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 1972 to inform the public of these amendments and of the citizens' right to petition for a vote to disapprove

**CONCISE SUMMARY** 

The amended Bylaws expand on the composition and tenure of the board, explain its function and duties, and its meeting structure as well as establishing committees and a process for dealing with conflicts of interest. The amended bylaws outline the duties of the board as manager of the library director as well as updating the provisions for renewing and amending bylaws.

The full text of the Bylaws may be examined at Lawrence Memorial Library at 40 North Street, Bristol, VT 05443 and may be examined during regular office hours as well as on the Library website.

CITIZENS' RIGHT TO PETITION FOR VOTE

Title 24 V.S.A. § 1973 grants citizens the right to petition for a vote at a special or annual Town Meeting to disapprove bylaw amendments adopted by the Library Board of Trustees. To exercise this right, citizens must present to the Trustees or the Town Clerk a petition for a vote on the question of disapproving the amendments signed by not less than five percent (5%) of the Town's qualified voters. The petition must be presented within forty-four (44) days following the date of the adoption of the amendments. Unless a petition requesting a vote is filed pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 1973, the amended "Lawrence Memorial Library Board of Trustees Bylaws" shall become effective sixty (60) days from the date of said adoption.

PERSON TO CONTACT

Additional information pertaining to the Bylaws may be obtained by contacting Katie Male-Riordan, Library Director at Lawrence Memorial Library, 40 North Street, or by calling (802) 453-2366 during regular office hours.

#### STATE OF VERMONT **SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL DIVISION**

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR LB-DWELLING SERIES V TRUST

hearing

a warrant.

background check.

ADDISON, SS

CAROLINE EARLE AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF BEULAH V. COGLEY, GREEN MOUNTAIN BUREAU, OCCUPANTS OF: 203 TUNNEL BROOK ROAD, HANCOCK, VT 05748

#### NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

In accordance with the Amended Judgment Order and Decree of Foreclosure entered February 21, 2025, in the above captioned action to foreclosure a mortgage given by Beulah V. Cogley, to CitiFinancial, Inc., dated July 28, 2005, and recorded with the Land Records in the Town of Hancock in Book 27, Page 201, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by ass from CFNA Receivables (MD), Inc. f/k/a CitiFinancial, Inc., to CitiFinancial Servicing LLC, dated February 27, 2017 and recorded with the Land Records in the Town of Hancock in Book 35, Page 346; by an assignment from CitiFinancial Servicing LLC, to Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, dated February 27, 2017 and recorded with the Land Records in the Town of Hancock in Book 35, Page 347; by an assignment from Community Loan Servicing LLC f/k/a Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee for LB-Tiki Series V Trust, dated September 15, 2022 and recorded with the Land Records in the Town of Hancock in Book 39, Page 20; and by an assignment from U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee for LB-Tiki Series V Trust to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee for LB-Dwelling Series V Trust dated January 25, 2023 and recorded with the Land Records in the Town of Hancock in Book 39, Page 22, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 P.M. on the 19th day of May 2025, at 203 Tunnel Brook Road, in Hancock, Addison County, VT 05748, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

ALL THAT CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND IN TOWN OF HANCOCK, ADDISON County, STATE OF VT, AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN BOOK 27 PAGE 42 ID# 01-1175, BEING THE SAME LANDS AND PREMISES AS ARE DESCRIBED IN A VERMONT QUIT CLAIM DEED (CORRECTIVE DEED) DATED FEBRUARY 5, 1999, FEBRUARY 8, 1999, AND FEBRUARY 17, 1999, AND RECORDED IN THE TOWN OF HANCOCK LAND RECORDS ON FEBRUARY 23, 1999, IN BOOK 23 AT PAGES 132-144, TO WHICH DEED AND THE RECORD REFERENCED THEREIN, REFERENCE MAY BE HAND FOR FURTHER AND MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION. BEING THE HOME PLACE OF BEULAH V. COGLEY.

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED BY FEE SIMPLE DEED FROM BEULAH V COGLEY and LANA C TROW and ROBERT R BAGLEY TO BEULAH V COGLEY, DATED 07/28/2004 RECORDED ON 02/15/2005 IN BOOK 27, PAGE 42 IN ADDISON County RECORDS, STATE OF VT.

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

Terms of sale: A deposit of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by wire transfer to Demerle & Associates P.C., 10 City Square, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02129 within sixty (60) days after the date the Confirmation Order is entered by the Court. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall

The mortgagor and all junior lienholders are entitled to redeem the mortgaged property at any time prior to the sale by paying the full amount due under the mortgage, including the costs and expenses of the sale.

> U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee for LB-Dwelling Series V Trust, Present holder of said mortgage, By its Attorneys, Lauren Bucci, Esq. Demerle & Associates P.C. 10 City Square, 4th Floor BOSTON, MA 02129 (617) 337-4444

or without their children) to talk about the joys and the challenges of motherhood. Please join Kelly Bessette and other moms in the community.

The New Haven Library is holding a weekly story time for kids and their parents/caregivers on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. at the library. Come out and enjoy a story with other kids and bring a friend!

The Friends of the Library will hold their Annual Book and Bake Sale on Saturday, May 3, from 9 a.m.-noon at the library. All proceeds will be used for continued community events, books for babies and other opportunities for welcome to Stephanie. Stay tuned!

the community. Come on out and find some books and bring home some goodies for the family.

Welcome Stephanie! Beeman Elementary has a new principal starting in the fall of 2025! Stephanie Sumner will join the Beeman and New Haven community after years as an elementary school teacher, instructional coach, principal and assistant principal, and most recently as a professional learning facilitator. There will be an opportunity for the community to thank Travis Park for his work as principal at our school for the last seven years and to offer a warm

#### TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The Middlebury Development Review Board will hold a public hearing(s) at the Middlebury Municipal Offices, Large Conference Room, 77 Main Street, Middlebury, VT on Monday, May 12th, 2025, beginning at 7:00 p.m. to consider the following application(s). The hearing will be available to participants via a Zoom video link. The Zoom link will be provided on the meeting agenda posted on the Town's website.

- 1. Application (file #2025-004:045.006-ZP) is a request by Knappmiller LLC seeking DRB approval for an office use in the Industrial Zoning District at 50 Industrial Avenue under the provisions of Section 697. The property is identified as parcel #004045.006 in the Industrial Zoning district.
- 2. Application (file #2025-028:174.000-SP/CU) is a request by Stewart's Shop Corp. seeking a site plan and conditional use approval for the redevelopment of 220 Court Street within the Mixed-Use zoning district. The property is identified as parcel #028174.000
- 3. Application (file #2025-008:107.000-SD) is a request by Foster Brothers Farm Inc. for a sketch plan review for a proposed 2-lot subdivision of their 869.5-acre parcel located at 53 Lower Foote Street and identified as parcel number #008107.00 in the Agricultural Rural zoning district.

The applications will be heard in the order listed. Plans and additional information may be viewed at the Planning and Zoning Office in the Town Offices or by calling 388-8100, Ext 226. Participation in this public hearing is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal as an "interested person(s)". Interested persons wishing to participate in this hearing may do so by contacting J.R. Christ at 388-8100, Ext 226 or email to jrchrist@ townofmiddlebury.org.

J.R. Christ DRB Coordinator, AZA

> STATE OF VERMONT, SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION, ADDISON UNIT **DOCKET NO.: 25-PR-01366** IN RE ESTATE OF: JOYCE HALLOCK

#### **NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

To the Creditors of: Joyce Hallock, late of Weybridge, VT.

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: 04/15/25

Addison Wales PO Box 166, Middlebury, VT 05753 802-989-4636 addiruth98@gmail.com

Publication: Addison Independent Publication Date: 04/24/25

Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court, Addison Unit, Probate Division Address of Court: 7 Mahady Court, Middlebury, VT 05753

> STATE OF VERMONT, SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION, ADDISON UNIT **DOCKET NO.: 25-PR-00177**

#### IN RE ESTATE OF: FREDERICK BARNES **NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

To the Creditors of: Frederick Barnes, late of Middlebury, VT.

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: 04/10/25

Bryce F. Barnes 3 Lindeman Avenue Closter, NJ 07624 bryce@bfbarnes.net

Publication: Addison Independent Publication Date: 04/24/25

Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court, Addison Unit, Probate Division Address of Court: 7 Mahady Court, Middlebury, VT 05753

#### **TOWN OF STARKSBORO** WARNING

The legal voters of the Town of Starksboro, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Starksboro Town Offices at 2849 VT Route 116, in the Town of Starksboro on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) in the forenoon (a.m.), at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00) in the afternoon (p.m.), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Article of business:

ARTICLE

Shall general obligation bonds or notes or other evidences of indebtedness of the Town of Starksboro in an amount not to exceed One Million One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,100,000.00), subject to reduction by available grants-in-aid or other funding sources, be issued to finance the cost of removing and rebuilding Fire Station #2 and renovating and improving the School House (the "Jerusalem" Community Center Project"), the estimated cost of such improvements being One Million Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,300,000.00)?

The legal voters of the Town of Starksboro are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes

The legal voters of the Town of Starksboro are further notified that an informational meeting will be held on Monday, April 28, 2025, at the Robinson Elementary School, 41 Parsonage Rd., in the Town of Starksboro at half past six o'clock (6:30 p.m.) in the evening, for the purpose of explaining the proposed improvements and the financing thereof.

Adopted and approved at a regular meeting of the Selectboard of the Town of Starksboro duly called, noticed and held on April 4, 2025. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Town of Starksboro on April 7, 2025.

ATTEST: Amy McCormick Town Clerk Selectboard



### Piece by piece

Workers take the marble dressing off the shell of Ilsley Public Library in downtown Middlebury earlier this month as they dismantle two old additions in preparation for a new expansion of the original 101-year-old building. The photographer's municipal building office has a window overlooking the work being done at the library next door.

Photo by Tom Scanlon

# Police respond to overdose

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police responded, with Middlebury Regional EMS, to a reported suicide attempt (by overdose) by a person in an apartment on April 20. Police said the person was taken to Porter Hospital.

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

· Searched the Court Street and Creek Road areas after receiving an April 14 report of a juvenile who had run away from her parents that day.

 Responded to a reported dispute between some Jackson Lane neighbors on April 14.

• Took someone police described as an "extremely intoxicated person" into protective custody in the Main Street area on April 14. Police said MREMS took the person to Porter Hospital. But the person quickly left Porter against medical advice, whereupon police took the person to the Grace House in Rutland for detox services.

• Caught a loose dog on Case Street on April 14 and returned it to

 Assisted Middlebury Union High School with a juvenile complaint on

· Helped a woman who was experiencing a mental health crisis in the North Pleasant Street area on April 15.

On April 15, followed up on an

# **Middlebury**

Police Log

alleged road rage incident that had recently been reported in the Court Street area

· Responded to a trespassing complaint in the Maple Street area on April 15.

• Responded to a domestic dispute at a South Village Green residence on April 16.

• Responded to a report of a drunken person on College Street on April 16.

• Arrested Wayne N. Gorton, 72, of Middlebury on an outstanding warrant on April 16.

• Collected a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner kit into evidence on April 16 and sent it to the Vermont Forensic Laboratory for scrutiny.

• Assisted Vermont State Police with a DUI stop on River Road in New Haven on April 17.

 Investigated the reported theft of patio furniture from a Case Street residence on April 17.

• Investigated a report of an allegedly drunken employee at a Court Street business on April 17.

 Assisted a local woman who said on April 17 that she had been threatened online

· Along with MREMS, checked on the welfare of a person in the Buttolph Drive neighborhood on

April 17. • Investigated an alleged real estate scam in the Halladay Road area on

April 17. • Defused an argument between a passenger and a bus driver travelling on Route 7 South on April 17.

• Assisted Middlebury firefighters at the scene of a structure fire off Grist Mill Road in East Middlebury

on April 17. • Turned a runaway dog over to its owner on April 17.

• Were informed that someone had stolen some items from a vehicle parked off Route 7 South on April

• Assisted with what police described as a "juvenile problem" at MUHS on April 18.

• Arrested Joshua L. Simon, 39, on an outstanding warrant on April 19.

· Helped a woman who was experiencing a mental health crisis on Court Street on April 19.

• Conducted an overnight foot patrol downtown on April 19.

· Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS on a medical call to a Seymour Street address on April 20.

• Helped emergency responders get into a Seminary Street apartment during a medical call on April 21.

# Lincoln

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

#### NEWS

LINCOLN — Green Up Day is Saturday, May 3. Supplies may be picked up at the Conservation Commission table at the firehouse/ Lincoln Sports field from 8 a.m. to noon. After cleaning the roadsides, if you would like to participate in the raffle, please be sure to bring your trash back before noon. Volunteers will earn one raffle ticket for each bag of trash you drop off. The drawing will be held at noon (don't need to be present to win). There will also be prizes for the most bags collected and the most interesting or strangest item found.

If you would like to get a head start, you can also pick up supplies at the library, town office or general store. Please do not leave filled bags on the side of the road. There will be a dumpster on site all day on Green Up Day for green up trash only. REMINDER

The Ladies Aid Industria spring rummage sale will be held at Burnham Hall on Thursday, May 1, from 1 to 7 p.m.; Friday, May 2 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m; and Saturday, May 3, from 8 to 10:30 a.m. Donations will be accepted on Wednesday, April 30, from 1 to 7 p.m. downstairs at Burnham Hall. **SAVE THE DATE** 

The town-wide yard sale, to benefit Weathervane Senior Housing, will be held on Saturday, May 24, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you are interested in having a sale, please sign up at the Lincoln General

Store. A \$15 donation will get you listed on the map. Spaces are also available on the Weathervane lawn if you would like to sell your items in town. The library will be holding their book and plant sale and the fire department will be cooking all the usual delicious goodies for lunch.

Spring is here and the Lincoln Library is gearing up for their annual plant sale during the town wide yard sale. If you have any perennials, vegetable and annual starts and house plants you would like to donate to the sale, please email jennylawson23@gmail.com.

Until next time ... Laugh Out Loud. Follow Your Heart. Enjoy The Little Things.



# BARNS,

Open Mon - Fri 7:30 am to 5 pm

28 Willow Dr., Middlebury, VT 05753

Phone: (802) 388-4053

### At Pete's Tire Barn in Middlebury

every set of 4 tires purchased includes:

\*Free Rotation \*Free Flat Repair \*Seasonal Tire Storage Valid for the lifetime of the tires!



No purchase necessary to enter. No cash value substitute. Contest Ends 6/15/25





rolling resistance that lowers emissions and enchances fuel economy.

**AS01** 

**Tyres** 

Surpass

**Outpost** 

**Outpost** nAT

Remedy WRG5

STATE OF THE ART ALIGNMENT EQUIPMENT

a 4 tire changeover service (\$80)

■ Valid at Pete's Middlebury location only COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED Expires 6/15/25

any 4 tire purchase

alid at Pete's Middlebury location only COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED \*excludes General Tires Expires 6/15/25

### **IFree seasonal** Itire storage

with tire changeover service

■ Valid at Pete's Middlebury location only COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED, Expires 6/15/25

# \$89.95 I Alignment

applies to most vehicles

Valid at Pete's Middlebury location only COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED Expires 6/15/25



Molly Snow and Ryan Ulen rehearse a scene from Griselda Gambaro's "The Walls," which will go up at the Seeler Studio Theatre in Middlebury's Mahaney Arts Center from May 1 to 3.

INDEPENDENT PHOTO / STEVE JAMES

et's be honest, there's a lot of adversity out there to face these days. Take your pick from the national down to local level — there's plenty to choose from.

Art is, of course, a powerful tool we can use to approach, grapple with and digest life's myriad

BY ELSIE

LYNN PARINI

and digest life's myriad challenges. But often the work we need to do to create this art and

understand our situations emerges after — we gain this reflection over time.

Cláudio Medeiros and the seven students in his spring theater course at Middlebury College find themselves in a rare moment to be studying and acting a play by Griselda Gambaro that parallels many of the overt political moves happening in our country *right now*. The Middlebury College Theater Department will present "The Walls," written by Gambaro, translated by Marguerite Feitlowitz

""EVERYONE NEEDS
TO SEE 'THE WALLS,' A
FRIGHTFUL, CHILLING PLAY ...
SPOT-ON RELEVANT TO OUR
CURRENT MOMENT."

— Rebecca Strum

and directed by Medeiros, on May 1-3, in the Seeler Studio Theater at the college's Mahaney Arts Center.

"I chose this play last summer," Medeiros said in an interview last week. "I had no idea what it would mean today... it's uncanny, and scary."

The plot:

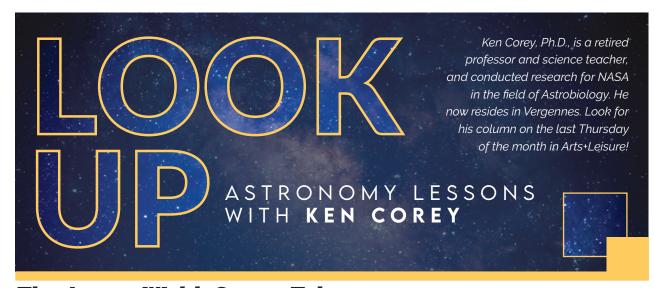
A young man is invited to go into a building to confirm his identity. He finds himself in a hotel

room with modern comforts. An usher with a hearty sense of humor is ready to serve him. A functionary with a passion for language and opera has his best interests at heart. But could appearances be deceiving?

"The Walls" is a suspenseful dark comedy that will put you on the edge of your seat, and deftly asks the audience a simple question: What would you do in these circumstances? Are we willing to stand up to authority when it is the right thing to do?

"Everyone needs to see 'The Walls,' a frightful, chilling play, written by a celebrated Argentine playwright prior to the Perón era in that country, but spot-on relevant to our *current moment* where Mahmoud Khalil, Rumeysa Ozturk, Mohsen Mahdawi and Kilmar Abrego Garcia (all foreign students or immigrants *legally* in the U.S.) are being snatched off the streets and detained," commented local director and

SEE WALLS ON PAGE 3



# The James Webb Space Telescope: Peering Clearly & Deeply Back in Time

Astonishment and awe are two things I feel when viewing images released during the first three years since the launch of the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST). Even if one objects to the ten-billion-dollar price tag on its development, construction, and deployment, the images can give us a sense of wonder and pride in what humans can achieve during a time when the world is in chaos and filled with so much war and suffering. These images and the knowledge about our Universe that is unfolding have already expanded the vision of the Hubble Space Telescope. It is hard to not be moved by them, regardless of your politics and beliefs about how it all came to be. Today's column will provide a brief history of James Webb, the telescope named after him, major goals of the JWST and a small sample of images. In future columns, specific recent findings of JWST will be woven into thematic topics. Explore all about JWST at webbtelescope.org.

#### **JAMES EDWIN WEBB**

In 2002, the space telescope that would succeed the Hubble Space Telescope was named the James Webb Space Telescope to honor NASA's much lauded administrator James E. Webb who led the young NASA agency during the 1960's. Webb was a visionary, not only leading NASA during the captivating years of the manned Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo programs, but he balanced human spaceflight goals with the conduct of space science research. He believed that Space Science was much more than a political race with Russia, then part of the U.S.S.R. The 'space race' dated back to the 1950's with launches of satellites, chimps, and dogs and became heightened with President Kennedy's ambitious goal of landing a human on the Moon before the end of the 1960's.

In addition to the highly successful manned missions under Webb's leadership, space probes sent back unprecedented views of Mars and Venus, robotic rovers were developed for exploring the lunar surface, and concepts were initiated for space telescopes, which led to the launching of the Hubble Space Telescope in 1990. Hubble is still conducting space science to this day. James Webb extended his vision well beyond a human presence in space, serving as a catalyst for encouraging space science programs and robotics at universities and with the Aerospace Industries. During his tenure, there were 75 space missions. Those missions included the solar space observatory and the Explorer series, which launched many satellites to study solar and atmospheric physics. Measurements included cosmic and X-radiation fluxes, particles and radiation from the solar wind, and the shapes of the



The first JWST deep field image showing thousands of galaxies in a tiny patch of sky with a field of view of just one-tenth the diameter of the Moon!

PHOTO / NASA, ESA, CSA, STSCI



Flocculent Spiral Galaxy NGC 2090 seen in near and mid-infrared light showing winding arms, swirling dust and gas, and regions of clumping where there is abundant star formation.

IMAGE / ESA/WEBB, NASA & CSA, A. LEROY

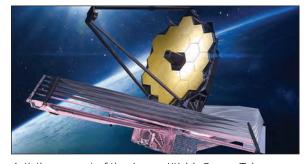
magnetosphere and gravity field of the Earth.

#### JAMES WEBB SPACE TELESCOPE

After many funding shortfalls and delays, The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) was finally launched on Christmas day of 2021, arriving at its L2 (see note) position in January of 2022. The fact that there were 344 single ways in which the entire mission would be jeopardized due to one malfunction makes this amazing achievement a testament to the combined efforts of about 20 thousand people. Webb is now orbiting the sun 1.5 million km from Earth (for comparison, Hubble orbits 560 km above Earth). We started receiving data and images from JWST in July of 2022 after a 6-month period of testing and calibration of scientific instruments.

The "eyes" of JWST see in the infrared wavebands which are just beyond the visible range of the Hubble Space Telescope. The segmented, 6.6-meter (21.7 feet) diameter primary mirror and four cameras collect radiation in the near and mid-infra-red wavebands (0.6 to 285 microns). The primary mirror is comprised of 18, 1.32 m diameter, gold-coated, hexagonal mirrors. Gold was used for coating the mirrors because it is durable, unreactive, and highly reflective of infra-red light. The sunshield is about 14 meters by 21 meters (about 2 tennis courts) and is comprised of five, ultra-thin layers of Kapton. It is designed to protect the instruments and mirrors of the telescope from the heat and light of the Sun, which

SEE LOOK UP ON PAGE 15



Artist's concept of the James Webb Space Telescope.

IMAGE / NASA-GSFC, ADRIANA M. GUTIERREZ (CI LAB)



Jupiter taken with JWST's Near-Infrared Camera.

IMAGE / NASA, ESA, CSA, STSCI, RICARDO HUESO (UPV), IMKE DE
PATER (UC BERKELEY), THIERRY FOUCHET (OBSERVATORY OF PARIS),
LEIGH FLETCHER (UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER), MICHAEL H. WONG (UC
BERKELEY), JOSEPH DEPASQUALE (STSCI), JULY 2022

WALLS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

arts educator Rebecca Strum after watching a read through late last week. "A major theme of the play is: What is *the truth?* 

"Moshen Mahdawi lives in Vermont and was detained on the way to what he thought was a citizenship interview," Strum continued. "I learned today that the visa of at least one foreign student studying at Middlebury College has been revoked."

"We are putting the audience in confrontation with something critical," Medeiros said, alluding to the similarities of Juan Perón's authoritarian presidency in Argentina during the 1970s with our current U.S. administration. This type of "intersection" is exactly what Gambaro did with her dramas, novels, short stories, and essays.

"Griselda wanted her countrymen to wake up!" Medeiros snapped his fingers. "'The Walls' looks at how a regime can use theatricality to fabricate information, gaslight and distract our attention — all of this comes from Argentina's insane political history."

"We are all artist-activists in this play," said Ryan Ulen, a rising senior majoring in English and Theater, who plays Young Man. "We keep comparing Argentina in the 1960s (on the cusp of a military dictatorship) to today...

"At least from my point of view, we have to stand up," continued Ulen, who auditioned for the role on the eve of the election last fall while studying in Jordan. "The threat of fascism in our country right now is so potent... We see the White House now using systems of victimization through theatrical language to subvert the logicality of who we are."

Ulen lives this on stage as the character

### **DETAILS**

"The Walls" will be performed on Thursday, May 1, and Friday, May 2, at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, May 3, at 2 and 7:30 p.m., in the Seeler Studio Theatre. A post-show talk back will follow the Friday performance. Run time: 120 minutes with an intermission. Tickets are \$5-\$15. For info call 802-443-6433 or visit middlebury.edu/college/box-office.

Young Man.

"They put him in this room where he waits and waits and waits," he said, during an interview on campus Monday. The plot unfolds in the room and Young Man "proceeds to grow madder and more compliant because he's being psychologically abused."

That's a heavy lift for a college student. But Ulen is more than capable.

He's joined by Molly Snow and Urian Vasquez on stage, and supported by Ivy Tan, Nicole Meyers, Qinyi Hua and Dominick Hutchins.

"I'm able to do whatever I do on stage because of my castmates," Ulen praised. "I'm so grateful for them and their support."

"The three student actors do an excellent job," Strum reviewed. "Cláudio's direction and the set provide us a sensory experience similar to the plight of 'the young man.'

"While Claudio did not know when he chose this play last summer that we would be in the dire moment we are in right now in terms of civil rights and due process, I hope that many Middlebury students see this play," Strum said. Medeiros hopes the play will have the "draw it deserves" from both the college and wider community.

"We need to ask ourselves what is the price of complacency? It's as if this play were written for us," Medeiros said. "I feel it is important to gather in the theater and ask ourselves to think about this together."

"I think it will offer community for people," Ulen added. Encouraging attendance as a way to signal resistance and begin conversations.

"Through art maybe we will be able to reflect, feel, witness and share," Medeiros mused.
"There is no catharsis — except maybe through laughter — in this play. But maybe it will plant a seed; a germ of a desire to act... And isn't that a little more productive than where we are now — like deer in the headlights?"

And what if we don't wake up?

"That's a real possibility," Medeiros said, pointing to the tragedies that fell on Argentina. "But I can imagine that we will wake up... This country is the bastion of democracy. Is this worth fighting for? Oh yeah!"



Cláudio Medeiros works with rising Middlebury College senior Ryan Ulen on a scene in "The Walls" written by Argentinian playwright Griselda Gambaro in the early 1960s.

INDEPENDENT PHOTO / STEVE JAMES



# Nature speaks in 'Signals' at Vergennes art gallery

ignals, a new exhibition at K Grant Fine Art, brings together six artists from the northeastern US, whose work invites reflection, imagination, and reverence for the natural world. Across painting, drawing, sculpture, installation and ceramics, these artists offer personal, perceptive responses to the landscape — tuning in to its patterns, symbols, and rhythms as a form of dialogue.

