



Artful friends
Call it a pal-ette. Four buddies with a love of painting gather and now have a show. Arts+Leisure.



Mixed results
Eagle and Tiger teams played in quarterfinals; some advanced, and some didn't. See Sports, Page 1B.



Diaper drive
The Middlebury Lions Club recently gave a big assist to new parents. See Page 2A.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Homeless still among us, but less visible

Shelters brace for federal impacts

By JOHN FLOWERS
MIDDLEBURY — There's plenty to see in downtown Middlebury these days. A new addition to the Town Hall Theater. Construction that will produce an expanded Ilsley Library.

A vibrant Triangle Park and a nice assortment of shops. But what you won't see — at least as of this week — are small clusters of houseless persons who, during the past few years, have set up temporary encampments downtown during

the warmer months. While you might not see them, advocates noted the homeless are still in the shire town and surrounding communities. They've just settled into the woods or other less-conspicuous spots, choosing a more solitary existence, away from construction and in deference to

a new Middlebury encampment ordinance. Heidi Lacey is executive director of the non-profit Charter House Coalition (CHC), which runs an emergency shelter at 27 North Pleasant St. and a variety of support services for the homeless. Lacey estimates there are around (See Homeless update, Page 8A)

Court stalls closure of Northlands Job Corps

By ANDY KIRKALDY
VERGENNES — A federal judge on Wednesday, June 4, issued a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) against the U.S. Department of Labor and Labor Secretary Lori Chavez-DeRemer that prevents — at least for now — the feds from closing 99 contractor-operated Job Corps Centers across the nation. That list includes the (See Job Corps, Page 16A)

Banned words are on display in Bristol

By MARIN HOWELL
BRISTOL — Diversity. Elderly. Peanut Allergies. Gulf of Mexico. Those are some of the words and phrases that have popped up on objects around Bristol. Those same words have been flagged or removed from various government agency websites and other materials. Several news organizations have in recent months reported on lists of terms flagged by federal agencies to remove, limit or avoid. In response, Bristol resident and artist Pamela Fogg decided to (See Banned words, Page 12A)

Middlebury takes stand on Medicaid cuts

By JOHN FLOWERS
MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury selectboard on Tuesday decisively endorsed a citizen-initiated resolution opposing a U.S. House-backed Budget Reconciliation Bill that recommends major cuts to critical federal healthcare and nutrition programs. The petition, spearheaded by local health providers, asked the selectboard to "express its grave concern" about the reconciliation bill, which supporters said would "lead to an estimated loss of \$793 billion in federal Medicaid spending over 10 years, which (See Middlebury, Page 3A)



By the way
Porter Medical Center's 100th birthday celebration will come to a head this Saturday, June 14, with a big party at its Middlebury campus — and everyone is invited. It's scheduled for 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. under a big tent at 55 Collins Drive, so don't be dissuaded if it happens to be (See By the way, Page 12A)



Rites of passage

THIS PAST WEEKEND Addison County high schools launched several hundred young adults on to their next stage in life. Above, more than a dozen Middlebury graduates jump for joy after their Saturday graduation. Below left, Treyphen Miguel and Rizz Mullin share a moment in the senior section during VUHS graduation ceremonies on Friday. Right, new Mount Abe grad Chase Atkins leaps into the arms of Superintendent Patrick Reen. See stories and more photos on pages 11A (Mount Abe), 13A (MUHS) and 15A (VUHS).

Photos by Steve James and Buzz Kuhns



County prepping for many 'No Kings Day' protests

By JOHN FLOWERS
ADDISON COUNTY — Folks north of 65 who did a lot of cross country traveling during their youth might remember the popular "Burma-Shave" advertising campaign along highways, featuring a humorous commercial jingle spaced out sequentially on multiple signs that begged drivers to read each one to get the full message and punchline. A group of Addison County activists has decided to resurrect that now-archaic

advertising tradition to send a different, decidedly serious message: Their concern that President Donald Trump has been consolidating power in the executive branch — and through a compliant majority in Congress — to engage, among other things, in mass deportations, to "disappear" (via masked ICE agents) and detain legal residents, to defy court decisions, to erode voting rights, and to marginalize and punish media critical of

the administration's policies. The effort in question is called No Kings Day, a nationwide protest this coming Saturday, June 14, that's expected to draw millions of people along various roads, in town centers, near federal buildings and other high-profile spots. Here in Addison County, members of the grassroots Indivisible Middlebury and Indivisible Addison Northeast groups are taking a lead in helping folks make signs

and nailing down safe spots at which clusters of like-minded folks will gather to amplify their message. Local Indivisible members Sarah Stott, Jennifer Wasiura and Howard Jennings have been particularly busy laying the groundwork for Saturday's protest. They say the stakes are high. "Some people tell me they can't bear to watch the news; they just ignore it and tune (See 'No Kings Day,' Page 18A)

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Local conservation commissions net grants

By MARIN HOWELL
ADDISON COUNTY — Three conservation commissions in the Bristol area have been awarded grants that will support projects in their communities, from removing invasive species to increasing access to birdwatching materials.

The New Haven, Starksboro and Monkton conservation commissions were among eight volunteer groups across Vermont to receive funds through the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions Tiny Grants program.

Through the initiative, upwards of \$700 in seed money or matching funds is awarded to commissions to support projects in areas like land conservation or education and outreach.

The Monkton Conservation Commission will use the \$660 it received to put together three bird-watching kits that will be available for residents to borrow through the Russell Memorial Library.

The kits will include binoculars, a field guide, laminated informational cards, a smartphone adapter, a neck loop and a backpack.

“There are lots of libraries that let patrons borrow things other than books ... so that was kind of the start of the idea; could our library loan out something that would help people get more involved in our natural areas around here,” explained Monkton Conservation Commission Co-Chair Sue Stasny.

Stasny noted that Monkton has a fairly diverse population of birds, and the conservation commission

has previously sponsored a bird walk in Morse Park.

“I got into birding during the pandemic like so many people did, and for me, it was really cool that I had my own pair of binoculars already from some other reason that I could just pick up and start going around and looking at birds,” she said. “That was kind of the inspiration for it, and I took the idea to the conservation commissions, and they were all behind it because we really do think it will reduce barriers to entry to the hobby of bird watching.”

Stasny added the project is aligned with the commission’s mission of providing educational opportunities for Monkton. She said the kits will be ready for use and introduced to the town at the Strawberry Festival on June 22.

TRAIL CAM LENDING LIBRARY

New Haven’s conservation commission was awarded \$500 through the Tiny Grants program. It will use the funds to purchase two trail cameras and accessories that residents can borrow through the New Haven Community Library.

The commission is working on a two-year project aimed at documenting wildlife travel corridors in New Haven. Local wildlife rely on such corridors to survive and reproduce in areas broken up by human activities and development. The pathways link habitat areas that allow animals to move around and find resources to meet their basic needs.

“This project began as a way to help the planning commission address possible forest fragmentation and damage to wildlife travel corridors essential to maintaining genetic diversity of larger species and to enlist and educate community members interested in supporting wildlife of various kinds,” reads the commission’s grant application.

The initial phase of the project deployed a total of 18 cameras and will wrap up in the fall. The commission is hoping to engage New Haven residents in the next phase of the effort.

“In the next phase of the project we want to give residents the tools to learn more about the wildlife around them, the habitat they need, and how to live in peace with them,” the application states. “We want to build on the last several years of the project to encourage more residents to participate, possibly by becoming citizen scientists, sharing best images through social media and uploading data about the animals around them for the benefit of future planning efforts.”

The conservation commission introduced the project to residents through a presentation in the “Armchair Naturalist” speaker series.

“Our hope is to transfer our excitement of seeing animals in their natural habitat to backyard enthusiasts,” the application reads. “Our long-term broad goal is to continue to engage residents in learning about, documenting, and stewarding wildlife while collecting information to help the Planning Commission make informed decisions about land use.”

The trail cams will be available for public use at the New Haven Community Library through a new trail cam lending library.

“As first time applicants, the NHCC is honored to receive this grant and we look forward to establishing this lending program within the coming months,” said New Haven Conservation Commission Secretary Marianne Eaton.

INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL

In Starksboro, the town’s conservation commission was awarded around \$590 to purchase Extractigator tools for the removal of invasive species in riparian

Midd Lions stage diaper drive

Work nets wipes, diapers for parent child centers in Vt.

MIDDLEBURY — Earlier this spring the Middlebury Lions Club participated in the 2nd annual diaper drive, along with all other 33 Lions Clubs across Vermont, known as “District 45”.

In 2023, state funding to the Vermont Diaper Bank was severely cut from over \$300,000 to \$100,000, adding additional strain to the hundreds of low-income families who may have depended on it. Diapers are not a luxury item; they are a necessity that directly contributes to a baby’s health and wellbeing. Diapers, like most goods in this post-Covid era, have seen rising costs, making it increasingly difficult for these families to provide their infants with the diapers they need.

In partnership with the roughly 15 parent-child centers across the



MIDDLEBURY LIONS COLLECTED 76 boxes of diapers for the 2nd Annual Diaper Drive, an event in which Lions Clubs from around the state participated.

Photos courtesy of Jesse Gillette

state, the District 45 Lions rose to fill in the gap left from the Diaper Bank funding cut by stating an annual “diaper drive.” Diapers collected by Lions would then be given to the local parent-child center.

Here at home, the Middlebury Lions Club collected 76 boxes of diapers (approximately 3,700

diapers) and 11,000 baby wipes for the Addison County Parent-Child Center, located in Middlebury. This year’s drive was a success, and yet another example of the generosity our community members have towards one another. The Middlebury Lions Club would like to thank all those that donated. Together, we serve.



MEMBERS OF THE Middlebury Lions Club recently donated approximately 3,700 diapers and 11,000 baby wipes to the Addison County Parent-Child Center in Middlebury as part of a state-wide Lions Club Diaper Drive.

\$28,500 Donated to Local Charities in 2024

CLEAN YOUR HOME AND HELP YOUR COMMUNITY!

DROP OFF CLEAN, DRY, USABLE GOODS FOR PEASANT MARKET AT ST. STEPHEN’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH:

Saturday, June 21	10 am-1 pm	Saturday, June 28	10 am-1 pm
Sunday, June 22	12-3 pm	Sunday, June 29	12-3 pm
Tuesday, June 24	4-6 pm	Tuesday, July 1	4-6 pm
Wednesday, June 25	4-6 pm	Wednesday, July 2	4-6 pm

WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE

- Antiques
- Linens and fabrics
- Kitchenware, dishes
- Toys
- Jewelry
- Small furniture
- Sporting goods
- Handicrafts
- White elephant items
- Garden plants and decor

All items must be clean and in good condition.

WE DON’T ACCEPT

- Anything broken or dirty
- Clothing
- Books, cassettes
- Stuffed animals
- TVs, computers, or electronics
- Helmets
- Luggage - backpacks/duffle bags are ok
- Car seats or high chairs
- Toy guns or swords
- Tins or plastic containers
- Furniture one person can’t carry

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ST. STEPHEN’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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Proceeds benefit local human service and relief agencies.

Bloomsday honors James Joyce, freedom of expression

By MARIN HOWELL
MIDDLEBURY — It was just over a century ago that the Irish writer James Joyce put the finishing touches on what would become one of the most well-known and controversial novels of its time.

That book was “Ulysses.”

Today many still consider “Ulysses” to be of the greatest works of literature, and fans of the novel and its author continue to gather each year for “Bloomsday” celebrations that recognize the day captured in the book — June 16, 1904.

“Ulysses” takes place in Dublin over the course of that day and follows three main characters, including Leopold Bloom, after whom Bloomsday is named.

Addison County will once again join communities around the world in commemorating Bloomsday. Shalom Goldman, the Pardon Tillinghast Professor of Religion at Middlebury College, is organizing a June 16 celebration at the Vermont Book Shop in Middlebury. Community members are invited

SHALOM GOLDMAN

to the event for an evening of Irish music, readings from Joyce’s works, and other festivities.

“It’s a celebration of artistic expression and the freedom of expression,” Goldman said of the celebration. “And it’s not only for ‘literary types,’ it’s for anyone who wants to celebrate great books, Irish culture and Irish soda bread.”

The event will be one of innumerable Bloomsday celebrations held around the world. One of the largest festivals is held each year in Dublin, where Goldman

noted many people take off work to participate in the festivities.

Common features of Bloomsday celebrations include attendees donning outfits reminiscent of the Edwardian era, such as the straw boater hat worn by Joyce and many of his contemporaries. Another key aspect of such events is reading aloud from “Ulysses,” with some celebrators taking turns reading from the book over the course of 24 hours.

Goldman has previously taken part in such events, as well as hosted a couple of Bloomsday celebrations at Middlebury College prior to the pandemic.

“This is the first time I’m organizing (the event) post-COVID, and I thought the bookstore would be a great place for it because right now there’s a lot of attempts to ban books,” Goldman said, pointing to recent efforts to remove certain books from military academies and in Florida.

He noted that “Ulysses” is a book that’s been banned in many places. The novel was banned in

the United States for over a decade after its publication. That changed in December 1993, when a judge ruled in favor of Random House in a case deciding that the book was not obscene. The judge’s opinion is included in all Random House printings of the book.

“Having the Bloomsday is a way of celebrating the freedom to publish and defeating events to ban books,” Goldman said.

The Middlebury Bloomsday celebration will also feature readings from “Ulysses” and Joyce’s other works. Goldman said he will be one of the readers, as well as help facilitate the event and explain how the book works to those in attendance.

Attendees can plan on reading an excerpt from their favorite Joyce title, as well as enjoying snacks like Irish soda bread and listening to Irish music. The event is scheduled for Monday, June 16, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Vermont Book Shop. For more details visit tinyurl.com/middbloomsday.

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Reg. \$3.39 ea
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16 fl. oz.

CO-OP MEMBER DEALS

Members Take an Extra 20% Off

Jun 11 - Jun 17

Middlebury

(Continued from Page 1A)

would result in an estimated 10% drop in enrollment and a loss of coverage for between 14,000 and 23,000 Vermonters.”

It’s a petition that also urges Vermont lawmakers to pass legislation “that will help protect Vermont’s healthcare system and our community from the devastation they will likely experience if Medicaid funding is reduced; asks the state’s Congressional delegation to build coalitions across the aisle to lift the Medicaid cuts before the budget bill as it makes its way through the U.S. Senate; and directs Town Manager Mark Pruhenski to send a copy of the resolution to Vermont’s top elected state and federal officials.”

“I think the value of the Middlebury selectboard endorsing this resolution is that it sets an example for other selectboards to do the same...” longtime Middlebury pediatrician Dr. Jack Mayer told the board. “I realize we’re asking you to step up as one of the first significantly sized towns in Vermont to make this statement. I’m sure that once we start the process going, we’ll find significant positive consideration among other towns, who have the same concerns about the (Medicaid cut) consequences.”

Only two weeks ago, the jury was out on whether the selectboard would even consider the resolution. Some board members voiced concern entertaining the resolution might politicize the board and force it to deviate from its primarily role of running the town.

Selectman Andy Hooper — who stressed he supports the foundation and intent of the resolution — abstained from voting on the request on Tuesday based on how other municipal governing boards have become bogged down with global and national resolutions.

“I pay a fair amount of attention to Burlington, and Burlington has a partisan city council. They spend a lot of time talking about things that are not local and germane to what’s happening with the boundaries of their city. I worry about that, for us,” he told the petitioners.

“I understand the gravity of the situation; I just have questions about

our place and our voice in this, and worry we’ll be asked to opine on Gaza and other international efforts,” he continued.

But Mayer and a contingent of around 20 additional supporters swayed the other six members to support the resolution, arguing, among other things, that the proposed Medicaid cuts would affect many Middlebury residents.

“This is a severe threat to the continued successful healthcare that Porter Hospital can provide, and that’s as local a concern as we can imagine,” Mayer said. “We’re talking about something that’s going to come down on our heads, very soon — in Middlebury, to our neighbors... I think to remain silent is to be complicit, when we know these consequences are coming down the pike.”

Porter Hospital President & COO Bob Ortmyer added his voice to the chorus of petitioners. In a letter to the board, he underscored the potential impacts of the proposed Medicaid cuts.

“We are particularly nervous about the impact to the most vulnerable members of our communities — children, pregnant patients, the elderly, and individuals living with disabilities. The most vulnerable Vermonters will be left without health care coverage and unable to access critical health care services,” he said.

Among those urging the selectboard to take a stand on Tuesday was Addison Central School District Superintendent Wendy Baker. She noted 40% of Middlebury students currently receive Medicaid funding. The school system also receives around \$300,000 annually through Medicaid for prevention and intervention efforts.

“Those Medicaid funds allow tentacles of support that branch out beyond the school into local providers” that help students deal with issues ranging from poor vision to mental health, Baker said.

And it’s not like Baker and her superintendent colleagues don’t

have enough on their plates. The state Legislature next week will meet in special session to consider, among other things, H.454, a bill that would make sweeping changes to Vermont’s public education system.

“If Medicaid funding is significantly changed, I would dare say it would have a much greater impact on the fabric of this community than (H.454),” she told the board. “And I don’t say it lightly.”

David Rosenberg, a former longtime professor at Middlebury College, noted many poor and vulnerable people move to Middlebury because it’s the county’s hub for nonprofits.

“Just because there’s only a little we can do, doesn’t mean we shouldn’t do what we *can* do, if it’s the right thing to do,” he told the board.

Middlebury resident and longtime healthcare reform activist Ellen Oxfield concurred. She told selectboard members not to underestimate their collective voice.

“When Vermont towns speak, it’s somewhat different than someone writing to their legislator,” she said, noting the weight that lawmakers have been giving testimony to the Vermont League of Cities & Towns on a myriad issues.

“Medicaid funding affects our towns, and our legislators need to hear from the towns,” Oxfield said.

After a spirited, 50-minute discussion, the board voted 6-0 (with Hooper abstaining) to endorse the resolution. Members Isabel Gogarty, Megan James and Farhad Khan offered brief, supportive remarks. Selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter and member Dan Brown offered more guarded affirmation, echoing Hooper’s concerns about the potential for a precedent that could send further resolutions to a board that convenes only twice per month to do the town’s business.

And a second resolution request might be in the offing — from Indivisible Middlebury, a group that’s opposing Trump Administration policies that are affecting the poor, immigration and democracy. Board members, at the end of Tuesday’s meeting, indicated they’re not inclined to field such a resolution.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

All fired up

HIS FACE FRESHLY painted to resemble a tiger, young Ernie Ham of Ferrisburgh donned firefighter gear in a potential preview of his future civic service. Ernie, his family and a bunch of other people checked out vendors, food providers, local civic organizations and the Ferrisburgh Union Meeting Hall renovations at an event called “Taste of Summer” this past Sunday, June 8, at the Ferrisburgh town green on Route 7.

Photo courtesy of Dottie Flowers



College monitors fed action on international students

By MARIN HOWELL

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury College officials are continuing to keep a close eye on federal action that could affect the institution’s international community. U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said that the U.S. will “aggressively revoke” visas for Chinese students.

In the May 28 announcement, Rubio said the U.S. State Department would work with the Department of Homeland Security to revoke visas from Chinese students “including those with connections to the Chinese Communist Party or studying in critical fields.”