In a time of constant noise and disconnection, the work in "Signals" reminds us that nature is always speaking. These artists act as interpreters, translating the nonverbal language of the earth into visual form. From bird murmuration and functioning pollinator bee habitats to the subconscious terrain of memory and emotion, "Signals" explores how we remain in conversation with the earth and its elements.

Hailing from Vermont, New York, Maine and Massachusetts, the artists in this exhibit bring distinct perspectives to this shared theme. Whether through sculptures that trace organic processes or paintings that blur the boundary between human design and nature's unfolding, their work underscores the interconnectedness of all things. "Signals" asks us to pause, pay attention, and consider how we interpret nature's cues in our own ways — as we seek the best path forward and remember the lessons the earth has to offer.

**STEVE BUDINGTON'S** sculptural paintings blur the line between image and object, evoking thresholds, windows, and shifting landscapes. His work examines how we perceive and impact the environments we

inhabit. A certified master gardener, Budington integrates ecological landscape design into his practice. He holds an MFA from Yale and teaches painting and drawing at the University of Vermont. His work has been shown nationally and internationally, with exhibitions at BCA Center, Hall Art Foundation, and Mirus Gallery.

JOANNE LOBOTSKY creates expressive landscapes layered with acrylic, sand, and other materials, building textured, emotional terrain. Rooted in her Hudson Valley upbringing, her work channels intuition, rawness, and a deep connection to land. Favoring awkwardness over polish, her paintings feel lived-in — inviting viewers to sense the earth rather than simply observe it.

JENNIFER MCCANDLESS presents a ceramic pollinator habitat — both artwork and ecological gesture. Known for imaginative ceramic sculpture, McCandless blends humor, environmental care, and functionality. Her piece lives in the sculpture garden, quietly expanding the show's themes of reciprocity and transformation beyond the gallery walls. She lives and works in Burlington.

GRACE HAGER'S hand-built ceramics suggest shelters, seedpods, and sacred forms — objects of care, transition, and tenderness. Working from memory, she draws on science, ritual, and emotional resonance to create installations that evoke natural cycles and quiet wonder. Based in Portland, Maine, Hager brings a contemplative and enchanted lens.

**DAVID KEARNS'** dreamlike paintings weave memory, myth, and cultural fragments into

layered, intuitive landscapes. With nods to cartooning, poetry, and art history, his work is rich with humor and complexity. Based in Western Massachusetts, Kearns invites viewers to lose themselves in his visual terrain — blurring the boundary between perception and imagination.

AIMÉE PAPAZIAN'S installation work uses ceramic, thread, wood, and wire to explore time, memory, and mortality. Based in Vermont, Papazian's pieces feel both ancient and intimate — they reference anatomy and star maps, clouds and viscera. Her work is a slow accumulation of small parts, revealing that fragility, like clay or dust, holds its own kind of permanence.

At the heart of this exhibition is the idea of communication: How the earth signals its needs, how we interpret those messages, and how art becomes a language for translating what is often unspoken. In this ongoing call and response, each work becomes a form of listening — and answering.

WHEN: Saturday, May 3, 6-9 p.m.
WHERE: K. Grant Fine Art, 37 Green St.,
Vergennes

Join us for the opening reception on May 3, from 6-9 p.m. The exhibition runs through June 21, with gallery hours Wednesday–Saturday, 11 am – 3 pm and by appointment. K. Grant Fine Art is located at 37 Green Street in the downtown district of Vergennes. For more info visit kgrantfineart.com, follow @kgrantfineart on Instagram, or contact Kristen at kristen@kgrantfineart.com.



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"Orange Glow 07" by Grace Hagar.

# ON EXHIBIT

#### **BRANDON ARTISTS GUILD**

7 Center St. BrandonFor more info visit brandonartistsguild.org or call 802-247-4956.

"All Things Great and Small." Our artists play with the concept of large and small in dimension and beyond.

#### **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.

"Flight Patterns," a group exhibition featuring Susan Raber Bray, Ellen Granter, Holly Harrison, Liz Hoag, Eric Tardif, and Molly Doe Wensberg. This exhibit reminds us to look to the skies in appreciation of birdlife and nature. Experience a "lift off" and the sense of hope that the coming season brings. On view April 11-May 11.

#### JOHNSON EXHIBITION GALLERY

78 Chateau Road, Middlebury For hours and info visit middlebury.edu/events

"Middlebury College Studio Art Thesis Exhibition." Opening Reception: May 9, 4:30-6:30 p.m. On view May 2-16.

"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 SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 14



ARIES: March 21/April 20. Aries, there's a secret that you have been holding onto and you are ready to let it go. It won't weigh you down anymore and you can finally focus fully on the future instead of the past.

TAURUS: April 21/ May 21. Taurus, certain ground is tough for people to travel, but you have conviction and grit to get things done. You have a history of thriving when faced with adversity, and that's an asset.

**GEMINI:** May 22/June 21. Gemini, keep an eye open for a challenge. When you are given an opportunity that will require your fullest and best effort, embrace it as an opportunity to fulfill your potential.

CANCER: June 22/ July 22. Cancer, keeping things pleasant and lighthearted is a talent of yours, but this week you might need to take a new approach. Work with others and listen to suggestions.

**LEO:** July 23/Aug. 23. Leo, you often are the life of the party, always ready to find something to do and be with other people. This week you might need to slow down and enjoy some alone time.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. The news that comes your way isn't what you had hoped, Libra. Roll with the punches and embrace the challenge. Soon there will be blue skies again and

everything will settle.

**SAGITTARIUS:** 

Nov. 23/Dec. 21. The

universe will put you

in touch with someone

who is reputable and

This way you can both

tackle what you need

to get done reap the

rewards of your hard

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/

little competition never

hurt anyone. Embrace

see how you stack up.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/

Feb. 18. This is a good

cards close to the vest,

each situation carefully

week to play things

safe and keep your

Aquarius. Consider

before engaging.

an upcoming chance to

Give your best effort, as

Jan. 20. Capricorn, a

work.

always.

diligent, Sagittarius.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/ Nov. 22. Scorpio, you will meet up with someone you haven't seen in a while and it will be like no time has passed whatsoever. Be prepared for a coincidental situation to bring you together.



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802-388-3559 www.middleburvsewnvac.com OPEN: M-F 10-5 and Saturday 9:30-4

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. Virgo, you could be especially energized this week and feel the need to get as much done as possible. Try not to race through tasks without focusing on doing things right.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. Pisces, you are a sociable person and ready and willing to chat up others. This week you might not be up for any social interaction and prefer a few days of solitary time spent.

### FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

APRIL 25 — Edward R. Murrow, journalist (d) APRIL 26— Ma Rainey, musician (d) APRIL 27 — August Wilson, playwright (d)

APRIL 29 — Michelle Pfeiffer, actor (67) APRIL 30 —Willie Nelson, musician (92)

APRIL 28 —Terry Pratchett, author (d) MAY 1 — Joanna Lumley, actor (78)

# APRIL 24-MAY 3 2025



#### THURSDAY, APRIL 24

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN WARREN. Thursday, April 24, Lincoln Peak. Celebrate Earth Week by enjoying wildflowers and birds and how they change with altitude ascending trail leading up to Lincoln Peak. Moderate pace with 2,400

feet elevation change, and 5 miles round trip. Spectacular views throughout. Contact Ken Corey at 802-349-3733 or kencorey53@gmail.com with questions or to register. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

**SENIOR THESIS DANCE** CONCERT IN MIDDLEBURY.

Thursday, April 24, 7:30 p.m., Dance Theater, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. In "Rituals of Return" senior dance students share an evening of their culminating senior work, exploring and sharing themes of home, history, rituals, culture and identity. Tickets \$15/\$10/\$5, available at boxoffice@middlebury.edu.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

GEORGE MATTHEW, CARILLONNEUR, IN

MIDDLEBURY. Friday April 25, 5-6 p.m., Middlebury Chapel, 75 Hepburn Rd. Join George Matthew Jr. on his 90th birthday as he plays a beautiful concert from Middlebury Chapel's bell tower. The melodic sounds of the carillon bells will ring out across the campus. This concert, as part of the New England Chapter of the American Bell Association will feature works by Bach and Haydn as well as a mix of traditional Irish. Ukrainian and Mexican songs. Free and open to the public.

#### **BRETT HUGHES IN NEW**

HAVEN. Friday Aril 25, 5:30 p.m., Lincoln Peak Vineyard, 142 River Rd. Come hear Brett Hughes at Lincon Peak's Locals Night for an intimate show paired with Italian Aperitivo-style snacks.

MIDDLEBURY. Friday April 25, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Middlebury Chapel, 75 Hepburn Rd. The College Choir presents a spring concert of powerful, playful and pensive choral music by composers from Brazil, Mexico, Ukraine, England and Italy, as well as spiritual, folk and new music from the U.S. Choir and instrumentalists perform the Vermont premiere of selections from the new cantata, "We Are Phoenix," by Minnesota composer Timothy Takach, and Vermont musician Tom Mackenzie joins on hammered dulcimer for music of and inspired by folk traditions. Free.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

**GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE** 

IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday,

April 26, Means Woods. Will

the Dutchman's breeches be

hanging out to dry? Join this

out. About 2 miles with little

elevation gain. Contact David

Andrews at 802-388-4894 or

More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

IN BRISTOL. Saturday, April

This is a great mud season

vtrevda@yahoo.com for details.

**GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE** 

26, 9 a.m., Bristol Trail Network.

hike because the gravel soils in

Bristol drain well so the trail is

always open. The 3-mile loop

around the village offers a mix

of history and geography and

estermorrow/

Saturday, April 26

5 a.m.

takes 2.5-3 hours. The elevation

easy paced walk and find

are some steep sections and uneven terrain. Sturdy shoes and poles recommended. Excellent 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

gain is under 100 feet, but there

MT. PHILO HISTORY HIKE IN CHARLOTTE. Saturday, April 26. Join Ferrisburgh's Judy Chaves for this history-focused guided hike up Mount Philo. Come learn the mountain's history and discover evidence of that history hiding in plain sight. Limit 15. More info and registration at chaves@gmavt.net.

WORLD TAI CHI AND QIGONG **DAY IN BRISTOL.** Saturday, April 26. 10 a.m.-noon, Holley Hall, 1 South St. Celebrate our local Tai Chi Forms, Instructors and Tai Chi Friends. Come follow along Qigong and Fall Prevention Tai Chi. Join in your Practice Style Watch and Enjoy. Further information and inquiries contact Jerry@ skyrivertaichi com or 802-508-1830. Celebrating all around the

KING PEDE CARD PARTY IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, April 26, 6:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall, Route 7. The night begins with a sandwich supper, then on to an evening of fun and games

FMP Night Owl Club

ACSD Board Meeting

world at 10 a.m. local times.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

### A Chat with Matt Heywood

Join Matt Heywood and Jill Madden as they discuss the process of mural painting

FREE!

Middlebury Studio School's New Location: 94 Court St.

Wednesday, April 30 5:30-6:30

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE **CHOIR SPRING CONCERT IN** 

Catholic Mass

9:30 a.m.

6:30 p.m.

### 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

4 p.m.

6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 29

#### Channel 1071 Through the Night: Public Affairs,

Protests Friday, April 25 Press Conf., Public Affairs 5 a.m.

Congregational Church Service 7:30 a.m. Selectboard, Press 10 a.m. Conferences

2 p.m. Rep. Becca Balint Town Hall 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church Service 5:30 p.m. Energy Week

Saturday, April 26 Vote For Vermont 5:30 a.m. 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service

5:30 p.m. Eckankar Catholic Mass 7 p.m. Rep. Becca Balint Town Hall 8 p.m. 10 p.m. Vote For Vermont

Memorial Baptist Service

Energy Week 11 p.m. Sunday, April 27 **Energy Week** 6 a.m. 7 a.m. Becca Balint Town Hall 9 a.m. Catholic Mass

11 a.m.

Congregational Service 6:30 p.m. Eckankar Catholic Mass 7 p.m. 7:30 p.m. The Juxtaposition Rep. Becca Balint Monday, April 28 Energy Week 4:30 a.m. 5:30 a.m. Eckankar The News Project 6 a.m. 6:30 a.m. Vote For Vermont Selectboard, Public Affairs 10 a.m. 4 p.m. Rep. Becca Balint The News Project 8 n.m. Legislative Updates 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 29 Rep. Becca Balint 5 a.m. Press Conferences 7 a.m. 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard 12:15 p.m. Legislative Updates 4 p.m. Congregational Service Energy Week 5:30 p.m. Selectboard Wednesday, April 30

7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service

Selectboard, Public Affairs 10 a.m. 4 p.m. **Energy Week** 7 p.m. 10 p.m. **Energy Week** Thursday, May 1 Press Conferences 5 a.m. 8 a.m. Congregational Service Selectboard, Public Affairs 12 p.m. Energy Week 8 p.m. 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs Channel 1091 Through the Night: Culture, Nature & Preservation Friday, April 25 Tai Chi 5:30 a.m. 6 a.m. Yoga 7 a.m. Yestermorrow 8:16 a.m. The Science of Tornados 9 a.m. Sharpe Takes School Board Meeting/s 12 p.m. The Science of Tornados 5:30 p.m.

Yestermorrow

6:30 a.m. Sharpe Takes The Science of Tornados 8 a.m. School Board Meeting 9 a.m. 12 p.m. Sharpe Takes FM&P Night Owl Club 1:30 p.m. School Board Meeting 3 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. 7 p.m. Sunday, April 27 5:30 a.m. Tai Chi 6 a.m. Yoga FM&P Night Owl Club 7 a.m. The Science of Tornados 8 a.m. Sharpe Takes 6 p.m. School Board Meeting 7 p.m. 10 p.m. All Things LGBTQ Monday, April 28 All Things LGBTQ 5 a.m. Sharpe Takes 6 a.m. 6:45 a.m. 7:10 a.m. Chair Yoga Future of Education in VT 10 a.m. School Board Meeting 12 p.m.

5 a.m. Chair Yoga 6 a.m. Future of Education in VT 7 a.m. School Board Meeting/s 12 p.m. 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi Sharpe Takes 5 p.m. 7 p.m. Future of Education in VT 9 p.m. Yestermorrow Wednesday, April 30 6:30 a.m. Tai Chi Chair Yoga 7 a.m. 8 a.m. School Board Meeting/s All Things LGBTQ 4 p.m. 5 p.m. State Board of Education 10 p.m. Sharpe Takes Thursday, May 1 Sharpe Takes 5 a.m. 6:30 a.m. Tai Chi 6:55 a.m. 8 a.m. School Board Meeting/s Future of Education in VT 12 p.m. State Board of Education 2 p.m.

#### STARGAZING: LYRIDS METEOR SHOWER WITH MIDDLEBURY ASTRONOMY CLUB IN

MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, April 26, 8:30-10:30 p.m., location TBD. Join MALT and Catherine Miller, the observatory specialist at Middlebury College, in a watch party to observe the Lyrids Meteor Shower. Materials, such as telescopes, will be provided. Bring snacks and water and weather-appropriate clothing. Free. More info and registration at maltvt.org/events.

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 27

ARBOR DAY TREE PLANTING IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, April 27, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Wright Park, Seymour St Ext. Celebrate Arbor Day by helping MALT revegetate the River Trail in Wright Park. Meet MALT's Trails and Volunteer Manager, Liam, at the Seymour St Ext entrance of Wright Park. he will provide tools and instructions for volunteer groups. Bring work gloves, water and snacks. More info and registration at maltvt. org/events.

#### FIDDLERS JAM IN BRANDON.

Sunday April 27, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., American Legion, Franklin St. Brandon. \$3 cover, 50/50 raffle. Door prize, refreshments available. Join the Champlain Valley Fiddlers. Bring a friend.

### SPRING WILDFLOWER WALK IN ORWELL. Sunday,

April 27, noon-2 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 472 Mt. Independence Rd. Amy Olmsted horticulturist with Rocky Dale Gardens in Bristol, will show you early wildflowers, how to identify them, and discuss their habitat. Wear sturdy shoes or boots, dress for the weather, be prepared for walking the trails (some of which may be wet), and bring water if you like. Open to the public. Tickets \$5 adults/\$1 ages 6 to 14/free children under 5. More info call 802-759-2412.

#### ALINA IBRAGIMOVA, VIOLIN, AND CÉDRIC TIBERGHIEN, PIANO, IN MIDDLEBURY.

Sunday, April 27, 3 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. The closing event of the Performing Arts Series' 105th season pairs violinist Alina Ibragimova and pianist Cédric Tiberghien. The two developed a tremendous rapport during their term as individual BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artists. Ibragimova and Tiberghien will play Janácek, Enescu, Gerald Barry's

vivacious Triorchic Blues, and Beethoven's iconic "Kreutzer" sonata. Tickets: \$25/20/10/5, available at go.middlebury.edu/ box-office

# JOHNNY PEERS AND THE MUTTVILLE COMIX — COMEDY DOG SHOW IN MIDDLEBURY.

Sunday, April 27, 4-5 p.m. Main Stage, Town Hall Theater, 42-46 Merchants Row. Johnny Peers and his personality-plus canines (mostly rescues) are coming to THT in a slapstick comedy act like no other. A show for the whole family and the doglover in all of us, Johnny leads over a dozen canines through challenging and hilarious tricks as he plays the straight man role in this wonderful performance. Tickets: \$10 children 12 & under/\$20 adult, available at addisonarts.org.

#### MONDAY, APRIL 28

#### CRIBBAGE NIGHT IN BRISTOL.

Monday, April 28, 7 p.m., Libanus Lodge corner of North and Elm Streets. Come see what all the fun is about.

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 29

# "BECOMING WOLF: THE EASTERN COYOTE IN NEW ENGLAND" IN MIDDLEBURY.

Tuesday, April 29, 6 p.m., Mini Ilsley, 30 Main St. Chris Sandler and Protect Our Wildlife delve into the ecology and behavior of the Eastern Coyote — its indefatigability and how it is the human who must adapt to live with the coyote. The talk will explore how the returning native eastern wolf and coyote might negotiate a truce in the Northeast and how we might do the same.

#### THURSDAY, MAY 1

### GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday,

May 1, Wright Park, Seymour St. Extension. Enjoy chartreuse-colored early leaf growth, wildflowers, and birds on this hike from Wright Park to Belden Falls looping around back to Wright Park. About 5.5 miles with small sections of a little elevation gain. Contact Ken Corey at 802-349-3733 or kencorey53@gmail.com with questions or to register. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

### TRUE CRIME PODCAST CLUB IN MIDDLERURY Thursday

IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, May 1, 6 p.m., NBM meeting room – back of building, Mini-Ilsley Public Library, 30 Main St. Charles Manson is a name synonymous with terror. But after decades of coverage, is there still something we're missing about one of the most notorious figures in American crime? What forces shape the narratives we think we know? Continuing on the theme of cults, examine these deranged crimes with fellow amateur sleuths for a discussion of this month's true crime podcast. Listen to the podcast on your own before the discussion. Renee will facilitate the discussion with prompts and visuals. For participants 18+.

#### VERMONT'S HISTORIC THEATER CURTAINS PRESENTATION IN

**STARKSBORO.** Thursday, May 1, 7 p.m., Starksboro Public Library, 2827 Route 116. Christine Hadsel, director of Curtains Without Borders, provides a glimpse into the world of talented and often sophisticated theater curtain artists who were part of the rural cultural scene, illustrating the rich cultural history of smalltown Vermont before World War I. Free and open to the public. Light refreshments provided.

### BOOK READING: "THE SWEET PAIN OF BEING ALIVE" IN

MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, May 1, 7:15 p.m., Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Ct. Ann Anderson Evans will read from the second book of her memoir trilogy, in which she has beautifully, painfully dissected her relationship, her husband's life and his enduring struggles with depression and transgenderism.

#### "THE WALLS" IN MIDDLEBURY.

Thursday, May 1, 7:30 p.m., Seeler Studio Theatre, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Are we willing to stand up to authority when it is the right thing to do? A suspenseful dark comedy that will put you on the edge of your seat, Tickets \$15/\$10/\$8/\$5 available at middlebury.edu/college/box-office.

#### FRIDAY, MAY 2

### PHOTOGRAPHY OPENING RECEPTION IN MIDDLEBURY.

Friday, May 2, 4-7 p.m.. Photoplace Gallery, 3 Park St. An opening for the exhibit "Ruins and Remnants," an evocative exhibit exploring photography of abandoned architecture and the traces left by humanity. This exhibition features powerful images that reveal the stories etched into decaying factories, forgotten homes, discarded tools and personal belongings — each work a poignant reminder of our history, the passage of

time, and impermanence.

#### MOVIE NIGHT IN FERRISBURGH. Friday, May 2, 6 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall, Route 7. See a film and help support the Ferrisburgh Union Meeting Hall renovations.

"THE WALLS" IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, May 2, 7:30 p.m., Seeler Studio Theatre, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. See May 1 listing. Please join a lively postshow talk back and discussion following the Friday show.

#### A TRIP TO THE COUNTRYSIDE: A STANDUP COMEDY SHOWCASE IN MIDDLEBURY.

Friday, May 2, 8 p.m., Anderson Studio, Town Hall Theater, 72-76 Merchants Row. Five Burlington-based comics will be escaping the busy city and coming to Middlebury to perform a night of standup comedy. Hosted by Keziah Wilde, this showcase features five standout performers who got their start at Vermont Comedy Club and now perform throughout the Northeast: Donovin Andronico, Holly Bahnsen, Tal Friedman, Brian Thompson, and Nic Sisk. Bar opens at 7 p.m. Tickets: adults \$15; students \$8.

#### SATURDAY, MAY 3

#### GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN FERRISBURGH.

Saturday, May 3, Kingsland Bay. Wildflower walk at Kingsland Bay with David Andrews. The walk will be at an easy pace with stops to look and take pictures. The walk is about 2 miles and has little elevation gain. Trillium should be out and more. Contact David for at 802-388-4894 or vtrevda@ yahoo.com for details. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

### SPRING CLEANING SATURDAY ON THE TAM IN MIDDLEBURY.

Saturday, May 3, 8:30 a.m., location TBD. MALT's Trails & Volunteer Manager, Liam, will be awaiting volunteers at the trailhead in the mornings with donuts, coffee, and tea for about an hour or so. Enjoy a warm drink and chat, then head out to work, either hiking the section of trail yourself as a group with Liam. Work includes clearing dead branches and small fallen trees, pruning new growth, and picking up trash. More info and registration at maltvt.org/events.

#### POTTING WORKSHOP AND PUPPET SHOW IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, May 3,

10-11:30 a.m., Megan's Meadow, behind Porter Medical Center, South St. Join Pollinator Pathway of Addison County for a fun and educational puppet show designed to teach children the importance of Vermont's pollinators and the benefit of growing native plants in our community. This will be followed by a drop-in potting workshop to plant native seeds for the children to take home and add to their home gardens. Snacks and potting materials will be provided. More info and registration at maltvt.org/events.

#### GUIDED HISTORY WALK

IN ORWELL. Saturday, May 3, noon-4 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 472 Mt. Independence Rd. Learn about and see the traces of the Revolutionary War defenses. This is a great time of year to explore before all the leaves come out. Revolutionary War expert Mike Barbieri, Mount Independence Coalition President Stephen Zeoli, and site administrator Elsa Gilbertson are your guides. The focus is on areas and features normally not seen. Tickets \$5 adults/\$1 for ages 6 to 14/ free for children under 6 and Mt. Independence Coalition members. Wear sturdy boots, be prepared for off-trail walking, and dress for the weather.

### MARTIN AND ELIZA CARTHY MEET AND GREET IN

MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, May 3, 2 p.m., Anderson Studio, Town Hall Theater, 72-76 Merchants Row. Meet these British folk legends, and learn about their music-making influences and careers at this intimate conversation. Some moments of acoustic playing. Open and free to all with registration. A prelude to the Carthys' full-length ticketed show in the evening. More info and registration at townhalltheater.org.

#### "THE WALLS" IN MIDDLEBURY.

Saturday, May 3, 2 and 7:30 p.m., Seeler Studio Theatre, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. See May 1 listing.

### AN EARLY EVENING OF SONG AND STORY IN VERGENNES.

Saturday, May 3, 4 p.m., Vergennes Congregational Church, 30 S. Water St. Kevin Kareckas is a teacher and musician from Vergennes. Join him for an evening of original music and stories. All are welcome. Come as you are, bring a friend, and share in an evening of song and meaning. Doors open at 3:30. Free.

# 'Between the Sheets' brings Wharton's heart and genius to the stage

iddlebury Acting Company is proud to announce the Vermont premiere of "Wharton Between the Sheets," by Massachusetts-based playwright Anne Undeland. The production will preview on May 8 and run through the 18th at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury.

"Wharton Between the Sheets" takes us to Paris in 1908 and brings together novelist Edith Wharton, her dear friend Henry James, her lover Morton Fullerton and her Irish lady's maid in an eyebrow-raising retelling of Wharton's actual mid-life romance. A literary and historical banquet of language, sex, mores and manners, Between the Sheets sparkles with wit while it examines class differences and the complexity of human relationship. More than anything, the play makes us fall in love — with Edith Wharton, with the people in her life, and best of all, with her own glorious writing.

The author of such classics as Ethan Frome, The House of Mirth and The Age of Innocence, Edith Wharton was the first woman to win a Pulitzer Prize. She was born into immense privilege at a time when women of her class were not formally educated and were expected to have no ambition beyond making an advantageous marriage. Edith broke the norms of her generation and evolved into a writer of genius, as well as a friend and confidante of the best literary minds of her time. She spent much of her life in France and when WWI broke out, instead of fleeing as many did, she devoted herself to service behind the front lines.



Edith Wharton's mid-life romance takes center stage in "Wharton Between the Sheets," a witty and provocative new play making its Vermont premiere at Middlebury's Town Hall Theater, May 8-18.

PHOTO / DAVID DEVINE

But it is Edith's search for love that Anne Undeland's brilliant play explores. Her marriage was painfully disappointing, and the emotional and physical awakening provoked by her mid-life affair with Fullerton was revelatory. The fallout of that intense relationship makes for a fascinating exploration of love in all its forms as well as its relationship to her art.

Vermont actors Chris Caswell and John Nagle play Edith and Henry James, respectively, and New York City-based actor Jacob A. Ware plays the elusive and seductive Morton Fullerton. Julia Jean Sioss, a New York actor with roots in Vermont, plays Edith's Irish ladies' maid, Posy.

Don't miss this literary and visual feast, accompanied by the music of French composers Satie, Debussy, Ravel and Saint Saens, previewing on May 8, opening on May 9 and playing through May 18 at Middlebury's Town Hall Theater. There will be a talk-back with Middlebury Professor Brett Millier on all things Wharton after the matinee on May 11.

Tickets and information are at townhalltheater. org or by calling 802-382-9222.

### Duo to close the 105th season of the Performing Arts Series in Middlebury

he 105th season of the Middlebury
College Performing Arts Series draws
to a close on Sunday afternoon, April
27, with a return of a truly dynamic
duo: violinist Alina Ibragimova and
pianist Cédric Tiberghien. The two
world-class musicians first met as
members of the BBC Radio 3 New
Generation Artists scheme in 2005,

found an instant personal and musical rapport, and have been performing and recording together ever since. For this concert, they will play violin sonatas by Janácek and Enescu, Gerald Barry's vivacious Triorchic Blues, and Beethoven's iconic "Kreutzer" sonata. The audience is invited to learn more about this concert's music in a free pre-concert lecture by Professor Emeritus of Music Larry Hamberlin, at 1:45 p.m., in the Mahaney Arts



Violinist Alina Ibragimova and pianist Cédric Tiberghien will perform a classical music concert together at the Mahaney Arts Center on Sunday, April 27.

PHOTO / BENJMAIN EAVOLVEGA

Center (MAC), room 125. Then the concert will follow at 3 p.m., in Robison Hall.

Both Ibragimova and Tiberghien enjoy flourishing careers as soloists, appearing

with many of the world's leading orchestras and as solo recitalists in some the most distinguished venues and festivals. Together they have recorded complete cycles of music by Schubert, Szymanowski, and Mozart (for Hyperion), and a Beethoven Sonata cycle (for Wigmore Live) which attracted unanimous praise from the press.

Concert tickets for this performance on Sunday are \$25 for the general public, \$20 for Middlebury faculty/staff and alumni, \$10 for youth, and \$5 for Middlebury College students; information about free and discounted ticket programs is available at go.middlebury.edu/boxoffice. For tickets, information, or details on accessibility services, call 802-443-MIDD (6433) or visit middlebury. edu/arts.

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#### **ACROSS**

- 1. English TV station
- 4. It fuels cars
- 7. Where ships dock (abbr.)
- 10. Indigenous people of Thailand
- **11.** Midway between northeast and east
- 12. Small Milky Way constellation
- **13.** Fritz \_\_, Austrian chemist
- 15. A Brit's grandmother
- 16. Colombian city
- 19. Visualize
- 21. Charged
- 23. People's assets
- **24.** Informative books
- **25.** Jeer
- 26. You can do it with

your horn

- 27. Agents of your downfall
- 30. Central Uganda
- 34. Supervises flying
- **35.** Type of tree
- **36.** Alfalfa
- 41. Dishwasher soap brand
- **45.** Hall where military eats
- 46. Ancient Greek City
- **47.** Speaks incessantly
- 50. Discuss again
- 54. Extreme greed
- **55.** Adopt or support
- 56. Fantasy writer Russell
- 57. Seize
- 59. Early
- Mesoamerican

#### civilization

- 60. Noted pet detective Ventura
- 61. Automobile
- 62. Georgia rockers
- 63. Color opposite green
- **64.** Amount of time
- 65. Attempt

#### **DOWN**

- 1. Sheep sound
- 2. Some can be emotional
- 3. Inflammation of colon lining
- 4. Origins
- 5. Comedienne Gasteyer
- 6. Perceived by the senses
- 7. A place to play ball

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### Sudoku

Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3x3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium and difficult.

Level: Medium

- 8. Occur before
- 9. Animal body parts
- 13. Thanksgiving dessert
- **14.** Root mean square
- **17.** 1960s teen idol Bobby **18.** Promotional
- materials 20. One point east of
- northeast 22. Piers Anthony protagonist
- **27.** Popular sports

- league
- 28. Cologne
- 29. Partner to cheese
- 31. Constrictor snake
- 32. Not good
- 33. Supplement with difficulty
- **37.** Hug with fondness
- **38.** Enforced again
- 39. Small amount of time (abbr.)
- 40. Substance
- 41. Anterior parts of the brain

- **42.** Brews
- 43. Where ships load
- 44. Holiday season
- **47.** "\_\_ humbug!"
- 48. Monetary unit of Macao
- 49. Popular children's book elephant
- 51. Glutinous
- **52.** Function
- 53. Old world, new
- 58. Swiss river

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 12.



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### ASK A MASTER

# CARDENER

#### SIMPLE TIPS FOR STUNNING CLEMATIS



Nadie VanZandt is a UVM Extension Master Gardener from Panton.

ith abundant blooms in a wide range of colors from soft white to dark purple, pink and even yellow, clematis reign supreme among climbers.

A genus in the buttercup

BY**NADIE** VANZANDT (Ranunculaceae) family, clematis are versatile, easy-to-maintain perennials that grow as climbers, spreading

shrubs or groundcovers. More than 300 species grow worldwide, including many native to North America.

The flowers and foliage depend on the species. Four to eight sepals surrounding a cluster of stamens form showy blooms in the shape of bells or stars. Their leaves may be deciduous or evergreen, typically compound

with several leaflets and arranged alternately along the stem.

They thrive in locations where their foliage and flowers receive sun while their roots remain shaded. A low-growing bush, decorative stones or mulch will do the trick to shade the base of the plant.

Clematis enjoy moist and well-drained soil with neutral to slightly alkaline pH. Their deep roots require thorough watering. As heavy feeders, they will benefit from a low-nitrogen, slow-release fertilizer applied as needed during the growing season.

Depending on the species, clematis can thrive in U. S. Department of Agriculture Hardiness Zones 3 to 11 and bloom from spring to fall. They adapt to many climates, temperatures and soil types, which explains their presence in forests, along rivers and on mountains and rocky slopes throughout the world.

These plants are divided into three large flowering groups designated as Group (or Type) 1, 2 and 3. The timing and method of pruning depends on which group and is crucial to ensuring abundant blooms.

Group 1: flowers in early spring (often with small flowers) and blooms on old (previous year's) stems. They do not require pruning, but you can prune them lightly in summer after flowering to remove dead or damaged shoots, and cut back branches above a large bud.

Group 2: flowers in late spring and fall. These large-flowered varieties bloom on old and new wood. Prune lightly before flowering in spring by removing dead branches and cutting weak ones just above a bud. To encourage fall blooms, perform a second pruning by cutting the plant to half its height after spring flowers fade.

Group 3: flowers in summer or fall on new wood. Prune them a foot above ground in late winter to encourage new growth.

All parts of the clematis plant are poisonous to humans and animals. When crushed or damaged, the plant releases a toxic



Clematis are versatile, easy-to-maintain perennials that come in a range of flower colors including dark purple, pink and white.

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#### GARDEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

compound that irritates the skin and can be harmful if ingested. It is advisable to plant them in an area least accessible to children and pets. While the plant's toxicity generally repels deer and rabbits, young shoots remain vulnerable.

Like any climbers, clematis plants need support to wind their tendrils. Whether using a trellis, wire mesh or netting, it is important that the support is installed 4 inches away from a wall to allow space for the plant to grow behind it. To plant, dig a hole 8 to 12 inches away from the wall. It should be deep enough to bury the first set of leaves and wide enough to position the clematis at an angle with its stems towards the support.

Fill the hole with water and allow it to drain. Place the plant in the hole and water again. Add top soil around the sides of the root ball and the first set of leaves, then pat down gently.

Finish by applying a general amount of compost followed by a 1- to 2-inch layer of mulch. With proper care, these remarkable vines will grace your landscape for decades.

For questions about growing clematis or other plants, contact the University of Vermont Extension Master Gardener Helpline at go.uvm.edu/gardenquestion.



## What is Pet of the Week?

Here at the Addy Indy we LOVE our pets. We also love publishing here at the local newspaper. So... put them together and you get PET OF THE WEEK, where we publish the news of how fabulous your pets are for FREE!

All you have to do, dear reader with opposable thumb, is send a picture to our news team with a short description of your best buds.

## Send us a picture of your pet!

news@addisonindependent.com

for preferred



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## Pets In Need

## **HOMEWARD BOUND**

Addison County's Humane Society



Simba is your typical orange boy!
Goofy, playful, and affectionate. He absolutely loves catnip and enjoys wet food. Simba is on a urinary diet, and it is recommended that he continue it. He was previously never exposed to other animals, but he is learning how to make friends with other cats!





## 👺 Friar Luck

Slim Jim is a sweet little boy! He can be shy at first, but is super affectionate when he warms up. Slim Jim gets along well with other cats and has a little experience with dogs.



#### **Trixie**

**Trixie** is a long-haired, beautiful girl. She is equally sweet and sassy. Trixie is used to being indoor/outdoor and would like to continue this lifestyle. She gets along with other cats but has no experience with doas.





### 🐝 Bella

I'm Bella, a 7-pound Chihuahua mix. Life's been hard for me lately. My owner passed away and I've felt lost in the world. I'm scared of a lot of things and it's taking me a long time to warm up to new people. Currently, I'm in my comfortable foster home. My foster mom says I'm slowly warming up to her but still have ways to go. The bigger

dogs in the home make me nervous. I prefer a same-sized dog friend who can boost my confidence. I absolutely love cats and would love a feline companion.



#### Jack

I'm Jack, a handsome, wholesome 65-pound senior man. I'm a mix between Dalmatian and Boxer. I come from very loving families but due to personal circumstances, I am now looking for a new home. I've lived with children previously and get along well with doos At 11 years old, sleeping has

become my favorite activity. Car rides are a close second! I'm used to free roaming on a big property, but the volunteers here at the shelter say I walk great on a no-pull harness. I'm looking for a home that can give me the attention an old man needs. Endless tail wags and love will be provided in return!



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## SCREENING

## Find out what's on the 'Other Side'

Join Death Differently and Diana Barnard, for the Vermont premiere of the film "Other Side," with a Q&A to follow discussing Death With Dignity. The film will screen at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury on Thursday, May 1, at 5:30 p.m.

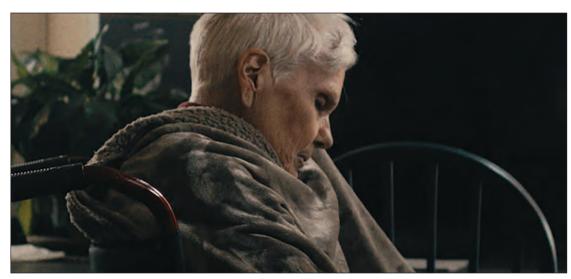
After three separate cancer diagnoses, and undergoing nauseating and difficult treatment for each one, Connecticut-based activist Lynda Bluestein set her sights on medical aid in dying. This compassionate end-of-life option was not available in her home state, so she filed a lawsuit against the state of Vermont to gain access to their Death With Dignity law, Act 39 — and she won.

A rich portrait of a fearless activist, matriarch, and fallible human, this feature documentary follows Bluestein and her family over the course of a year as they navigate life and prepare for her inevitable death. But will her life end the way she intends it to?

"Other Side" premiered at the 2025 South by Southwest Film Festival in Austin, Texas on March 7. Town Hall Theater is pleased to present the film's Vermont premiere. This screening is sponsored by Porter Medical Center.

"Other Side" is 90 minutes, followed by a discussion. Tickets range from \$5-\$17 and are available via townhalltheater. org. Patrons may also buy tickets in person at the THT box office from Monday-Friday from 12-5 p.m., or via phone at 802-382-9222.

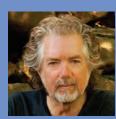
TRIGGER WARNING: This film contains sensitive content related to end-of-life care, terminal illness, and medical aid in dying. The documentary includes scenes depicting the dying process and shows the subject's body after death. While these moments are presented respectfully and peacefully, viewers who may find such content distressing are advised to be aware of these elements before attending.



"Other Side," will premiere in Vermont on May, 1 at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury.

## 'Winter's Bone' breaks ground as a rural film noir

"Winter's Bone," Debra Granik's 2010 four-time Academy Award-nominated rural film noir, will close out the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival's Neo-Noir Selects Series with a special screening at 3 p.m., Sunday, April 27, at Middlebury's Town Hall Theater. The film won multiple awards, including the



BY JAY CRAVE

Grand Prize, at that year's Sundance Film Festival, and it introduced the larger world to fast-rising star, Jennifer Lawrence, who plays teenage, poverty-stricken Ree Dolly in the neglected rural Ozarks of Missouri who looks after her mentally ill mother and must find her missing father to save her family from homelessness.

Gravelly veteran character actor, John Hawkes, is superb as Dolly's absent dad — both he and Lawrence were nominated for Oscars.

"Winter's Bone" qualifies as an unconventional film noir for its stark rural landscapes, strong resilient female protagonist, dark and gritty atmosphere and imminent sense of nerve-wracking tension and foreboding. Writing in the Bright Lights Film Journal, critic C. Jerry Kutner notes that "one of the key figures in film noir is the "innocent investigator." In this case, the investigator role is played to perfection by 20-year-old Lawrence.

"The loss of innocence is generally connected to a discovery of how corrupt the world really is," Kutner pointed out. "In 'Winter's Bone,' the innocent investigator is a teenage girl investigating the disappearance of her father."

Debra Granik broke ground, making "Winter's Bone." This picture combines a noir feel with an astonishing and effective naturalism that has the distinctive feel of fine documentary filmmaking. It's no coincidence that Granik has worked as a documentary filmmaker and cinematographer.

It was — and is — still unusual to have narrative films directed by women. Granik explores this question in an interview she gave to Matt Wray for Public Books — when he asked her whether she thought that a woman director brings something to the job that a man can't — SEE NOIR ON PAGE 13

COURTESY PHOTO

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#### **NOIR**

**CONTINUED** FROM PAGE 12

or won't bring."

generalize," said Granik. "I think that some women have different expectations about the use of money. Maybe

it's that our power or self-worth doesn't come from having access to gobs of money."

"I think that is potentially threatening to the industry, in more ways than one. It might mean you'd tell different kinds of stories, ones without expensive car chases or burning everything down. What if a whole bunch of women made films without any guns? If we're a gun-dependent cinema, oh, my word, that could be threatening. There's also the idea — and this is a pretty threatening on e —that women could be interesting in film without taking off their clothes. What if you put in women who are attractive for what's inside their minds, not what's below their shoulders? This kind of stuff could really upset the cinematic status quo."

"I think it's always been important for women to operate on the margins, because that's where change often happens. But, you know, we can also be the invaders of the palace. I love the metaphor of the Trojan Horse: the idea of getting inside a big, big film and changing it up, subverting it."

Granik has made only three narrative feature films, which is a shame. Her powerful pictures were partly inspired by what she learned about Italian Neo-Realism, the post-WWII European film movement that rendered socially realistic characters and stories that transported audiences through renderings of everyday life as it was lived on the margins. "Winter's Bone" takes us on that kind of unforgettable journey.

"Winter's Bone" will play at 3 p.m., Sunday, April 27, at Middlebury's Town Hall Theater. Tickets are available at the door, or online at townhalltheater.org.

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## HUBBARDTON NEW LISTING! 338 COLUMBIA DRIVE

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## CORNWALL **NEW LISTING!** BARDON DRIVE

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#### **EXHIBITS**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

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.

"Signals," a group exhibition featuring works by Steve Budington, Grace Hager, David Kearns, JoAnne Lobotsky, Jennifer McCandless, and Aimée Papazian. An opening reception will be held Saturday, May 3, from 6-9 p.m. On view May 3-June 21.

#### **SPARROW ART SUPPLY**

44 Main St., Middlebury

For more info visit sparrowartsupply.com

"Collective Perspectives." This member show brings together 11 diverse voices from our collective, showcasing a wide range of mediums including cyanotype on textile, photography, acrylic paintings on skate decks and more. Exhibiting artists include Elise Bouffard, Andrew Clingenpeel, Caitlin Gildrien, Charon Henning, Michael Hollis, Jaqueline Lore, Catherine Raishart, Bart Robbett, Elizabeth Sylvia, Courtney Vengrin, and Heather Rusch Zelonis. On view April 18-June 15.



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

enables them to operate at a temperature of minus 223 Celsius on the cold side.

What does JWST "see" that other telescopes do not?

Collecting and analyzing infra-red light enables JWST to see through the dust. Infra-red wavelengths are longer than visible wavelengths and can penetrate dust clouds and see what was otherwise obscured in visible light. This will enable the telescope to closely observe star and planet formation in dense dust clouds. Another broad purpose of JWST is to study the early Universe when the youngest stars and galaxies existed. Webb's "vision" will peer back to just a few hundred million years after the big bang. Through a combination of many measurements and images, astronomers will be able to infer more about the mysterious realms of dark matter and dark energy, drivers of our fate.

The Webb telescope will also have a major focus on the study of exoplanets and their atmospheres. Webb's spectrometer is the key instrument for identifying spectral signatures indicating the presence of molecules such as water, dimethyl sulfide, carbon dioxide, methane, ammonia, and oxygen. Are there

molecular signatures that suggest habitability and the possible presence of life? Many results on exoplanet studies have already been released and scholarly journal articles published. Exciting recent news was the release of an image of four gas giant planets located 130 light years away.

The James Webb Telescope has already brought us to a substantially higher level in our knowledge and understanding of the Universe. Reaching back in time to reveal what the young Universe looks like, astronomers will see how stars and galaxies form and evolve to become like the ones in the Milky Way's "neighborhood." Closer to home, our solar system and many others will be interpreted anew with Webb's massive infra-red collector. The James Webb Space Telescope has given the world new eyes that see clearly and deeply back in time at our beautiful and awe-inspiring Cosmos. James Webb, thank you for your vision!

Editor's Note: "L2" There are five points in the Earth-Sun system that are gravitationally stable, first calculated by the mathematician Lagrange. The balance of forces of the Earth-Sun system is found at those points and an object in that location can remain nearly stationery as it orbits the Sun; great places to park space telescopes, satellites, and space colonies. For more go to science.nasa.gov/resource/what-is-a-lagrange-point.

## SKY WATCH EVENTS FOR MAY 2025 METEORS AND PLANETARY CONJUNCTIONS

May 1 – Jupiter and Mars are still bright in the evening sky, whereas Saturn and Venus shine brightly in the east before dawn.

**May 3** – Mars is just 1.5 degrees from the nearly first quarter moon.

May 5, 6 – Eta Aquarids meteor shower seen in a short window of time low in the predawn sky in the east. Typical numbers are in the range of 10 to 30 per hour.

May 7, 8 – New Moon. A great time to view heavenly bodies in the night sky.

May 9 – The waxing gibbous Moon and the bright star Spica in Virgo are about 2 degrees apart. Best time to spot Mercury in the morning sky because it is at greatest elongation from the sun.

May 12 - Flower Full Moon

May 22 to 24 – Conjunction of the Moon, Jupiter, and Mars

May 31 - Moon and Saturn conjunction

May 29 – Column: Henrietta Swan Leavitt: Measuring Cosmic Distances



TBD Cobble Road, New Haven VT 05472 MLS #5037156 \$135,000

This is a lovely lot in a very nice location. Close to Middlebury and Bristol, and an easy commute both north and south. There are views of the Green Mountains and potential views of the Adirondacks. Live in a quiet spot on a dirt road, but with a very easy connection to a paved road. State septic permit for a 2-bedroom house in place.



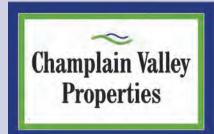
1956 Route 73 East, Sudbury VT 05733 MLS #5030584 \$639,000

If a view is what you are looking for this home is for you! Situated on 18.2 acres on a gently sloping lot, this classic Gambrel style home provides breathtaking views of the Green Mountains and the surrounding landscape. Cozy up with a book in the family room by the built-in fireplace or the oversized living room with a picture window that floods the interior with natural light. Attached to the breezeway is a two car garage which includes extra storage space above. Do you like to garden? This home also features a glass paneled greenhouse for gardening enthusiasts. In 2024 a new roof was installed and the whole outside of the house was painted.



201 Florence Road, Brandon, VT 05733 MLS #5036993 \$365,000

Spacious, charming, four bedroom 1880 farmhouse with loads of character, light-filled rooms, mountain views, and plenty of options for comfortable living. The eat-in kitchen features a walk-in pantry, and there's a full bath and bedroom on the first floor. The attached shed could be converted into more living space. The lot has a fenced in area with a chicken coop (chickens included if you want them!) and plenty of room for gardens. The detached two car garage has ample space for a workshop or storage! The home is just three miles from the center of Brandon.



70 Court Street, Middlebury, VT 802-989-7522 | ChamplainValleyProperty.net



# Spring Coloring and Decorating Contest

Spring is in the air! Grab your brightest colors and help bring this cheerful scene to life as we welcome warmer days, singing birds, and blooming flowers.

## **Submit your entries:**

Online at addisonindependent.com/ contests
By Mail to Addison Independent,
58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753

Feel free to tear out this coloring page or go to our website for a printable version. Winners will be announced in the May 22nd edition of the Addison Independent.

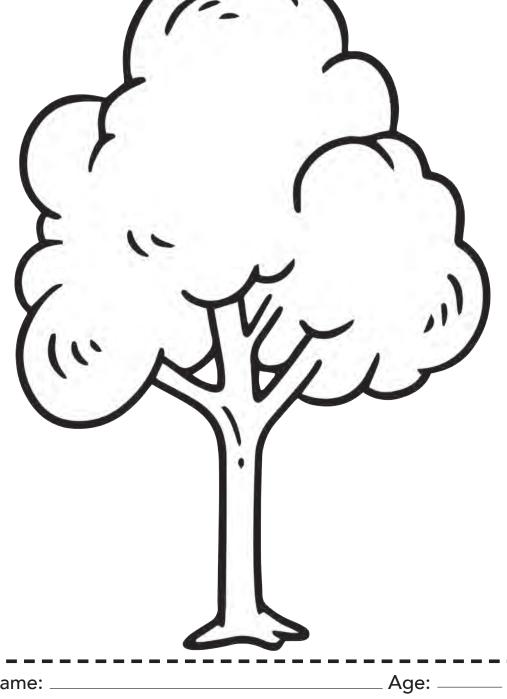
Two winners from each age group will win a prize from one of our sponsors

## Thank you to our sponsors:

that can be picked up at the Addy Indy

office through June 20th.





Name:	Age:
Parent/Guardian's name:	
Address:	
City:	State:Zip:
Email:	
l Age Group: under 5 5-6	7-8 9-11 12-15 16-Adult







## National

## VOLUNTEER WEEK





AS A GUARDIAN ad litem at the Judge Frank Mahady Courthouse in Middlebury, Mike Greenwood interacts directly with children, which the former teacher really enjoys. In this volunteer activity he helps build a sense of meaning in the children he works with.

## Guardians ad Litem speak for Vermont children

## Adults keep communication open in court case involving youngest citizens

ADDISON COUNTY Guardians ad litem are volunteers who are appointed by judges in juvenile court cases to advocate for the best interest of children involved in those cases.

They meet with parties to the case, spend time getting to know the child, attend court hearings, and give their opinion about what would be in the best interest of the child given the available options. Volunteers receive considerable training and mentoring before taking on their first case. Addison County has a dedicated team of volunteer GALs, and they are always looking for new candidates.

Right now, thousands of Vermont's children and youth are part of proceedings in Family Courts. Many of them are victims of abuse or neglect, accused of delinquent acts, or simply lost. They may be in foster care while they wait for safe, permanent homes. They may need someone to help them understand what's happening, to advocate for their best interests, and to make sure that their voices are heard.

To children, the entire court

experience may be confusing and scary. As part of the process, they may have their most private secrets revealed to strangers. When the case is over, these strangers disappear and leave the children to live with the decisions made about their lives.

The Vermont Guardian ad

Litem Program ensures that every court has trained volunteers to serve as caring and independent child advocates. A guardian ad litem can make certain that at least one child is not alone.

#### WHAT A GUARDIAN DOES Typically, a GAL:

· Meets with the child at least

once a month. • Gathers information from parents, foster parents and other

people close to the child.

## **Current or Recent Volunteer Guardians ad Litem in**

**Addison County** 

**Deborah Dickerson Christopher Dayton Betty Farr** Peter Ryersbach **Cathy Vincent** Brenda Hamm Tim Vincent Valerie Szymkowicz Ron Monroe

Kathleen Samler

Eileen Bradford **Christie Crowe** Linda Horn Nita Wade Mike Greenwood Jennifer Thompson Claudia Cooper Susan Sears Kathleen Mackey Kathleen Pratt

Communicates regularly

the child's lawyer. Promotes cooperation between the parties.

with the state Department for

Children and Families (DCF) and

• Ensures that the court has all relevant information about the child.

Some of the active guardians ad litem in Addison County have shared their experience helping kids involved with the courts. **RON MONROE** 

As a recently retired high school teacher, I was first drawn to becoming a Guardian ad Litem by the purpose of the position of helping children, and I have found that to certainly be the

While my training covered much helpful ground, I still find that there is so much to learn about being a GAL, as each case I take on has its unique challenges. So, as I make my way through my second year, my learning curve continues to be a high one as I become better acquainted not only with the Vermont family court system but also with myself.