He added government officials would also revise visa criteria to “enhance scrutiny” of future applicants from the People’s Republic of China and Hong Kong.

Middlebury College officials on May 29 provided an “Update on National Events” to members of the college community. The letter was signed by Executive Director of International Student and Scholar Services Kathy Foley, Vice President for Student Affairs Smita Ruzicka and Vice President of Strategic Enrollment and Dean of Admissions Nicole Curvin.

They noted no regulations had changed at the time of the letter and that college officials continue to monitor for any developments.

“We are aware that the U.S. Presidential administration has made several announcements in recent days about its intention to pause visa interviews for international students and to put in place specific policies, practices, or reviews for Chinese students,” they wrote. “We also are aware of legal actions that may prevent or delay these governmental efforts.”

College officials said they look forward to welcoming members of the institution’s international

community to campuses this summer and fall, and they “ll work to address individual circumstances with anyone affected.”

“While we await clarity from the government or other channels, we will continue to communicate with you as we receive and review

new information,” they wrote.

College officials noted that immigration-related timely updates will be posted on the International Student and Scholar Services website and the “Approach to National Events” site.

Conservation

(Continued from Page 2A)

conservation areas along Lewis Creek.

A grant application penned by Alice Weston-Rooney notes that part of the commission’s work includes maintaining the Creekside Loop Trail on the Cota Conserved Lands along Lewis Creek.

“Like many areas in Addison County, the Cota Lands have been heavily impacted by invasive plant species,” Weston-Rooney wrote. “The SCC has been actively working on eradication and control projects targeting garlic mustard, poison parsnip, multiflora rose, glossy buckthorn, honeysuckle, and Japanese knotweed.”

Such efforts have included volunteer workdays with commission members and residents, as well as

working with student volunteers from Middlebury College.

“Many of the invasive plants — particularly buckthorn and honeysuckle — are large and well established. Removing them by the roots is essential for effective control, and Extractigator tools are especially useful for this purpose,” Weston-Rooney wrote.

The application notes that owning two Extractigator tools will increase the commission’s flexibility and capacity to organize more frequent and effective workdays. The tools will be kept at the Starksboro Public Library, through which library cardholders can borrow the tools when they’re not being used by the commission.

Starksboro Conservation Commission Chair Margi Gregory

noted that the grant is one of three the town has received this year to support various projects.

She said Starksboro resident Robert Turner applied for a Municipal Planning Grant that will support the town in exploring the feasibility of a Community Land Trust to encourage affordable housing. The town was awarded \$11,407 to put toward the effort.

Gregory also completed a grant application to help repair the suspension bridge over Lewis Creek damaged in a July 2024 flood. The town was awarded \$13,449 in a matching grant through the Recreational Trails Program.

Gregory said the bridge will be repaired in August, with local volunteers providing the labor.



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Guest editorial

Health care failure: Half-steps aren’t going to cut it

By Patrick Flood

Because of failed leadership and misguided waste of Vermonters’ money, our health care system is on the verge of collapse. This did not need to happen. Once again, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont is requesting unaffordable rate increases. This is largely because the high cost of care has drained the carrier’s reserves to the point that the organization is on the brink of bankruptcy. If BCBSVT goes bankrupt, our health care system will collapse, since its customers will be unable to obtain care and providers will be unable to receive payments.

We know why this is happening and how it could have been avoided. The people in charge of Vermont’s health care system, and many public advocates who pay close attention, have known for years what the problem is: most of our health care dollars have gone to hospitals to pay for unnecessarily high administrative costs and avoidable care. (Two studies commissioned by the Green Mountain Care Board and research by the Vermont Healthcare 911 coalition have demonstrated this conclusively.)

Meanwhile, primary care, mental health, home health and other providers of care have been starved for funding. The result is that costs have soared while access to care has worsened and many physician practices have closed or are facing closure.

It is shameful that our leaders have let this train wreck develop over the past decade when we all knew what the real solution was: strengthen primary care so every Vermonter has ready access to a doctor; strengthen mental health services to keep people with mental health issues stable and out of emergency rooms; strengthen services like home health to keep people out of the hospital and get them home sooner when they do go; and ensure there is a network of long-term care services, including quality nursing homes, to meet the needs of an aging population.

Had we taken those steps, Vermonters would be healthier and overall costs would have been lower, especially hospital spending resulting in lower premium increases. Instead, over the past decade we got woefully misguided initiatives like OneCare Vermont and the “all payer model,” which failed miserably to contain costs and wasted huge amounts of money. Administrative costs for OneCare alone were approximately \$100 million.

Until recently, hospitals pretty much got what they asked for in budget increases. The one bright spot recently has been the oversight of the current Green Mountain Care Board to constrain hospital budgets. Sadly, without further bold actions, the Board’s efforts may turn out to be too little too late.

So, what can we do now? Half-steps are not going to cut it. The solution, as I see it, has three integrated parts.

First, GMCB needs to significantly reduce what hospitals can charge. The Board can approve different rates for each hospital so that those most responsible for the crisis, primarily UVMHC, can be assigned the greatest reductions.

Such reductions can stabilize BCBSVT while broader reforms are put in place. UVMHCN has huge reserves that will allow it to weather such a change for a year or two. A crisis like this current one is why reserves exist; now is the time to use them.

Second, lower the rates the Medicaid program pays to UVMHC and use the savings to raise the rates Medicaid pays to primary care, mental health, home health and nursing homes. This is possible because the state of Vermont sets the rates in our Medicaid program. Raising rates for community providers would allow those providers to immediately begin to hire more staff and provide more prevention services, thus keeping people out of hospitals and reducing hospital spending.

A study commissioned by the GMCB showed that up to 30% of hospital spending is “avoidable”, meaning it could have been prevented if alternative services were in place. Even 10% of our total hospital spending would amount to over \$300 million, enough to fully cover the costs of what needs to be done for primary care and other key services.

Third, begin working immediately on a comprehensive statewide health plan to determine what services we need in each part of the state to have the most efficient and effective health care system. This plan should be in our hands no later than Jan. 1, 2026.

Yes, this means our hospitals will have to make major changes. But it is far better for Vermonters to take a clear-eyed, data driven, thoughtful, systemic approach to planning than to have each hospital making decisions in their own financial interest.

Rest assured there is more than enough money in our health care system to provide basic health care services to every Vermonter at an affordable cost. But we are wasting it in avoidable ways in hospitals, primarily at UVMHC. This can be changed quickly to save our system. Or we can wait and let the bankruptcies start and watch more and more Vermonters drop their insurance coverage because they can no longer afford it.

Editor’s Note: Patrick Flood of Woodbury is a former commissioner of the Vermont Department of Mental Health and the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living.

Of outrages and insights

President Trump’s powerplay to wrest control of California’s National Guard from California Gov. Gavin Newsome was another test of presidential control that will be challenged in court. It was the first time since 1965 that a president has ordered in the guard without a governor’s consent, and that was a much different affair.

Sen. Bernie Sanders put Trump’s threat to our democracy plainly: “Let’s be clear: Trump’s deployment of the National Guard in California is not about the protests there, ICE, or immigration. It is about using extremely dubious legal authority to expand his never-ending grasp for more power and his effort to move this country toward authoritarianism... It is absurd and laughable for the Trump administration to argue that they needed to mobilize the National Guard because of a threat from a ‘foreign invasion’ or ‘rebellion’ against the United States. This is just another example of Trump wanting more power for himself and ignoring the law. All Americans... must stand together against this gross abuse of power.”

Locally, it’s laudable the Middlebury Selectboard voted to endorse a citizen-led resolution opposing the US House-backed Budget Reconciliation Bill (known as Trump’s Big Beautiful Bill) that would cut almost \$800 billion from federal Medicare spending over the next decade. Between 14,000-23,000 Vermonters would lose health care coverage. For those who thought Trump’s big bill was just about preserving tax cuts for the rich, it’s what’s being cut that defines the dark heart of this Trump-led legislation. Read the story on Page 1A by reporter John Flowers.

Angelo Lynn



Captured by music
MIDDLEBURY UNION HIGH School sophomore Nathan Stefani is perfectly framed by the tuba he is playing with the MUHS band at Saturday’s graduation exercises in the Memorial Sports Center.
Independent photo/Steve James

Students on right side of history

I am typing these words on the second day of June, aglow from a most beautiful celebration that took place yesterday, on the Jewish Holy Day of Shavuot. Shavuot falls fifty days after Passover, and honors the day that the Jewish people received the Torah. The L’Chaim Collective (Vermont Jews who are committed to celebrating Jewish culture outside of nationalism) marked the day with a community meeting, singing, a delicious potluck, text study around the fire, and ice cream sundaes.

I grew up in a secular Jewish home, so this was actually my first time celebrating Shavuot. The membership of L’Chaim Collective is a wide spectrum including secular Jews looking for feasting and community togetherness, as well as more religiously oriented Jews longing for traditional Shabbat services and deep immersion in Jewish liturgy. We are figuring it out together! A Jewish saying of unknown origin is “Two Jews, three opinions!”

One thing we are in deep agreement about is the evil of genocide. We know in our bones that Palestinians love their children as deeply as we love ours. We hold sacred justice, dignity, and the right of safety and self-determination for all people. If we are “Chosen People,” to us it means we are chosen to speak up against injustice, everywhere and at all times.

Last spring, encampments protesting Israel’s war crimes in Gaza sprung up on dozens of college campuses. As with pretty much every campus movement you can think of, from Berkeley’s Free Speech demonstrations to nationwide actions against

the war in Vietnam, to shantytowns protesting South African Apartheid in the 1980s, Jewish students were among the leaders.

I challenge anyone to come up with a widespread student movement that was not proved morally correct over time, even if it was vilified by college administrations and the news media while it was happening. Who reading this thinks that the Vietnam War was a good way to spend 20 years and 58,200 American lives? Who believes that South African Apartheid was a just system of government that the United States should have been supporting?

College students are smart young adults who read books and want to understand the world and their place in it. They can see hypocrisy a thousand miles away, and they know right from wrong. That’s why a lot of them set up tents on their campuses to protest the genocide that we can all see happening on our phones and computer screens. Educational institutions aren’t *just* about education. They are also complex financial entities, and some of them have endowments worth billions of dollars that are invested in weapons technology that is killing entire extended families in Gaza every day.

I was happy to see that Middlebury College didn’t violently crack down on the student encampment the way many other universities did. But they have yet to divest from companies selling weapons and military equipment, despite student outcry.

A common criticism of student encampments was (See *Ways of Seeing*, Page 5A)

Ways of Seeing

By Joanna Colwell



A shot in the arm for housing in VT

Vermont just took a bold, historic step toward solving one of the most urgent issues facing our state: the lack of affordable and attainable homes for Vermonters of all income levels and backgrounds.

With the passage of the Community Housing Infrastructure Program (CHIP) during the 2025 legislative session, the state now has a powerful new tool to help communities unlock housing development that has, for too long, remained stuck on paper. As leaders in housing finance and banking, and as board members of Let’s Build Homes, we have a clear message: this is a game changer.

We hear it constantly from nonprofit developers, private builders, and community leaders across the state. Even with viable sites, designed thoughtful projects, and a waiting list of buyers and tenants the numbers don’t work. Why? Because of infrastructure.

The cost of roads, sewer lines, water systems, and stormwater controls can sink a project before the first shovel hits the ground. In many Vermont communities, particularly in smaller or rural towns, the financial burden of building or upgrading this infrastructure is simply too high for developers, or municipalities, to absorb. The math doesn’t pencil out. And when the math doesn’t work, the homes don’t get built.

CHIP fixes that. The program allows communities to use future

Community Forum

This week’s writers are Maura Collins and Jason Pidgeon.

property tax revenue generated by new development to finance the upfront cost of the infrastructure those developments need. It’s smart, targeted tax increment financing. It means that towns don’t have to choose between keeping taxes stable and making long-term investments in housing. And it means developers can finally say yes to projects that have been on hold for years.

This isn’t speculative. It’s backed by real projections: up to \$200 million a year in CHIP-supported financing, for 10 years, means up to \$2 billion in public infrastructure investment statewide. If fully utilized, CHIP could help Vermont build 40,000 new homes in the next decade. It also has the potential to generate up to \$660 million in new Education Fund revenue, according to the state’s Joint Fiscal Office.

Just as importantly, CHIP is available to every Vermont municipality, no matter its size or zoning structure. Whether it’s a small rural town trying to build homes adjacent to their village or a growing community planning dense infill near its downtown, CHIP levels the playing field and gives every community a path to housing growth.

The passage of CHIP would not have been possible without the leadership and momentum generated by Let’s Build Homes, a brand-new coalition of more than 200 businesses and organizations and over (See *CHIP*, Page 5A)

Letters to the Editor

Rave review for ART offering

Addison Repertory Theatre’s high school students did a fabulous job with their recent presentation of the 115th “Never Before Scene.” Under Eric Reid-St. John’s nurturing direction, each student wrote a short play, which was performed by their peers. Each student had the opportunity to direct one of these plays as well. Students ran all the tech for the productions.

The performances were filled with meaning, often funny, witty, realistic, and sometimes poignantly sad. A few plays have gone on to the Vermont Young Playwright’s Festival and/or won recognition at the state level.

During intermission, the Culinary Arts students provided a lovely and tasty display of fancy cupcakes, cookies and dessert bars they perfected. What a treat!

Well done (again) ART! What a treasure the Hannaford Career Center is in our community. Thank you to Eric Reid-St. John and the Culinary Arts faculty!

With gratitude,
Jane and Matt Kimble
Middlebury

Flag honors all U. S citizens

This is a response to the letter Sepi Alavi wrote regarding a flagpole at the high school that is to be used solely for our American flag.

Sepi, you suggest that the U.S. flag “promotes an ideology of superiority through nationality” and that it sends a message that certain communities “are not to be celebrated or protected.” I’m sorry you see it in that light, but I’m not surprised. The current administration and others try to use our flag to divide people, claiming that it represents their values alone. I, a member of the loyal opposition, am having none of it. I frequently fly the flag at my home. To me, it represents the unity of the 50 states, the bravery of those in the 13 original colonies, the various fights for freedom over the past 249 years, and the many benefits accruing from democracy.

The flag belongs to all U.S. citizens regardless of political persuasion; please join me in flying it proudly. Even better, let it inspire us to work towards the day in which threats to the Constitution are nothing but a distant memory.

Jeff Olson
Weybridge

Ed. reform bill ends local say

Governor Scott opened his fifth gubernatorial term stating from one side of his mouth, “Let’s put our communities (a direct reference to rural towns) above all else and reset the playing field so it’s fair and benefits all of Vermont.” Shortly after his inaugural address, he unveiled his “Education Transformation Plan” from the other side of his mouth. Scott stated that voters had given him “a mandate” to do so. Scott’s transformational silver bullet to solve all of Vermont’s educational property tax woes is school district and school consolidation — the kind that would make Act 46 look like a fart in hurricane-force winds.

The Democratic (the party that championed Act 46 consolidation) leadership in both chambers of the legislature gave the plan a green light for debate and revision. The Scott Plan, renamed in February as H.454, An Act Relating to Transforming Vermont’s Education Governance, Quality, and Finance Systems, presently has three versions (the original Scott Plan, a House version, and a Senate version), all engaged in a tug of war — with Scott bullying the legislature to put a bill on his desk before adjournment. The House and Senate are currently negotiating in a conference committee to see if they can reconcile their differences. And as the six-member committee (See *Backlund letter*, Page 5A)

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Letters to the Editor

Protesting against administration is ‘energizing’

I don’t know how you feel about the first 100 days of the new administration, but I am very concerned. I see freedoms that I have always taken for granted being trampled on, and the constant challenging of rules set up by our brilliant “founding fathers” to keep some checks and balances in our government, and to protect “We, the people.”

I worry every day for my family (especially our grandchildren) and my community and the wider community of people who are being harassed, deported and denied any basic American rights to a fair process.

It can be exhausting, this barrage of bad news. And I’ve found, to my surprise, that engaging in protests and writing postcards and letting congresspeople know my thoughts is in fact *energizing*.

I have heard several stories about people from other countries sending messages to say, “we see

your protests and your concerns — we are with you, and relieved that not everyone supports what is happening in the USA right now!”

I have felt surges of pride when holding signs at protests and hearing eloquent speakers talk about how we *must* be *seen* and *heard*, despite actions that keep us demoralized and exhausted.

I have laughed and joked and met people I don’t know who are also holding signs and waiting for cars to honk at street-side protests.

I have felt pride at contacting our congressional delegation to let them know how concerned I am, and satisfaction in letting them know that I support them fully.

So, I urge people to get involved, as an antidote to shock, exhaustion, depression, despair over the direction our country seems to be headed. Make phone calls. Sign petitions. And come out and *protest* — you’ll be glad you did.

The next major event is June

14th, Flag Day and “No Kings Day,” when many will gather the entire length of Route 7 (Massachusetts to Canada) to hold our American flags and our signs, and sing together, and wave at our fellow Americans. We are people who may disagree on many things, but who stand together to express that we love this country and refuse to watch its principles be ignored and abused!

For more information go to Nokings.org, choose *attend* in the top bar (or in the menu on a phone). In the impressive map of nationwide locations, zoom in on Vermont, and click on New Haven Junction. There you can sign up, and doing so will greatly help the organizers in placing people along Route 7.

Northeast Addison County Indivisible is the lead organizer of this segment of the relay.

Join us!

Anne Wallace Bristol

Bard is needed to tell story of ‘No Clothes’

Where is the woodcutter’s youngest son, the poor widow’s clever daughter? Surely somewhere there’s an enchanted sword, a prince in bear’s clothing, a talking cat, a key to a secret door. Isn’t there a lamp? The old story is prepared: the mad king, the wicked grand vizier, the slick harem of daughter clones, the evil scheming sons,

the preening queen, the nodding gentry. Have all the poets lost their tongues? Have all the instruments come unstrung? Is there no drum? Or is there one, (or are there many?) ready to shout without fear or shame, what everyone knows but will not name.

Mary Pratt New Haven

Proposed Middlebury development is poorly sited

As a resident of the South Ridge development, I am strongly opposed to the plans for the 4-story apartment building that is being proposed for the small corner lot next to the Dollar Market on Route 7. The out-of-state developer wants to put 32 units of living space on .7 of an acre. If we’ve been paying attention, we know this community has a serious housing shortage problem. This building could help that problem, but this location is not appropriate. The site plan shows an awkward, large

building, close to the entrance of our town, right on Rt. 7 and the two-lane Middle Road. The parking spaces will not allow for everyone who lives in the apartments to have a car.

Does the current town infrastructure support this building? Can this corner accommodate the increase of traffic and congestion, so close to the entrance of the Middlebury middle school? Will pedestrians still be able to walk in this area with the increased traffic? How will traffic flow with the proposed

changes to the current Mobil station? Please go to the town offices to view the plans. Please attend the planning commission meetings. Please voice your opinion about the increased congestion on that already busy corner. The developer needs to be directed to invest in a different piece of property in Middlebury. We need housing, just not this plan.

I am a neighbor who cares and I hope that others care too.

Sandy Bemis Middlebury

Education bill too rushed to be well considered

As a college student, I’ve pulled many all-nighters. And I find that, oftentimes, I will look at my midnight scribbles a few days later and question my very sanity. Now, I’m worried that the Vermont Legislature is pulling all-nighter after all-nighter, and in a year when they look back, they will regret the very urgency compelling them forward. Because I’ve realized that meaningful work can’t be done overnight, or even in a few days. It takes time and consideration.

Last night, at 12 a.m., I was sitting in my room reading hundreds of pages of information on H.454, the education transformation bill. After a while, I realized something. I don’t know what in the world this bill is doing. I mean, I agree with and understand some aspects,

but some of it is spinning my head in circles. Furthermore, this bill is a Band-Aid that doesn’t address the real cost drivers, such as healthcare. It’s trying to fix something in a few weeks that is decades deep into Vermont’s soil.

So after consideration, I’m asking the Legislature one thing: take your time. If you’re at all — as policy-makers — confused and angry about H.454, imagine the students, teachers, parents, and community members on the ground who feel this way.

We don’t all have time to read through the 100 pages or listen to testimony, or even give testimony. But maybe it’s because we haven’t been given the tools to understand the root causes of this system’s issues.

Instead of rushing to pass a full bill without the time and care it

requires, let’s spend the summer and fall working in coalition with communities to understand education reform and search for the collective answers we seek. A bill must pass, that much is true, but perhaps some of it can wait for a larger conversation. That is up to the Legislature. All I am asking is for you to consider the detrimental effects of urgency.

Only together, only with time, and only with compassion can we push education reform in Vermont. Maybe, just maybe, we should take some time to rest and reconsider before drastically changing our state.

Because for as much as I love and dedicate my life to education, I have no idea what H.454 is about anymore.

Addie Lentzer Middlebury

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)

that they were antisemitic. But last spring I visited Middlebury College’s encampment every day and never saw anything that could be called hateful to Jews. Instead, I saw Jews, Muslims, Christians, and non-religious students learning together in outdoor spaces. Sitting on the ground, I saw Jewish students leading Shabbat services at which everyone was welcome. I saw

silk screening, poster painting, and art making throughout the day. I saw an Arabic lesson being taught by one of the most joyful instructors I have ever seen. And I saw tables overflowing with tea, snacks, first aid items, and books available to anyone.

Encampments are powerful because when you see people in tents, you can’t help but think of people around the world who are forced to live in tents, because

their homes have been destroyed. Isn’t divesting from weapons companies who profit off of this death and destruction the very least we can do?

Joanna Colwell is the director of Otter Creek Yoga in Middlebury’s Marble Works District, and is a certified Iyengar yoga teacher. She is a member of Jewish Voice for Peace, and part of the L’Chaim Collective.

Backlund letter

(Continued from Page 4A)

debates, Scott has already stated that he will veto any version of a bill that doesn’t look like, sound like, or behave like his plan (behavior I think I have recently seen role modeled in Washington).

With this brief historical overview in mind, I want to cut to the chase about what H.454 — Vermont’s “The One, Big, Beautiful ‘Educational Transformational’ Bill” (my name) — will do.

It will be the end of local control, plain and simple, in a top-down generational power grab. See examples below:

Gone are the days of voting on your school budget and educational property tax rate. The amount of money that a school district will receive will be determined by the state and so will your tax rate.

The state will draw the boundaries and articles of association for forcibly consolidated Walmart-sized districts. There will not be the chance for citizens to craft thoughtful and geographically

relevant articles of association, followed by a vote of the historical districts being merged together.

The Walmart-sized districts will include many more towns and far fewer seats at the school board table. Thus, many communities will not have their own locally elected representative on the merged district board — and thus, no accountable representation.

Gone is any hope that a town will have a voice and vote in the closure of their school. The state is going to take care of that through setting minimum class and school enrollment sizes to forcibly close “small” schools (just to be clear, this is true for schools of all grade levels).

Please do not take my sarcasm as hyperbole. All of this has happened, is happening, and will happen if any current (as of 6/10/25) variation of H.454 becomes law.

I think that we can all agree that Vermonters need and want tax relief and tax fairness (the current and proposed new tax system is regressive, with the poorest Vermonters paying a

larger share of their income than the wealthiest), and that was the mandate that we tasked the Governor and Legislature to provide. However, I have yet to meet a Vermonter who asked to be completely disenfranchised and stripped of Vermont’s cultural practice of local control in matters of public education. For if H.454 becomes law, there is no “public” — it will just be a tax bill from the state, leaving Vermont’s rural communities covered in school bus dust.

To Governor Scott and all Legislators, please stop playing politics with our children’s future and our democratic rights. As a school board volunteer, a rural Vermonter and most importantly a father of two young children, I am still trying to understand how your plan will “reset the playing field so it’s fair and benefits all of Vermont.” The way I see it, my community and my children will no longer have a spot on the H.454 “playing field.”

Rob Backlund Lincoln

CHIP

(Continued from Page 4A)

500 individual Vermonters. The coalition captured the moment, ran with the ball, and scored bringing unprecedented energy and coordination to the effort to make meaningful housing policy a top priority in Montpelier.

We also commend the Legislature and the Scott Administration for building CHIP with simplicity in mind. The program’s design is streamlined, and while important decisions still lie ahead in the rulemaking process, the commitment to clarity and access is evident. VHFA, Northfield Savings Bank and lenders across the state

stand ready to support communities and developers in navigating this new opportunity.

Let’s be clear: CHIP won’t solve every problem. Zoning reform, workforce challenges, material costs, and permitting challenges all remain significant hurdles. But what CHIP does is remove one of the biggest, most immediate roadblocks: infrastructure costs. And that’s a breakthrough.

As housing finance professionals, we know that timing, cost, and predictability are everything when it comes to getting projects financed and built. CHIP changes the equation. It helps projects

pencil. It helps Vermont build.

To the bill sponsors, legislative leaders, organizational partners, and all those who made this moment possible — thank you. Vermont has a proud tradition of tackling big challenges with creativity and resolve. With CHIP, we’ve proven once again that bold solutions are possible when we work together.

Note: Maura Collins is Executive Director of Vermont Housing Finance Agency and board member of Let’s Build Homes; Jason Pidgeon is VP of Mortgage Banking and Consumer Credit at Northfield Savings Bank and board member of Let’s Build Homes.

Pet of the week

Send us your pet!
news@addisonindependent.com



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A Middlebury College graduate, Bill Sessions received his law degree from George Washington University Law School. He has worked as an Addison County public defender, taught at Vermont Law School, and had a private law practice. He is currently a U.S. District Court Judge and a Visiting Judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit. His expertise is in sentencing policy, and he was chair of the U.S. Sentencing Commission.



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ADDISON
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Obituaries

Ella O’Bryan-Smith, 84, of Bristol

BRISTOL — Ella O’Bryan-Smith, 84, passed away on Friday, Dec. 27, 2024.

Born in Bristol, she was the daughter of Cullen and Nina O’Bryan and grew up on the family farm in New Haven. She attended the local elementary school and graduated from Beeman Academy in 1958, where she excelled at basketball. In 1962, she graduated from Castleton State College with a B.S. in Education.

Ella started her teaching career with 39 first graders. She spent most of her teaching years in the Orange North Supervisory Union. Her love of teaching earned her the UVM Outstanding Teacher Award in 1984.

She enjoyed golfing, making quilts and spending time with family and friends.

Ella is survived by her husband of 20 years, Charles Smith;



ELLA O’BRYAN-SMITH

her children, Robin (David) Martineau, Scott (Cindy) Hayden; her grandchildren, Josh (Christy) Martineau, Claudia

(Matt)Burnham, Denay (Justin) L’Ecuyer, Mackenzie (Nick) McNiffe; her great-grandchildren, Calvin, Quinn, and Deacon. His children Christine (Bob) Smith, Keith Smith, Raymond “Buzz” Smith; his grandchildren, Jesse, Chase, Retta Smith, Mariah Achziger, Samantha. Chelsie, and Melissa; his great grandchildren, Amber, Carlie, Danny, Jaxson, Havey, and Capri; her brother Charles (Cheryl) O’Bryan.

A graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, June 20, at Evergreen Cemetery in New Haven. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Addison County Home Health & Hospice, PO Box 754, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. To send online condolences to her family please visit www.brownmcclayfuneralhomes.com.

Patrick Joseph Stapleton, 81, of Goshen

GOSHEN — Just after midnight on May 31, 2025, Patrick Joseph Stapleton found his way to heaven.

Born to Patrick and Dorothy Stapleton on Aug. 28, 1943, in Rutland, “Patty Jo” was a person you just couldn’t forget meeting. He attended Mount Saint Joseph’s Academy before being called to work as a machinist, remaining at Howe Scale until they closed and ultimately finishing his career at Simmons Precision in Vergennes.

Pat was a living legend, who spent his formative years with his two brothers and six sisters on East Street. In his late 20s, he made his way up Route 7 and into the hills of Goshen to find true love in the arms of Dolores McKeighan. Besides being an amazing father to four children, he also fully embraced the role of Grampa/G-pa/Grampa from Goshen. As a young man, Pat spent his leisure time at old Rutland hangouts like Paco’s/Zimo’s and never missed an opportunity to get a pizza from Ted’s or a grinder from Maxi’s whenever his sports fanaticism brought him back to town.

Along with his national allegiances (Notre Dame, Yankees, Celtics, Giants) he was a huge fan



PATRICK JOSEPH
STAPLETON

of UVM, MSJ and Otter Valley. He saved his loudest cheers for teams that his family played on, even when they played for Rutland! He was a voracious reader, single-handedly keeping the *New York Daily News*, *Rutland Herald*, and *USA Today* in the print business. Daily trips around town to get his papers, to go along with the many books he was reading and re-reading, were how Pat stayed connected to the greater Brandon community.

This four-wheeler riding, cribbage playing great-grandfather left behind so many people

that will miss his wry sense of humor, worldly advice and fierce loyalty to his family and friends. He is survived by his brother Edward Stapleton (Diane); sisters Mary Margaret Parker, Roseann Vitagliano (Salvatore), Judy Stella (Albert), and Dorothy Stapleton (Bruce); sons, Jimmy McKeighan (children Megan & Nate), Kenny McKeighan (daughter Alyza); daughter Patty Moore (husband Bill and daughters Bonnie and Sophie); bonus daughter, Thomasina Magoon; and great-grandson, Asher; as well as many nieces, nephews, and their children.

Pat was predeceased by his lovely wife, Dodie; his parents; his daughter Bonnie McKeighan; his brother David Stapleton; and sisters Agnes Duclo and Katheleen Hughes.

Friends and family are encouraged to attend a celebration of life/Pat-Party at 12:30 p.m., July 2, at 25 Fay Road in Goshen. The graveside committal service is to be held at noon, at the Goshen Cemetery.

Arrangements are by Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home, Brandon.

Anne McMillan Thompson, 75, of Hinesburg

HINESBURG — Anne McMillan Thompson, 75, of Hinesburg, Vt., died peacefully on Mother’s Day, May 11, 2025, with her children by her side.

Born in Cincinnati, Ohio, to Grant and Helen (Morrison) Thompson, Anne grew up in Old Greenwich, Conn., where she developed a lifelong love of the water and spent joyful summers sailing, swimming and creating lasting memories with family and friends.

In her late teens and twenties, Anne’s adventurous spirit took her to Belgium and San Francisco before she was drawn to the beauty of Vermont. While working at South Burlington’s Sirloin Saloon, Anne met Daniel Stannard. They married in 1978 on Nantucket, a place she cherished throughout her life. Together they spent years traveling abroad and exploring the country in their yellow Volkswagen bus before settling in Burlington, where they raised their two sons, Geoff and Dwight.

A talented writer and voracious reader, Anne worked as an editor at the University of Vermont before devoting herself full-time to motherhood, a role she considered

her greatest calling. She shared with her sons her love of music, books and cooking, and she enthusiastically supported their many interests in music, sports, film and law. Anne created a warm and welcoming home — whether serving generous portions of her famous chicken Caesar salad to hungry football players or hosting deafening basement jam sessions, she loved having a full house.

Anne’s caring nature led her to work with patients at Timber Lane Allergy & Asthma Associates and to volunteer for many years at Hope Lodge in Burlington, where she provided comfort and support to cancer patients and their families. Even while confronting her own health challenges — including two cancer diagnoses — Anne maintained her unwavering optimism and dedication to caring for others. She had a special gift for befriending and appreciating every nurse, EMT and doctor she met.

In later years, Anne moved to Hinesburg, where her warmth and generosity quickly endeared her to neighbors. She spent her days cooking and baking treats for loved ones, reading extensively,

enjoying British sitcoms and traveling regularly to visit her sons in New York and California. In quiet moments, she could be found relaxing at home with a dry martini and an extra-hard crossword puzzle.

She is lovingly remembered by her son Geoff and his partner, Tiffany, of Brooklyn, N.Y.; her son Dwight and his wife, Maria, of Orange, Calif.; her brother, Geoff Thompson, and his wife, Karyn, of Templeton, Calif.; her sister, Christie Sumner, of Lincoln, Vt.; numerous beloved nephews, nieces and their children; and countless dear friends. A lifelong dog lover, Anne is also fondly remembered by her spirited companion, Gracie.

An outdoor celebration of Anne’s life will take place on Saturday, Aug. 16, 2025, 1 p.m., at the Sumner property located on Lincoln Gap Road in Lincoln, Vt. A private green burial was held at the same location on May 14.

Memorial donations in Anne’s honor may be made to Hope Lodge in Burlington, Vt. Donations can be made online at cancer.org/support-programs-and-services/patient-lodging/hope-lodge/burlington.html.

Debra H. Dessureault, 65, of New Haven

NEW HAVEN — Debra H. Dessureault, 65, passed on to her next adventure peacefully in the arms of her loving family in the early morning of May 31, after a sudden infection resulted in sepsis.

She was born Debra Ann Highter, to Marie (Kaufman) and Robert Highter in Middlebury, Vt., on a cold, 7°F, March-3rd day in 1960. The couple’s sixth, Deb grew up alongside her four older brothers and sister (Ron, Jer, Ray, Al, Don(na), Deb) on the 250 acres of idyllic family farm at the end of E. Munger St., a dead-end dirt road developed by her paternal grandparents. She attended St. Mary’s Catholic School in Middlebury and excelled at school while holding her sweet demeanor even under the strict tutelage of the sisters.

In her youth she loved playing piano, skiing, and biking to town for tennis or to her grandparents’ camps on Lake Dunmore to waterski. A kind soul, Deb was one to help her grandfather recover his speech from his stroke, talking alone on the rock wall. She had fond memories driving her father’s El Camino and other cars with her brothers on the “field car” racetrack at the farm.

Her father’s sudden passing at age 14 left a hole in her life, filled with her mother’s strength and the unity of her siblings. Deb’s best friend was her mother, Marie, with whom she found joy in crafts and classes at Frog Hollow and helping with her bed and breakfast up until Marie’s passing.

She met Rich Dessureault of Addison in high school and began dating in ’79, marrying in the summer of ’83 at St. Mary’s and honeymooning in The Bahamas. They bought a log cabin on Belden Falls road in New Haven where they built a home and life, moving



DEBRA H. DESSUREAULT

in ’98 across town to build a new homestead.

Deb attended college in Miami and returned to manage Ski Haus in Middlebury/Winooski until the birth of her son, when she transferred into a part-time position at the Vergennes Post Office to have more time for home learning. She transitioned later to a full-time, 55-mile postal route through farmland and along the shores of Lake Champlain. Deb enjoyed visiting with her customers, maintaining wellness checks on the elderly and receiving mountains of baked goods and gifts every Christmas. A union member early in her career, she became her office’s advisor for employee rights and company policy. She never pursued offers for postmaster, feeling she was better fit for the peace of the road rather than what became the “top heavy” nature of the USPS. She retired in ’22 after 32 years.

She was happiest on the porch around her flowers reading — especially Ken Follett — in the rocking chair and watching wildlife, or swimming in warm turquoise waters under the sun — appropriate, with aquamarine being her birthstone/favorite color. She adored sharing these moments with family, surprising us all with a trip to the Cayman Islands that landed on a January freeze some years ago, one we cherish as perfect. She also had a love of the Florida Keys, the Maine coast every summer, and locally, on a hot day, she’d drop plans and announce, “We’re going to Branbury.”

She eschewed traditional

programming, save for Downton Abbey, and she donated to many YouTube creators. Topping her list of recommendations lately would be: ItchyBoots (solo female world motorcyclist), global homesteaders/sailors and many AT/PCT hikers (something she’ll be doing in the next life). Proud of people for being themselves whoever that may be, she was always an early adopter/ incredibly well informed, while maintaining lifelong curiosity. She was fascinated with the dream of becoming multi-planetary, and smiled brightly at the simple things — a good sunset, rescuing baby bunnies or helping turtles cross the road.

Cooking large, amazing meals for her family led to her house being the “hangout” for her children’s friends growing up, something she adored, making sure everyone was well fed and left with treats. She was always able to truly laugh and joke at a situation, no matter how dire, up until the end. She’d rise early, while also being the best kind of night owl — 10 p.m., hop in the RHD Jeep and buzz up to Bristol for a pint of ice cream, then talk about life watching a Tragically Hip, Grace Potter, Stones or Billy Stings concert. When returning late you knew she would be reading on the loveseat, cozy with a cat on her lap, truly excited to ask about your day over a cup of tea.

In 2024 she was diagnosed with Lymphoma and Graves’ disease. A true trooper, and against the odds, she managed the Graves and beat the cancer. Always keeping a positive attitude, she befriended all those that helped her in this time.

She is survived by her children, Dylan (Christine, her loving close friend) of Ca/Vt., loving daughter Sierra of Vt.; husband of 42 years, Rich of New Haven; brothers Ron (Mary Anne), Jer (Annapurna), Ray, Al (Madeline); sister Donna Audet (Rene); wonderful aunt Betty Thines, age 107 of Morrilton, Ark.; numerous amazing cousins, nieces, nephews and friends; and cats Boone, Beau and Clay

She is predeceased by her father (’75); mother (’09); beloved cats Sasha, Pumpkin, Sly, Spz, Jag and Tang; as well as Dylan and Christine’s dachshund, Stubz, whom she missed and loved dearly.

Deb and her family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone from Miller 5 at UVMMC, especially the love of Jessica Hansen N.P., and Michele Racine, R.N., our daily ally (and florist). A special thank you to Dr. Andrew Hale I.D. for his steadfast expertise and kindness.

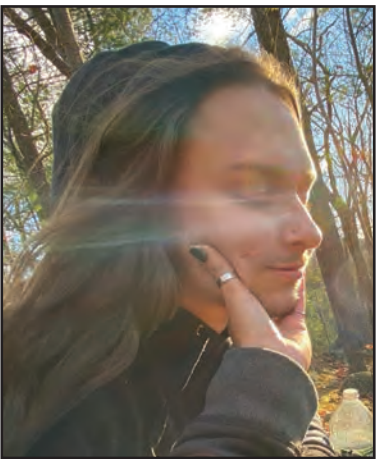
Services will be held at St. Mary’s Church in Middlebury, on Saturday June 21, 10 a.m. with a reception following after. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Addison County Humane Society or paying it forward to the next person in need. She was cool without trying, smart, funny, caring always, and kind by nature. Too sweet for this world, and gone too soon. We will love you always. God bless you Mom. Big Hug. ☺

Tre Mager Goodell Kingsbury, 21, of W. Springfield, Mass.