In some ways I feel privileged to be allowed, if not welcomed, into a family at a moment of

(See Guardians, Page 3C)

## Bristol's Volunteer Fair connects people with their local community

"What I like to

the fastest way to

make friends and

your community is

to volunteer for a

group or program

that speaks to their

heart. You're going

to find your people

and make really

great and strong

best way to find

tell newcomers is

**By MARIN HOWELL** 

BRISTOL — Addison County in their community.

anything from fighting fires to distributing food or maintaining w e 11 - 1 o v e d recreation spaces. One of those organizations Tri-Valley Transit, whose Community Rides Drivers help transport residents to appointments and other places they need or want

to get to. "Our volunteers are our bloodline Tri Valley Transit.; without them we wouldn't be able to help the

community in the way we do," said Rachel Landry, volunteer coordinator at Tri-Valley Transit. "Our volunteers help pick people up at their home and take them to medical appointments, to personal appointments. You can do anything from getting your hair done to... if you want to stop by "Gather" in Middlebury. These are wavs that you can get there, and that's all our volunteer drivers.'

Tri-Valley Transit was one of 25

local organizations to take part in the Bristol Volunteer Fair held at residents don't have to look far for Holley Hall on April 16. The event opportunities to make a difference was aimed at giving residents a chance to connect with agencies There are numerous organizations and groups in the area, as well as that rely on volunteers to help with learn how to contribute to the work

they do in the community.

The event featured organizations from in and around Bristol and was organized by the **Bristol Recreation** 

connections." - Lisa Grover

Department, Bristol CORE and Imagine Addison County Vermont. is the Outreach and Relocation Coordinator for the Addison County Chamber Commerce. She runs Imagine

Addison County,

a program funded

through the state's Grants for Relocation Outreach

Work, or GROW, Program. "One of the principles (of the program) is to attract new people to Vermont to come here and settle, but also help people new to the area feel like part of their community connecting them with resources, employers, their community in general," Grover explained.

Volunteering is a good way to get (See Fair, Page 3C)



AMONG THE 25 local organizations and groups featured at the Bristol Volunteer Fair was Bristol Cub Scout Pack 543, which raised funds for Homeward Bound by selling baked goods, homemade soup and empanadas at the event.

Photo courtesy of Lisa Grover

## WAR VOLUNTEER WEEK WITH



A little time each month

## A modest offering changes his perspective

"I've learned

and joke around

with the guests.

Charter House

the time being.

They don't

all the time."

is their home for

necessarily need

Will Robinson

us to be serious

how important

it is to laugh

Will Robinson has been a volunteer at the Charter House Coalition homeless shelter in Middlebury since 2023. He grew up in Warren, Vt., and studied Early Childhood Special Education at the University of Maine, Farmington. He was committed to returning to Vermont after college, found his first job in Middlebury, and now teaches preschool in a local Head Start program.

Will is also an avid and accomplished hiker. Last summer he throughhiked the Northeast 115 — that's all the 4,000-foot peaks in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York, recording the fastest known time for the rout that is more than 1,300 miles long. This month, we sat down to learn more about Will Robinson and what inspired him to volunteer.

#### Q: Has volunteer work always been a part of your life? Did you grow up volunteering?

Not really I. I lived in Middlebury for a while before I started volunteering at Charter House. One winter, a few years ago, I walked across the state of Vermont from east to west. And I enjoyed myself because I had all of the equipment and gear that I needed. But I realized that there are people out there that are spending the night outside in the winter without what they need, and they're not having a good time. I didn't encounter too many people on my walk, but then I got into

Burlington. And I started getting a lot of looks from people and that didn't feel nice. Because I wasn't particularly clean — I'd been walking and camping — and had a big backpack on, to them I looked unhoused. I reflected on that for a while. At the same time, I had been wanting to find a way to give back to my community. I couldn't be out hiking all the time and wanted something more meaningful to fill my afternoons

#### Q: What drew you to volunteering at **Charter House specifically?**

I was already working in Middlebury and happened to see a Front Porch Forum post from Heidi [Lacey] saying that the Charter House was looking for volunteers. Between my reflections on my Vermont walk and wanting to give back to the local community in some way, it seemed like the perfect fit.

#### Q: How often do you volunteer at Charter House?

I'm there Thursday evening for about three hours. I do take the with miscellaneous chores. Soon I was helping in the kitchen. Now I go summers off, usually because I'm off to go on a hiking adventure. I call myself a three-season volunteer.

#### Q: Can you share a specific memorable experience you've had while volunteering at Charter House?

Not necessarily one specific thing, but I love hearing the guest success stories. For example, one week someone tells me, "I'm looking at an apartment." And then the next week I meet up with them to talk again, and they tell me, "I went to see the apartment, and I signed the contract. I'm moving next week. You're probably never gonna see me again." It's a little sad, but it always feels so good to share in their excitement. And it's happened a good handful of times now.

Q: What have you learned from the people you've met while volunteering at Charter House?

I think I've learned how important it is to laugh and joke around with the guests. Charter House is their home for the time being. They don't necessarily need us to be serious all the time. It's about connecting. I think that's just one of the best things that I see there; the staff has such good relationships with all of the guests. I feel like I'm contributing to that in some way. It's nice to be able to build relationships with both staff and the guests and see them succeed.

#### Q: Has your perspective on housing and homelessness evolved since you started volunteering at Charter House?

It seems like the news is on a lot when I'm at Charter House. I usually don't watch the news; I like to read it or maybe watch it on my own, not with other people around. But a few weeks ago, there was a group watching the news at Charter House and a story came on about a big hotel that was being put up somewhere. The reactions in the room were all the same: "Why are they building a hotel when they could be building permanent housing?" It opened my eyes to a totally different perspective on daily life, seeing it through their eyes. Before working at Charter House, I wouldn't have given the hotel story much thought.

> Hearing the guests share their stories, spending time with them, makes me appreciate how really anybody can become unhoused. All it takes is a series of unfortunate events. And if you're not lucky enough to have family or friends to take you

#### Q: What do you wish other community members knew or understood about housing and homelessness in Vermont?

I would hope that this would be common sense to a point, but people who are unhoused are just the same as those of us who are housed. We're all individuals. We all have our own stories. We're all New Englanders. But when I was walking through Burlington that day, I was looked at as less than. And that's just not right. Being unhoused comes with a lot of negative assumptions. Sometimes those assumptions are true, but no more than with people who are housed. I hope that's obvious to people. But I feel like it's not.

#### Q: What would you say to someone who is considering volunteering at Charter House?

I'd encourage them! I feel really comfortable at Charter House and it didn't take me long to feel that way. I started out doing desk duty, but always offered to help the staff on duty

every Thursday, and I have a genuinely good time each time I'm there, even if I've had a hard day at work. I check in, ask what needs to be done, joke around with guests and staff, help make and serve dinner, and then eat with the guests. And then I do my stint in the dish room, which is funny, because when I was growing up I always said, "The one job I never want is to be a dishwasher." But once I started doing dishes at the Charter House, I realized it's not that bad. It's even making me a better person at home. I now do the dishes, although the scale of the task is a little different. Volunteering at Charter House really is a good gig. You get to be a source of some joy for people, and they really appreciate having you there.



WILL ROBINSON

#### O: Anything else you would like to share?

How hard-working all the guests at Charter House are. Unhoused people often get an unfair rap and people say they just want a government check, but that's not what I've experienced. The goal is very much to get housed — that's what all the guests are working for with their case managers. It's part of the deal being there. And as much as it's great at the house, they'd all rather be somewhere else. I love hearing their plans for their apartments, the setup, what to put where, when they get a place.

#### Q: Tell us about your next hiking adventure.

I've hiked the Northeast 115. I've done those a handful of times now, and I've done them all in a single season-winter, summer and fall. So I'm currently wanting to complete a single-season spring. It's been a slow start this spring, but I plan on attempting it. And as far as I know, I'll be the only person to complete the Northeast 115 in all four seasons.

My summer hikes give me a break from both teaching and volunteering but I'm always glad to come back. Each fall I get to know the new names and faces at Charter House and celebrate the guests that have gotten what they needed and moved on.

Are you interested in volunteering at the Charter House Coalition? There are lots of ways to support its clients and its mission, from helping with meal prep and donations to working in its gardens.

Find out more by heading online to chcvt.org/want-to-get-involved/ volunteer.



Since 1925, Porter Medical Center has relied on the kindness and support of its volunteers

University of Vermont

**Porter Medical Center** 

Thank you all for your service to our patients & staff and for making our community a better place to live.



THERE ARE MANY ways for Addison County residents to lend a hand in their community, and locals got a chance to learn more about several of those opportunities at the Bristol Volunteer Fair held in Holley Hall on April 16. More than 20 organizations from in and around Bristol took part in the event.

Photo courtesy of Meridith McFarland

## Fair

(Continued from Page 1C) to know a new place, she said.

"What I like to tell newcomers is the fastest way to make friends and best way to find your community is to volunteer for a group or program that speaks to their heart," Grover said. "You're going to find your people and make really great and strong connections."

Wanting to help new residents engage with the area was part of what led organizers to host the volunteer fair.

"When I met with (Bristol CORE and Bristol Recreation Department leaders) we discussed, 'What can we do to get these newcomers comfortable with their community or at least get to know people,' and Bristol has a really great history of volunteerism in the community," Grover said.

So too does the broader state of Vermont.

Grover referenced the state's 2025 civic health index, which found that Vermont ranks fifth in the nation for informal helping and 13th for formal volunteerism.

### **COMMUNITY DRIVERS**

But Vermonters might not always know how to get involved in their Fair gave residents an opportunity to meet local organizations looking for helpers, such as Tri-Valley Transit.

said the public Landry transportation provider is always looking for volunteers.

"There's always a demand, and while we try to do our best that we're able to, there's always people we're unfortunately not able to provide rides to," she explained.

Tri-Valley Transit works with volunteers based on their schedule and availability, Landry said. Community Rides drivers donate their time and get reimbursed for milage at the federal rate.

What makes someone a good fit for volunteering with Tri-Valley Transit?

"Anybody who enjoys driving; we do have quite a bit of volunteers who enjoy driving," Landry said. "(Also), to be sociable. People who enjoy being able to communicate and talk. Some people who don't mind being quiet. We have a variety of clients that use our transportation, so being able to be flexible and sociable in those ways."

More on volunteering with Tri-Valley Transit can be found at

#### tinyurl.com/supporttvt. LIBRARY HELPERS

The Lawrence Memorial Library was one of many Bristol organizations at the volunteer fair. Library Director Katie Male-Riordan said there are a lot of different ways volunteers can support the library. One way is by helping with circulation services, maintaining the physical collection in the building.

"(The library looks for) people that might be interested in reshelving books, organizing the collection. Books need to be dusted as they sit on the shelves, as that helps maintain the longevity of the titles," Male-Riordan said.

Residents can also volunteer with outreach and programming at the

library. That work might interest someone with creative abilities or who has experience in event coordination. Male-Riordan noted.

Other things that might make someone a good match for volunteering at Lawrence Memorial Library include passion for the library's work in the community and making connections.

"It's such a front-facing position. We're working with the public quite often, so the thing I really love about this work is it's a great way to connect and meet other people in your community" Male-Riordan said. "Even if you're processing and shelving books, there's people coming in and out of the library all the time."

Residents can find more information on LML volunteering opportunities at lawrencelibraryvt.org/volunteer.

The library got a chance to hear from several residents interested in volunteering at the April 16 fair.

"I think the thing that I really loved about the experience was just the wide variety of people that came up expressing interest in library services and helping with for more information. library services," Male-Riordan to retire that are looking for a way to continue connecting in the community and using their skill sets to further the organization, teens that were looking for opportunities, totally excited about the chance (to volunteer at the library)."

Bristol Recreation Director Meridith McFarland said around 50 people stopped by the volunteer fair to speak with vendors.

"I think it was a success," she told the Independent. "Most of the feedback we got as people were leaving was a big thank you, and the big takeaway was that for most of the vendors, this was a rarity for them to communicate with similar nonprofits, so it created its own networking opportunity."

Getting to connect with other local organizations was a highlight of the event for Landry.

"Being able to talk with nonprofits and how we can help one another and there's other resources out there," she said. "If we have someone call that we're not able to help them with a service, I now know of other organizations that I can say, 'They may be able to help you."

#### **GETTING INVOLVED**

There aren't currently any other volunteer fairs scheduled in the area, but Grover acknowledged there's been some interest in Vergennes and Middlebury.

In the meantime, those wanting to learn more about ways to get involved in the community can reach out to McFarland and Grover

Residents community. The Bristol Volunteer said. "We had older adults looking more information on volunteer opportunities in Addison County at addisoncounty.com/grow-here.

"I think people are not aware of all the organizations that could be even better with volunteer help, especially from the community, and there's so many people from the community that would love to help out and now they have the hub to go to sign up," McFarland said.

## Guardians

(Continued from Page 1C)

stress when possibly the last thing they would want is a complete stranger stepping in. And even in their oftentimes difficult situations, I have found that kids will still be kids and discovering that firsthand has been both familiar and comforting to me.

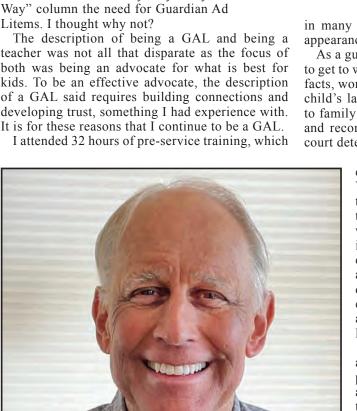
So, I look forward to the future possibilities being a GAL will bring me, despite and maybe because of I won't know exactly what each case will bring and what skills it will call upon, all the while doing my best to find a balance between what size case load I feel comfortable carrying and what the state's needs are at any given moment. MIKE GREENWOOD

My GAL journey actually began with a poem, Mary Oliver's "A Summer Day," where she asks, "Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?" Having just retired with 35-plus years in education, wondering what's next and where I might make a positive difference.

Then I read in the Addy Indy's "By the Way" column the need for Guardian Ad

The description of being a GAL and being a teacher was not all that disparate as the focus of both was being an advocate for what is best for kids. To be an effective advocate, the description of a GAL said requires building connections and developing trust, something I had experience with. It is for these reasons that I continue to be a GAL.

I attended 32 hours of pre-service training, which



RON MONROE

I found difficult as it occurred during COVID and was online. I remember feeling overwhelmed with court jargon and procedures, and I questioned if I had made the right choice.

When I completed the training and was assigned a mentor, all my anxieties of being unable to be an effective GAL were washed away. The mentor component of the training was the application of what I learned in the online course and quickly solidified that I had made the right decision. I was lucky as Linda, my mentor, was patient and wise www.vermontjudiciary.org/GAL.



**DEBORAH DICKERSON** 

in many ways. I did home visits with her, court appearances, and school visits.

As a guardian ad litem I am granted the privilege to get to work with kids. Independently I review the facts, work with a variety of stakeholders, from the child's lawyer, the Department for Children staff, to family members. In Family Court, your opinion and recommendations are sought as you help the court determine what is in the child's best interest.

> However, direct interaction with children is at the core of why I am a GAL. You demonstrate respect and interest in their lives and work to build a level of trust with each child and your relationship with the child begins to have meaning and importance to them. You know when a child is waiting to meet with you, week after week, that making that positive difference is occurring. And that is at the core of my satisfaction of being a guardian

#### **DEBORAH DICKERSON**

I have been volunteering as a guardian ad litem since late 2017. The seed was planted about 15 years prior when an attorney who represented children shared that there was always a need for more GALs. We were in the locker room after our swim and I thought, "Whatever that

Years later, when my youngest son reached high school, I began prayerfully considering how to reinvest my "mom time." I had just read attorney Bryan Stevenson's book "Just Mercy" and realized the importance of having individuals who walk beside a courtinvolved individual or family in a compassionate non-judgmental fashion.

It is satisfying to see parents work to improve their lives in order to strengthen their relationships with their children.

Anyone who would like more information on being a guardian ad litem, or who would like to volunteer for the job, should contact Joe Jiloty, Guardian ad Litem Regional Coordinator for Addison, Rutland and Bennington counties by email at joseph.jiloty@vtcourts.gov. More information is also available on the Vermont courts website at



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** IN ADDISON COUNTY

Give back to those who once took care of us! Your older neighbors need your help. Join as volunteer today as an individual or business.

Volunteers needed across Addison County to deliver Meals on Wheels and be Friendly Visitors!

**Contact the Volunteer Department:** 802-662-5249 or volunteer@agewellvt.org



Since 1974, we have provided Northwestern Vermonters with essential services to help them age well.

Meals on Wheels | Case Management Medicare Counseling | Benefits Counseling Helpline: 1-800-642-5119

To learn more visit agewellvt.org

## MANNE VOLUNTEER WEEK MANNE







nokian

Thank you volunteers for keeping our community running.

Let us help you drive safe. Stop in today!

33 Seymour Street | Middlebury | 388-7620

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

their Makery Lab.

boatbuilders at the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum." Peter most enjoys watching boat builders learn new skills and gain self esteem. He has previously volunteered at Patricia A. Hannaford Career Center's Makery and is currently an instructor at Middlebury College, working with students in

## **Mary Bugnaki**

Porter Medical Center

Leicester's Mary Bugnacki has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center for six months as a Greeter. She directs people to Registration and answers questions about hospital locations. Mary enjoys volunteering because she loves meeting people and hopes to be helpful



in any way she can.

## **Wylie Cate**

Wylie Cate, of Salisbury, has volunteered for 4 years doing egg pickup for HOPE. She enjoys the interaction with all of the staff at both the farms and HOPE. Wylie also volunteers at her kids' schools and the MSSC



## HOPE

Board.



## Norman Beerman

Porter Medical Center

**Peter Beckett** 

Lake Champlain

Maritime Museum

Peter Beckett, a

Middlebury resident,

has volunteered as a

**Boat Shop Volunteer** 

Maritime Museum for

seven years. In his role,

and helps instruct local

high school students as

they learn boatbuilding

"Working on wooden

boats for me started in

1949 on a New York 30

sailboat, built by Capt.

Nat Herreshoff in 1917.

built many small boats

which added to the skill

set which I have today

and which I have been

sharing with the young

Through the years I have

skills. Peter says,

he repairs wooden boats

at Lake Champlain

Norm Beerman, of Salisbury, has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center for six years, where he sorts mail in the mailroom and also helps at the Greeter Station. There, he welcomes patients and visitors, offering assistance to help them find their way. Norm says the best part of volunteering is the



people—he's made many new friends through the experience.

## Vanda Crook

Homeward Bound

Vanda Crook, a Middlebury resident, has been volunteering in the surgery department at Homeward Bound for 1.5 years. She supports the spay and neuter staff and finds fulfillment in "helping the OR staff and helping the cats and dogs feel safe and loved."



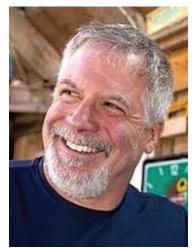
AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP wishes to thank all the volunteers who contribute to the quality of our lives in Addison County. We are inspired by the many ways you support our community.

**RSVP** of Addison County

802.388.7044 | volunteersinvt.org

#### **David Bishop** Tri-Valley Transit

**David Bishop of** Goshen has been a volunteer driver for Tri-Valley Transit for over nine years, providing transportation for Addison County residents for medical and personal needs. He finds the work deeply meaningful, sharing, "Knowing that myself and the team at Tri Valley Transit are making a difference and meeting so many diverse and interesting individuals" is what he enjoys most.

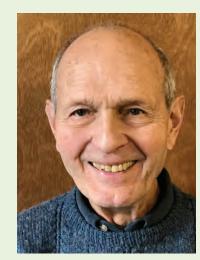


A longtime resident of Goshen, where he and his family have lived for over 30 years, David has also been actively involved in various town committees and the school board.

## **Dick Cuyler**

Porter Medical Center

Middlebury's Dick Cuyler has volunteered with Porter Medical Center's Palliative Support Services for 1.5 years. Having previously volunteered as a bereavement companion, he is currently matched with a couple of residents who are receiving palliative support and is providing companionship at Helen Porter Rehabilitation & Nursing. He enjoys interacting with the residents, focusing on what they say and keeping the conversation



light. He notes, "If I can get them laughing, I really feel great." Dick spends each Wednesday helping build houses for Habitat for Humanity, which he's done locally for 5 years and about 25 years with other chapters.

### **Margot Brown** HOPE

Margot Brown, of East Middlebury, has dedicated 2 years as a Clothing Mender at HOPE. She feels good about the work HOPE does and finds fulfillment in mending clothing that would otherwise be unsalable.





## **Bob Davis**

Homeward Bound

**Bob Davis**, a Bristol resident, has been volunteering as a dog walker at Homeward Bound, Addison County's Humane Society, for just over a year. He typically walks and plays fetch with the dogs, but sometimes simply offers companionship to those that need it. "I love dogs! I can't believe they let me spend time with the dogs and don't charge me (don't let them know that)," Bob jokes. He



adds that no matter what's happening in his own life, the shelter is a bright spot filled with kind, positive peopleand, of course, dogs. "In a crazy world, this is a welcome oasis."



THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE

## WAR VOLUNTEER WEEK



## Karen DeMoy

**Orwell Free Library** 

Karen DeMoy has been a trustee at Orwell Free Library for 20 years. Throughout her tenure she served as the secretary for the board and worked tirelessly to make the library a welcoming and professionally run organization to best serve the Orwell community. Karen is the driving force behind the library's annual Plant Sale that raises over half of the library's operating budget. Every year she connects with growers from around the region, starts veggies and flowers in her greenhouse, and digs huge amount of perennials to obtain a beautiful spread of plants to sell. According to library director, Kate Hunter, "The sale is beloved

Mildred Denney

Porter Medical Center

Mildred Denney, of

Brandon, has been a

dedicated volunteer at

Porter Medical Center

visitors, delivers staff

lunches to support

the busy Emergency

Department, and enjoys

meeting new people and

making friends. Mildred

safe at the hospital and

finds it a wonderful place

says she always feels

for 28 years, serving as

a Greeter. She welcomes



by those that frequent it. Without Karen, this incredibly successful fundraiser wouldn't happen in the organized and extensive level we all love...She is a force in our community." Karen also recently became a Master Gardener with the Extension Service and now oversees the Orwell **Community Learning** Garden in collaboration with Orwell Village School and Orwell Free Library.

## **Carter Emilio**

Homeward Bound

Middlebury's Carter Emilio has been volunteering at Homeward Bound for 1.5 years, spending time in Cat Land visiting and playing with cats, rabbits, and other small animals. He most enjoys seeing all the cats and people who work there.



## John Fallon

HOPE

John Fallon, of Weybridge, has volunteered for an impressive 12 years providing Food Shelf Inventory Control at HOPE. Assisting households in need, young families, or seniors is something he takes pride in.



Kim Farnham

Porter Medical Center

New Haven's Kim Farnham has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center for seven years as a Chairperson and Patient Family Advisor. In this role, she helps guide Porter and **UVM** Hospital on how to better serve the local community. Kim says, "I enjoy giving back to this wonderful community that I call home!" In addition to her work at Porter, she



has served as Chairperson of the Patricia A. Hannaford Career Center

# Our community is stronger because of the work that you do. Thank you for volunteering!

## Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History

Do you have an interest in Addison County and Vermont history?

We invite you to join our wonderful community of volunteers at the Henry **Sheldon Museum!** 

We welcome volunteers of all ages and backgrounds. What special skills can you bring to the Henry Sheldon Museum?



Contact Cara Mosier, Associate Director at (802) 388-2117 or at cmosier@henrysheldonmuseum.org

## **Brooke Dolan**

Porter Medical Center

Brooke Dolan, of Middlebury, has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center for 1.5 years as a Care Assistant and Med/Surg helper. She supports the nursing team by helping patients access resources, documenting food intake, sanitizing equipment, restocking supplies, and serving as a patient companion and sitter. Brooke says, "I enjoy most the feeling that I am making someone's day brighter, easier, or more enjoyable by my actions." She values connecting with patients and hearing their stories.

at the shelter. Elizabeth

has also been a volunteer



to volunteer. She has

Repeats Resale Shop

length of time.

for the same impressive

also volunteered at Neat

Outside of Porter, Brooke has volunteered for 2.5 vears with the Charter House Coalition, where she leads Saturday Dinners with a student group, and recently began volunteering as a Spanish interpreter for the Open Door Clinic.

school board for 15 years.

## Teri Fitzgerald

MAUSD Mentoring Program



Monkton's Teri Fitzgerald has been a mentor with the MAUSD Mentoring program since 2017. She started with a first-grade student who is now in eighth grade, and their lasting friendship continues despite seeing each other less frequently. Teri also mentors a third-grade student, meeting weekly to share activities, games, crafts, and support. She says, "What I enjoy most about being a mentor is the relationship that develops over time between me as a community member and the mentee as a young person who comes to trust in an adult outside of their family that is special to them, celebrates successes, and helps them navigate difficult times."

Teri values the special bond that develops with her mentees. In addition to mentoring, Teri serves on the boards for several community organizations including the Monkton Friends Methodist Church, the Monkton Ridge Church Association, the Monkton Museum and Historical Society, and the Addison County Retired **Educators Association.** She is also the steward of the Monkton Little Free Pantry, coordinates the Bristol Recreation Department offerings for volleyball and pickleball, and serves as a member of the sub-committee of the Monkton Recreation Committee working on bringing hardcourts for basketball and pickleball to Morse Park.



## HERDES are ALL who give their time and energy to helping others and the community around them. We are especially thankful for:

Margaret (Peg) Bolton Debbie Brace Sandy Kelley Paul Gill Kathleen Jewett Ann Kensek Tom Munschauer

Ted Scheu Sally Taylor Sky Thurber Kate Gridley **Bill Sessions** and Ciara Murphy

our agency volunteers who visit our patients and provide warmth and comfort.

To learn more about our volunteer program please contact Kristen Wilson, Human Resources Director and Volunteer Coordinator at kwilson@achhh.org.



254 Ethan Allen Highway, New Haven (Rte 7) ACHHH.org | 802-388-7259



at the Lincoln Library for about 5 years.