WEST SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — Tre Mager Goodell Kingsbury, 21, died tragically Thursday, May 29. Tre was born in Middlebury, Vt., the son of Benjamin Kingsbury and Rachel Mager.

He moved to West Springfield and attended West Springfield High School. He loved going back to Vermont, the outdoors, music, especially playing his guitar, writing and he was an avid reader.

He leaves his parents, Rachel Mager, Benjamin Kingsbury and his wife Christine King; his siblings Braiden, Mason, Kenzi, Brynn, Torin, Connor, and Leah; his grandfathers, Jeff Mager and his



TRE MAGER GOODELL
KINGSBURY

wife Allison; Tiny Mead “Grandpa Tony”; grandmothers Beth Eckert and Ellen King; aunt and uncle Kim and Char Goodell and finally his beloved girlfriend Alize. Recently, Tre was predeceased by his aunt Kelly Kingsbury.

A celebration of Tre’s life will be held at the West Springfield Curran-Jones Funeral Home Friday beginning at 5 p.m. and ending with a prayer service at 7 p.m. For online condolences, please visit curranjones.com. Donations may be made to Tre’s GoFundMe page at <https://gofund.me/6baal6c>.



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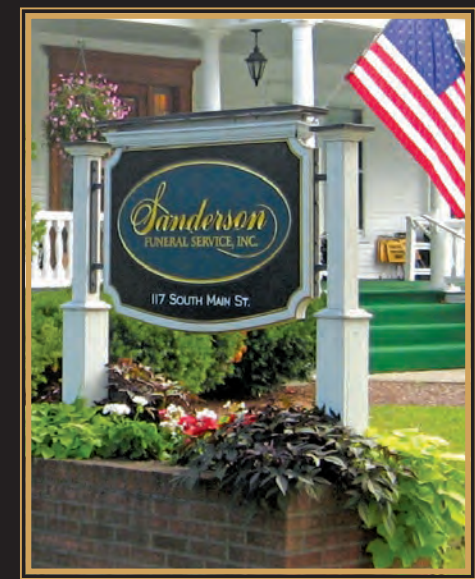
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Obituaries

Shelly Morrissey celebration of life

BRISTOL — The family of Shelly Morrissey, who died Nov. 23, 2024, invites you to join in a celebration of her life on Friday, June 20, at 11 a.m., at Mount St. Joseph's Cemetery, 7026 Plank Road, Bristol. A luncheon where we can share food, photos, stories and memories will follow immediately at American Legion 56 Airport Drive, Bristol. ♦



SHELLY MORRISSEY

Ron Morrissey celebration of life

BRISTOL —The family of Ron Morrissey, who died on April 11, 2024, invites you to join in a celebration of his life on Friday, June 20, at 11 a.m., at Mount St. Joseph's Cemetery, 7026 Plank Road, Bristol. A luncheon where we can share food, photos, stories and memories will follow immediately at American Legion 56 Airport Drive, Bristol.



RON MORRISSEY

Monkton

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

NEWS

MONKTON — Russell Memorial Library has a number of events coming up. A Death Café, sponsored by the Porter Medical Center Palliative Support Services, will be held from 9:30 to 11 a.m. on Thursday, June 12. To secure a free ticket and spot for this event go to tinyurl.com/monkton-death-cafe. If you want to learn more about Death Café go to www.DeathCafe.com.

Join in the fun for Stitch and Spin on Sunday, June 15, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring any project you wish to work on with help from Assistant Librarian Kat if needed or just to visit with other attendees. Stitch & Spin will continue each month but on the third Sunday.

A Chess Class will be held on Thursday, June 19, from 3:30 to 4 p.m. All levels of players are welcome, from just learning to the chess masters. Local chess coach and expert Andrea Gorostiaga will be on hand to help.

Mark your calendars for this year's Strawberry Festival on Sunday, June 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Shop for those great deals on books in the Community Room of the Monkton Town Hall. On the library patio, strawberry shortcake, hot dogs and lemonade will be for sale. Kids' games and activities will be held on the library lawn. Once again this year, local musicians The Ridge Runners, featuring Tracie, and Paul Cassarino with Josh Cassarino, will be on hand to entertain you. Don't miss this great event! And don't forget to drop off your book donations.

MONKTON DOG PARK

Monkton's Dog Park will be celebrating its fifth Anniversary on June 14, from 2-4 p.m. Come celebrate the park's 5th anniversary!

Dogs welcome, kids welcome,

everyone welcome! La Chapina will be on hand offering authentic Guatemalan food and BEVO will have beer, cider and wine available for purchase. There will also be a 50/50 Raffle to benefit the dog park (drawing @ 4 p.m.) and free cake for everybody.

Come hang out and enjoy some daytime live music, eat some tacos or quesadillas, share a beverage, pet some dogs, enjoy the dog park. This is a fundraiser for the dog park's ongoing care and maintenance, so buying a few tickets for the 50/50 raffle would be appreciated. If you haven't tried the delicious food from La Chapina, you are missing out! Contact Deb at dhgaynor@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

EAST MONKTON CHURCH ASSOCIATION

Join in on the fun at the East Monkton Church on Saturday, June 21, from 2 to 3 p.m., to hear stories of when folks used to visit our town general stores. This was before the big box stores or Amazon came about. You will hear about how the camaraderie brought together neighbors and patrons who shopped right here in town. The church is located on 405 Church Road. All are welcome. Contact Lauren at laurenparren@gmail.com if you have any questions.

MONKTON'S TOWN-WIDE YARD SALE

Sponsored by our own Monkton Scouts, the town-wide yard sale will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 21. Contact Karen Parker at puccidog@live.com by June 17 to get your location put on the town map for your own garage sale for \$15. Maps will be available at different locations around town. It's a great time to get some great buys. Let's hope for a sunny day!

Letters to the Editor

Middlebury production of 'La Boheme' best ever

Last night we attended OCM La Bohème opera and we were blown away. La Bohème is our sentimental favorite. We've seen it multiple times — all huge productions in bigger, fancier venues — San Francisco Opera House, Montreal Opera, Baz Luhrmann's adaptation for Broadway in New York, and the last time at the Met. But the La Bohème we saw last night beats them all in setting, tone, character, talent and costumes in our humble opinion.

What could be better than setting the apartment for struggling artists with the

background of the Brooklyn Bridge. The iconic details in the objects on shelves such as the Bob Dylan album cover and James Baldwin photo took the audience to the 1970's art scene.

The characters demonstrated playfulness, empathy for each other and also calling out bad behavior in the kind of camaraderie that artists form as they live together creating their craft. And those voices? And the orchestra? Wow! We had goosebumps and tears running down our cheeks at the beautiful sound everywhere. La Bohème takes place in the winter when

hats and coats weren't enough to warm these young artists. The varsity jacket that Rodolfo wears to the light blankets, thin sweaters and light coats emphasize the constant reminder that it's not warm enough but warmed our hearts.

Never in our wildest dreams did we ever think that Doug Anderson's production of La Bohème in Middlebury Vermont would be the one that we love the most.

Alicia Romero and
Rene Langis
Middlebury

Relative's death highlights shame of U.S. healthcare

At 2:01 Thursday morning, June 5th, our 59 year old sister-in-law/sister died from an aggressive cancer, 11 months after her diagnosis. She had worked hard for almost 40 years and had savings and owned her own home. However, when she could no longer work, she had to pay for COBRA insurance at a very high rate. Also, she had to get pre-approval for necessary treatments, and getting these pre-approvals often took the limited energy she had due to her disease.

What would have happened if our sister-in-law/sister could not afford the COBRA payments? Would her chemotherapy have

been stopped? As it was, her bills mounted up while the administrative work to get her COBRA activated moved at a snail's pace. In this healthcare climate, could she assume that these bills would be paid off once (and if!) the COBRA policy was in place? This was not something she could take for granted, adding to the massive challenge of living with her disease.

During that 11 months of precious time, she was overwhelmed with anxiety and uncertainty about how she would support herself if she survived her cancer. It was unlikely she would be able to work again. Is that

how someone with a grave illness should spend what could be their final months? According to Bernie Sanders, approximately 50% of people receiving cancer treatments go bankrupt or use all of their savings for medical costs. Again, when someone is gravely ill, does the anxiety over medical expenses enhance their prognosis?

Our medical care system is broken. Why isn't there more of an outcry and support for universal care?

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Margie Bekoff and Jim Morse
Weybridge

Does the U.S. have 'liberty and justice For All?'

"...with liberty and justice for all." So ends the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

"...with liberty and justice for all." Then who or what are not part of the word "all"? Are you a U.S. citizen? You are part of the all. Are you an immigrant? Are you a migrant worker? You are part of the all. Are you on Medicare or Medicaid? You are part of the all Are wealthy enough to own two, three or five homes? Are you without shelter? You are part of the whole. Are you Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Christian Nationalism, of no particular faith community? You are part of the all. Are you lesbian, gay, trans or bi-sexual, queer, straight male, young black man? You are part of the all. Are

you Republican, Democrat, non-voter? You are part of the all. Are you.....fill in the blank? You are part of the all.

The current Republican Administration continues its destructive path of exclusion: with massive spending cuts in "The Big Beautiful Bill" that adversely affect health care for all except the wealthy; free public libraries (where all are welcome); farmers and laborers; public schools and all colleges and universities; federal employees; the arts; small businesses; and local communities, to name a few. The Administration has spread chaos and fear across the nation for immigrants, migrant workers and non-white people.

Still, the President, Vice-President, cabinet members and staff, and members of Congress continue to place their right hand over their heart and boldly say "...with liberty and justice for all."

When I place my hand over my heart and say these words I have to ask, "Who or what are not part of the word "all"? So do each of us as we call ourselves to account for those we want to exclude. And we must demand that our government be called to account, with letters, phone calls, public protests, standing together now to say loudly and clearly "...with liberty and justice for all." For all.

Patti Welch
Bristol

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Homeless

(Continued from Page 1A)
10 houseless individuals living in the Middlebury area right now who are camping out of public view.
“I think it answers the concerns of the greater public, but it hasn’t taken away the problem,” Lacey said. “There same questions remain: Are they in safe housing? Are they living in places that aren’t habitable? The risks are still high for people who are unhoused.”
But there is some good news to share on the homelessness front, according to Lacey.

The “good” news is that while the CHC shelter’s 26 cots are full, the waiting list is just four, down from 23 names last year.
This year, all the known homeless persons living outdoors “are engaged and there’s more communication with service providers on a regular basis,” she said.
That communication is being spearheaded by an Addison County Homeless Outreach Team, which includes representatives of the CHC, Counseling Service of Addison County, Helping Overcome Poverty’s Effects, John Graham Housing & Services, Porter Hospital and the Open Door Clinic. Members of that group meet weekly with folks living

outdoors, checking on their welfare and offering assistance.
“This year we are trying to be more assertive, letting people know the services that are available,” Lacey said.
Also heartening for advocates: The CHC emergency shelter’s waiting list is at the lowest point in years, and local service providers have been seeing fewer houseless people with no connections to Addison County.
“We haven’t seen an influx of transient folks coming into Middlebury this year,” Lacey said. “I don’t know why that is. Burlington’s unhoused population has increased, but there doesn’t seem to be as much transient activity between Rutland and Burlington.”
REDUCED FEDERAL AID
John Graham Housing & Services (JGHS) operates an emergency shelter in Vergennes, as well as several transitional housing units for families moving from homelessness to self-sufficiency.
Susan Whitmore, executive director of JGHS, said the Vergennes shelter is full and there are 35 households on the waiting list.
Between the waitlist and active clients, JGHS is interacting with

95 households across the county. The nonprofit receives “near daily requests” for case management from people threatened with eviction or having a housing crisis that could lead to homelessness, according to Whitmore.
Whitmore is concerned that the current crunch at JGHS could get even worse, due in part to Vermont’s housing crisis and a fiscal year 2026 federal budget that calls for cuts to Medicaid, SNAP and other safety net programs serving the poor.
The federal Housing and Urban Development informed the Vermont State Housing Authority (VSHA) last month of an approximately \$1 million reduction in 2025 resources for the state’s Housing Choice Voucher and Mainstream Voucher programs. Those resources help the poor with housing expenses.
“This reduction requires immediate action to manage available resources responsibly and ensure we can continue to serve the nearly 4,000 families who rely on VSHA rental assistance,” Elizabeth Bacon, the VSHA’s managing director of housing programs administration, told affordable housing providers in a May 21 letter.
(See Reduced aid, Page 14A)

Fender bender ends with citation

VERGENNES — After responding on June 8 to what police described as a two-car fender-bender on South Water Street, police cited one driver involved in the accident for driving under the influence and “recklessly endangering another person.”
Cited was Thomas Roussin, 44 of Vergennes. Police allege that as well as operating his vehicle while under the influence at the time of the minor accident that a few minutes beforehand that Roussin had dropped off his children for a child-custody exchange. Police cited Roussin to appearing at Addison Court’s Criminal Division on June 23.
Between June 2 and 8, Vergennes police also conducted seven traffic stops, a cruiser patrol and a foot patrol; processed two fingerprint requests; dealt with a false alarm; and also:
On June 2:
• Were told by a city resident that his ex-wife was making slanderous statements about him on Facebook. Police said he later asked them to drop the case.
• Helped one half of what they called “a failed relationship” retrieve belongings from an apartment.
• Helped settle a dispute between an apartment owner and

Vergennes Police Log

an unwanted guest. The caller was told to call back should the person return.
• Assisted the Vergennes Area Rescue Squad at a First Street residence.
• Helped Vermont State Police by securing an unlocked Waltham residence.
• Looked into a possible Relief from Abuse order violation in Vergennes and determined no violation had occurred.
• Conducted a background investigation on behalf of another agency.
On June 3:
• Spoke with a city resident at the station about a suspicious incident.
• Helped a city business with a case involving missing packages.
• Handled a minor two-car accident in the Kinney Drug Store parking lot.
On June 4:
• Began investigating a complaint from a Country Commons resident who believes she is being harassed by a neighbor.
• Began investigating a Green Street report of bank fraud.
• Responded to the Walker Avenue area to a report of an individual who was unresponsive in a vehicle and was possibly experiencing a drug overdose. Police agreed with diagnosis and alerted VARS, but the individual refused transport by ambulance and was taken to the hospital by a relative.
On June 5:
• Responded to report of a juvenile who had walked away from a residence after refusing to leave with a non-custodial parent. Police said they spoke with the family about a resolution.
• Responded to Hillside Acres to a report of dogs left in a vehicle. Officers found the dogs were OK.
• Went to Walker Avenue after a report that a female had run away

from an apartment where she was allegedly being held against her will. Officers determined that the female was willingly brought to Vergennes by a Walker Avenue resident the night prior. The resident told police the woman agreed to come to Vergennes to help him detail vehicles, but had a seizure and “freaked out and left the residence.” The woman told police said she was OK, and “just wanted to go back north,” but was houseless and had no money. Police helped her gather belongings and gave her a courtesy ride to the bus stop, and also called a grandparent, who pledged to help arrange a ride.
On June 6:
• Took a report of a vehicle being struck while parked at Shaw’s Supermarket. Police said they would work to obtain video footage.
• Delivered a notification of the death of a relative to a city address at the request of another agency.
On June 7:
• Cited Jessica Kimball, 50, of Vergennes for DUI following a West Main Street traffic stop.
• Took a report of someone throwing eggs at a vehicle on South Water Street, causing minor damage to its paint. Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call Vergennes police at 802-877-2201.
• Went to Spring Street to deal with a complaint of a parked vehicle blocking a driveway. The owner was moving the vehicle when police arrived.
• Helped state police with a theft investigation in Panton.
On June 8 dealt with two allegedly problematic people in Falls Park. At about 3:15 p.m. police spoke to an intoxicated individual they said was causing a minor disturbance and asked the person to move along. Police went back to the park just after 6:30 p.m. and spoke to a woman who was reported to be causing a disturbance. Police said she was calm when they arrived, and left the scene shortly after they arrived.



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FINE FURNITURE

Sheriff’s Log

ADDISON COUNTY — The Addison County Sheriff’s Department received a report on May 29 that a person’s bronze bicycle and bike rack fell off of their vehicle on Route 22A somewhere between Vergennes and Orwell. Anyone that may have found it is encouraged to contact the Sheriff’s Department.
Between May 25 and June 7, deputies completed patrols in multiple towns and stopped 59 vehicles for various motor vehicle violations and fingerprinted 22 people for background checks. They also provided transport of prisoners for other agencies five times, transporting:
• A person that was arrested on a warrant by Vergennes police on May 25.
• A prisoner from Marble Valley Correctional Facility to court in Middlebury for a hearing on May 27 and again on May 28.
• A prisoner to Bennington for court hearings in aid of Chittenden County and Bennington County sheriff’s departments on May 30.
• A person to Grace House in Rutland for Middlebury police on May 30.
• A prisoner from jail to the Middlebury courthouse for their hearing on June 2.
• Someone for the Chittenden County Sheriff’s Department on June 3, 4 and 5.
• Someone to Brattleboro from Middlebury on June 3.
• A person that was in custody of the Vermont State Police to the courthouse for a hearing on June 4.
• A juvenile to Bennington on June 5.
Meanwhile, Sheriff Michael Elmore was active; he met in Bristol with the other Addison County law enforcement leaders on May 30 to share information and ideas, on June 3 attended a quarterly meeting with a working group that is reviewing and improving the Police Academy’s curriculum, and on June 5 attended the statewide conference for police chiefs and sheriffs.
In other recent activity, the sheriff and his deputies:
• On May 25 provided traffic

control for Middlebury College graduation.
• On May 25 assisted with Orwell Memorial Day parade traffic control.
• On May 26 participated in the Middlebury Memorial Day Parade and assisted with parade traffic control in Vergennes.
• On May 27 helped Middlebury police with a person that had been arrested on a warrant.
• On May 28 cited Scott Blaise, 53, of New Haven for driving with a criminally suspended license in Ferrisburgh.
• On May 29 received a report of a suspicious vehicle at a construction site off Route 7 in New Haven. Deputies tracked down the vehicle and the driver told them that they had pulled into the construction site because they needed a moment to rest.
• On May 29 provided an escort for an oversized load from Middlebury to St. Johnsbury.
• On May 29 lent a hand during a court ordered property retrieval in Vergennes.
• On May 29 assisted state police at a traffic stop on Route 22A while a driver was arrested.
• On May 30 completed a background check at HQ.
• On May 31 attended the Open House for the Riverflow Community in Monkton to show our support as they grow their campus.
• On June 5 deputies participated in the Torch Run, helping escort the Special Olympics Torch through Middlebury on its way to the Special Olympic Games in Burlington.
• On June 6 deputies attended the Opening Ceremony for the Special Olympics Summer Games.
• On June 6 provided a VIN verification for a New Haven resident.
• On June 6 assisted driver with a broken-down vehicle on Greenbush Road in Ferrisburgh.
• On June 7 attended Kindness Day at Neshobe School in Brandon.
• On June 7 deputies supported the Special Olympics by attending the Summer Games.

AN EVENT?

Email it to:
news@addisonindependent.com

Police come to the aid of a mental health crisis

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police responded to a report of a man experiencing a mental health crisis in the Shannon Street area on June 2. Police said they took the man to Porter Hospital for evaluation.

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Checked on a person who had reportedly been yelling for help near the intersection of Cross and South Pleasant streets on June 2. Police found the person to be OK.
- Investigated a crash involving a tractor-trailer truck that had knocked down a traffic light on Court Street on June 2.
- Responded to a car-versus-bike collision at the intersection of Main and Cross streets on June 2. Police said no one was injured and no citations were issued.
- Conducted a foot patrol downtown on June 2.
- Gave a courtesy ride on June 2 to two men who needed a local hotel stay for the night.
- Investigated a retail theft complaint at the Maplefields Store on North Pleasant Street on June 4.
- Helped a turtle cross a street on June 4.
- Responded to a reported fender-bender in the Mary Hogan School parking lot On June 4.
- Opened an investigation on June 4 into alleged threatening conduct between juveniles from Middlebury and Rutland.
- Were informed of the theft of AirPods from an unlocked vehicle parked off Court Street on June 4.
- Provided a courtesy ride to a stranded Middlebury Union High School student on June 4.
- Received a report of someone stealing an electric bike from the Court Street area on June 4.
- Deployed a drone to photograph newly painted crosswalks in the downtown area on June 4.
- Assisted Bristol police with a domestic dispute on that town's Main Street on June 4.
- Responded to a report of dogs being left inside a vehicle parked off

Middlebury Police Log

College Street during the evening of June 5.

- Responded to a report of a dog left in a hot vehicle off Route 7 South on June 5.
- Gave a courtesy ride to a discharged Porter Hospital patient on June 5.
- Responded to a report of a woman banging her head on her steering wheel in a vehicle on High Street on June 5.
- On June 5, conducted traffic control on High Street, due to downed wires.
- Participated in the Special Olympics torch run on Court Street on June 5.
- Responded to a two-vehicle crash on Weybridge Street on June 6. Police said the two occupants in each of the vehicles were all unharmed.
- Responded to a domestic disturbance at a Jackson Lane home on June 6.
- Received a report of a car-versus-deer collision on Route 7 South during the morning of June 6.
- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS on a medical call to the Court Street area on June 6.
- Received a complaint about vehicles speeding in a construction zone on Middle Road on June 6.
- Contacted Middlebury's animal control officer about baby rabbits that had been found near the intersection of Merchants Row and Main Street on May 7. Police said the rabbits were taken to an animal rehabilitation facility.
- Received a complaint about vehicles speeding and doing "burnouts" on Case Street on June 7.
- Responded to The Centre shopping Plaza on Court Street Extension on June 7 on a report of folks panhandling.
- Provided a detail for Middlebury

Vermont State Police Log

ADDISON COUNTY — A Granville man faces firearms charges and other legal consequences following a shooting in Granville.

Vermont State Police received a report of a shooting incident that occurred in early April, on Route 100 in of Granville. While investigating, troopers said they determined that Mark Balch, 34, of Granville discharged his firearms recklessly on multiple occasions, with one shot on the evening of April 8 striking the front fender of moving vehicle of Sonni Martindale, 50, of Duxbury. Martindale was uninjured in the incident.

Late last week, state police cited Balch for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, reckless endangerment and unlawful mischief.

Also last week, state police on June 6 at around quarter after 10 p.m. logged a complaint of an intoxicated man, who was involved in an altercation at Kampersville Campground in Salisbury. Troopers looked into and decided that Lance A. Roby, 47, of Cavendish left the campground and returned approximately 30 minutes later. Troopers spoke with Roby about the incident and say he exhibited indicators of impairment.

Police took Roby into custody, took him to the

Union High School graduation on June 7.

- Received a complaint about vehicles improperly parked on High Street on June 7.
- Tried to find a driver who had fled an attempted traffic stop at the intersection of Route 7 and High Street on June 7.
- Assisted Vermont State Police with a drunken driving stop at the intersection of Route 7 and Happy Valley Road on June 7.
- Cited Robert Warner Jr., 39, of Shelburne for driving under the influence, following a stop on River Road on June 8.

New Haven barracks and cited him for driving under the influence, second offence.

Meanwhile, Vermont State Police dealt with a minor two-car crash in New Haven on June 4. Troopers were called to a crash on Route 7 near Lime Kiln Road at around 8 a.m. on that Wednesday.

Police report that Christopher Wyckoff, 57, of Bristol was driving a Subaru Outback northbound behind a GMC Sierra driven by Harold Tricou, 58, of New Haven. Police said that Wyckoff tried to pass Tricou on the left with a commercial tractor-trailer heading southbound. Both Wyckoff and

Tricou increased speeds, and Wyckoff veered right, colliding with the driver side of Tricou's vehicle. Tricou veered to the right, side swiping the guard rail that lined the roadway. Both operators managed to pull off the roadway and stood by for responding troopers.



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The Village Creeme Stand is back open

BRISTOL — A well-loved Bristol ice cream place is back for the summer.

The Village Creeme Stand at 49 West St. opened shop for the season last month. The establishment was closed throughout summer 2024, following the death of owner Tom Wallace in October 2023. A key figure in the Bristol community, Wallace had run the stand with his family for over four decades.

A May 6 social media post announced the Village Creeme Stand would reopen this spring. For updates on the stand's hours visit Village Creeme Stand on Facebook.

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New Haven

NEW HAVEN — Herpetologist Jim Andrews will lead an Amphibian Walk in the Woods in the Bristol Watershed's northern section on the border with Monkton on Saturday, June 14, from 9 a.m. to noon. Andrews hopes that attendees will find 5-6 species of amphibians, including the unusual four-toes and blue-spotted salamanders, in addition to one or two species of snake. This is a free event from the New Haven Conservation Commission. It is limited to 20 people. Contact Marianne Eaton 802marianne@gmail.com.

FREE SUMMER MEALS

From June 23 to Aug. 8 the New Haven Community Library will once again be a distribution site for MAUSD and ANWSD's summer meal program. All kids 18 and under can receive free meals available at the New Haven Library on Thursdays from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

VINS AT Town Hall

In partnership with the Vermont Summer Reading Program, the Vermont Institute of Natural Science will hold a program at the New Haven Town Hall at 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 14. Attendees will meet three of

Have a news tip?
Contact Kim Callahan at
kimcallahan99@gmail.com.

NEWS

VINS's animal ambassadors and learn how nature's palette can startle, impress and even fool the eye! Witness the rainbow of techniques our wildlife uses to hunt, hide, and survive in this 45 minute program geared towards families and children of all ages.

POLLINATOR STORYTIME

Kristin Swartzentruber from Pollinator Pathways of Addison County, will lead a special story hour at the Community Library about gardens, nature and bees. Join Kristin on Tuesday, June 19, at 10:30 a.m.

Green Mountain Passports are available at the Town Office for seniors (62 and older) and Veterans with disabilities. The passport is good for free admission to Vermont State Parks, Vermont State Historic Sites and events that are fully state sponsored. You just need to fill out a short application, and pay a \$2 fee.

SAVE THE DATE!

The New Haven Volunteer Fire Department will hold its summer Chicken BBQ on Saturday, July 20, at the New Haven Town Hall beginning at 5 p.m. More details to come.



THIS SUMMER LOCAL youths will have a chance to sell their creations at the Bristol Farmers Market, thanks to a new partnership between the market, Bristol CORE and the Bristol Hub Teen Center. Among those taking part in the effort is 12-year-old Reed Shepard, shown here selling whoopie pies with farmers market manager Sarah Stillman.

Photo courtesy of Taylor Welch-Plante

Youths to sell wares at farmers market

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — The Bristol Farmers Market will feature wares from a new group of vendors this year — local youths.

A partnership between the farmers market, Bristol CORE and the Bristol Hub Teen Center is offering young people ages 12-19 an opportunity to sell their creations through a booth at the market, which kicked off for the season on Monday.

Those involved in the effort are hopeful it will help teens explore entrepreneurial endeavors and potentially launch their own micro-businesses.

"I think the hope is that they are able to take this experience with training wheels sort of and have their own table (at the market) or go on to other markets and continue

to sell their wares," Bristol Hub Director Taylor Welch-Plante told the Independent.

Welch-Plante sits on the board of directors for Bristol CORE, the nonprofit committed to maintaining the economic vitality of Bristol's downtown that oversees the farmers market. Welch-Plante and other directors work closely with Bristol Farmers Market Manager Sarah Stillman.

"Sarah is really phenomenal in encouraging youth to take leadership roles in the market," Welch-Plante said. "She's really enthusiastic about making the space inclusive and uplifting people so that they feel welcomed and like this is a third space for everybody."

In thinking about how local

teens could be better supported at the market, Welch-Plante said the group decided to offer a space for youths to sell their creations. The Hub typically hosts a booth at the farmers market, and that spot will now offer a vending opportunity for youths with Hub staff on hand to support teens.

"Vending at a market is very scary for the first time," Welch-Plante said. "I'm just there to help them learn, if they need it."

Selling at the market is free for youths, and participating teens will keep all of the money they make. The Hub has begun engaging with youths looking to take part in the effort, and Welch-Plante said two teens have signed up so far.

One of those youths will be selling jewelry and various handmade creations, while the other teen will offer whoopie pies. Welch-Plante noted that youths selling food at the market can only sign up to vend once a month unless they receive necessary licensing from the state.

She said the Hub is also working with a handful of other teens who might join the booth later on.

"Even just two kids using the booth is a win," she said.

In addition to vending, local teens will have a few other opportunities to get involved at the weekly market this summer. The farmers market is looking for youth volunteers to help with tasks like setting up and breaking down the event. Volunteers must be at least 13 years old and will be compensated \$10 per hour in VFM Market Tokens, which can be used at any booth at the market.

More information about volunteering opportunities can be found at www.tinyurl.com/bristolfarmersmarket.

The Bristol Farmers Market will run through Sept. 29 on Mondays from 3-7 p.m. on the Bristol Town Green.

"Vending at a market is very scary for the first time. I'm just there to help them learn, if they need it."

— Bristol Hub Director Taylor Welch-Plante

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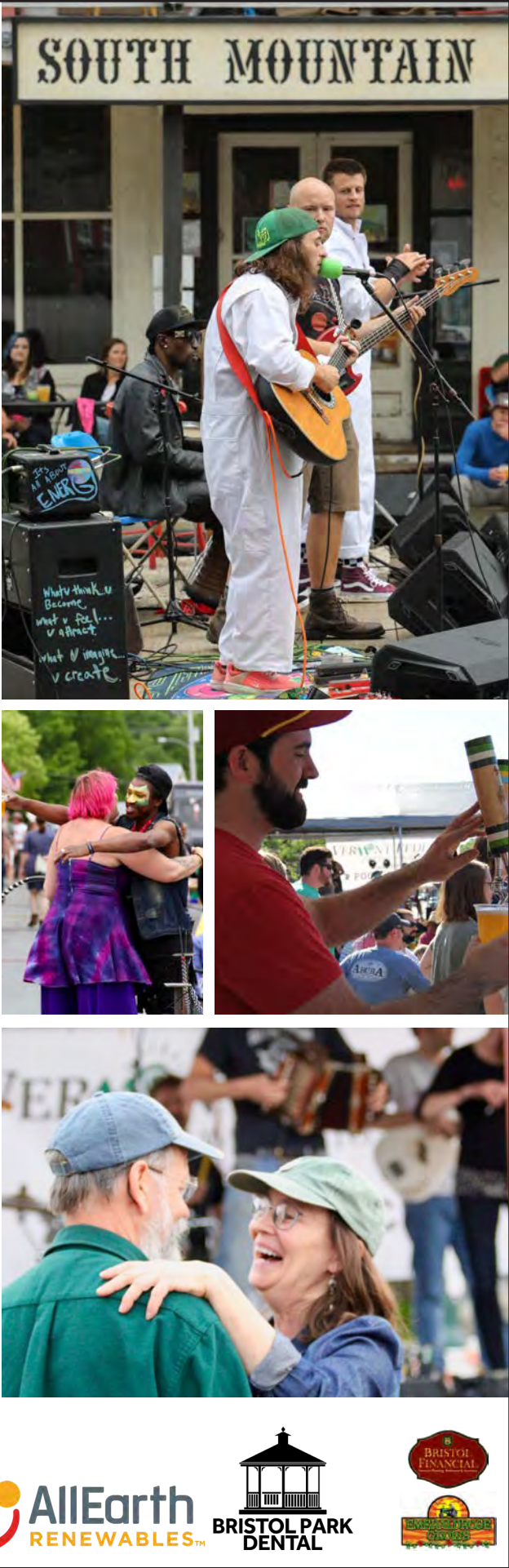
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Mt. Abe graduates urged to never give up

By JOHN FLOWERS

BRISTOL — Like seeds from a giant dandelion, winds of change on Saturday metaphorically lifted the 104 members of the Mount Abraham Union High School class of 2025 from their campus commencement podium to life adventures close and far afield.

And speaking of the wind, MAUSD Principal Shannon Warden deftly incorporated Mother Nature’s powers — and Vermont’s recent volatile weather — in her farewell remarks to this year’s crop of Mount Abe graduates.

“Before I say anything else, let’s just take a moment to appreciate the fact that we are all here — dry(ish), warm(ish), and at least not shoveling snow in June. That alone feels like a small miracle this year,” she told the members of the class of ’25 and their families and friends, all assembled beneath a massive just tent east of the high school building.

“Let’s be honest; Vermont weather doesn’t follow the seasons — it freelances,” Warden added, drawing laughs.

She observed that unpredictable weather has been an apt descriptor for the challenges students often face — not only during their scholastic careers, but into adulthood.

“There are going to be days when the sun shines bright, warming your faces and lifting your spirits. These are the moments of celebration like today,” she said. “But life also brings storms — unexpected and sometimes overwhelming. Like a sudden downpour or a long, gray winter, we face challenges that test our strength and patience. Maybe it’s the loss of someone we love, a

difficult diagnosis, or simply a time when nothing seems to go right. Yet, as with every storm, there’s growth. Flowers bloom only after the rain. Trees grow stronger roots when the wind howls. These trials, though hard, will shape you and deepen your resilience.”

Warden noted humans can’t control the weather or unexpected curveballs, so being able to adapt is key.

“These trials, though hard, will shape you and deepen your resilience.”

— Principal Shannon Warden

“I hope that you are able to embrace every kind of weather life sends your way,” she said. “Dance in the rain, bask in the sun, bundle up for the cold, and always look for the rainbow. Because each season, each storm, and each sunny day is part of the story that makes us who we are.”

Student speaker Hazel Stoddard, one of the standout members of the class of 2025, marveled at the sense of togetherness she and her peers maintained throughout their high school careers in spite of having different likes, dislikes and political opinions.

“Farmers and scholars and skiers and hippies make up the quilt of Vermont, and Mount Abe is a reflection of that,” she said. “This upbringing has allowed us to spur a willingness to work together toward common goals; whether that’s a karaoke competition or a group project dissecting the morality of the atomic bomb.... That particular aspect of Mt. Abe is the reason I have the school pride that I do. While we might come from many different places and utilize Mt. Abe in different ways, perseverance is something we seem to have in common.”

Stoddard suggested the students

of Mount Abe could teach leaders on the national stage a thing or two about getting along and getting things done.

“Just seeing the interconnectivity of students with different hobbies and ideas show that this generation has the capacity to compromise and do what is best for a community,” she said. “This gives me pride in my school and in Vermont because as teenagers, we’ve done the thing that many are struggling with. This skill we have can serve as an example in light of larger national difficulties defining our country at the present moment.”

Indeed, intangible commodities like connection, collaboration and compromise are now necessities in a fractured world, according to Stoddard.

“This class has demonstrated these values wholeheartedly, proving it is possible to move through the world with our communities in mind,” she said. “Through hard work, determination and grit, our Vermont values can overflow beyond our borders,

perpetuating compassion for our neighbors allowing the future of people everywhere to be infused with everlasting empathy. I have the privilege of calling these people surrounding me today my class and I have confidence knowing these people have the capacity to change the world.”

Class of 2025 members picked Mount Abe social studies and history educator Jessica M. Little to deliver the guest speech, and she didn’t disappoint. She used her time to dispense advice to the new graduates based on old adages and celebrated quotes that have helped

her navigate life’s choppy waters.

Among her recommendations:

- “If it’s wrong, don’t do it. If it’s illegal, avoid it. If it’s harmless to you and others (the “and others” is key): feel free to do it.”

- “Ignore people who gossip about you: if they have nothing better to talk about, then they do not need, nor do they deserve, your attention.”

- “Eat as local as you can afford to; if the ingredient list on the package is longer than a recipe for pickles, put it back.”

- “He is rich who owns the day, and no one owns the day who allows it to be invaded with fret and anxiety.” — Ralph Waldo Emerson.

- “We’re all just trying to figure it all out. Speaking of figuring it all out: don’t worry if you’re not sure. I wasn’t sure at 17 what my life would look like.”

- “Anxiety lives in a past you cannot change, and in a future you cannot hope to control.”

- “Never give in... in nothing, great or small, large or petty — never give in, except to convictions of honor and good sense.

Never yield to force. Never yield to the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy.” — Winston Churchill.

Little left the class of ’25 with these parting words: “So, onward and upward Eagles, be kind, be mindful of how your actions affect others, hold the door, be nice to the server, travel as far as you can and know this for certainty: I adore you, each and every one of you. Good luck, keep in touch, and ‘Go Eagles!’”

See a full list of Mount Abe grads in our Graduation pull-out next week.



MOUNT ABRAHAM UNION High School sent 104 newly minted graduates into the world on Saturday following a splendid commencement ceremony under a big tent on campus. Mt. Abe principal Shannon Warden used the unpredictable weather as an apt metaphor for life, while student speaker Hazel Stoddard spoke glowingly of how Class of 2025 members were able to bond during the past four years. Guest speaker Jessica Little gave the graduates some heartfelt advice in the form of powerful quotes.

Independent photos / Buzz Kuhns



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Banned words

(Continued from Page 1A)

paint those terms on rocks, pieces of wood and other items that are positioned quite publicly around town.

The project is meant to raise awareness about the issue of censorship, Fogg said.

“I heard about all of these words that were being banned from government agency websites and (was) trying to use the tools that I have at my disposal to raise that awareness,” she said. “I like to paint over any surface so I thought it would be cool to pick up objects around our environment and paint those words on them and redistribute them into the environment.”

Fogg chose the words for the project from a list compiled by PEN America, a nonprofit that aims to protect free expression in the United States. The “list of words banned or flagged by federal agencies,” compiled by PEN includes over 350 words.

Other organizations — including Propublica and Reuters — have in recent months published lists of terms flagged or removed from various government materials. Often, those lists were included in government memos, internal guidance and other documents reviewed by the organizations.

In some cases, federal employees have been advised to flag materials containing or related to certain terms. In other instances, staff

have been asked to remove words from public-facing websites. Such government memos have been circulated within agencies like the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Food and Drug Administration.

The terms identified for review or removal reflect various executive orders signed by President Donald Trump since he took office, such as those targeting transgender people and diversity, equity and inclusion efforts.

Fogg began working on the project this spring, painting on different objects commonly found in the rural environment. Those objects have been scattered across Bristol in places like the Town Green and nearby downtown shops.

“I just distributed them kind of in places that were more visible,” she explained. “A lot of shop owners I know, so I just gave them a heads up.”