## WANTEER WEEK WINNER



## Thank you to our local volunteers

Alexander Alameda-Perez Steve Alexander Jennifer Allen Deb Allen Revell Allen Greta, Jessica, Jeff Allen-**Buettner** Jasmine Almeida Zosha Anderson Glenn Andres Peter Antos Ketcham Mary Apgar **Nelly Aranibar Salomon Jackie Arel** Jeannette Armell Felicia Armell Elizabeth Arms **Brad Armstrong** Laura Asermily Charlie Ayers Dan Bagley **Donna Bailey** Priscilla Baker Sally Baldwin Cynthia Ballas **Anita Bamert** Jen Banbury Ray Bapp Phoebe Barash Marilyn Barbato Whitney Barber Ellen Barbera **Kyan Barcomb** Jane Barlowe **Charlotte Barrett Ted Barrett Russell Barrett** Carrie Barrows **Robert Barrows** Carey Bass Wendy Beach **Billy Beanland David Bearor** Eileen Bearor **Beth Beauchamp** Rick Beers Margie Bekoff Kelsey Belcher Dick Bemis Margaret Benn Erin Bent Mary Benton Julia Berazneva **Art Berenbaum** Ollie Berg Luke Bergmans Sue Bergmans Terry Bern Ryan Bernard Kathy Bessette **Debra Bessette Taylor Betourney Ashley Betton** Michole Biancosino Heather Bierschenk John Bierschenk Deb Bird Mary Bisson Robert Black Logan Blacklock Elise Blair **Beverly Blakeney** Gail Blasius

Jen Bleich

Victoria Blewer

Jessica & Liza Blouin

Leslie Blow

Tom Blum

Lisa & Maeve Boeckman

Lynne Boie

**Tom Borchert** 

Gail Bordan

Dan Borden

Jess Borgens

Sid Bosworth

Renee & Rafaela Botti

Sarah Bouchard

Jill Bove

**Bill Bowers Linda Braginton** Megan Brakeley **Margaret Brakeley** Julia Breckenridge **Edward Brennan** Ilana Brett Kate Brewer Kendra Bristol Steve Brodeur Nancy Brokaw **Tim Brokaw** Catherine Brooks Pieter Broucke Mei Mei Brown Margo Brown **Betty Brown** Linda Brown Nicole Brown Steven Brown Lisa Brunet Wendy Bruso **Larry Buck** Molly Bull & Wesley Devoid Sue Buonincontro Kyle Burkett Sheila Burlock Jim Burns Joan Burt Diana Butler Katy Butterly Ken Button Sue Byers Kathryn Byrne Kim Callahan Virginia Callen Lia Calzini Blaise Cameron Ryan Cantarella **Amy Carlin Leonor Carney Buzby Carol KC Carr** Joanna & Wyatt Carter Wylie Cate Margaret Catillaz **Nick Causton** Rick Ceballos Dan Celik Natasha Chang **Emily Chaplin** Randall (Randy) Charboneau Harry Chaucer Martha Chesley Sophia Chicoine Ronnie Chirnoff Caleb Chisamore Johnston Christina **David Clark** Margaret Clerkin Lynn Coale Lucinda Cockrell Tia Colangelo **Amy Cole** Maria & Owen Collette Mary Conlon Peter Conlon Wagner Connie **Jonathan Connor Geoff Conrad** JoAnne Conroy Amy & Garrett Coogler Kara Cooley Ray Steven Cooley Elaine Coon Karen Cooper Brandi, Caden, & Harper Corbett

Kaiya Corbett-Anderson

Freeman Corey, Jr.

Linda Cormnay

Nancy Cornell

Peter Cousineau

Elaine Cousineau

Al Covey

Wendy Covey

Victoria Coyle

George Crane

Vanda Crook Karri Crossman Ila Crowley Shawn Crowley Kelsey Cummings Bill Cunningham Elizabeth, Richard, Helen Curran **Scott Curtis** Deb Dabrowski Erin Daigle Judi Danforth Jim Danyow **Beverly Darling** Scott Darling Lisa Daudon **Bearor Dave** Benjamin Davidson Asher Davidson **Bob Davis Nora Davis Barb Davis** Mickey Davis Craig Davis **Rick Davis** Ken DeAngelis Martha DeGraaf Lee Delarm Annette Delphia Ann Demong **Ronald Dendas** May Denny Rebekah DePinto Joan Derry Sandy Desorda Karlene DeVine Krista Diego Stephen Diehl Catrina DiNapoli Marianne Doe **Bob Donaghey Bob Donnis** Laura Doyle Lydia Dragon Barbara Drapelick **TVT Drivers Jessica Dudley** Lynn Dumoulin Frankie Dunleavy Nancie Dunn **Judy Dunning** Zora Duquette-Hoffman Margaret & Jim Eagan Deb Eddington Jodi Eddy Hailee Edwards Jamie Edwards-Orr Merle Edwards-Orr **Bearor Eileen** Judi Ellwood Cecilia Elwert **Deb Emerson Kevin & Carter Emilo** Barry Estabrook **Heather Estey** Betsy Etchells Tim Etchells Rachel, Annanya, Alaya **Ethier Deb Evans Dwight Everest** Taylor Fabrega Janet Fairchild **Parkins Faith** John Fallon **Delsie Farnsworth** Maria Farnsworth Pamela Farnsworth Michele Fay Hagi Faysal Lillian Feldhusen Irina, Victor, Sole Feldman

Marty Feldman

Diane Fenner

Kathy Ferris

Frank Finnerty

Taija Fish

Teri Fitz-Gerald

Barbara Fitzpatrick Michele Fleming Randy Fleming Randy & Michele Flemming Ellen Flight Kelly Flynn Ned Flynn Susan Folino **Teanam Forbes** Laura Forman **Nancy Foster Ellery Foutch** Zoe Fowler Jill Fraga Fran Fraga Lee Francis **Shannon Francis** Jeremy Francis Christina Frandino Bill Frank Aven Frankovic Edorah Frazer **Janet Fredericks** Eliza Freegard Grace Freeman Kayla Friend Ben Fuller **Scott Gaines** Rose Gale **Hurd Gale** Peter Garon **Garland Gates** Rachel Gebo Lou Gervais Sue Gervais **Tracey Getty David Giard Amanda Giard** Ann Gibbons **Emily Gibbs** Donna Gibney Mark Gibson Dee Gilbert Phil Gilbert **Ruth Gilbert** Stanley Gilbert Carolyn Gillis Tyler Gingras Chelsey, Cate, & Joseph Giuliani Don Glauber Rita Glidden JD Goettelmann Karen Goettelmann Lynn Goldsmith Silvia Gonzalez Daryl Goodro **Jeffrey Goulette** Peter Graham Mike Greenwood Dwight Griesman Nate Gusakov Tucker Hale Spencer Ham Chris Hammond Jamie Hand Tom Hanley Kathryn Haralambous Anna Hardway **Sue Harris** William Hart Lindsay Hart Wright Hartman Hilary Hatch Julie Hathaway **Bridget Hauman** Rick Hawley **Kevin Hayes Denise Heath** Haerle Helen

Ada Hellier

Jerry Henderson

Renee Hendricks

Robin Herbick

Tom Herbick

Robin Hewitt

Melissa, Noah & David Hiatt

Ed Hilbert

Cindy Hill Jennifer Hill Yasmin Hioul Wendy Hirdler Andy Hodgkin Mandy Hodson Marsha Hoffman David Hohenschau Mary Holland Sally Holland Catlin Holly Robin Hopps Linda Horn Heidi & Val Hotmer Michelle Houghton **Bob House** Anne Houser Jordan Hubbell Alicia Hughart **Christen Hume Dustin Hume** Rachel Hunter Lynda Hutchins Maude Irwin Susan Isham Nancy Iwanicki Summer Jack Janice Jackson Thomas Luke Jackson **Davis James Calvin** Melissa Jarmel Kristen Jennings Mark Jensen Lorri Jerry Bill Jesdale Marie Jewett Louise Johnson James Johnson Carol "Skilty" Johnson Caroline Johnston Rebecca Johnston Susan Jones Wayne Jones Farhad Kahn Rowan Kamman Dan Kane Heather, Ashlynn, May, & Helen Kastner/Oo Torres Kathryn **David Kearns** Maggie Keith Gerakos Mandy & William Keller Crystal & Kaitlyn Kelley Carolyn Kelley Laurel Kelly Linda Kelton Constance Kenna Alyson & Lachlan Kennedy Lyndsie Kennett Josh Kennett Fred Kenny Peggy Kieth Katie King Susan Klaiber Nathaniel Klein Steven Knapp Barb Kohler Chris Koliander Jenny Koopman Jill Kopler Mike Korkuc David Kosnick Carol Kress **Skor Kristie** Rainie Kuebler-Raymond Sonia & Liam Kulhowvick Bekah Kutt Heather Kvasnak Michelle LaBombard **Emma Lacross** Jeffrey Ladd Abby Laframboise **Ernest LaFramboise Kevin Lambert Evelyn Landis** Edna LaPerle Yvette LaPete

Jason Larocque



## WAR VOLUNTEER WEEK



## Thank you to our local volunteers

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Theo McDonough

Steve McElroy

Amy McGill

Julie McGowan

Adam McGowan

**Edward McGuire** 

**Brody McGuire** 

Ed McGuire

Robert McKay

Richard McKerr

Laurie McLaren

Candy McLaughlin

Cameron McMahon

Anne McMenamin

Leilani McNeill

Kelly McQuade McLaughlin Meaghan Jeff Meller **Memorial Baptist Church** Cooking Volunteers Jim Mendell James Mendell **Gardner Merriam** John Metcalfe Daniela Michaels Middlebury Rotary Club Middlebury Middlebury College Charter Club Members Middlebury College Football **Team** Middlebury College Rugby **Team** Middlebury College Students Sarah Midzik Adam Miller Suzanne Miller Rick Miller Deena Miller Joy & Jeff Minns **Ethan Mitchell** Chris Monje Carter Monks Ron Monroe Ellyn Montgomery Susan "Q" Montgomery Essa Moodie **David Moore** Paula Moore Alan Moore Samantha Morin Jim Morse Lenore Morse Roma Mortensen **Emmet Moseley** Alicia Mover Gayle Muenchow Andrea Murnane Matt Murphy Jan Murray Jennifer Murray Anne Myrick Juniper Nardiello Smith Mike Nason Gardner Nason Riley Nebolsine Marilyn Needham James Needham Elizabeth Nelson Susan Nelson Pete Nelson Annie Nesson Marybeth Nevins Shea Newton Helena Nicolay **Kyreland Nolan** Kathy Nolan Dave, Camila, & Natalia Nulsen Else Nye Roni O'Brien Kareen Obydol-Alexandre Beth Ogden Donna Oliver Sonja Olson Ginie Olson Nancy Orvis Elwood Ostrow-Lynn Rebecca & Elizabeth Otey Ashley Paquette **Janet Paquin** 

Marie Parent

Shirley Parfitt

Linda Paskiewicz

McCormack Patty

Stevens Pauline

Jim Peabody

**David Pearson** 

Candis Pearson Don Peddie Sophia Pedriani Dean & Lisa Percival Alex Perez Sue Perine Peter Perlee **Bruce Perreault** Merrie Perron Wells Peterson Carl Petri Cheri & Summer Petrin Terri Phelps Peggy & Ceairra Phelps & Cutsinger **Heather Pierce Post Deb Pinkerton** Chelsey Plankey Jordan Ploof **Bob Poirier Dennis Poole Chuck Post Heather Post** Suzanne Potente Susan & Asher Provost and Grant Will Pyle Diane Quiet Brii Raikou Catherine, Ellie, Stella & **Emmett Raishart Autumn Rakowitz** Truett Ramsey David Rathburn Kathleen Ready Matthew Redel Melanie Redel Liz Reedy Rob Reiber Patricia Reid Steve Reigel Nancy Remsen Gabriela Rhodes Jane Rice Llyn Rice Dennille & Rowan Richard Cheryl Rider Kelly Rizzo Joanie Roberge Maryanne Roberts Sheri Roberts Will Robinson Erin Roche Chanda, Dev & Roo Rochon Tamar Rogers Sophia Rojas **James Ross** Vivian Ross Kimberlee Roy Terry Rublee Ron Rucker Nancy Rucker Russ Rueger Paige Russell Elaine Russell Amey Ryan Rebecca Ryan Cheryl Ryder Elizabeth Ryks Jennifer & Finley Sabourin Deborah Safran Louise Sandberg Santo Santoriello Alison Sargent Mary Saudade

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Elizabeth, Jude, Franklin, &

Hendrix Sylvia

Adele Szilardi

Nikky Sztachelski

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Carolyn Tallen

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Holly Tempini Libby TenBarge Alex & Travis Tenenbaum-**Pigman** John Tenney **Amy Tewksbury** Macey Thayer Martha Thilbourg-Chaplin Andie Thompson Karisa & Myla Thompson Camie Thompson Carolyn Thompson Lance Thompson Lois Thompson Susan Thompson **Andrea Tibbetts** Val Tilford Jim Tobin Barbara Tomb Rebeca Totu Silas Towler Jacob Trombley Renee Ursitti Walter Vaillancourt Amanda & Hazel Van Dellen Cynsy Van Santen Jeremy Van Santen Carolyn Van Vleck Ginny VanHazinga John Vann Phoebe Vaughan Nancy Velez Marisa Volino Stephanie Volk Robert Wahl Anne Wallace Nathan Wallace-Gusakov Nancy Ward Sarah, Noah, & Silas Warner **Jack Watts** Sophia Welch Peter Welch **Judy Werner Ted Wesley** Piper Westbrook **Carol Weston** Ken Weston **Deborah Wetmore** Micheal White-Coe Kaitlyn Whitten Daigon Widell Dick Wien **Judy Wiger-Grohs** Mark Wilch Rhonda & Jing Williams **Linda Williams** Kate Williams Wendy Wilson Allen Wilson Paula Wilson Diana Winarski Jefferson Winslow Jo-Anne Wisniowski **Matthew Witten Evelyn Wood Arlette Woods** Lauren Wright Robert Wuagneux Vijaya Wunnava Robert Wyatt Max Xia Frankie & Dana Yeaton-Dunleavy **Bruce Yelton Jordan Young** Deborah Young **Amy Young** Pat Zeliff

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Kai Zhang

Alexis Zhao

Lance Zimmerman

Ty Zimmerman



Molly Saunders

Elizabeth Sayre

Hildgund Schaefer

Peter Schenck

**Ted Scheu** 

Matthew Schlein

Mallory Schmackpfeffer

Jaime Schneider

## MANN VOLUNTEER WEEK WINNER



## Ellen Flight

HomeShare Vermont

Middlebury's Ellen Flight has been a staff volunteer with HomeShare Vermont for two years. In her role, she interviews potential homeshare hosts and guests, facilitates introductions and matches, and provides ongoing support. Ellen says, "It feels good knowing that I am helping someone and that we are doing our part to help with the housing situation in Addison County." In



addition to recently joining the HomeShare Vermont Board of Directors, Ellen has been active in the Champlain Valley **Unitarian Universalist** Society for over 25 years.

### **Garland Gates**

Vermont Adult Learning

**Bristol's Garland Gates** is a teacher and tutor at Vermont Adult Learning (VAL), where he has been volunteering since September 2024. Prior to moving to Vermont, he spent 25 years teaching and coordinating a twocounty GED program in Ohio. At VAL, Garland works one-on-one with students to help them prepare for the GED test, tailoring instruction based on their individual academic levels. He finds joy in seeing students' academic progress and appreciates working with the caring VAL team. Garland also volunteers



at the New Haven **Congregational Church** Food Closet, which provides food assistance to local residents, including a monthly "Meat & More" program. He began volunteering there in May 2024, driven by concerns about food insecurity in our community.

## **HUGE thanks to our** wonderful volunteers! We couldn't do our work without you! www.hope-vt.org



#### **Teancum Forbes HOPE**

Teancum Forbes, of Middlebury, has been a Food Shelf Assistant at HOPE for 3 months. He is driven by the desire to help those in need. Teancum also volunteers at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day

Saints.



### Rita Glidden

HOPE

Rita Glidden, from Cornwall, has been a Food Shelf Assistant at HOPE for 7 years. Knowing she is making a difference and working alongside great people are her favorite parts of volunteering.





#### **Darlene Fountain**

Boys & Girls Club of **Greater Vergennes** 

Darlene Fountain, of Vergennes, has been volunteering at the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vergennes for three months, where she cooks for the club members. She loves the laid-back atmosphere, saying it makes it easy to connect with others. "The fun and engaging interactions with both staff and youth create a welcoming environment," she shares.



Her passion for cooking allows her to share meals, teach skills, and bring people together in meaningful ways.

## **Donald Guptill**

Porter Medical Center

Cornwall's **Donald Guptill** has been volunteering for two years at both Porter Medical Center and Helen Porter. He serves as a Greeter for outpatient services and as a Patient Companion, visiting with nursing home residents. Donald says, "I enjoy helping people with directions to services and answering any questions they have. As a patient companion, I enjoy listening to the life experiences that people have." He finds the



stories people share to be especially meaningful. In addition to his volunteer work at Porter, Donald has also supported the Cornwall Fire Department through fundraising efforts

## At Home Senior Care

## Thank You, Volunteers!

Your kindness and energy help make our community a welcoming place for seniors to live and thrive!

Compassionate home care for seniors — scan to learn more.



174 Court Street | Middlebury, VT 05753 | 802-388-7555 athomeseniors.net | info@athomeseniors.net

## Aidan Gardner

Willowell Foundation

Lincoln's Aidan Gardner is an ECO AmeriCorps member serving at the Willowell Foundation in Monkon, VT. He is partway through his 2nd year of service with Willowell, and focuses on supporting the Pond Brook Middle School, The Walden Year high school program, the community garden, and camps. During a typical day, Aidan will support teachers at these programs, coordinate and lead outdoor activities/ lessons, or bring students on field trips of interest. He also co-leads Willowell's adventure-



focused summer camps for children ages 7-12. According to his supervisor, Tasha Ball, "Aidan is a team player with a big heart and a warm smile. He's also an alumni of the Walden Project, and hopefully a Willowell 'lifer' in some capacity."

## Alem Hadzic

Porter Medical Center

Alem Hadzic, of Middlebury, has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center for 1.5 years as a Care Support volunteer in the **Emergency Department.** In this role, he provides emotional support and comfort to patients facing stress and anxiety through compassionate communication. "It truly is incredible to experience how lending an ear to somebody who is experiencing hardships can help them through their treatment and even forget about it momentarily," Alem shares. A pre-med student



at Middlebury College, he hopes to carry these experiences into his future career in medicine. In addition to his work at Porter, Alem has also launched a fundraising campaign for the Red Cross in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina to help support underserved communities.

## **Homeward Bound**

Addison County's Humane Society

Homeward Bound wants all our volunteers - our board members, our dedicated dog walkers and cat socializers, our dynamic community outreach ambassadors, our tireless foster care families, our clerical and customer service folks, and everyone in the community who steps up when asked for help to know how very grateful we are for your support and commitment!







**Homeward Bound** 



Please visit our website www.homewardboundanimals.org for information on our volunteer and foster programs.

236 Boardman St. • Middlebury • 388-1100







## MAN VOLUNTEER WEEK





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

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#### **JOANNE SCOTT COUNSELING SERVICE OF ADDISON COUNTY (CSAC)**

CSAC applauds Joanne Scott for her 30 years of service to CSAC's Board of Directors. Joanne has acted as Board Treasurer for over 25 years, providing leadership in several financial oversight teams. After graduating from Middlebury College, she worked in NYC and Tokyo for Morgan Stanley & Co., then embarked on



her career teaching business and finance at St. Michael's College. A resident of New Haven, Joanne is a golfer, crosscountry skier, and enormously proud mother. She is one of CSAC's strongest advocates: prepared, collaborative, knowledgeable, sharp with the numbers, and always positive. Thank you, Joanne!

## **BUSINESS TELEPHONE SYSTEMS** Volunteers keep us Connected! Telecommunications Sales & Service • Data Cabling Wireless Fiber Optics • Security Surveillance Systems 802-388-8999 • John and Jim Fitzgerald • bts-vt.com



Middlebury College students are matched with kids aged 6–12 in the community to serve as Community Friends mentors. Pictured here are mentees and mentors spending time together during their matching event, which is held every fall and spring.

## THANK YOU!

Students, Faculty, Staff, and Community Partners for your continued dedication to strengthening communities around the globe.

THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE

-The Center for Community Engagement



Middlebury College

## **Tucker Hale**

HOPE

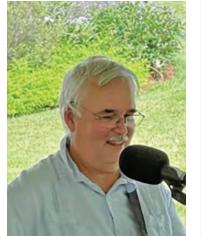
For the past 3 months, Tucker Hale, who lives in Middlebury, has served as a Food Shelf Assistant at HOPE. Helping people out is something he finds rewarding. Additionally, Tucker has volunteered at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for 6 months.



### Tom Hanley

Project Independence/ Elderly Services, Inc.

Middlebury's Tom **Hanley** has been involved with Project Independence/Elderly Services, Inc. for 23 years, initially starting in 2002 when Paul Vachon invited him and his daughter to perform for the participants. Tom recalls being overwhelmed by the joy the project brought to the lives of seniors, which inspired his continued involvement. "To be an ancillary part of Project in those early years was invigorating and I found a new appreciation and respect for the work they do," he says. Over time, he not only performed for the seniors but also provided counsel on safety issues through his role with



the police department. When the opportunity arose to join the Board of Directors, he eagerly accepted, seeing it as a way to contribute more directly to an organization that brings joy, hope, and service to seniors. "Living and working in Middlebury these past 34 years, I had come to know many of the participants and to be able to engage with them at this stage of their journey is very rewarding."

#### **Anne Hardway** HOPE

Anna Hardway, a Middlebury local, has dedicated 13 years to providing food shelf customer service at HOPE. Meeting people is what brings her joy. She has also volunteered at the Congregational Church of Middlebury for 12 years.



### Fred Hoff

Porter Medical Center

Fred Hoff, a Bristol resident, has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center for seven years as a Greeter. He welcomes patients and visitors, helps direct them to the services they need, and often spends time chatting with them while they wait for appointments. He also helps by collecting mail and cleaning wheelchairs after use. Fred says, "I really enjoy meeting and talking with everyone in the front lobby...



It is really wonderful to make these social connections." He values the friendships formed through his volunteer work and the chance to reconnect with familiar faces.



## **Mary Anne Hoff**

Porter Medical Center

Mary Anne Hoff, of Bristol, has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center for seven years as a Greeter. She welcomes visitors. helps guide them to their destinations, and delivers breakfast meals to the Emergency Department staff. Mary Anne enjoys spending time in the lobby, visiting with people while they wait for appointments. She enjoys talking with people and trying



to make them smile. Volunteering at Porter allows her to share stories, learn about others, and reconnect with old friends.

#### **Evelyn Howard** HOPE

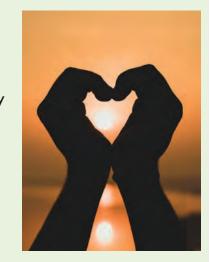
**Evelyn Howard**, of Weybridge, has volunteered for 13 months as a Textile Processor at Marion's Place (HOPE). Social connections and the chance to reduce wasteful treatment of useful and viable resources are important to her.



## Dan Kane

HOPE

Dan Kane, residing in Cornwall, has generously given 1.5 years to unloading the delivery truck at HOPE's food shelf. Supporting an organization that fulfills a critical need for local community members is important to him. In addition, Dan serves on the board at Otter Creek



#### **Linda Kelton** HOPE

Linda Kelton, from East Middlebury, has volunteered for 2 years as a Clothing Mender at HOPE. Helping to increase sales and enabling HOPE to achieve its community goals is something she enjoys. (It's also fun!) In her spare time, Linda also volunteers at Porter



Singers, and knits baby blankets.

#### Connie Kenna HomeShare Vermont

Hospital, Wellspring

Constance "Connie"

Kenna, of Middlebury, has been a dedicated staff volunteer with HomeShare Vermont for nearly 20 years. In her role, she interviews potential homeshare hosts and guests, helps facilitate introductions and matches, and provides ongoing support throughout the homeshare process. Connie loves hearing the life stories of so many different types of people, getting to know Addison County



more deeply, and contributing in a small way to alleviating the local housing crisis. While she has volunteered in many capacities over the years, HomeShare Vermont is currently her primary focus.

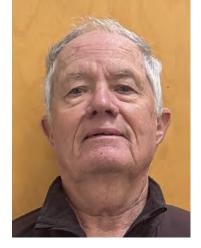
## WAR VOLUNTEER WEEK WINNER



### **Bill Kingston**

Boys & Girls Club of **Greater Vergennes** 

Bill Kingston, of Middlebury, has been volunteering at the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vergennes for two years. His focus is on building connections with the youth, getting to know them, and offering encouragement. For Bill, the most rewarding part is the student



connections he's able to make through his involvement.

## **Kathy Mackey**

HOPE

Kathy Mackey, from Middlebury, has dedicated "many years" as an Inventory Sorter at Marion's Place (HOPE). Working with wonderful individuals and witnessing the incredible items donated by our generous community are what she loves about volunteering. Besides her work at HOPE, Kathy



has served as a Guardian Ad Litem for ten years.

## VOLUNTEERS, WE SALUTE YOU!

We thank the many dedicated volunteers from our community serving with Middlebury Regional EMS and salute all volunteer first responders across the State of Vermont!



## **Anne Lindert**

Porter Medical Center

**Anne Lindert**, of Vergennes, has been volunteering as a **Greeter at Porter** Medical Center for two years. She welcomes visitors and helps guide them to their destinations within the hospital. Anne says, "Volunteering gives me a sense of purpose." She especially enjoys making new friends with



her fellow volunteers through her work.

## Rux Martin

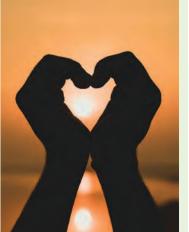
HOPE

Rux Martin, a Ferrisburgh resident, has contributed 5 years of service providing Food Shelf Customer Service at HOPE. She finds it deeply satisfying to provide people with food and delights in exchanging recipe ideas.