Bristol residents may have seen some of those objects out and about recently. Some of the words included on rocks, wood and other items around town include “pronouns,” “disability,” “underserved,” and “Native American.”

“The paint will fade over time and the objects that remain were already part of the fabric of our landscape,” Fogg said of the project in a recent Front Porch Forum post. “Feel free to add to the collection



BRISTOL RESIDENT AND artist Pamela Fogg painted this rock and other objects around town with words that have been flagged or removed from various government agency websites and other materials. The effort is meant to raise awareness about those actions.

Photo courtesy of Pam Fogg

or move the works around.”

While she doesn’t plan on painting any more objects, Fogg said she hopes other locals interested in replicating the project might carry it on. She said she’s already heard from one person looking to recreate the idea.

“I explained to her that I chose words from the banned words list that I felt were really benign words

because it really illustrates how crazy it is,” she said.

The main goal of the initiative is to raise awareness.

“I think the government is supposed to serve the people ... Especially if you think of these words in the context of (the Department of) Health & Human Services, for example, why would you ban the words peanut allergies

and COVID,” Fogg said. “They’re not doing their job if they’re taking the words off the websites because the websites are there to inform people, and you can’t inform people if you’re taking away language options.”

“Even if you just raise awareness to a handful of people, I think it’s helpful,” she added.

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)

raining (again). Here’s what you can look forward to: Live music by The Loose Monkeys with special guest Dr. Seaton; free food, lawn games, arts and crafts, seed plantings and free giveaways. Peddle yourself a refreshing drink on the smoothie bikes. Explore the on-site fire truck, police car and ambulance, find bargains at Round Robin’s Upscale Resale pop-up store and enter a raffle for a quilt — handmade and donated by Porter volunteers. Sen. Ruth Hardy, D-Middlebury, will read a “Porter Day Declaration.”

And speaking of Porter, there’s still time to become part of the organization’s “100 donations before our 100th Birthday Party (June 14)” fund drive, which will trigger a Porter Auxiliary commitment to contribute \$10,000 to the Patient Support Fund. Every donation, of any amount, makes a difference. The Patient Support Fund helps people in our community afford vital items like medication, mobility aids, home medical equipment, special dietary food — or even a bus ticket to bring a family member home to help care for them. Donate at tinyurl.com/5bkm3x75.

The Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is warning the public of a recent increase in scam messages that falsely claim the recipient has an unpaid traffic ticket and is at risk of driver’s license suspension. The DMV didn’t send these messages and doesn’t send any text or email messages demanding immediate payment. “When the Vermont DMV needs to communicate with customers, we send notices via the mail and use other communications that are easily recognizable as valid and official because they contain accurate and detailed personally identifiable information,” said DMV Commissioner Andrew Collier. If you receive an unexpected message about payments, don’t click on links, don’t provide personal information, and don’t make payments.

The wooded portion of North Street in New Haven, just south of the Monkton border, connects a forested wetland with a rocky hillside. These two adjacent habitats and their location within the Lake Champlain Basin make this section of road one of the most significant reptile and amphibian crossing areas known in Vermont. Hundreds of salamanders, frogs, and snakes cross this section of road at least twice each year. Fortunately, the uphill portion has been conserved and is now part of The Watershed Center. Herpetologist Jim Andrews will lead a walk in this area on Saturday, June 14, from 9-11 a.m. Participants could spot a half-dozen species of amphibians, including the unusual four-toed and blue-spotted salamanders, in addition to one or two species of snake. This walk is free and open to the public but limited to the first 20 people to register. Contact Marianne Eaton at 802marianne@gmail.com to sign up. Parking and more information to follow.

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MUHS Class of 2025 lauded as quiet leaders

By MARIN HOWELL
MIDDLEBURY — There was plenty of talk of the future at Middlebury Union High School commencement this past Saturday. Graduation speakers acknowledged the challenges graduates will face on the road ahead, reminded them of the skills that will help guide them, and celebrated all of the places they’re headed.

Though, speakers also took time to reflect on the Class of 2025’s time at MUHS, as well as the community that’s supported them over the past four years and that they’ve contributed to in myriad ways.

“You set a tone this year — a tone that made our school feel safe and connected, like a place of reprieve even, from all that was swirling in the world around us,” MUHS Principal Caitlin Steele told graduates. “The quiet power you honed delivered a true sense of community here at MUHS.”

Steele noted that the graduating class’s advisors have described them as inclusive, quietly competent, big-hearted, creative and much more.

“They described you as a studious bunch, serious students who have overcome big challenges, accomplished great things, and yet somehow found a way to hold it lightly,” she said. “Sure, there’s a bit of healthy competition, but also, you lift each other up.”

From navigating middle school during a pandemic to tackling their freshman year, Steele said the Class of 2025 has always been an academic, motivated and curious group.

“Through classes and projects, sports and study groups, clubs and performances, you created a culture that is inclusive, accepting, and respectful,” she said. “You looked out for one another. You cheered for each other, listened to each other, included each other. Lean into those strengths.”

Steele lauded graduates for the talents they’ve honed in on over the years and advised students not to be quiet about the things that make them awesome:

“Let yourself be seen. Take the risk of being known because the world needs your exact brand of creativity, your optimism, your work ethic, your depth, your humor, your highly-skilled, big-hearted chill.”

MOMENTS OF WILLINGNESS

Other speakers encouraged students to leave their mark on the world that awaits. Addison Central School District Superintendent Wendy Baker acknowledged that graduates might question their ability to forge a path to success on their own.

“During Mr. Bartlett’s memorial service, his son shared a life lesson that speaks to this challenge. He said his father defined success as a moment of willingness,” she recalled. “I have called on those words many times since then.”

Baker was one of a couple

speakers to pay tribute to Derek Bartlett, a beloved teacher and hockey coach at MUHS who died suddenly this past September. She shared with graduates four areas where a “strong dose of willingness” could make a big difference, starting with the willingness to ask for help.

“Asking for help allows us to connect with each other. When we become willing to put ourselves in the care of another person, or take a step toward considering a different idea, it allows other people to shine, which helps us all feel needed and valued,” she said. “As you leave this arena, you should know that you’ll be safe in this world without knowing all the answers.”

She noted the importance of being willing to withstand discomfort and of being willing to be patient.

“Many of you may appreciate sports analogies, so to make this point I’ll admit that as successful human beings we sometimes need to get comfortable on the bench,” Baker said. “Taking action is exciting. Too much of it can threaten our success. We need to be willing to make the right moves — and to find a comfortable spot on the bench when its time.”

Baker also suggested that graduates be willing to live a life without apology.

“We are free to choose our certainties and our consequences within any moment before us with our backs straight and our heads held high; make our repairs and move on,” she said. “We won’t serve the world by shaming ourselves small or by designing our dreams in the size of another’s comfort. Our success may rely on our willingness to step outside of what we feel constrains us — the world will thank us for it.”

Later on in the ceremony, Baker helped present diplomas to 136 graduating seniors. Nine students graduated Summa Cum Laude, 28 earned Magna Cum Laude and 15 graduated with Cum Laude honors.

ACHIEVEMENTS BIG & SMALL

A few of those graduates took to the stage to share remarks with their classmates. Student speaker Margaret Orten highlighted all of the smaller actions that have led pupils to big achievements.

“This class has done exceedingly well scoring high marks, winning scholarships, and completing challenging classes, but between all of that we’ve also learned what we love,” she said. “We’ve made ourselves eye-level with young kids and built real trust by understanding diverse needs like Sophia Lawton. We’ve discovered something new and become obsessed with it. Like how Kassidy Brown took an art class, went home, and hand-painted her entire room.”

“What we practice, we become. So who we are is because before

that, we tried,” Orten continued.

She encouraged graduates to celebrate not only the big accomplishments, but also the baby steps and other achievements in between.

“We’re here because we completed all of our assignments, because our parents took us driving after dark so that we could log our Drivers Ed night hours, because our teachers took the time to get to know us, because we went to sports practice even when we really didn’t want to go, because we celebrated each other’s wins and made real friendships, and because we brushed our teeth ... all of them,” Orten said.

Senior Sarah Benz spoke of the MUHS community. She shared her fascination with license plates and how she would use them to create stories about other travelers. Over time, those stories evolved into something closer to judgments, Benz said.

“An innocent childhood game had become an exercise in bias and stereotyping,” she said. “I started my junior year of high school with a new and intentional mindset: I was done making ‘license plate judgments.’”

SENSE OF COMMUNITY

Benz said that when she stopped making such judgments, her world became bigger and richer.

“My community was stronger, more diverse and pushed me to learn and grow outside of my comfort zone,” she recalled. “I thought a lot about my MUHS community my junior year, and so when it came time to apply to college, I had a lot to say when answering the prompt: Reflect on your membership in a community to which you feel connected.”

Benz shared her response to the prompt, titled “In Memory of Mr. Bartlett.”

“Mr. Bartlett coached high school hockey and played drums in the faculty band. His mother spent decades working as the school secretary, his cousin works with my mom, and his mother-in-law

read names at final assembly,” Benz read. “Our community gathered to mourn in the large town rec-center, a space where I learned to skate, where my summer camp spent rainy afternoons, where my town assembled to watch a solar eclipse, and where I’ll graduate in June. Our corny school motto, ‘FAMILY,’ suddenly didn’t seem so corny. This is my world, my community.”

Benz acknowledged that Bartlett was not one to make “license plate” judgments.

“He didn’t entertain assumptions about who people were, allow biases to stand in the way of his teaching and coaching, or rely on first-impressions to define his relationships, and that allowed him to form meaningful connections and create loving communities,” she said.

Graduating senior Baker Nelson also took to the stage, sharing some thoughts on endings. He recalled how his father used to tell “Gary and Carl stories” before bed and the protests that came when those stories ended.

“I wasn’t ready to let go of these stories I loved so dearly. But I’ve come to realize that there is something so beautiful about endings. The end of something signifies closure, and being complete,” he said. “Even if there are things that you would’ve changed, you cannot anymore because the time has passed, the story has taken place, the ending has come and gone. This notion which once antagonized me now feels comfortable — being able to let things stay as they were written.”

Nelson said he feels this spring has been a great end to the story graduates finished writing at Saturday’s commencement.

“As a class, we’ve reconvened, celebrated, and made some lasting memories. Graduation is a natural end to any story and even though moving on feels melancholic, I’ve grown to accept that as a part of this cycle,” he said. “Each of our paths to this point look different, but accepting the ways we got here and the stories we have written will give importance to this ending.”



MIDDLEBURY UNION High School graduate Subia Khan smiles with her parents and the diploma she received at the school's commencement ceremony this past Saturday.
Independent photos / Steve James



NEWLY-MINTED MUHS grads Georgie Kiel, left, and Maggie Klingensmith.



AMONG THOSE TO receive diplomas at MUHS graduation this past Saturday was George Devlin, left, pictured here with support dog Simon.



LOVED ONES OF recent MUHS graduate George Devlin posed with several photos of the grad from over the years following Saturday's commencement.

Hardwired for success and current-ly crushing it!

We proudly congratulate Jordan Couture on his graduation from Middlebury Union High School and the Hannaford Career Center's Culinary Arts Program. Jordan has been accepted as an apprentice at Dennis Newton Electrical—a step inspired by his time in HCC's Construction Technology program and a job shadow experience at Newton's. He chose Newton's for the opportunity to learn, grow, and build a future within the company.



At Nino's, we're big fans of Newton Electrical—they're our go-to for refrigeration and electrical repairs. We know Jordan is in great hands and part of a team we trust and value.

Jordan's culinary training also led him to several customer service roles as a chef, showcasing his versatility, work ethic, and drive. With four years of experience already under his belt, he brings a strong skill set and a positive attitude to every team he joins and we're lucky to have had him on ours.



Jordan approaches life with a forward-thinking mindset, always imagining himself where he wants to be and taking the steps that will get him there.

Keep charging toward your goals, Jordan—we believe in you!



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Reduced aid

(Continued from Page 8A)
“Our goal is to minimize disruption to the families and communities we serve.”

One of Bacon’s directives is to cease issuing vouchers to applicants on the HCV and Mainstream waiting lists.

“People are losing vouchers issued to them while waiting for housing vacancies. This is creating significant stress for many households currently in service with JGHS,” Whitmore said through an email exchange. “Three of nine households currently in shelter with us have lost a housing voucher; we are still assessing the number of clients we serve at other sites in Addison County that have had a voucher withdrawn.”

Whitmore and her staff are currently aware of five households camping — or living in a place not considered habitable — in northern Addison County.

“But (we) believe there are more who are currently camping in state parks. This is typical of the spring and summer months. We have given out three sets of tents/camping gear in the last month,” she said.

Whitmore noted single adults can more easily choose camping, an option that’s more difficult for parents with children who are navigating taking care of the kids and getting them to school.

In addition to the Ilsley Library construction, Lacey believes Middlebury’s encampment policy has played a role in deterring tent pitching downtown.

Complaints of assaultive behavior, vandalism, vagrancy, public drinking and theft prompted the Middlebury selectboard to draft the new policy, which “aims to have a safe, respectful, and effective response to encampments on town property; and balance the rights of individuals without an adequate place to sleep against its duty to maintain public safety and health.”

Among many other things, the

policy — which the board adopted on March 11 — identifies municipal parcels on which encampments are prohibited and outlines specific health/public safety factors that could trigger the removal of encampments by authorities — in concert with human services officials.

According to the policy, encampments are prohibited on any town-owned parcel that “has a government office/facility located on it, is a town park as defined in the ‘ordinance for the daily closing of parks,’ is a library, is a cemetery, includes a public right-of-way, includes a public parking lot, or is directly adjacent to an educational facility or adult/childcare facility.”

The policy calls for “trauma-informed protocols to notify, support in relocation, and provide ongoing case management before and after relocation of those living in an encampment when an encampment is identified for removal.”

Rather than set up a tent and run the risk of running afoul of the policy, those seeking to live outside are simply doing it less overtly.

“Some certainly feel less seen,” Lacey said of feedback she’s received this spring from some houseless individuals. “I think there’s a stigmatization that happens, and a couple have voiced that — but not in a negative or aggressive way.”

Middlebury’s encampment policy has thus far resulted in one action, stemming from a business owner’s concern about someone living out of a vehicle in the municipal parking lot in Frog Hollow. This resulted in the vehicle — which had at that point been abandoned — being removed from the lot last month.

AT THE CHARTER HOUSE

As local homelessness trends have been evolving, so has the CHC, which last month welcomed a new program director, Foresta Casteneda. She’s overseeing CHC’s daily shelter operations,

food and nutrition programs, and street outreach.

It’s a complex job in a caring but sometimes turbulent environment; some of those seeking shelter are dealing with substance use disorder and/or mental health challenges, in addition to the stress of being houseless.

Castañeda joins Charter House with solid experience finding housing for people in need. Until recently, she served as transitional housing coordinator for the Atria Collective (formerly known as WomenSafe), assisting Addison County survivors of domestic and sexual violence and stalking.

“Professional social worker, advocate and Latina committed to the values of social justice, human rights and dignity of all people,” reads the introductory line of her resume.

Castañeda, for many months, has participated in weekly meetings of the county’s Housing Solutions working group and monthly gatherings of the Addison County Homelessness Task Force, advocating for the housing needs of survivors and working to reduce obstacles to getting the help they need.

“I believe that I am well suited for the program director role as my experience, working style and values align closely with CHC’s mission to provide essential services to those in need through its shelter, housing, food security and outreach programs,” she stated in her job application letter. “I am particularly interested in bringing my best practice knowledge to enhance program development and oversight and contributing to the professional development of staff through supervision, training and mentorship opportunities in order to promote staff well-being.”

With Castañeda on board, Lacey will have more time to focus on statewide advocacy, collaborations with other local groups who work with the homeless population (such as the Counseling Service of



THE ADDISON COUNTY Homeless Outreach Team has been out checking on folks who’ve been living outside this spring, steering them to support services. Pictured, from left, are Trevor Burton, Chelsea Delisle, Lea Blades, Laura Ruhlman and Mat Clouser. Other members of the team are Anne Ryan, Heidi Lacey, Jess Horner, Nischa Weisman and Timothy Lyman.

Photo courtesy of Heidi Lacey

Addison County and Turning Point Center), volunteer recruitment, conveying the CHC’s mission, and seeking funding for the non-profit CHC. And funding is becoming a growing concern, based on evolving federal budget priorities. President Donald Trump’s proposed fiscal year 2026 budget seeks to reduce the overall amount of funding available for HUD’s Homeless Assistance Grants by \$532 million compared to this year, according to National Alliance to End Homelessness.

“There’s concern,” Lacey said about future federal funding — not so much that the Fed will eliminate appropriations to help the homeless, but that potential reduction in safety net programs, like Medicaid and SNAP, could push additional folks into homelessness.

“Who will fill the gaps?” Lacey asked. “It might come down to local organizations and donations.”

Indeed, during her five years helming CHC, Lacey has performed every task from washing dishes in the shelter kitchen to testifying on homelessness issues at the Statehouse.

“This is a good opportunity for

me personally, and for Charter House,” Lacey said of her more focused activities. “We’ve been sitting on some initiatives that we haven’t had the capacity (to implement).”

Those initiatives include offering life-skills workshops and quarterly shelter volunteer training sessions. CHC volunteer coordinator Jean Stowell will play a big role in the latter effort. The CHC, thanks to governmental funding and private donations, currently has a staff of 11 full- and part-time workers. Lacey believes CHC really needs 12-14 based on the needs of the homeless community, but she acknowledged the funds aren’t there to reach that level. The CHC — now a \$1 million per year charitable enterprise — is already being stretched to cover benefits, including health insurance, for its workers.

This means dependable volunteers become even more critical to the shelter’s mission.

Charter House officials have marked June 20 on their calendars. That’s when CHC will learn if it won a major award through the state’s Housing Opportunity Grant Program that would cover around 75% of this year’s shelter’s budget.

Other things in the works, or recently established by CHC, include:

- An on-site greenhouse in which CHC staff and shelter guests will grow food to be incorporated in daily meals. That produce, along with other nutritious food, will also be packaged for houseless folks who choose not to seek refuge in the shelter.

Lacey thanked the Middlebury Rotary Club, Meacham Construction and Perkins Electric for their help with the greenhouse project.

“They really recognized the need,” she said of supporters.

- A “free community shed” on shelter grounds, from which adults in need can pick up clothing, accessories, outdoor gear, luggage, tents, and other basic necessities.

“It only exists because of generous donations,” said Lacey, who credited CHC’s current 28 volunteers for helping take in, and organize, gifts of gently used items for the shed.

For more information about the CHC and JGHS, visit chevt.org and johngrahamshelter.org.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

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Educational Opportunities	\$13,600	Festival-on-the-Green	\$2,500
Organization Support	\$13,184	Addison County Fair & Field Days	\$2,500
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Vergennes ceremony: It’s about community

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — Family members and friends of Vergennes Union High School graduates almost filled the school’s gym on the evening of June 6 to applaud and cheer as 72 seniors went through the traditional rite of passage into adulthood.

They also listened to four student speakers flex their rhetorical muscles with moving speeches on their memories — both heartwarming and funny — of friendship together over their years at school, their gratitude to teachers and family and their home community for supporting them along their journey, and a challenge to hold onto those some of those memories and lessons learned.