**Denny May** HOPE

Denny May, a New Haven resident, has volunteered for about a year providing Food Delivery at HOPE. He appreciates being involved with an organization that does critical work serving those in need, and he values that the food shelf connects local businesses and farmers. He notes, "It doesn't hurt that everyone I know who is associated with the organization is stellar: wonderful people who are a delight to work with and get to



know better." He also volunteers with the Open Door Clinic, Addison Allies, Elderly Services, the food program at the Congregational Church, and Beeman Elementary School. He also served with Meals on Wheels for about six months.



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**Marie Lennon** 

Marie Lennon, a

Porter Medical Center

Middlebury resident, has been volunteering as a Greeter at both Porter Medical Center and Helen Porter for two years. She welcomes visitors and helps direct them to their destinations. Marie, a retired nurse with 22 years of experience, says, "I really missed the interaction with people. I wish I had started volunteering way before

Mary Longey

Town Hall Theater

Middlebury's Mary

Longey has volunteered

Resident Stage Manager

new visitors and school

fifteen years.

as Town Hall Theater's

Mary gives tours to

age children. She is

a self taught techie,

with a range of skills

from setting up sound

performances, to smaller

tasks such as setting up

a microphone for the

Memorial Day Parade

speaker. According

to Erin Jones-Poppe,

Operations Director at

the theater, "She sees

something that needs

to be done around

the theater, such as

in to watch the box

office and sell tickets

in order to give the Box

emptying the trash and

mopping the stage, and

she just does it. Stepping

& lights and sets for



I did; it has actually given me purpose." She would recommend volunteering to anyone who is looking for something to keep them

## Virginia Mazzoni

Porter Medical Center

Middlebury's Virginia

(Gin) Mazzoni has

Office manager a chance to take lunch. Need a Front of House Manager? Need something from the post office? Need a sweet pick me up such as freshly bake brownies or short bread? Mary is your person. Nothing is below her. She takes a lot of pride in the theater as a building and as a community place to teach and learn." Mary is a wealth of knowledge when it comes to THT, and wants to help spread that knowledge to those in the community.





smile, make them feel as comfortable as possible and reassure them if they happen to be worried, even about things that could seem irrelevant. It requires a minimum effort and it's uncanny how much difference it can make. So far, it's worked 100% of the time!" Gin has been volunteering in different contexts (and countries) since she was in her twenties. Currently, she's also volunteering with Age Well, and has been doing that for two years, regularly visiting the same client (whom she now considers a dear friend).







f 💆 🖸

Middlebury, VT 05753

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## WAR VOLUNTEER WEEK





Building a sense of community

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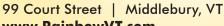




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## We are grateful for all volunteers who help our community grow









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#### Anne McMenamin

HomeShare Vermont

Ripton's **Anne** McMenamin has been volunteering with HomeShare Vermont for a year as a staff volunteer. She interviews potential homeshare hosts and guests, facilitates introductions and matches, and provides ongoing support. Anne says, "I most enjoy the personal work of getting to know the hosts and guests and trying to make a difference in



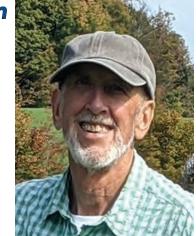
their lives by making the best match." In addition to her work with HomeShare Vermont, she also volunteers at Ilsley Library.

## **Gardner Merriam**

HOPE

**Gardner Merriam**,

from New Haven. has volunteered for 3 years, providing Food Shelf Customer Service at HOPE. He enjoys meeting both the people who utilize HOPE and those who work there, describing them as "great!" Gardner has also delivered dinners at community suppers at the Middlebury



Congregational Church for approximately 3 years.

### Liana Merrill

Porter Medical Center

Liana Merrill, of Middlebury, has volunteered with Porter Medical Center's Palliative Support Services for 1 year. Her volunteer work includes helping with activities at Helen Porter Rehabilitation & Nursina providing companionship to residents, sitting vigil with end-of-life patients, and singing with the Wellspring Singers hospice group. She finds joy in seeing the residents' faces light up and hearing their stories. It makes her day knowing she is able to give them some cheer. She notes that most of the residents



grew up in Vermont, and she loves hearing their stories and memories of their upbringing in this beautiful state. Liana also volunteers as an outings leader with the Green Mountain Club (8 years), at the Dead Creek Visitor Center (7 years), and as a trail and kiosk steward with the Middlebury Area Land Trust (4 years).

## **Rick Miller**

HOPE

Rick Miller, a resident of Middlebury, has contributed 6 years of service at HOPE, providing Food Shelf Customer Service. The interaction with clients and the opportunity to give back to the community are what he enjoys most. Rick has also volunteered at St.



Mary's Church for 3 years.



### **Juniper Nardiello** Smith

**Bristol Mentors** 

Bristol's Juniper Nardiello Smith has volunteered with Bristol Mentors for 1.5 years. She meets with her elementary school aged mentee biweekly. They eat pizza, play games, go for walks, share LOTS of giggles and generally really enjoy each other. They also share custody of their imaginary unicorn, Pinkie Pie. Juniper says, "I love to volunteer because it is so mutually beneficial. I get to be there for somebody that needs a friend and as much wisdom as I try to



impart on her, I wouldn't be surprised if she is really the one teaching me. I love having the opportunity to view the world from such a beautiful, fearless, curious mind. It is inspirational and I am a better person because my mentee is in my life!"

### Mike Nason

Lincon Mentors/HOPE



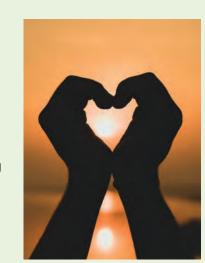
Lincoln's Mike Nason has volunteered with Lincoln Mentors for the last decade. He was the first mentor with the program and has mentored three local students over the past 10 years. Mike enjoys pursuing shared interests with his current mentee. They have fallen into a time tested routine that always starts with a hearty snack, followed by some some sports (tossing a football or raucous game of Slamo) and then some drawing or cooking together. While things are in the oven, they pick

up where they left off in the latest classic novel they have been reading over the course of several months. Mike's mentee appreciates Mike's time with him and his dog, Liddy, and likes seeing him on the sidelines at his hockey games. In addition to his work with Lincoln Mentors, Mike was also on the HOPE board for 6 years and has served as a HOPE Food Shelf Delivery Driver for seven years. He is also currently the president of Norwich University's Friends of the Library.

## Ginie Olson

HOPE

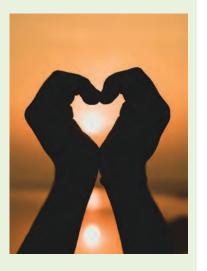
Ginie Olson, from Ferrisburgh, has been a Holiday Shop Helper at HOPE for over a year. She enjoys collaborating with other dedicated volunteers who are committed to making a difference in Addison County.



## Faith Parkins

HOPE

Salisbury's Faith Parkins has dedicated 10 years to volunteering as the Holiday Shop Coordinator at HOPE. She finds joy in interacting with clients and contributing to the community. For the past year, Faith has also lent her time to Neat Repeats.



## WANTEER WEEK WINNER



## **Donna Patterson**

Porter Medical Center

**Donna Patterson of** Vergennes has been volunteering at Porter Medical Center and Helen Porter for four years. On Wednesdays, she helps with Bingo, and on Fridays, she covers the front desk. Donna says, "It makes my week to help the people and make them smile. We joke around, we laugh, and I pick them up when

**Susan Perine** 

Susan Perine, of

volunteered for 1.5 years

as Holiday Shop Staff

Assistant at HOPE. She

enjoys connecting with

to the community, and

helping those in need.

and Administrative

others, contributing

Middlebury, has

**HOPE** 



they are down. Making people happy is all I want to do."

#### Breaking ground **MEMBERS OF THE volunteer**

**Cornwall Outdoor Recreation Area** committee marked a milestone in their work by breaking ground on the 2-acre site just south of Bingham Memorial School on April 13. Shown from left are Meg Harris, Stan Gryzb, Gail Isenberg, Tanya Byker (Cornwall selectboard), Andrea Landsberg, Woody Jackson, Marge Drexler and Mike Winslow (Addison County Regional Planning Commission).

Photo by Sue Johnson



### **Pam Rushton**

Porter Medical Center

Pam Rushton, of Brandon, has been volunteering as a Greeter at Porter Medical Center for two years. As one of the first people patients encounter when they arrive, she enjoys seeing familiar faces and helping them feel welcome. Pam says, "It makes you feel good to do something for others... the group of volunteers is like a small family."



She values the kindness of the hospital staff and the strong sense of community among the volunteers.

## Santo Santoriello

**HOPE** 

#### Santo Santoriello, of Bristol, has been a volunteer at HOPE for three years. He also delivers for Meals on Wheels, is helping a family de-clutter their home, and donates hundreds of pounds of homegrown produce to local food shelves. Over the years, he has donated more than two gallons of blood and shares unique fruits—like



northern kiwi, and oriental pears—as well as nut and fruit tree seedlings with others.

## **Nancy Rucker**

Henry Sheldon Museum

Longtime Sheldon Museum volunteer, Nancy Rucker, claims that "nobody knows" just how long she's been volunteering at the Sheldon, but she estimates it's been just shy of fifty years. Nancy enjoys the museum's rich history and claims it has "sucked her in." She also has an affinity for the museum's namesake, Henry, stating, "He was so interesting and curious about everything. I recognize his foibles and limitations, as part of him and his time, but he was truly so unique. One of the things I love most about Henry is that his handwriting is legible, which for the 19th century is amazing. There are a great deal of important writing and documents that are just so hard to



read, but Henry's writing is very clear." Currently, Nancy is working on chronologically sorting a collection of (mostly undated) letters between a Civil War soldier and his sisters, one of whom lived in Shoreham. She encourages others to volunteer at the museum, noting that there's a wealth of interesting projects to get involved in, and the staff provides strong support for volunteers pursuing their passions.

## Ron Rucker

Henry Sheldon Museum

Ron Rucker has been

volunteering at the Sheldon Museum for the past 5 or 6 years, after initially volunteering with Habitat for Humanity. He likes the museum's inviting atmosphere, where he can contribute in a variety of ways. "I enjoy being useful and I appreciate the recognition from the museum staff of the skills and abilities that I can offer," he shares. As a former librarian, Ron has worked on book organization projects and also helped with facilities tasks, such as painting the porch. Currently, he's focused on smaller projects around the museum, following a major undertaking of organizing the book



collection, which included weeding, subject matter organization, and some cataloguing, often collaborating with Middlebury College student interns. Ron echoes his wife (and longtime Sheldon volunteer), Nancy's, sentiment about the importance of staying connected to the community through volunteer work at the museum.

## Debbie Safran

paw paws, persimmons,

MAUSD Mentoring **Program** 

Starksboro's **Debbie** Safran has been a volunteer with Mt. Abe Mentoring since 2016. According to Mentorship Coordinator, Jacob Freedman, "Her mentee is graduating high school this year and we are so proud of all they've done together. From the Houndstooth Chase Away 5k to weekly catchups about music, theater, and all things pop culture, these two have built a amazing



connection together over the years and are a true testament to the power of mentoring." Debbie and her mentee have been paired for an inspiring eight years!





## 4-H Leaders Who Are Shaping Our Future If you see them say Thank You!

The University of Vermont Extension wants to thank our 4-H leaders, volunteers and Addison 4-H Foundation directors who dedicate hours of time and energy to the 4-H Youth Program in Addison County. These volunteers are the core of the 4-H Youth Program: the very reason for over 100 years of success!

Becky Allen Joe Allen Janelle Ashley Ashley Audet Nancy Audet Courtney Banach Sonya Barber

Tara Barber Laurie Bertrand Gavin Bicknell Victor Bolduc Louise Bowdish Kelsey Bradford John Chamberlin Jason Charest Jacqueline Chase Warren Chase Kylie Chittenden Makayla Davis Elaine Desforges

Susan Gilmore Renee LaCoss

Jeff Lester Dawn Livingston Karissa Livingston Sadie Moulton Kathy Nisun Diane Norris Barbara Palmer Sharlena Payne Michelle Perlee Janet Piper Becky Plouffe Susan Quesnel Abby Reen Kristina Reen Patrick Reen Abby Roleau Bailee Layn-Gordon Maggie Rollins

Tammy Sauve Martha Seifert Robin Severy Ashley Severy-Audet Melinda Siel Karri Smith Shelly Smith Wendy Smith Samantha Sturtevant Wendy Swanson Brittany Trudo Kristy Whipple Cady White Maureen Whitney Stephanie Wilbur Anna Willenbaker

Pam Gevry Scott Gordon Melanie Harrison Tina Evens-Wright Jeanette Hill Kendra Hutchins Jake Jacobs Brian Kayhart Cindy Kayhart Cassandra Kennett Michael Plouffe Jill Wade Jennifer Kennett Kathy Kennett

Laura Lalumiere

Heather Layn

Lise Fifield

Tricia Foster

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## WAR VOLUNTEER WEEK



### Sheri Sullivan

Open Door Clinic

Middlebury's Sheri Sullivan has been an office volunteer at Open Door Clinic for the past year. A former chef and founder of the nonprofit Dinners with Love, Sheri supports clinic staff by managing patient records and has recently led an initiative to stock the clinic's free pantry with culturally appropriate foods for Jamaican patients. Her work reflects her deep understanding of the importance of food in promoting health and comfort. Susannah McCandless,



Communications and Volunteer Coordinator, says, "We enjoy the energy, expertise and commitment that Sheri brings to her volunteer work with Open Door Clinic, and the way she has expanded how well and thoughtfully we serve our patients!"

### **Emma Sekercan**

Willowell Foundation

Emma Sekercan, of Huntington, is a VHCB AmeriCorps member serving at the Willowell Foundation in Bristol, VT. She's currently in the middle of a one year, full-time, term with Willowell. She spends her days at Wren's Nest Forest Preschool hiking, reading books, making healthy snacks, and being a team player. At Wren's Nest, Emma helps the other teachers deliver outdoor early childhood curriculum, through hikes and nature exploration in



the surrounding woods and fields. In the summer, Emma will colead Willowell's outdoor summer camps for children ages 4-6. She is creative and caring and brings fabulous energy to Wren's Nest Forest Preschool.

## **Abigail Sessions**

HomeShare Vermont

Abigail Sessions, of Weybridge, has been a staff volunteer with HomeShare Vermont for 2 years. She helps interview potential homeshare hosts and guests, facilitates introductions and matches, and offers ongoing support throughout the process. Abigail shares, "What I enjoy is helping to make a small dent in the housing shortage and seeing people who



really appreciate the companionship of living together." She also volunteers at Gather and through the Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society.

### **Paul Smith**

Tri-Valley Transit

Paul Smith has been a Volunteer Driver with Tri-Valley Transit for three years. In his role, he transports residents to their medical appointments as well as providing other transportation needs. He says his favorite thing about volunteering is, "Meeting and helping the



amazing array of folks we transport."



## **Patrick Snow**

Brandon Area Food Shelf

Brandon's Patrick Snow has volunteered with the Brandon Area Food Shelf for two years. He greets and assists visitors, receive donations, stocks shelves, and advises the food shelf administrator when supplies are running low. He has also volunteered with the Brandon United



Methodist Church for two years.

## **Deb Tetreault**

Quarry Hill School

Deb Tetreault, of Middlebury, has been volunteering at Quarry Hill School as a Friday Volunteer for several years. She is known for her reliability, warmth, and helpfulness. Erin Davis, who nominated Deb, praises her for the positive impact she has on the classroom environment. Deb's dedication and support



make her an invaluable part of the school community.

## **Jodi Thompson**

Porter Medical Center

New Haven's Jodi Thompson has been volunteering as a Greeter at Porter Medical Center for 16 years. She greets visitors, directs them to their destinations, and often chats with people while they wait in the lobby. Jodi also knits baby hats for the Birthing Center. She says, "I enjoy being a sense of calm to those who come to the hospital



because it can be a very stressful place." For Jodi, the best part of volunteering is connecting with the people she meets.

### Val Tilford HOPE

Val Tilford, from Middlebury, has been a welcoming face as a Receptionist at HOPE for 8 years. Working with wonderful people and meeting new individuals she can assist is something she truly appreciates.



### Steve Webb

Porter Medical Center

Steve Webb, of Middlebury, has been volunteering as a Greeter at Porter Medical Center for 23 years. He welcomes visitors, answers their questions, and helps direct them to where they need to go. Steve aims to make people feel at ease, understanding how intimidating a hospital visit can be. Regarding his favorite aspect of volunteering, he says, "Meeting the people! Meeting patients



and staff and other volunteers!" Steve also volunteers weekly at the Congregational Church of Middlebury, helping with their weekly dinners.



## Here you go!

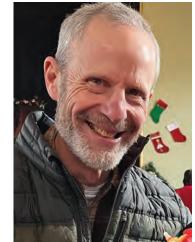
VOLUNTEERS FROM THE Middlebury Union Middle School cross country team hand out water at the checkpoint on Morgan Horse Farm Road in Weybridge during this past October's Middlebury Maple Run. The event, a combined 5K, 10K and half-marathon race staged in Middlebury and Weybridge annually since 2009, attracts hundreds of runners and their family and friends to Addison County. It boosts the local economy and makes this a nicer place to live. But it couldn't be done without support from volunteers who do everything from set up the course to hand out awards. Find out how to volunteer online at www.middleburymaplerun.com.

Independent photo

### **Matthew Witten**

Starksboro Mentoring Program

Starksboro's Matthew Witten has volunteered with the Starksboro Mentoring program for six months. "I love being part of the Robinson School community and seeing how my mentee navigates that community. Kids' group dynamics are fascinating! Also, my mentee and I have a great time together - he is curious and interested in



learning," Matthew says. In addition to mentoring, he also volunteers with the Starksboro food share program.

## Lauren Wright

**HOPE** 

Lauren Wright, of Middlebury, has spent 4 years volunteering to provide food shelf customer service at HOPE. She finds pleasure in engaging in conversations with both clients and staff.



## **Deborah Young**

**HOPE** 

**Deborah Young, of New** Haven, has volunteered for 3 years providing Food Shelf Client Service at HOPE. The people she encounters, the community that is formed, and the ability to help mitigate food insecurity are what she loves about volunteering. For about a decade, Deborah has also volunteered at the



Charter House Coalition/ Community suppers.



## WAR VOLUNTEER WEEK WITH



## Volunteering enriches civic life in Vermont

The 2025 Vermont Civic Health Index, which was released earlier this year, offers a look at the state's civic life, revealing considerable strengths as well as areas for growth across six key domains. The Index also spotlights some of the organizations that offer unique support for civic health across the state and presents original data from the Vermont Youth Civic Health Survey.

Vermonters rank high in crucial areas of civic health such as helping neighbors, attending public meetings, participating in groups, and staying well informed. Meanwhile, findings regarding Vermont's youth, people of color, and other groups offer insights about how we can broaden participation opportunities and deepen healthy engagement.

The group that created the Vermont Civic Health Index was spearheaded by the Vermont Secretary of State's Office. Key players in the study were the National Conference on Citizenship and the Center for Rural Studies at UVM. An advisory group included SerVermont (Vermont's State Service Commission), UP for Learning (a dynamic non-profit organization that supports Vermont educational efforts), Vermont and AmeriCorps Humanities Vermont.

While the report looked at many aspects of society, Here are some key findings around Volunteering and Donating in the Green Mountain State.

country for informal helping and 13th for formal volunteerism.

» Volunteerism increases as age, income and educational attainment increase, except for youth (student) volunteering. Rates are highest for middle and high school students.

» Vermont ranks 2nd in the county for donations to political organizations.

Next Steps: Vermont has a strong culture of volunteerism and mutual aid that needs to be supported. We need to continue to invest in and expand initiatives that work, and better understand barriers to volunteerism so that opportunities for engagement are equitably available across different groups.

### FINDINGS IN MORE DEPTH

» Donate to charitable, religious organizations & Volunteerism

Donating money and time (volunteerism) are essential forms of civic engagement that are highly dependent on an individual's means and abilities.

Volunteerism can bring people together from different beliefs and backgrounds as they work to address local challenges. The act of community volunteering contributes to the development of social capital like enhancing understanding among neighbors, increasing communication skills and building empathy.

During times of disaster. individuals coming together to help their neighbors is facilitated when the foundations of respect and understanding are established.

» Vermont ranks 5th in the Resilience is improved for make a difference. In many ways, individuals and communities when they feel connected with neighbors and have experienced working together for common goals.

In Vermont, volunteering takes many shapes, and our language around civic engagement does not always capture the many ways that people give back. Mutual aid organizations have been very active during the pandemic and the recent floods. The individuals who are active in those networks may not even see themselves as "volunteers," but simply as community members doing what is needed in a time of crisis.

In the Volunteering and Civic Life in America Summary from 2021, Vermont ranked 5th in the country for rate of informal helping (63.9%).

On the more formal end of the spectrum, Vermont's rate of formal volunteerism is 29.1%. Vermont has a high number of nonprofit organizations that rely on volunteers and the state's municipal infrastructure depends on boards and commissions that have a great deal of responsibility but often offer no pay or only a small stipend. It takes more than 5,000 elected and appointed municipal officials to make Vermont's local governments work, with most of these being volunteers.

Volunteering and donating are impacted by the level of trust people have in their communities and the feelings people have regarding whether they believe they can

volunteering and donating can be described as existing on a scale of community engagement. Donating money to organizations is a less direct way to participate in civic life than taking time to volunteer and be present in a community setting. And yet, donating money is often a more accessible way for many to contribute who might not otherwise be able to volunteer their time.

Availability of time to volunteer and finances to donate are two inherent challenges within this civic health indicator. Programs like AmeriCorps operating in Vermont provide embedded resources like living allowances to those in service. While it can be challenging to live on that allowance alone, by covering basic living expenses, these programs provide an example of how to increase access to service opportunities for those who couldn't afford to serve otherwise. As more volunteerism is present in a community, more community members will spend more time being civically engaged and helping

#### **VERMONT'S NATIONAL STANDING**

» Vermonters tend to volunteer at a higher rate than the U.S. overall.

» Vermonters donate at a rate similar to that of the nation overall (50% and 48%, respectively). In 2021 Vermonters were the secondmost likely of any U.S. state to donate to political organizations (Vt.-15%, U.S.-9%).

» In 2021 Vermonters volunteered more than the U.S. population (Vt.-29%, U.S.- 23%)

» In 2021 Vermont ranked 13th out of all states for the percentage of the population that reported having recently volunteered.

29% of Vermonters reported volunteering compared to 23% of the entire nation

50% of Vermonters reported donating compared to 48% of the entire nation.

» The percent of Vermonters donating \$25 or more to a charity or religious organization has declined slightly over recent time while the percent of Vermonters volunteering has seen a more significant decline, by 8 percentage points between 2019 and 2021.

Volunteerism increases as age, income and educational attainment increase, except for youth volunteering. Volunteering is highest during school attendance, when our educational system provides robust curricular support for this; it dips significantly afterward, then slowly increases



CLARA CARROLL, WITH her two children, got outside the college bubble by volunteering. It changed her life.

## How chopping onions as a volunteer led one Vermonter to change lives

Clara Carroll grew up in South in. But I'm not alone in that at all. Starksboro and now lives just three miles down the road in Lincoln. Hidden within that short distance is a stretch of time spent out west, worked in the field for years when she studied political science at Colorado College.

To get out of the "college bubble" and connect more deeply with her community, she and a friend started volunteering at a group living home in Colorado Springs.

She recalls one person who would hang out in the kitchen while they were making dinner. "I remember chopping onions and garlic, and this man would start talking about his life, the places he'd lived, the people he'd known, the things he was proud of and the things he was ashamed of. I remember feeling so honored to hear someone's stories. To be let

"I loved it," Clara says. "The work allowed me to tap into the place I was living in a very different way, and that felt very rewarding. It felt like I had something to offer there. That's when I started thinking that social work might be my career path." She was right.

After completing her bachelor's degree, Clara returned to Vermont and spent the next few years working at a homeless shelter, in several afterschool programs, and in the Burlington Housing Authority's offender reentry program, which serves people coming out of the Chittenden County Correctional Facility.

She eventually settled in at the Parent-Child Center in Middlebury, which serves families across Addison County. Clara says her work is primarily "based in the relationships I create with people. The practicalities of what they need help with—housing, healthcare, addictions, or working with family services—are secondary."

While she's always been able to make meaningful connections with people, Clara found that the experience of having children (she and her partner have a 4- and 5-year-old) gave her yet another way to tap into her role and her community differently. "Having kids makes things heavier when things are hard, or when things are not going well for a child. It hits me in a deeper way. At the same time, it's helped me understand more deeply how difficult it is, what it feels like to not sleep for days on end, and the way it can impact your life. It gives me infinite empathy for the challenges

that come about," she says. As "a part of the 'village" of support in her community, Clara needed support from the village as well. For the last three and a half years, Clara has been pursuing a master's degree in clinical mental health counseling at Vermont State University (VTSU). She's enrolled in the weekend format for working professionals, where students take one class at a time and meet with their cohort one weekend a month.

days a week so she can do her internship two days a week. "It's a wild time in life to be working, interning, studying, and raising a 4- and 5-year-old. It's a lot to fit Assistance Corp.

Others in my cohort are in similar circumstances."

Many of her peers have also and are juggling jobs, families, and school. Clara admires their collective level of expertise, commitment, and belief in doing hard things together. "They're all really talented, skilled people who we need doing this kind of work,"

For many of them, including Clara, VSAC funding has made their studies more affordable. When Clara enrolled at VTSU, a state grant helped pay her tuition. While that funding is no longer available, she's now receiving a Vermont Mental Health Forgivable Loan, an interest-free loan that pays up to 100% of tuition. That program, administered by VSAC and funded by the state of Vermont, forgives one year of student loan debt for every year the student works in Vermont's mental health field post-graduation.

Clara says going back to school while supporting a family has made things tight financially, and she wouldn't have started the program without the funding available through the original grant and wouldn't have been able to continue without the forgivable loan. "I feel very grateful."