And they laughed when one graduate, the not exactly shy Connor Brogan, pulled off the top right shoulder of his gown and literally flexed his muscles on stage after receiving his diploma.

The students themselves were told by Principal Jody Chamberlin to look under their seats for gifts — no, there weren’t sets of keys for new cars, a la Oprah, but symbolic trinkets.

Each graduate received a stress ball to show the class’s resilience, that “you bounce back stronger”; a bracelet that “represents the bonds you’ve formed — with each other, with your teachers, and with this community”; and a keychain that represents “all the doors that are now open to you.”

Chamberlin spoke after the Commodore Singers followed the seniors processional entry with the national anthem. The Commodore Singers also during the evening performed “Unwritten,” and five seniors — Brogan, Rory Hendee, Mia Kutchukian, Sophia Johnson and Jing Williams — also sang “Time After Time.”

Senior Treyphene Miguel delivered the Welcoming Address to the audience for an evening she called “a victory lap for late nights spent studying, group chats disguised as study groups ... hallway friendships, awkward presentations, impossible math tests, and cafeteria pizza ...

“Somehow all those moments added up to this one. On behalf of the Class of 2025, I want to thank every parent, guardian, sibling, teacher, coach, counselor and mentor who’s been part of this crazy, beautiful, and sometimes chaotic ride. Without your guidance, we might not be sitting here in these caps and gowns wondering if the tassel goes left or right. For now. It’s right.”

Miguel described high school as “about discovering who we are... or at the very least, figuring out who we’re definitely not. It’s about falling down, getting up, laughing at ourselves, and learning that sometimes, the most important lessons don’t come from a textbook — they usually come from TikTok ...

“So buckle up, cheer loud, maybe cry a little, but most of all, be proud. From everything we’ve been, everything we are, and everything we’re about to become.”

Senior Class President Ethan Croke and Vice President Jing Williams took turns speaking next.

Croke emphasized the small size of the school, its host city and



THE COMMODORE SINGERS perform the national anthem and the song “Unwritten” at the June 6 VUHS graduation ceremonies.

surrounding sending towns.

“Around 250 high school students. About 70 seniors. When I tell people unfamiliar with our home about these numbers, they often laugh in disbelief. The schools they go to have students with numbers in the thousands and can’t imagine what it’s like to be surrounded by so few people

So I, happily, tell them about our small, but mighty, tightly woven community ... I tell them about the familiar faces I see every day in the school halls ... I tell them about the group of students I’ve known for the past six to 12 years, friends I’ve shared since the earliest days of Evergreen Preschool. For while our numbers don’t reach very high, we make up for it with our close connections. We’ve been through many changes and challenges together — Covid 19, 10 different middle school teachers, three principals, at least four different schedules.”

Croke listed memories including elementary school projects, unfortunate culinary experiments in middle school, “Scrambling around Vergennes as we tried to eliminate each other during senior assassin,” but added some were “probably best left unshared.”

He concluded, “The experiences and connections we’ve built throughout high school is this small little district will always stay with me and I hope with all of you. So I’ll leave you with this. As you all go out into the world remember this place. Remember the playground games. The tough essays. The close friendships. The memories. The community. This place may be small but it is one of the most supportive communities around, and it will always be there waiting for your return.”

Williams also talked of memories, starting with one from ninth grade. Each class creates a float for homecoming, and the theme that year was “Decades,” she recalled.

“We chose the early 2000s. Instead of dressing up in low rise jeans and baggy shirts, we decided to dress like who we were in the early 2000s: babies. So while the grade above us was decked out in ’80s rock outfits, carrying around guitars and blasting music, us freshmen could be found wearing diapers over shorts, pigtails in our hair and bibs under our chins.

“Needless to say, we did not look cool. Yet, what makes me smile while looking back at this moment is that we didn’t really care how we



STANDING FOR THE national anthem at the beginning of the VUHS graduation ceremonies on Friday is Kendra Jackson.

looked: We were just happy to be having fun together, singing songs atop the float and eating candy.”

Williams said she sees that attitude as a strength.

“Our class’s ability to be present in the moment, even when it’s embarrassing, is representative of the impact we have made in this school,” she said.

She listed achievements: Members of the class have won championships in track, lacrosse, swimming and wrestling; had roles in the annual spring musical; earned FFA titles; had solos at music festivals; written plays; assembled engines; designed businesses and traveled abroad to practice language skills.

She could have added that five class members graduated Summa Cum Laude; 11 earned Magna Cum Laude distinction, and eight earned Cum Laude. Ten are members of the National Honor Society, three are members of the National Technical Honor Society, and four are members of the German National Honor Society.

All that, she said, while class members “ask about and show genuine interest in each other’s achievements, celebrate them together and ... solve our problems together.”

Williams said she feels ready to leave Vergennes for a time, but will take what she has learned about tolerance with her, and urged others to do as well.

“We are all connected here and are often asked to listen to each other, even when we don’t want to, pushing us to be more empathetic. As we grow into adults and future Vergennes alumni, I hope we

all keep listening, keep asking questions, keep being present in the moment — even when dressed like a baby — and keep practicing our empathy.”

The class invited Vergennes Union Elementary School and former Ferrisburgh Central School teacher Josh Brooks, a 1993 VUHS graduate, to be their guest speaker.

Brooks told a story about “The Towel That Tried to Fly” about when he was the seniors’ age trying and failing to cross a nasty, muddy slang off the New Haven River. He fell into the slime, much to the amusement of two friends. Brooks also tried unsuccessfully to throw his towel from the “hot, heaving muck” to shore to keep it clean to wipe himself off, but the wind caught it, leaving it “a bacteria-ridden heap beside me.”

The moral of the story?

“Graduates. I don’t know what the future holds. Maybe your towels will make it to the shore; maybe you’ll fall in a gross swamp and your friends will laugh at you,” Brooks said. “I do know, however, that you’ve got to savor days like this one, when everything stops, everyone comes together, and we all stand still, captive to the same moment ...

“Because the rest of the time, you’re working on a story. That’s the cool thing about being human — it’s what we do. We are the animal that narrates its experience. We create whole systems of government, entire religious movements, out of stories. But mostly, we tell stories because they remind us of times and people worth remembering — even the bad times.

“Class of 2025, it’s time to throw your towels in the air and see where they land. Go now. Do great things. Tell greater stories.”

Before the graduates flipped their tassels to the left and tossed their caps in the air and walked into their futures, classmate Rory Couture took to the stage to give a challenge to the Class of 2026.

Couture recalled Class of 2024 had challenged her class to “make memories that would last a lifetime.”

Mission accomplished, she said.

“My senior year has been filled with the most memorable memories



SENIOR CONNOR BROGAN puts on a brief show on stage after he received his diploma at VUHS graduation on June 6. He also sang three songs with two different groups.

Independent photos / Steve James



SENIOR GUNNAR DEGRAAF’S family and friends were proud of their graduate during VUHS commencement ceremonies on Friday.

yet,” Couture said.” From drinking fresh coconut water on the beach in Puerto Rico (she also referred to “the great coconut heist” that occurred during a class trip to that U.S. territory and involved tree climbing by two students) to riding our last homecoming float, there was rarely a dull moment.”

Her larger point was for the rising seniors to remember those who helped them along the way.

“While we were busy making all of these memories, there was always a constant — the support from our classmates and families,” Couture said. “A few weeks ago ... my mother told me something that changed the way I think about things. She told me that turning 18 and graduating high school was going to be like jumping off a cliff. When I thought about it, this cliff, full of uncertainty and huge decisions, seemed extremely scary.”

That led Couture to think a parachute would be useful if she was going to jump off a cliff.

“When I warned my mom I would need a parachute to survive this fall, she told me, ‘Don’t worry... I will always be your parachute.’” Couture said. “I know that without her, without my family, without my friends, and without this graduating class, I would not be able to fall off this cliff as smoothly and as slowly as I am.

“So, for the class of 2026 I challenge you: Be someone’s parachute, and recognize your own. Make those friends, connect with those family members, and hold onto them. Because at the end of the day those support systems you have will be the difference between jumping off that cliff alone, or smoothly descending into your future.”

See a full list of VUHS grads in our Graduation pull-out next week.

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Northlands

(Continued from Page 1A)

Northlands Job Corps Center in Vergennes, which employs 110 and now serves about 150 students.

Chavez-DeRemer had on May 29 ordered those centers to close by June 30. Her order alleged poor center performance, behavioral problems among students, and “significant financial challenges” leading to a national program deficit of \$213 million.

But on June 4, Judge Andrew Carter Jr. of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York granted the request for a TRO filed by the National Job Corps Association. That association includes Education and Training Resources LLC (ETR), the Kentucky firm that contracts with the DOL to operate Northlands and 10 other Job Corps centers.

In a one-page decision, Carter also ordered the DOL to appear before the Southern N.Y. District Court on June 17 “to show cause why a preliminary injunction should not issue” from the court that would further stall the DOL’s effort to shutter the 99 centers. Those contractor-operator centers are among the 120 nationwide offering tuition-free job training to economically disadvantaged youths between the ages of 16 and 24.

Northlands Center Director Michael Dooley explained what’s next in an email to the *Independent*: “The next step in our case will be a preliminary injunction hearing on June 17. A preliminary injunction is fundamentally like a temporary restraining order, but substantially longer-term,” he wrote. “It is temporary, but it can remain in place until the whole case is resolved, which can take a long time. If we win at the preliminary injunction stage, the

June 30 termination date provided by DOL will become moot (not applicable) — because even though the preliminary injunction is temporary, it would last beyond June 30.”

The Job Corps program had always enjoyed broad-based bipartisan support until the Trump Administration took office in January and has aggressively slashed programs its officials claim, at times with dubious evidence, are wasteful or unnecessary.

In a follow-up interview with the *Independent*, Dooley questioned some of the evidence that the DOL used to justify the shutdown order. He said some of the low graduation rates the DOL cited are out of date and at least unfairly compiled.

He claimed the numbers unfairly include the pandemic years, when enrollment dipped substantially, and also include all those who show up at a center and then quickly quit, sometimes because they are among the 50% of Job Corps students with mental health or “developmental delays” and “find group living stressful.”

“Every single kid who steps through our door gets counted in those totals to get a graduate percentage,” he said. “If you take (the kids who stay) 30 days or 60 days, then those numbers skyrocket.”

The DOL order cited a 35% graduation rate, while Dooley said, “Historically it’s closer to 60%.”

He offered a history of Northlands enrollment as a snapshot. Before COVID, the center enrollment — which is rolling, with new students arriving and graduating weekly — had climbed to average about 210 out of a maximum of 220.

During COVID enrollment dipped drastically, but had grown

back to 165 — and climbing, said Dooley — earlier this year. But then the DOL in March began refusing to process applicants’ background checks, reducing new enrollment to a trickle.

Previously, the DOL had been working to fill centers, Dooley said.

“They understood the cost per student was too high, and we had to fill up,” he said, reiterating that per-pupil costs look bad because of the low enrollment numbers and the inclusion of the COVID-era figures.

It’s also worth noting Northlands ranks No. 1 among Job Corps centers at finding its graduates jobs in their fields of study, and in their retaining those jobs after six months and a year at good rates of pay, according to center officials.

Northlands also averages a 30% rate of Vermont students, more than double the percentage of previous operators of the center. Dooley said ETR made that a point of emphasis, a goal stated by previous center operators that went unfulfilled.

LOCAL BENEFITS

ETR’s tenure has also been welcome in Vergennes, according to Mayor Chris Bearor.

Bearor praised Dooley’s outreach to city officials.

“He has been great to work with,” the mayor said.

Bearor also listed civic contributions from Northlands students, including food and beverages provided and served at city meetings, bike racks made and installed in city parks, and a downtown bus stop made and installed.

“They’re helping us out with a lot of little things,” he said.

And after lax discipline under previous operators meant regular police visits, Northlands has been quiet under ETR, Bearor said.

“It’s been a lot calmer,” he said.

“There’s not been a lot of draw on the police services.”

Bearor said there are no plans

Senators support Northlands

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Sens. Peter Welch (D-Vt.) and Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) and 37 of their colleagues have written to urge the Trump administration to reverse its decision to illegally terminate Job Corps operations that have left in the lurch around 25,000 students and thousands of staff across 99 Job Corps centers, including Northlands in Vergennes.

The senators state that since 1964 the Job Corps program has helped millions of low-income and at-risk young adults ages 16-24 to develop the skills and resilience needed to succeed in work and life. Job Corps programs help students complete their high school education, learn valuable technical skills, and connect to employment through intensive education, training, and support services while providing stable housing, medical and mental health care, and other supportive services.

The letter further requests that the U.S. Department of Labor “restart enrollments, expeditiously restart background checks, and make any contract extensions or modifications necessary to ensure no interruptions or delays for students or program operations,” noting Congress passed a 2025 bill that includes \$1,760,155,000 for the Job Corps program, and that the senators are writing “to remind you of your obligation to faithfully implement the law.”

The Senators added, “At a time when more than 72% of jobs will require training beyond a high school diploma, Job Corps provides students with the opportunity to become wildland firefighters to keep our communities safe, nurses to help care for our families, electricians needed to build and maintain clean energy systems, and machinists, pipefitters, and welders to manufacture the next

generation of submarines.”

Also, they wrote, “Abruptly canceling contracts for the nation’s Job Corps centers will leave students and communities in the lurch and undermine opportunities for young people to get education and training to succeed in valuable trades.”

Among specific data the senators requested from the DOL were:

- Enrollment at each center before Jan. 20 and before the operations pause on May 28.
- Information on the number of students experiencing homelessness prior to enrollment at a Job Corps center.
- A list of contracts that have been terminated or modified since Jan. 20.
- A specific description of the legal authority is the DOL using to pause operations.
- An updated cost per enrollee with the enrollments on campuses as of May 28.

for the city council to make a formal statement on Northlands, but city officials have asked Vermont’s Congressional delegation to back the Job Corps center.

“I have, and I know other council members have,” Bearor said.

Phil Summers, executive director of the Addison County Chamber of Commerce, discussed with the *Independent* the impact of a potential Northlands closure on its workforce and students, and the center’s benefits to the business community.

“I think they are equally important. Not only will we lose local jobs, but the opportunity for graduates to become residents employed by Addison County businesses,” he said.

Summers said Northlands is “absolutely” achieving positive outcomes for its students.

“I personally have had the opportunity to meet with many of their students over the last several years and have been impressed with their level of professionalism and knowledge,” he said.

LOOKING AHEAD

Dooley acknowledged uncertainty remains.

“What I hope comes from this temporary restraining order is that they make (the DOL) start bringing in students again,” he said.

But at the same time, he acknowledged recruits who had signed on earlier this year might have already moved on to different paths.

Then there are questions about the 63-acre state-owned property, which has been leased to the DOL for the Job Corps program since 1979. The DOL in turn has contracted with private firms to run Northlands. Dooley wondered what would be next if ETR had to pull up stakes.

“What happens if we leave, if we walk out? Who’s going to cut the grass? I don’t think it automatically reverts to the state. I think we still have the lease,” he said.

And Dooley wondered what would happen to the students, especially the 50% with challenges that Job Corps centers help with social skills as well as career training.

Other students are homeless, including around two dozen at Northlands students who might “have nowhere to go,” according to Dooley.

“That’s another void we’re filling,” he said.

And what if the DOL simply ignored a court order, something not unprecedented in the Trump Administration?

Dooley was asked what would happen if the DOL still refused to process background checks on prospective students.

“That’s the hard thing. We don’t know,” he said “The TRO says ... Congress has to decide this. So we’re funded through the next program year, and Congress can then decide to cut our funding next year, or say that they’re going to shut down the program next year. And I think that’s a big part of the lawsuit, that you can’t just wave a wand and say, ‘I’m stopping this.’ Part of it is using the appropriate appropriations process.”

But he can point to the longstanding bipartisan support for the program since it was founded 61 years ago, especially in the Senate, and said cutting Job Corps would be “incredibly shortsighted.”

“One of the administration’s stated goals is to make America skilled again,” Dooley said. “We’ve been making America skilled since 1964.”



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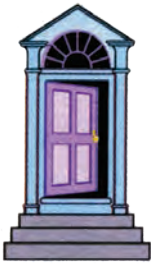
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Ferrisburgh

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NEWS

FERRISBURGH — We congratulate all our area students on a successful academic year and wish them well for the summer and for their plans after graduation. Our community also greatly appreciates the teachers and staff for their support of our students during this past year. Please keep up to date with all the end of the school year activities by referring to the schools’ websites and newsletters. Ferrisburgh Central School will be holding its Fifth Grade Step Up ceremony on Friday, June 13, from 5-6 p.m. Congratulations to our High School Seniors! The last day of school is Tuesday, June 17.

The Friends of the Ferrisburgh Union Meeting Hall invites Ferrisburgh residents and friends to the annual kick-off to summer, “The Taste of Summer.” This family-friendly event will be on Sunday, June 8, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Ferrisburgh Town Green. There will be lots going on such as a kids’ carnival, food trucks, live music, over 20 vendors and a visit from the Ferrisburgh Fire Department and the Vergennes Area Rescue Squad. Don’t miss this great way to welcome summer and visit with your neighbors! More information is at unionmeetinghall.org/programming-and-events.

Ferrisburgh Grange “King Pede” card parties are scheduled for the Saturday June 21. These get-togethers are held at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center and will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a sandwich supper and then on to an evening of fun and games. King Pede is challenging in that it involves “trick-taking” such as in Hearts and Spades or Pitch. This is a game of fun and skill so come prepared to use your strategic thinking!

The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum has a full schedule for us during the month of June. It is a wonderful benefit that these events are at no charge — admission to the Museum is free for all visitors. For more information on all these happenings visit: www.lcmm.org.

The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum is sponsoring a series of lectures entitled “Talking

Archaeology.” These evening presentations are with Museum archaeologists and researchers. Learn about local history, archaeological discoveries, artifacts, and the unique stories that the LCMM team has uncovered over four decades of nautical archaeology and research. On Thursday, June 26 at 7 p.m., Carolyn Kennedy, Ph.D., Instructional Assistant Professor, Texas A&M University, will discuss “The Steamboat Shipwrecks of Shelburne Shipyard.”

Lake Champlain Maritime Museum will hold the HOPE for TommorROW — the annual rowathon, which is an all-inclusive rowing and community event committed to raising awareness about teen suicide and an opportunity to come together in memory, hope, and support — on Saturday, June 21. No prior rowing experience is needed. All are welcome to join and row the two-mile course. The Museum provides four-oar and six-oar rowing gigs and life jackets, as well as an experienced coxswain leading each boat. See registration information at www.lcmm.org.

The weekend of June 14 -15 is the annual Abenaki Heritage Weekend at LCMM. Join Vermont’s Native American community to explore Abenaki perspectives on life in the Champlain Valley. Activities include storytelling, craft demonstrations, drumming, singing, and informational presentations. Bring a picnic basket for your lunch and enjoy the beautiful lawns and scenery along with the activities. This event brings together citizens of the Elnu, Nulhegan, Koasek, and Missisquoi Abenaki Tribes. Abenaki Heritage Weekend is a meaningful event as presented by the Vermont Abenaki Artists Association and the Abenaki Arts and Education Center and hosted by Lake Champlain Maritime Museum.