Now, she's about to finish her second internship (her first was at the Parent-Child Center) at Mt. Abraham Middle/High School in Bristol, where her partner teaches middle school and where Clara went to school. Some of the same faculty members who taught Clara are still there, and she has delighted in being part of the school community in a different way. While many mental health providers choose not to practice in their home communities—to avoid the small-town realities of running into clients at the grocery store or at your child's school— Clara sees these connections as a

"There are ways to manage it gracefully, especially if you bring the same approach you bring to your work: letting others take the lead on how they want to interact with you. When people you work with professionally also see you as a human and see that they have things in common with you, it can be helpful."

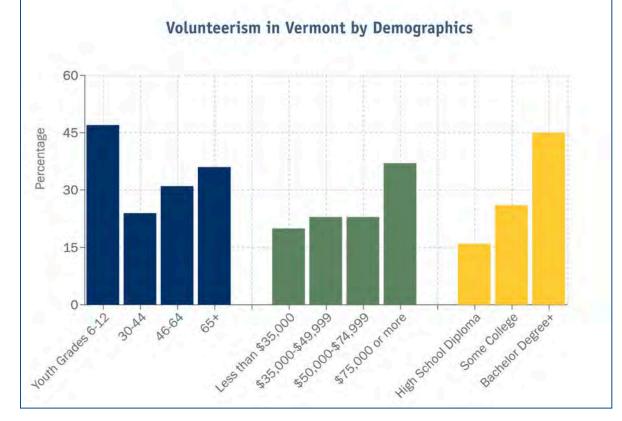
When she graduates, Clara hopes to expand into more clinical work at her current agency. But no matter where she ends up practicing, she wants it to be local. There are a lot of people in my own community who face a lot of obstacles and aren't really heard or seen. I feel passionate about sticking with that."

A decade and a half after volunteering at the group home in Colorado Springs, Clara is still practicing her gift for letting others be seen and heard, the same way she offered a listening ear to the man in the kitchen. But Clara sees it more as a gift she receives.

Now in the practicum portion me every time someone welcomes of the program, Clara works three me in—to their home or to their story. I feel totally honored."

"It's surprising and incredible to

Editor's note: This story was provided by the Vermont Student



## **Mentors** enrich kids' lives now & improve their future

organization Mentoring Vermont partnered with Comcast for the 10th straight year to recognize the 2025 Vermont Ambassadors of Mentoring. These mentees and mentors have committed to working with Mentor Vermont to raise awareness of the benefits of youth mentoring, the necessity for greater state investment in youth mentoring, and the need for more volunteer mentors to ensure young people in Vermont have supportive mentoring relationships they need to thrive.

"Comcast believes in helping to foster the next generation of innovators, entrepreneurs, storytellers and creators who will build a future of unlimited possibilities," said Carolyne Hannan, senior vice president of Comcast's New England Region. "For more than a decade, we've been a proud partner with Mentor Vermont to support its efforts to enrich the lives of young people throughout the state by matching them with positive role models."

Among the eight Ambassadors of Mentoring matches for 2025 was Tracy & Edorah Frazer of the Mount Abraham Unified School District Mentoring program..



## Getting hands dirty for history

AROUND A DOZEN members of the Middlebury Garden Club give the Sheldon Museum gardens a spring cleaning last week in preparation for planting at the end of this month.

After the initial early-season work is done, these volunteers have monthly "garden parties" to remove weeds and perform any other needed maintenance chores. In addition, members sign up to visit the gardens each week in between for watering (if needed), deadheading to keep the blooms coming, and any other more urgent tasks.

Over the course of the growing season, an estimated 25 people help out in one or more of these

To support the Middlebury Garden Club, become a member. Or go to its annual plant sale, which is scheduled for May 31. Photo by Wally Elton

The Ambassadors of Mentoring engaging with Mentor Vermont program provides a unique opportunity for mentoring pairs to help spread awareness on opportunities and promotion the impact of mentoring while

and the mentoring field through a number of different leadership activities, mentoring pairs will spending more time together. In experience what it is like to

directly impact their communities through mission-driven work.

To learn more about the Ambassadors of Mentoring Program, please visit mentoryt. org/ambassadors-of-mentoring.

## **Summer Activity Guide**



Programs, Athletics and Special Events

Registration Site: middleburyvt.myrec.com • townofmiddlebury.org • May - August 2025



## A family-friendly music series

supported by community donations on the Village Green in Middlebury, VT

#### Sunday, July 13, 2025

7:00 Durham County Poets:

Canadian band offering blues, folk, soul, country, gospel & New Orleans iazz

#### Monday, July 14, 2025

Noon Brown Bag - Gaëlle, Marc & Mathis: Songs, poetry, music

#### 7:00 Caitlin Canty:

Singer/songwriter whose music carves a line through folk, blues & country ballads

#### 8:30 Ray Vega **Afro-Caribbean Jazz Ensemble:**

VT's own jazz, Latin & funk band

#### **Tuesday, July 15, 2025**

Noon Brown Bag - Dixieland in the Shire with Middlebury Community Music Center faculty

7:00 Ordinary Elephant: Louisiana duo offering rich storytelling & original songs with banjo, guitar & mandolin

8:30 Honey & Soul: VT's own indie/folk/soul songwriting band with three-part harmony

#### Wednesday, July 16, 2025

Noon Brown Bag - No Strings **Marionette Company** 

7:00 Ali McGuirk: A rocking guitarist and her Bay State band perform a double set

#### **Saturday, July 19, 2025**

7:00 Vermont Jazz Ensemble Street Dance:

Big band sounds welcome you to boogie & jive!

#### **Thursday, July 17, 2025**

Noon Brown Bag - Magician Tom Verner

#### 7:00 Mathis Andersen Trio:

Led by an up-and-coming French musician performing original music accompanied by piano, accordion & guitars

#### 8:30 Dobet Gnahoré:

World music Grammy winner & her band of French & Tunisian musicians present a repertoire of song, percussion & theater

#### Friday, July 18, 2025

Noon Brown Bag - Juggler **Extraordinaire Jason Tardy** 

**7:00 Buffalo Rose:** Six-person Americana band from PA featuring spiraling harmonies & propulsive rhythms

8:30 Madaila: VT's psych pop rock band is back. Bring your dancing shoes!

Rain or Shine! Check our website prior to shows for schedule changes.

## festivalonthegreen.org

Visit us online for volunteer opportunities or to make a donation.

#### **General Information**

#### Mission Statement

The Middlebury Parks & Recreation Department (MPR) shall provide lands, facilities, and services for community members of all ages and all income levels. It shall provide programs for both sport and leisure. The department shall serve as instructor, facilitator, and partner in efforts to promote and improve quality of life for participants. MPR will work with an involved public and business community to provide a healthy and aesthetically pleasing environment with opportunities for cultural growth.

The department should be flexible enough to meet the changing needs and tastes of the community, while finding creative ways to deliver recreation programs and facilities that are affordable to the residents of Middlebury.

#### **Contact Us**

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Physical Address: 154 Creek Road

Mailing Address: 77 Main St, Middlebury, VT 05753

Other Contact Info: Phone: 802-458-8014/15

Facebook: Town of Middlebury Parks and Recreation

#### Middlebury Parks & Recreation Committee

**Greg Boglioli** – Chair & East Middlebury Representative **Tricia Allen** – Ilsley Library Representative

Bill Ford – Memorial Sports Center Representative

Ethan Murphy – Middlebury At-Large

Melissa Kin – Middlebury At-Large

Mark Wilch – Middlebury At-Large

Megan Curran – Middlebury At-Large

Isabel Gogarty - Middlebury At-Large

Karen Duguay – ACSD Representative

Virginia Silvey – Alternate

#### STAFF OF MIDDLEBURY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**Scott Bourne – Director of Parks and Recreation** 

802-458-8015

sbourne@townofmiddlebury.org

**Amber Hunt - Program Coordinator** 

802-458-8014

ahunt@townofmiddlebury.org

**Brian Kiel – Grounds and Maintenance -** 802-388-8100 Ext. 219

MiddRec Maintenance @town of middle bury.org

#### INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Programs may be cancelled in the event of severe weather or power outages. MPR encourages you to do the following if you have any questions: Call: MPR Offices, 802-458-8015 Check: Facebook - Town of Middlebury Parks & Recreation

#### **ADVERTISING**

The Addison Independent prints and distributes this publication four times per year. We welcome your advertisement for a business, program or event in our publication for a fee; please contact us for more specific information: ads@addisonindependent.com or 388-4944.

#### **RESERVATIONS-** Facilities and Sports Fields

Middlebury Parks & Recreation Department requests that all groups planning to use our facilities or fields please notify us in advance by making a reservation. Anyone wishing to make a reservation must complete a facility use application, available in our offices or online at the Town website. Facility Use Request Forms are considered on a first come, first serve basis, depending on availability. Rental fees may apply. For additional information regarding availability, rates, and reservations, contact the MPR offices at (802) 458-8014



#### NON-RESIDENT POLICY

Non-Residents of Middlebury are allowed to register for all Parks and Recreation programs. Non-Residents will be charged an additional fee of 15% for each program registered for. A Non-Resident is defined as someone who does not live in Middlebury or pay property taxes to the Town of Middlebury.

#### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

Middlebury Parks and Recreation is pleased to be able to offer scholarships to participate in all of our programs. The scholarship guidelines are based on the free and reduced lunch guidelines within the schools. If you'd like to apply for a scholarship or more information, please contact our office

#### **ACCESIBILITY**

Individuals with or without disabilities may register for all programs offered by MPR provided program safety can be met. The Department provides reasonable accommodation for people with disabilities.

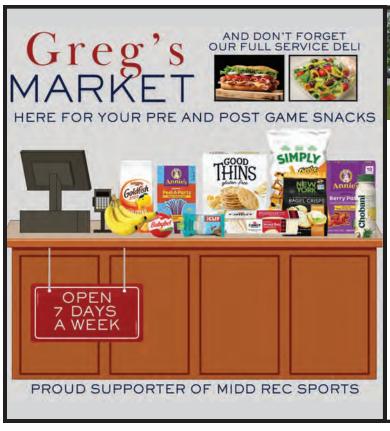
Contact MPR offices in advance of the program start date to discuss accommodation on a case-by-case basis.



**REFUND POLICY** 

If you need to cancel your registration before the second session of the program, we will refund you a pro-rated registration fee, minus a 10% processing fee. After attending the second session eligibility for a refund is void.

- Please be aware that refund requests may take up to 30 days to process.
- Every effort is made to ensure that the information in this guide is accurate. We reserve the right to add, withdraw, or revise programs or events as needed. For more updated information, please visit our website often.





## Important Dates

#### MAY

2nd Swim Lesson, Swim team, Tennis, Golf, Basketball, Volleyball, Soccer camp registrations open.(8:00am)

**5th** Gymnastics Camp Registration Opens (5:30pm)

11th Vermont Sun Run Half Marathon

#### **JUNE**

**9th** Swim Team Practices Begin (Preseason)

**16th** Town Pool Opens

Camp Kookamunga Week 1- Blast off to Summer.

Challenger Soccer Camp Session 1

MiddNourishes Free Lunch Program Begins

21st Vermont Sun Triathlon-

Lake Dunmore Olympic Triathlon-

23rd Camp Kookamunga Week 2- Need for Speed

**RMGC Golf Camp Session 1** 

**Vermont Voltage Soccer Camp** 

Middlebury Tennis Session 1

Swim Lessons: Session 1

.

Gymnastics Camp: Session 1

30th Camp Kookamunga Week 3: Get some Air.

Middlebury Tennis Session 2 Gymnastics Camp: Session 2

#### **JULY**

7th Camp Kookamunga Week 4- Sliding through Summer

RMGC Golf Camp Session 2 Middlebury Tennis Session 3 Swim Lessons: Session 2

Gymnastics Camp: Session 3

14th Camp Kookamunga Week 5 - Staycation

Monarch SC Summer Soccer Camp

Middlebury Tennis Session 4

Gymnastics Camp: Session 4

Middle School Volleyball Camp

Middle School Basketball Camp

### **JULY** (continued)

19th Vermont Sun Triathlon-

Branbury Classic-

21st Camp Kookamunga Week 6: Kookamunga Olympics

Monarch SC Middle School Prep Camp

Middlebury Tennis Session 5

Swim Lessons: Session 3

Gymnastics Camp: Session 5

**28th** Camp Kookamunga Week 7: Farm Days

Middlebury Mayhem Basketball Camp

Middlebury Tennis Session 6

**Skateboard Camp** 

#### **AUGUST**

4th Camp Kookamunga Week 8 - Make a splash.

**Duncan Hoops Basketball Camp** 

Swim Lessons: Session 4 (Evening Session)

Gymnastics Camp: Session 6

**11th** Camp Kookamunga Week 9 - Rolling out of Summer.

RMGC Golf Camp Session 3

Challenger Soccer Camp Session 2

Gymnastics Camp: Session 7

17th Vermont Sun Triathlon-

Lake Dunmore Olympic Triathlon-

**18th** Camp Kookamunga Week 10: That's a wrap

**23rd** Town Pool Closes (Tentative)

MiddNourishes Free Lunch Program Ends

28th Fall Activity Guide Released

#### **SEPTEMBER**

**7th** Woofstock

9th Fall Programs Begin

#### **2025 Activity Guide Release Dates**

Summer- April 24th

Fall- August 28th

Winter- November 6th



## Seeds & Seed Starter Products

• Cow Pots • Jiffy Greenhouses • Jiffy Pots • Jiffy Pellet refills, grow plugs, grow lights, heat mats • Wide variety of seed-starting soils. CHOOSE FROM Botanical Interests, High Mowing, Livingston,

Cornucopia, Seedway, Renee's Garden.





Herb & Veggie Starter Plants

#### including

- Seed potatoes
- Onion sets
- Asparagus &
- Strawberry roots

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Gas, charcoal & gas/charcoal combinations

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Best value, selection & price anywhere!

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## MIDDLEBURY AGWAY

338 Exchange St., Middlebury • **802-388-4937** 

Monday - Friday 8-6, Saturday 8-5 • Sunday 9-4



**OPEN** 





### **AQUATICS 2025**

**OPERATING SCHEDULE JUNE 16th- AUGUST 23rd** (schedule subject to change)

7:15am-10:15am- Swim Team Practice 10:15am-12:15pm- Swimming Lessons 12:15pm-1:00pm Adult Lap Swim 1:00pm-4:45pm- Camp/Open Swim 4:45pm-5:45pm- Adult Lap Swim 6:00pm-8:00pm- Family Swim

Kiddie pool- 5 years and younger is open from 12:15pm-8:00pm Adult Supervision Required

#### **Daily Fees**

Youth (15 and younger) - \$5.00 Adults (16+) - \$7.00 Senior Citizens (55+)-\$4.00

#### Season Passes

Youth \$75 (Non-Resident \$86.25)
Adult \$90 (Non-Resident \$103.50)
Family- Up to 6 people \$150.00
(Non-Resident \$172.50)
Senior Citizens (55+) \$50 (Non-Resident \$57.50)

### **Middlebury Nourishes**

Free Summer Meals for Kids 2-18!

WHEN: Monday through Friday • 12-1pmStarting June 16th and ending August23rd

WHERE: Mary Hogan School and Middlebury Union Middlebury Middle School

WHO: Anyone between the ages of 2 through 18, No Registration. Just come!

Lunch is free and open to all children and youth who want to have lunch.

Middlebury Nourishes does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status

## Kick Back this summer with TaeKwonDo KICKS



Learn some new skills
Meet New Friends
Increase Confidence
and Focus
Cross train for Sports

Running regular classes all summer
No contracts, month-to-month commitment
Accepting new students anytime • First Class is Free to Try Out











Classes are available for preschool-age through grandparents in 4 locations: Middlebury, Vergennes, Hinesburg, and Orwell. The first class is free to try out! Call 802-377-0476 or email tkdkicks101@yahoo.com for information.

#### MIDDLEBURY SWIM TEAM

Coaches: Aidan Chance & Carina Bellmann Contact Information: middleburyswimteam@

gmail.com

**Dates and Times:** June 9th – June 12th

Monday-Thursday: (Preseason)

Mini Marlins: 4:00pm-4:30pm Marlins Group: 4:30pm-5:15pm Super Marlins: 5:15pm-6:15pm

June 16th (Regular Season) Practice M-F For **Supers & Marlins Super Marlins:** 7:15am-8:45am **Marlins Group**: 8:45am-9:45am

Mini Marlins: 9:45am-10:15am

Fun Friday: All Groups: 9:45am-10:15am

\*\* Monday & Wednesday Evening Practice: Coaches invitation only. \*\*

**Location: Middlebury Town Pool** 

Fees: Super Marlins: \$240(\$276.00non-res.)

**Marlins:** \$225(\$258.75 non-res.) **Mini Marlins:** \$185(\$212.75 non-res.)

Scholarships are available - for more scholarship information please call 802-458-8014.

Dual-meets (two-team competitions) are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from the end of June until the end of July. Meets start at 6pm and last around two hours.

\*\*A distance meet is held midseason to provide swimmers the opportunity to qualify for distance events at the State Championship meet. All swimmers are encouraged to attend.

More info to come at a later time! Qualifying swim team members may choose to compete at The Champlain Valley Swim League Championship Meet right here in MIDDLEBURY; the Vermont State Championship at UVAC in White River Junction. (Dates will be finalized later.)

Looking for a fun way to meet great families, develop a lifelong sport, be a part of a team, and make the most of your summer? Come join the Middlebury Swim Team! The team is divided into skill-level practice groups so each swimmer can develop at a comfortable pace. Not sure which practice group is right for your swimmer? Not to worry, MIDD

coaches will help swimmers and their parents find their best fit!

Mini Marlins: swimmers ages 5-8 with a competitive spirit and the need for experience. They will continue to improve rhythmic breathing and competitive stroke skills. As skills improve, swimmers are encouraged to compete in meets. Swimmers who can swim 25 yards independently are welcome to

join this group. Swimmers who can swim 25 yards both freestyle and backstroke independently are welcome to join this group. If your swimming isn't quite there yet we encourage you to enroll in swimming lessons for another season prior to joining the swim team.

**Marlins:** experienced 8 & under, 9–10-year-old, and newer 11–12-year-old swimmers. Emphasis is placed on stroke development, correct technique, and building swimming endurance. Competitive preparation is introduced.

**Super Marlins:**13-year-old and older swimmers (10, 11 & 12-year-old at the coaches' discretion). Emphasis is placed on intensive water training with a continued focus on endurance, commitment, and competition. Stroke technique is reviewed as necessary and race strategy is reinforced. All Super Marlins serve as role models for younger teammates.

**Apparel:** Team suits are not required but may be purchased: More to come later

**Parents:** Parents will need to that the opportunity to try different jobs early in the season to match their talents to the many tasks needed to run a swim meet. From scorers to concessions, from timers to ribbons, there is something for everyone and a way for all to contribute to the fun and success of our team. **We really need help from ALL parents.** 

\*Swimtopia is the swim management tool that coaches use to enter swimmers in meets. Please download the free application prior to the season starting.

Swimmers are expected to compete in meets.









## Don't miss this historic event, fun for the whole family!

#### Friday June 27th & Saturday June 28th

Come celebrate the official opening of the Town Hall Theater's new wing, and the launch of the new outdoor Maloney Public Performance Plaza and Tilly Stage.

Featuring headliner musicians from Twiddle's Mihali to famed jazz icon Rodney Marsalis

Plus, food trucks, magic, pop-up costume photo booth, and more!

## Summer Sounds Concert Series

FREE weekly live music series with food trucks and bar on Town Hall Theater's new outdoor Maloney Plaza and Tilly Stage!

June 27-August 29







Friday June 27th 5-8pm: Twiddle's Mihali
Saturday July 5th 5:30-7pm: Connor Young Quartet
Saturday July 12th 5:30-7pm: Julianna Luna Trio
Sunday July 20th 11am: Windborne Community Sing
Saturday July 26th 5:30-7pm: The Travelling Middleburys
Saturday August 2nd 5:30-7pm: Sarah King
Saturday August 9th 5:30-7pm: Zach Nevins Quintet
Saturday August 16th 5:30-7pm: Atom & The Orbits
Saturday August 23rd 5:30-7pm: Middlebury New Filmmakers Event
Friday August 29th 5:30-7pm: Bobby Alu









## Bread and Puppet Theater

**Fall Circus Tour September 7 at 4pm**Addison County Fair Grounds

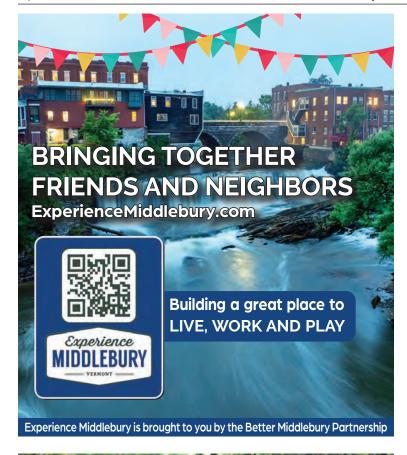
Sponsored by



**Learn more at townhalltheater.org** 802-382-9222 • 72-76 Merchants Row, Middlebury, VT 05753

Follow us on IG @thtmidd and FB @townhalltheatervt.

THT would like to thank The Vermont Arts Council and those who have donated to Membership. We couldn't do this without you!





#### **SWIM LESSONS**

#### Session I: June 23rd-July 3rd (2 weeks)

Sec A: Level 1	11:00-11:30
Sec B: Level 2	10:30-11:00
Sec C: Level 3	10:30-11:00
Sec D: Level 4	11:00-11:30
Sec E: Parent & Child	11:30-12:00
Sec F: Preschool Level 1	11:00-11:30
Sec G: Preschool Level 2	10:30-11:00
Sec H: Flex 1	11:30-12:00
Sec I: Flex 2	11:30-12:00

#### Session II: July 7th- July 18th (2 weeks)

Sec A: Level 1	11:00-11:30
Sec B: Level 2	10:30-11:00
Sec C: Level 3	10:30-11:00
Sec D: Level 4	11:00-11:30
Sec E: Parent & Child	11:30-12:00
Sec F: Preschool Level 1	11:00-11:30
Sec G: Preschool Level 2	10:30-11:00
Sec H: Flex 1	11:30-12:00
Sec I: Flex 2	11:30-12:00

#### Session II: July 21st – Aug 1st (2 weeks)

Sec A: Level 1	11:00-11:30
Sec B: Level 2	10:30-11:00
Sec C: Level 3	10:30-11:00
Sec D: Level 4	11:00-11:30
Sec E: Parent & Child	11:30-12:00
Sec F: Preschool Level 1	11:00-11:30
Sec G: Preschool Level 2	10:30-11:00
Sec H: Flex 1	11:30-12:00
Sec I: Flex 2	11:30-12:00

## Session IV: Aug 4th-August 15th (2 weeks) \*\*NIGHT SESSION\*\*

Sec A: Level 1	6:00-6:30
Sec B: Level 2	5:30-6:00
Sec C: Level 3	5:30-6:00
Sec D: Level 4	6:00-6:30
Sec E: Parent & Child	6:30-7:00
Sec F: Preschool Level 1	6:00-6:30
Sec G: Preschool Level 2	5:30-6:00
Sec H: Flex 1	6:30-7:00
Sec I: Flex 2	6:30-7:00

#### \*\*Registration opens Friday May 2nd @8:00am

- \*\*Lessons are held Monday-Thursday.
- \*\*Fridays are reserved as a make-up day for cancellations due to weather
- \*\*Private Lessons: Private and semi-private lessons are available upon request. Arrangements are made through pool staff.

#### Fees: \$130.00- Resident \$149.50- Non-Resident

#### Parent and Child for ages 6 months to 36 months

(must be accompanied by an adult) This class will teach your child to become more comfortable in water, so they are willing and ready to learn to swim. Basic skills taught include adjusting to water environment, comfort holding a front or back position in water and demonstrating breath control (blowing bubbles. Etc.)

#### **Preschool Aquatics (3 Levels)**

Ages 3 and up. Designed to give children a positive developmentally appropriate aquatic learning experience. Level 1 helps orient young preschool children to aquatic environment and gain basic skills. Level 2 helps children gain greater independence in the water using basic skills, Level 3 helps children start to gain basic swimming propulsive skills to be comfortable in and around water. Each level must be completed before advancing to next.

#### Learn-To-Swim (Levels 1 and 2) Ages 6 and up.

Instructors will teach to swimmers' ability and confidence. Level 1 focuses on skills such as water entry and exit, bobbing, blowing bubbles through nose and mouth, opening eyes underwater and retrieving objects. Level 1 must be passed to move to next level. Level 2 participants must be able to perform kicks, basic arm strokes and be comfortable with face in water. This level focuses on jumping feet first into the water, fully submerging and holding breath, floating face down in the water, back float, changing direction while swimming on front and back and continued work on swimming on front and back. Level 2 must be completed before advancing to level 3.

#### **Stroke Development (Level 3)**

Level 3 builds on previously learned skills by providing additional practice. Participants learn the survival float, front crawl with rotary breath and elementary backstroke. Headfirst entry into water is introduced and treading skills are improved with scissor and dolphin kicks. Level 3 must be passed before advancing to level 4.

#### **Stroke Improvement (Level 4)**

Level 4 develops participants confidence in the strokes learned in level 3 and improves other aquatic skills. In level 4 participants improve their skills and increase their endurance by swimming familiar strokes (front crawl, elementary backstroke) for greater distances. Participants also learn the back crawl, breaststroke and butterfly and the basics of turning at a wall. Level 4 must be completed to advance to level 5.

#### **Stroke Refinement (Level 5)**

In level 5 participants refine their performance of all strokes and increase their distances. Flip turns on the front and back are also introduced. Diving is refined. Level 5 must be completed to advance to level 6.

#### **Swimming and Skill Proficiency**

The objectives of this level, the final level of the American Red Cross learn-to-swim program, are to refine the strokes so participants can swim them with ease, efficiency, power, and smoothness while going greater distances.

## 2025 DUNCAN HOOPS BASKETBALL CAMP

August 4th-August 8th Grades 2nd-12th

(We will keep grades 2-3, 4-5, 6-7 and 8+ together.)

Please help welcome Ernie Duncan and his team to Middlebury for their 2nd year camp here in Middlebury. A daily 3-hour camp for 5 days working on all aspects of the game of basketball.

Duncan Hoops and their training team are coming down for their first ever camp in Middlebury. Led by Head Trainer and former Vermont

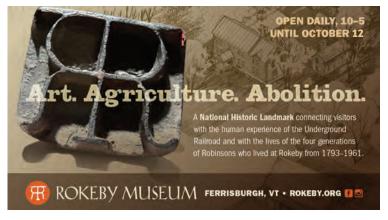
Catamount Ernie Duncan, their staff is filled with experience. They train all ages from 2nd graders all the way to professional athletes! You can see what they are all about by visiting Duncanhoops.com!

Children going into grades 2nd-5th

will practice from 8am-11am daily.

Children going into grades 6th-12th will practice from 1pm-4pm daily.

Cost: \$200.00 (res) \$230.00 (Non-Res) Registration: Online or in person





## Keep the News Rolling!

Our parks, our programs, our people — they're what make this community shine.
ADDY ALL-STARS help power the local stories

that bring us together and keep us connected.



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## MIDDLEBURY MAYHEM YOUTH BASKETBALL CAMP

July 28th- Aug 1st Grades 3-9



If your child loves playing basketball and is interested in taking his or her game to the next level, then this is the perfect camp for them! Players will receive instruction from Coach Randy Stockwell with assistance from local players and coaches. We will focus on

perfecting the fundamental skills while giving your players the tools to be successful as they move up through the local basketball program.

This camp will include specialized drills, fun games and scrimmages every day. Campers will also receive a T-shirt on the last day of camp.

#### Children going into grades 3rd-6th

will practice from 10am-12pm daily.

The cost for this age group is \$110 dollars for Residents and \$120 for Non-Residents

#### Children going into grades 7th-9th

will practice from 1pm-4pm daily.

The cost for this age group is \$135 dollars for Residents and \$150 for Non-Residents

#### Registration will begin Friday May 2nd.

For more information contact Amber Hunt 802-458-8014 or ahunt@townofmiddlbury.org



## Middlebury Skatepark Project Skateboard Sessions July 28th-August 1st

Description: These bite sized afternoon skateboard sessions are intended for all abilities. We'll take over a portion of the Recreation Center parking lot, add a few skatepark elements, and session them in a fun and supportive environment. You can expect to be outside, to be physically active, to learn something new at any level, and to have a blast with friends new and old. We will have access to shade, water, and restrooms inside. We will also host at least one session at the Middlebury



Mini at Recreation Park. Campers should bring a skateboard, helmet, pads, sneakers, a snack, sunscreen, and a water bottle. Skateboards, helmets, and pads are available to use at no cost if preferred.

Where: Recreation Gym (Creek Road)

Cost: TBD

When: July 28th-August 1st

Time: 5pm-7pm Who: Ages 7 & up

Contact info for questions: middleburyskatepark@gmail.com

**Registration:** Tuesday May 2nd.



This 50/50 fundraiser features stunning contemporary artwork on exhibit in the Museum's historic kitchen and an opportunity to directly support artists and the Museum!

#### Featured artists include:

Todd Anderson
Jim Bruce
Fran Bull
Judi Danforth
Bethany Farrell
Pamela Fogg
Michaela
Granstrom
Kate Gridley
Steve Hadeka
Leigh Harder
Pam Heywood
Elisa Jahrenfelt

Judy Albright

Caleb Kenna
Michael P. Kin
Rebecca Kinkead
Kathleen Kolb
Fred Lower
Jill Madden
Jane Ploughman
Jennifer Roberts
Rose Robinson
Hannah Sessions
Pamela Smith
John Vincent
and more!

Bidding will occur online. Art will be on exhibit at the Museum from May 21-Sept. 6. Visit henrysheldonmuseum.org to see art work and to bid!



#### Henry Sheldon Museum

One Park Street ~ Middlebury ~ 802-388-2117
HenrySheldonMuseum.org

#### 2025 Challenger Sports Soccer Camp

Session 1: June 16th-20th Session 2: Aug 11th-15th

Where: Middlebury Recreation Fields, 277 Mary Hogan Drive

Open to Children Ages 3-14

Challenger is excited to announce the return of British & Irish professional coaches again for summer 2025 to bring their high-quality coaching skills to Middlebury! The weeklong programs are conducted at local facilities, and each will contain Challenger's own brand of innovative practices, small-sided games, camp world cup, cultural education, character building, and FUN!



TRADITION MEETS INNOVATION

**Tiny Tykes:** Ages 3-5 **Times:** 8am-8.45am **Cost:** \$115(Early Bird Discount) or \$135.00

Half Day: Ages 5-14 Times: 9am-12pm Cost: \$195(Early Bird Special) or \$225.00 Full Day: Ages 6-14 Times: 9am-3pm Cost: \$250(Early Bird Special) or \$290.00

Goalkeepers and Goal Scorers: Ages 6-14 Times: 1:00-3:00pm

Session 1 \$65.00 Session 2: \$115.00

Register: challengersports.com/camp-search/ & enter zip code 05753

#### 2025 Vermont Voltage Soccer Camp

June 23rd-June 27th

**9am-12pm:** \$225.00 Ages 5-15 **9am-3pm:** \$315.00 Ages 9-15

Middlebury Recreation Fields, 277 Mary Hogan Drive Open to Children Ages 5-15

The Academy offers an opportunity to gain experience and enjoy many aspects of the game of soccer in a fun yet competitive environment. Fundamentals, as well as sophisticated techniques of soccer, will be taught on a personalized individual level along with various forms of group instruction provided by Camp Director Bo Vuckovic, a FIFA UEFA A Pro license holder and the staff of the Vermont Voltage Soccer Academy who are all former professional soccer players. Emphasis is placed on the development, improvement,

and refinement of basic playing skills

**Cost:** See above- Non-Residents will pay a 15% Non-Resident fee per child. Each child will receive a camp T-shirt and soccer ball.

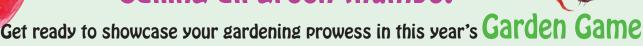
**Register:** Online or in person starting Friday May 2nd.



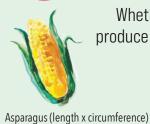
ADDISON COUNTY

## INDEPENDENT

Calling all green thumbs!



Whether you're a seasoned gardener or a budding enthusiast, submit your prized produce for a chance to win big! From colossal pumpkins to luscious tomatoes, let your garden treasures shine and claim the title of the biggest and the best.



Beet (circumference)

Broccoli (diameter)

Cabbage (circumference)

Cauliflower (diameter)

Cantaloupe (circumference)

Carrot (length x circumference)

Corn (length x circumference)

soon!

Here are this year's categories:

Cucumber (length x circumference)

Melon (circumference)

Ru

Edible Leafy Greens
(length x width - leaf only)
Eggplant (circumference x circumference)
Fennel (length x circumference)
Green Bean (length)
Kohlrabi (circumference)

Leek (length x circumference)

Melon (circumference)
Onion (circumference)
Parsnip (circumference)
Pepper (circumference x circumference)
Potato (length x circumference)
Pumpkin (circumference x circumference)
Radish (circumference)
Rhubarb (length)

Rutabaga (circumference)
Summer Squash (length x circumference)
Sunflower (diameter)
Tomato (circumference)
Turnip (circumference)
Winter Squash (length x circumference)
Zucchini (length x circumference)

SPONSORED BY MIDDLEBURY AGWAY



#### 2025 Monarch Soccer Club Camp

July 14th Through July 18th, 2025 July 21st Through July 24th, 2025

Join Coach Chris George, the Monarch SC coaching staff, and Middlebury Tiger players for the most fun week of soccer in Addison County.

The Monarch Way incorporates age-appropriate coaching methodologies with a focus on teamwork and leadership, while teaching energetic and creative soccer to players of all ages. Our



Monarch Summer Camp Series focuses

on foundational technical skills and small sided games in a fun and safe environment. Come experience the Monarch SC difference!

**About Monarch Soccer Club:** https://www.monarchsoccervt.org/camps

Monarch SC was founded in 2020 and is based in Middlebury, VT. At Monarch SC, we're focused on teaching creative soccer in a high-quality team environment while building local soccer.

#### Monday 7/14 through Thursday 7/18

Monarch SC Summer Soccer Camp Includes a T-Shirt

**1-2nd grade** 9-12pm. \$200 includes shirt **3rd-5th grade** 9-3 pm. \$275 includes shirt.

#### Monday 7/21 through Thursday 7/24

Monarch SC Middle School Prep Camp Includes a T-Shirt

July 21-25th 6-8 grade 9-3pm. \$300 includes shirt.

Registration: Online or in person

#### **Gymnastics Camps**

Instructor: Terri Phelps Registration for Gymnastics Camps Opens: Monday May 5th @5:30pm

Phone: (802) 236-1315

Email: terriphelps@ymail.com

Please only call or email with questions about classes.

For registration questions please email

ahunt@townofmiddlebury.org

Session 1: June 23rd-June 27th (Gym Show on Friday) 9:00AM-12:00PM Ages 6-8 \$200 (\$230 Non-Res) Session 2: June 30th-July 3rd (No class Friday) 9:00AM-12:00PM \$160 (\$184 Non-Res) Ages 5-7 Session 3: July 7th – July 11th (Gym Show on Friday) 9:00AM-12:00PM \$200 (\$230 Non-Res) Ages 8-11 Session 4: July 14th- July 18th 1:00pm-4:00pm \$200 (\$230 Non-Res) Ages 8-11 Session 5: July 21st- July 23rd (No Class Thursday or Friday) 9:00AM-11:00am \$90 (\$103.50 Non-Res) Ages 4-5 Session 6: August 4th- August 8th 1:00pm-4:00pm Ages 5-7 \$200 (\$230 Non-Res) Session 7: August 11th-August 15th

Ages 8-11

Students will work to improve strength, flexibility, and coordination, as well as skill development in a safe and fun environment. Instruction will be included on uneven bars, beam, floor exercise, springboard, parallel bars, and vault.

1:00pm-4:00pm



\$200 (\$230 Non-Res)



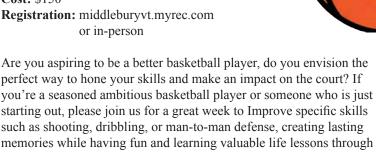


## Middle School Basketball Camp

Location: Middlebury Recreation Gym

**Dates:** July 14-18th 2025 **Time:** 1:00pm-4:00pm Who: Co-Ed 5-8th grade

**Cost:** \$150





## Middle School Volleyball Camp

Location: Middlebury Recreation Gym

Dates: July 14-18th 2025 **Time:** 9:00am-12:00pm Who: Co-Ed 5-8th grade

**Cost:** \$150

**Registration:** middleburyvt.myrec.com

or in person

Join us for a fun and energetic co-ed volleyball camp designed just for rising 5th–8th graders! Whether you're brand new to the game or looking to sharpen your skills, our camp offers exciting drills, team games, and friendly competition — all in a supportive and encouraging environment. Led by experienced coaches, high school athletes, you will learn the fundamentals of serving, passing, setting, sportsmanship and teamwork. This camp is led by skilled high school and hitting while building confidence and teamwork. coaches and local high school basketball athletes. Come ready to play, make new friends, and have a blast!

Campers who are registered for both the Volleyball and Basketball Camps are welcome to stay for a supervised lunch break between sessions at no extra cost. This gives athletes a chance to rest, eat, and recharge in a safe and supervised environment before their next camp begins.

As a bonus, when you sign up for both camps, you'll receive \$25 off each camp — that's a total of \$50 in savings!

All camp fees directly support our Volleyball and Basketball athletic programs, helping us provide better equipment, facilities, and opportunities for our student-athletes.



# the

## The Teen Center

The Teen Center, located at 77 Mary Hogan Drive, is open all summer, for teens entering 7th - 12th grades.

> Summer programs will include 3-day camps, drop-in hours, and field trips.

All programming is offered as free or pay-what-you-can.

Teens can register themselves for drop-in but will need to pre-register for camp days and field trips.

Learn more at teencentervt.org.

### 2025 RMGC Junior Golf Camp

At Ralph Myhre, we are passionate about growing the sport with junior golfers. This year, we've increased our number of instructors to ensure each participant not only grasps the game's structure but masters the fundamentals of the golf swing as well. Our camps emphasize etiquette, respect, sportsmanship, and the fun of playing outdoors in a group.

#### **Camp Highlights:**

- Enhanced
  Learning: Instruction at the
  driving range, putting green,
  and our new short game
  practice area.
- Extended Course Time: More time on the actual golf course during the latter part of each camp week, weather permitting.
- Special Gifts and Prizes: Complimentary hats and golf balls, with prizes for individual and team achievements.



#### **Camp Details:**

- New this season! Instead of offering beginner, intermediate, and advanced weeks, this year we will be welcoming all levels at all camp weeks!
- Ages: 8 − 16
- **Sessions:** Three skill-level targeted sessions for comprehensive improvement.
- **Duration:** Monday to Friday, 9 AM to 12 PM. On Fridays, camps extend to 1 PM with a special lunch at noon and certificate ceremony.
- •Cost: \$225 per child (\$316.25 for non-residents).
- •Extra Perks: Snacks provided daily. Junior golfers also receive a 5-round punch card for the season.

Cost: Per junior golfer \$225.00 (Res) \$316.25 (Non-Res) (Sign up closes week prior to the camp chosen)

Week 1 – June 23 through June 27 Week 2 – July 7 through July 11 Week 3 – August 11 through August 15

**Course information:** www.ralphmyhregolfcourse.com **Registration:** Online or in-Person



## MIDDLEBURY INDOOR TENNIS Summer 2025

Middlebury Indoor Tennis and the Addison Community Athletics Foundation are sponsoring a variety of outdoor tennis opportunities for kids ages 5 to 14. Sessions are designed for beginning and intermediate players. Sessions run Monday-Thursday, with Friday reserved as a rain back-up day if needed. All sessions will be held at the Middlebury Recreation Park Courts.

**8:30 – 9:00 am: Tiny Swingers:** Red Ball Tennis (ages 5-6) (\$60/session non-resident; \$50/session resident)

9:00 – 10:00 am: Little Aces: Red Ball Tennis (ages 7-9) (\$80/session non-resident; \$70/session resident)

**10:00 – 11:30 am: Hot Shots:** Orange/Yellow-Dot Ball Tennis (ages 10-14) (\$120/session non-resident; \$110/session resident)

 Session 1: June 23 – 27
 Session 4: July 14-18

 Session 2: June 30 – July 3
 Session 5: July 21-25

 Session 3: July 7 – 11
 Session 6: July 28-August 1

Lewis Suchomel, an Assistant Tennis Pro at Middlebury Indoor Tennis, will run the summer camps again this year. Lewis, and a team of junior pros who will work with him, have a wealth of teaching experience and make summer tennis fun for all. For questions about summer camps, contact Lewis at lewis@middleburytennis.com, or

Franz Collas, Tennis Director at Middlebury Indoor Tennis, at franz@middleburytennis. com or at (802) 388-3733.

Experienced players (ages 13-16) can enroll in advanced yellow ball sessions that are held indoors at Middlebury Indoor Tennis during the afternoon. Private lessons and clinics are available for children and adults of all ages and abilities! Please contact Franz Collas for more information about these opportunities.





RUN & TRIATHLON SERIES

#### Vermont Sun Triathlon Series

2025 will be our 40th year!

Over 200 events and over 38,000 participants. The Hare Family directs the races with co-directors Ruth Bullock and Karen Meyer.

Register for any of our triathlons during our early bird special pricing and be entered to win a free night's stay at the beautiful Middlebury Inn the night before your race.



Look for Vermont Sun events' extensive photo coverage

at Pat Hendrick Photography and our triathlon video found under the athlete section.

Nestled against the Green Mountains, just below Rattlesnake Point is Branbury State Park. The lake region is a most spectacular and pristine place to swim, bike and run. Novice and advanced athletes alike marvel at the beauty of our courses and enjoy the mountains, lakes, and streams of Central Vermont. All events take place at Lake Dunmore, Vermont

Visit www.vermontsuntriathlonseries.com to register.

#### Vermont Sun Run Half Marathon 5K, 10k May 11, 2025

Vermont Sun Triathlon- June 21 (USAT State Championship Race), July 19 (VT Senior Games), and August 17, 2025 Races are open to everyone.

600-yard Swim | 14-mile Bike | 3.1-mile Run

Lake Dunmore Olympic Triathlon- June 21 (USAT State Championship Race) and August 17, 2025



#### Races are open to everyone.

.9 Mile Swim | 28-mile Bike | 6.2-mile Run

Branbury Classic- July 19, 2025

1.5-mile Paddle | 14-mile Bike | 3.1-mile Run

### Mini Ilsley

30 Main St. (Duclos Building)

**New Hours:** 

Monday - Thursday 9AM-4PM Friday 9AM-5PM Saturday 9AM-4PM

www.ilsleypubliclibrary.org

Check out our events calendar for summer events. Also, on the main page there are instructions on how to request a book from our satellite location.





## **Drop-In Programs**

#### **Pickleball**

2 dedicated courts

located at Middlebury Recreation Park (77 Mary Hogan Drive). Cost: \$4.00 per drop-in or buy punch cards to save money (indoor play only)

#### **Adult Co-ed Volleyball**

Monday's 6:45-9:00pm at Middlebury Rec. Center Gym

Advanced beginner to intermediate volleyball. Players aim for good ball handling skills, trying for bump, set, spike on most plays. Teams are formed each week depending on who attends to keep the skill levels balanced on both sides and fun for all.

For more information, please contact Sue Richardson @ suerichardson@gmavt.net or 802-557-2724. \$4.00 per drop-in or buy a \$20 punch card for 7 visits.

#### Adult Co-ed 30+ Basketball

Wednesdays 6:30-9:00 at Middlebury Rec. Center Gym For more information, please contact: KC Bullock @ 802-989-0374



### Sanderson-Ducharme **Funeral Home**

Affordable Cremation & Burial Plans

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

117 South Main St. Middlebury, VT 802 388 2311

sandersonfuneralservice.com

## TAI CHI FOR ADULT ATHLETES - STRENGTH, FLEXIBILITY AND SPORTS PERFORMANCE

Description: This program is designed specifically for players of pickleball, tennis, golf and adult athletes of all types. If you want to improve your game, reduce injuries and gain that competitive edge, come join us. The focus is on developing core stability, correct postural structural alignment and flexibility. We will concentrate on understanding the six harmonies of movement and how this is the fundamental principle in all sports. Participants will learn warm up, cool down, massage and stretching techniques used for thousands of years by Chinese Martial Artists to increase strength, power and technique as well as avoid injuries. This challenging and educational course will also include the basics of Chinese Medical Theory and Principles. If you want to up your game, regardless of the game, this is the class for you.

Schedule: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00am - 11:00 pm (Beginning May 6th)

**Location: Middlebury Recreation Center 154 Creek Road Cost: \$15.00 per class** 

Instructor: David Lundgren is a Certified Tai Chi Instructor and Practitioner of Oriental Medicine with over thirty years of professional and clinical experience. He was the lead instructor and owner of Elizabethtown Tai Chi which designed and delivered Chinese Martial Arts Programming for Penn State Hershey Medical Center, Lancaster General Hospital and Harley Davidson of York, PA.

(Class size is limited to 20 participants. Please contact Amber at ahunt@townofmiddlebury.org to pre-register.) For more info: vttaichi.com.

## TAI CHI FOR BALANCE, BONE DENSITY AND PREVENTION OF FALLING ACCIDENTS

Description: Tai Chi for Active Seniors is the perfect mix of seated and standing positions to help improve posture, strength and balance. These are key foundational skills to help prevent falling accidents, build confidence and foster independence. As we age our bodies naturally change. Learning proper alignment techniques is critical to increasing bone density, offsetting osteoporosis and other age-related complications. We will also learn joint isolation and self-massage techniques used for thousands of years to help address those nagging problem areas. Students will learn the basics of Chinese Medical Theory and Principles as we study and explore all that the practice of Tai Chi has to offer to allow us to age with grace and confidence.

Schedule: Tuesdays & Thursdays 11:00am - 12:00 pm (Beginning May 6th)

Location: Middlebury Recreation Center 154 Creek Road Cost: \$15.00 per class

Instructor: David Lundgren is a Certified Tai Chi Instructor and Practitioner of Oriental Medicine with over thirty years of professional and clinical experience. He was the lead instructor and owner of Elizabethtown Tai Chi which designed and delivered Chinese Martial Arts Programming for Penn State Hershey Medical Center, Lancaster General Hospital and Harley Davidson of York, PA.

(Class size is limited to 20 participants. Please contact Amber at ahunt@ townofmiddlebury.org to pre-register.) For more info: vttaichi.com







## WOOFSTOCK: WALK FOR THE ANIMALS



Join us for a 1 mile walk around
Middlebury followed by music, prizes,
food, and our ever-popular pool party
for dogs in the Middlebury Town Pool!
All proceeds benefit Homeward Bound,
Addison County's Humane Society.
homewardboundanimals.org





#### Walking and Biking Updates

Middlebury E-bike Rentals Ilsley Public Library is partnering with Frog Hollow Bikes to loan out three e-bikes this summer. E-bikes have an electric assist that helps riders get around with



less effort and scale hills that previously seemed impossible. For complete details, loan rules, and descriptions of the bikes please visit: https://www.ilsleypubliclibrary.org/find-it/library-of-things-e-bike/ To reserve a bike, call the library front desk at 802.388.4098

Middlebury Safe Routes hosts "Walk and Roll to School Day" on the first Wednesday of each month at Mary Hogan School. They also monitor traffic patterns and student travel behavior, plan activities to teach bike skills and rules of the road, and recommend improvements to roads, parking lots, drop offs, sidewalks, crosswalks, traffic lights, signage, bus routes, bike routes, bike racks, and more. Contact Erik Remsen at erik.remsen@gmail.com to help or offer input.

The Walk/Bike Council of Addison County is a county-wide, citizenled advisory group that meets quarterly. The Council seeks to build momentum and capacity for safer walking and biking to our towns and villages. Council members work with state and regional agencies, municipal staff, schools, and other interested community partners. Anyone interested should visit www.walkbikeaddison.org.

Is this the summer to try a local bike route? The Triangle Bike Loop is a bike route on local roads connecting the towns of Middlebury, Vergennes, Bristol and New Haven in Addison County, Vermont. The route also passes through portions of the towns of Weybridge, Waltham and Ferrisburgh. More information on the route can be found at: https://www.walkbikeaddison.org/triangle\_bike\_loop.

Be sure to check out the Middlebury Bike Pump Track! This feature, built in 2023, is located in Middlebury Rec Park. Pump Tracks are small, confined loops consisting of banked corners and rollers that are spaced and shaped to enable riders to generate momentum by "pumping" the bike through the rollers. Pump tracks are fun, and also develop bike handling skills for riders of all ages.





## Yoga with Vanessa Dunleavy Fridays, 11:00am-12:00pm

in the Middlebury Rec Center Multipurpose room. Come revitalize your body and relax your mind with Yoga asanas and breath work. With a focus on alignment and awareness, we will work on strength, balance, and flexibility, all while honoring our body's intuition and individual needs. Learn more about Vanessa at www.vanessadunleavy.com

Drop-ins welcome, \$15 per class NO CLASSES: 5/16, 6/27, 7/4 & 7/11 Questions? Email dunleavy.vanessa@gmail.com





Mary Johnson Children's Center Summer Camp will operate out of Mary Hogan Elementary School.

Mary Johnson School Age

We are planning seven full weeks of programming from June 23 - August 8. Camp will run from 8 am to 5 pm every day. We currently only have availability for 5-6 year olds. Kids enjoy a summer full of enrichment activities and opportunities!

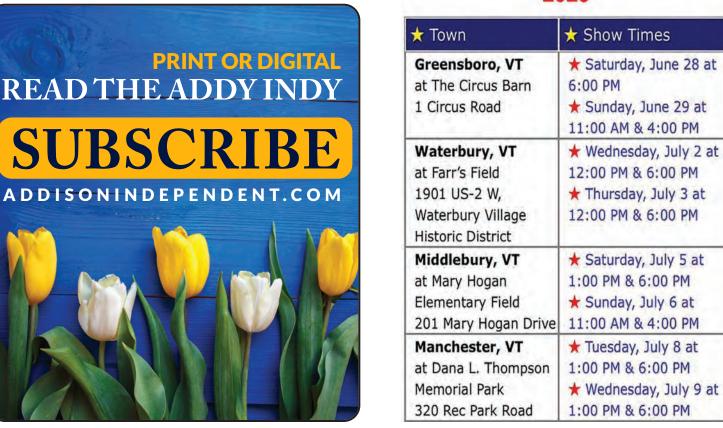
For more information please contact our school age director, Aly, at (802)388-0522 or visit our website at mjccvt.org



Scott & Amber with Middlebury Parks and Rec are proud to announce Circus Smirkus is coming to town the 5th and the 6th of July 2025. It will be located at Middlebury Recreational Park. (Next to Mary Hogan)



### TICKETS GO ON SALE MAY 1, 2025





The Middlebury Basketball Association (MBA) supports youth through high school basketball programs by building a strong basketball community that embraces inclusivity, enhances teamwork and encourages sportsmanship.

Learn more about basketball development opportunitities that are available for the summer at:



MIDDHOOPS.COM



@MIDDVTHOOPS



@MIDDHOOPS



INFO@MIDDHOOPS.COM



# MiniBury

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY** THE ADDISON INDEPENDENT

A reliable resource for parents seeking family-friendly events, activities, camps and classes in and around Middlebury.

- Things to do
- Meet parents & friends
- News for families
- Calendar
- Weekly newsletter
- Summer camp guide

Visit our new website - MiniBury.com



Ve realize that no one knows your child better than you!

Our goal is to partner with you to develop a plan to care for your child both in wellness and illness. Let us work with you in every phase of your child's health care to bring out the best in every parent and child.



Rainbow Pediatrics is an Accredited Patient Centered Medical Home

rainbowvt.com