Rokeby Museum’s Sheep and Wool Day will be held on Saturday June 14, from noon-3 p.m. This family-friendly event will celebrate Rokeby’s wooly heritage with sheep petting, children’s crafts, spinning

and weaving demonstrations, and farm tours.

As part of the Vermont State 250th Commemoration, the Vermont Sampler Initiative is producing a statewide driving tour to view schoolgirl needlework samplers from the post-Revolutionary War period. Nearly 800 such needlework samplers have been located and documented, among which Rokeby can claim eight beautiful and well-preserved samplers in its collection. One of these samplers will be on display in the museum for the 2025 season and will be included as a stop on the driving tour. Additionally, Rokeby has created a virtual exhibit on their website, showing and explaining about the full collection of samplers in their collection.

With the coming of warmer and longer days, museums and state parks are gearing up to welcome back visitors this season. The Bixby Library offers access to free and discounted attraction passes to the American Precision Museum, Birds of Vermont, Echo Science Center and Aquarium, Fort Ticonderoga, Henry Sheldon Museum, Rokeby Museum, Shelburne Farms, Shelburne Museum, Vermont History Museum, and Vermont State Parks & Historic Sites. This is a great opportunity to visit Vermont with your friends and family. For more information visit bixbylibrary.org/museum-park-passes/

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'No Kings Day'

(Continued from Page 1A)
out in self-defense,” Jennings said. “I tell them, if you feel bad about this, just think how bad you will feel when we are in a full-on dictatorship, and we can’t do a thing about it. Now is our remaining moment to fight it.”

The “Burma-Shave” element of the local protest will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will involve clusters of sign waving people at around 15 locations along the Route 7 corridor, from Salisbury to Ferrisburgh.

In Ferrisburgh, Carl Fritz, a retired contractor and partner of Cobblestone Builders, will display a unique twist on the use of a dump truck with a large sign in the bed, “Dump Trump.” In Middlebury, activists from the Residence of Otter Creek will join their neighbors at the parking lot near the Dollar Market on Route 7 in what is being called a model of intergenerational “Good Trouble.”

The largest rallies, according to Wasiura, will be in City Park, Brandon; Court Square, Middlebury; and in the Vergennes City Park. Vergennes will see a hand-off (estimated to be 12:15-12:35 p.m.) of a related “Flag

Relay for Democracy: Honoring Our flag from Border to Border.”

The flag featured in the Relay for Democracy was given to Lyle F. Hurtubise, a World War II veteran and lifelong resident of

“I feel so grateful to be surrounded by a community that cares so much during such a scary time.”

— Jennifer Wasiura

Richford, Vt., on his 95th birthday in 2019. It had flown over the U.S. Capitol and came with a certificate of authenticity and a letter from Vermont U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy.

“We will enjoin communities along Route 7 to gather on porches, greens and roadside pull-offs — waving flags, ringing bells, and standing shoulder to shoulder to affirm that the flag belongs to the people,” reads an Indivisible press release publicizing the event.

Also on June 14, Middlebury’s St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church at 2:30 p.m. will host “Paul Revere Resists,” a one-act play, with audience discussion to follow. The play will be directed by Rebecca Strum, curator and director of Middlebury Acting Company’s Cutting Edge Staged Reading Series.

Wasiura acknowledged the current political divisions within the country, but stressed the No Kings Day protest is meant to

benefit any and all people who believe their rights — and/or economic livelihoods — have diminished since Jan. 20.

“We will bravely and peacefully stand together on behalf of our immigrant neighbors, farmers, small businesses, health care workers and researchers, educators, centers for learning, journalists, libraries, federal workers, national parks, queer community members, for the differently-abled — for all of us,” she said.

Wasiura said she became invested in the Indivisible movement upon reading a recent letter to the editor in the *Independent* penned by group member Dr. Jack Mayer.

“I reached out and started attending meetings,” she said, adding her focus has been on publicizing Indivisible events.

“I feel so grateful to be surrounded by a community that cares so much during such a scary time.”

Indivisible Middlebury, according to Wasiura, now counts more than 550 members.

Group members have said that Trump has ironically become a strong recruiting tool with actions that most recently included deploying the National Guard and U.S. Marines to Los Angeles to quell protests on immigration agent raids in California and along its border with Mexico.

While Wasiura said her overarching concern is about the impact of Trump policies on the national and global scale, she said it’s heartening to see folks voice opposition at the local level.

“We’re in this together,” she said. “This is a government for the people, by the people, and we’re going to organize. We’re forming a powerful movement that’s prepared and ready to resist and stand up against this authoritarian takeover of our democracy by, really, a group of corrupt billionaires.”

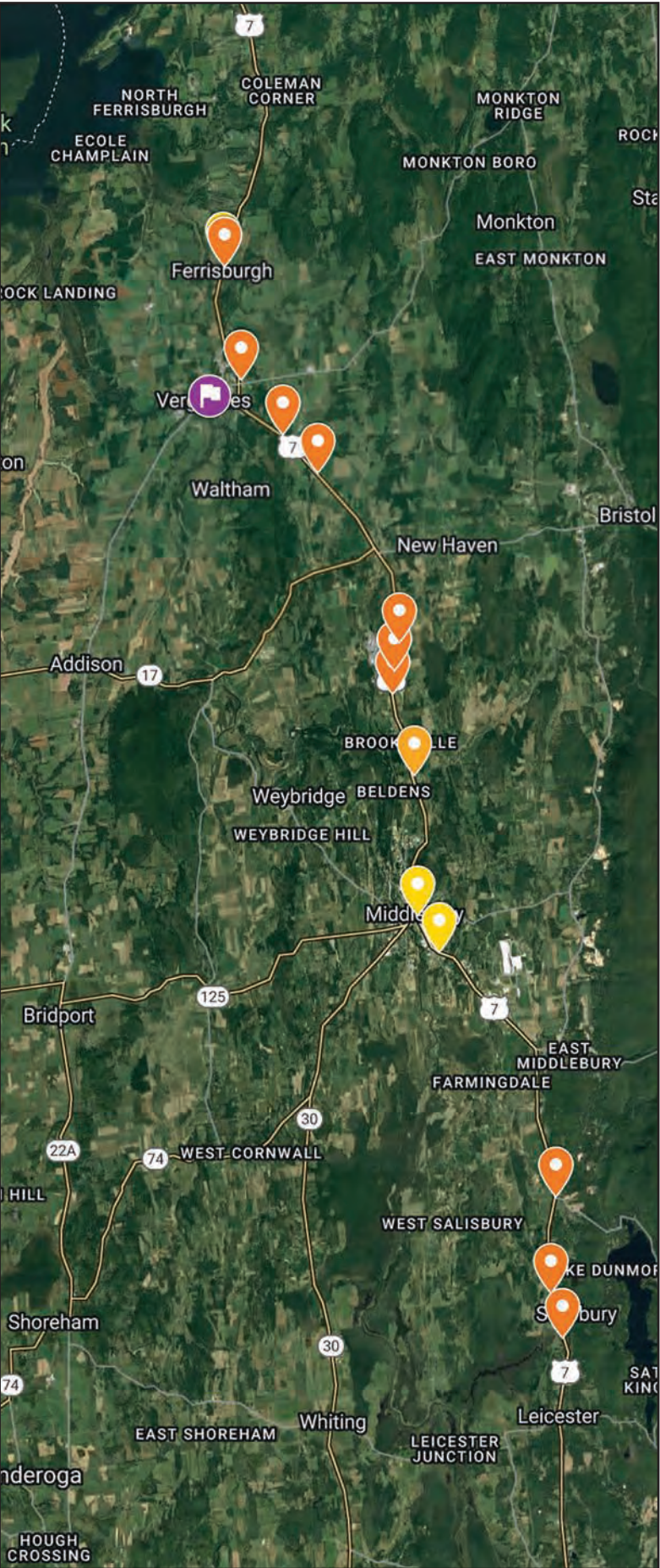
No Kings Day will be far from Stott’s first time speaking her mind against the powers that be.

Stott, 70, has protested on issues ranging from the Vietnam War to civil rights. She, like other Indivisible members, see the Trump Administration as a threat to the nation’s democratic underpinnings.

“I’m concerned for my country,” she said. “It doesn’t need to be this way. I want the country to work for everybody. It seems to me that Trump and the people in his coterie are only caring about white, rich men. That’s not right; it’s wrong. We need to all stand together and say that, and stop it from happening.”

Curious about No Kings Day activities in Vermont? Check out 50501vermont.com/events.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



THIS MAP SHOWS locations for No Kings Day protests along Route 7 in Addison County. The demonstrations, coinciding with the Flag Relay for Democracy, will be this Saturday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.



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Mount Abe baseball upset in quarterfinal

Enosburg strikes early vs. Eagles

By ANDY KIRKALDY
BRISTOL—After a heartbreaking loss in the 2024 Division II final, the Mount Abraham baseball team wore T-shirts this year that read, “Unfinished Business.”

Unfortunately, after visiting No. 6 seed Enosburg upset the No. 3 Eagles in a Monday quarterfinal, 8-4, what is still a young and talented Mount Abe team will have to turn its focus on the 2026 season to achieve that goal.

The trouble for the Eagles, who completed a fine season at 12-4, began early on Monday against Enosburg. The Hornets are a solid team that improved to 12-6 with the victory, but had taken a 17-0 beating from the Eagles in Bristol earlier this season. One Enosburg parent in the stands even said he wasn’t sure he wanted to make the trip south to watch another thrashing.

But usually reliable Eagle sophomore starter Stefan Johnson struggled with his control on Monday. The Hornets scored all the runs they would need — five — in the first inning, all charged to Johnson, who walked three and hit a batter.

Leadoff hitter Grady Gervais singled, and Johnson walked the next hitter and hit the third Hornet batter with a pitch to load the bases with none out. The next batter fouled out, but an infield error and a pitch that got past the Eagle catcher made it 2-0. Hornet Sawyer Bentley then stroked a two-run single, and it was 4-0.

After two more walks reloaded the bases, Coach Jason Barnard waved junior Evan Corrigan to the mound. Corrigan hit the first batter — Gervais again as the Hornets batted around — to force in one run, but got the third out on a fly ball to limit the damage.

The Eagles got their leadoff hitters on in each of the first two innings against Enosburg lefty starter Luke Burns. But Brody Barnard was caught stealing in the first inning, and after sophomore Cam Castillo singled in the second, Burns picked a courtesy runner off first base.

Meanwhile, the Hornets padded their lead in the second inning. A



MOUNT ABE JUNIOR Evan Corrigan dives into home safely during the Eagles' D-II quarterfinal home game vs. Enosburg on Monday. Independent photos/Steve James

walk and Ethan Bosley’s infield hit brought Bentley to the plate, and he launched a towering home run over the left-field fence to give his team an 8-0 lead.

Corrigan settled down from there, finishing by allowing just those three earned runs on four hits, striking out eight, walking none and picking off two baserunners. Corrigan also earned the pitching win in the Eagles’ first-round playoff victory.

Corrigan also got the Eagles on the scoreboard in the third. He led off by walking, reached third on two groundball outs, and scored on a head-first dive on a wild pitch.

Burns matched him until the fifth inning, when the Eagles took advantage of his sudden inability to throw strikes. Aricin Griffin and Johnson led off the inning by drawing walks, which brought Fletcher Bentley to the mound to relieve Burns. The runners moved up when Bentley threw wildly to first on a pickoff throw. Griffin (See Baseball, Page 3B)



EAGLE SOPHOMORE FIRST baseman Cam Castillo waits for a pickoff throw that is too late to nab an Enosburg baserunner during Mount Abe's D-II quarterfinal home game on Monday.

Tiger girls’ lacrosse rally comes up short

Rice lead stands up in quarterfinal

By ANDY KIRKALDY
MIDDLEBURY — The No. 4 seed Middlebury Union girls’ lacrosse team saw a comeback from an 11-4 deficit late in the second quarter fall just short in a Division I semifinal on June 5, when No. 5. Rice held on for a 13-11 victory.

The Tigers took a 3-1 lead during the first five minutes, but the Green Knights controlled the draws and the ground ball battles and checked aggressively in surging on a 10-1 run during the ensuing 15:33 of action to take that 11-4 lead with 2:27 to go in the first half.

Ultimately, that stretch proved decisive, even though the Tigers regained their mojo by scoring

the final two goals of the first half, both coming after finally winning ground balls. One goal came from sophomore middle Isabel Quinn after sophomore teammate Alice Livesay won one ground ball, and the other came from junior middle Lia Calzini with nine seconds to go in the half after goalie Ida Blackwell scooped a loose ball and started the Tigers off in the other direction.

But Co-Coach Jeff Weaber, who will turn over the reins next season to Co-Coach Caroline Wood, said despite the better overall play and defense that carried over to the second half, the team’s slow start (See Tiger girls, Page 2B)



MUHS SOPHOMORE MIDFIELDER Isabel Quinn looks to make a play against Rice during the teams’ June 5 Division I quarterfinal in Middlebury. Quinn scored twice and assisted a goal. Independent photo/Steve James

Hurley wins highlight D2 track & field state meet

By ANDY KIRKALDY
BURLINGTON — Two more state sprinting titles for dynamic Middlebury Union High School senior Jazmyn Hurley highlighted local athletes’ efforts at this year’s Division II championship track and field meet, which was held on the evening of June 6 at Burlington High School.

Hurley’s winning time in the girls’ 100-meter race of 12.69 was almost a full half-second ahead of runner-up Adeline Cannella of U-32.

Cannella also finished second to Hurley at 200 meters, 1.07 seconds behind Hurley’s winning mark of 26.10.

Hurley was the only Tiger female athlete to score points, and her 20 first-place points gave the MUHS girls’ team a ninth-place finish that was the best among the Tiger and Mount Abraham girls’ and boys’ teams competing.

U-32 rolled to big team wins, outscoring second-place Rice in the girls’ team competition, 138-88, and second-place Hartford on the boys’ side, 167-80.

The Eagle girls took 13th with 14 points, all of them scored by senior Hazel Stoddard. Stoddard was second in the high jump, tying for the highest jump, but losing on a tiebreaker. Stoddard took third in the javelin.

The Eagle boys finished in a tie for 11th place with Milton, both with 13 points. Sophomore Truman Sawyer scored most of the Eagle boys’ points with a second-place effort in the triple jump and a fifth-place leap in the long jump. Junior James Mount chipped in a sixth-place toss in the javelin.

The Tiger boys picked up eight points and finished 13th. (See Track, Page 4B)

Score BOARD

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Baseball

D-II Playoffs

6/9 #6 Enosburg vs #3 Mt Abe8-4

D-III Playoffs

6/5 #2 Thetford vs #7 VUHS.....10-2

Softball

D-II Playoffs

6/5 #1 Lyndon vs #8 MUHS.....8-7

6/6 #3 OV vs #6 Hartford.....9-3

6/9 #2 Mt Abe vs #10 Milton25-10

6/11 OV at Mt AbeLate

Girls' Lacrosse

D-I Playoffs

6/5 #5 Rice vs #4 MUHS13-11

D-II Playoffs

6/5 #3 U-32 vs #6 MAV..... 10-9 (2OT)

Boys' Lacrosse

D-I Playoffs

6/6 #1 MUHS vs #9 Rice 10-9 (OT)

6/11 #4 CVU at MUHS.....Late

D-III Playoffs

6/9 #2 Montpelier vs #3 MAV.....8-7

Boys' Tennis

D-I Playoffs

6/5 #7 MUHS vs #2 Stowe4-3

6/9 #3 Essex vs #7 MUHS.....4-3

Boys' Ultimate

Playoffs

6/4 #4 Milton vs #13 MUHS.....15-4

Schedule

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Softball

D-II Playoffs

Final at Castleton..... TBA

Boys' Lacrosse

D-I Playoffs

6/15 Final at UVM TBA

Weather and other factors can change schedules, often at the last minute. Fans are advised to check school websites for scheduling information.



EAGLE SHORTSTOP GEN Forand thumps a two-run double during the Mount Abe softball team’s Monday quarterfinal win over visiting Milton. Independent photo/Steve James

Eagle, Otter softball advance

By ANDY KIRKALDY
ADDISON COUNTY — The No. 2 Mount Abraham and No. 3 Otter Valley softball teams rolled into the Division II playoffs semifinal round, but No. 8 Middlebury saw its quarterfinal upset bid fall just short.

The Eagles and Otters were scheduled to play each other in Bristol on Tuesday, but a problematic forecast moved that game to Wednesday after deadline for the Thursday print edition. The

Independent will update this article with details online on Thursday.

The D-II final will be played at a date and time to be announced at Castleton University. Rice and Lyndon were set to play in the other semifinal.

The 15-3 Otters are seeking their first title since 2014, and the Eagles are eyeing their first since 2023 and sixth since 2017. OV entered Wednesday riding a 12-



SOFTBALL Wrap-Up

game winning streak, but their last loss dates back to a 19-7 home setback to the Eagles on May 1.

Looking ahead to the final, neither local team has faced Lyndon this spring. OV has not met Rice, but the Eagles played them twice this season, winning at Rice, 13-7, but losing at home to the Green Knights, 19-9.

EAGLES (See Softball, Page 4B)

Boys’ tennis edged in semifinal

Lose to Essex after win v. Stowe

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**
SHELBURNE — The seventh-seeded Middlebury Union High School boys’ tennis team came up short in a semifinal on Monday, 4-3, against No. 3 seed Essex, in a match played at Davis Park in Shelburne. That loss came only after the defending champion Tigers knocked off host No. 2. Stowe, 4-3, on June 5.
Of note: Senior No. 1 Jackson Murray won both of his individual matches and completed an undefeated season, including the individual state championship.
Sophomore No. 2 Charles Young completed an undefeated season in team play by winning both those two matches. The Tiger doubles team of senior Baker Nelson and sophomore Nate Cook Yoder also went undefeated in team play.
Murray and Nelson are the only seniors who will graduate

from a team that Coach Ken Schoen praises for its attitude and sportsmanship.
The individual match results in the quarterfinal at Stowe on June 5 were:
At No. 1 Singles: Jackson Murray (MUHS) defeated Max Biedermann (Stowe), 6-4, 6-1.
At No. 2 Singles: Charles Young (MUHS) defeated Parker Guffey (Stowe), 6-1, 6-1.
At No. 3 Singles: Carter MacDonald (Stowe) defeated Kaden Hammond (MUHS), 6-4, 6-3.
At No. 4 Singles: Declan Coggins (Stowe) defeated Yankee Rheaume (MUHS), 6-0, 6-0.
At No. 5 Singles: Drew Zimmerman (Stowe) defeated Kirin Biancosino (MUHS), 6-0, 6-1.
At No. 1 Doubles: Baker Nelson and Nate Cook-Yoder (MUHS) defeated Xavi Violette and Hayden MacDonald (Stowe), 6-3, 6-2.
At No. 2 Doubles: Adrien Malhotra and Spencer Copeland

(MUHS) defeated Ben Gantz and Ryan Juzec (Stowe), 6-3, 7-5.
The individual match results against Essex in Monday’s semifinal were:
At No. 1 Singles: Murray (MUHS) defeated Vishnu Konnanur (Essex), 6-3, 6-1.
At No. 2 Singles: Young (MUHS) defeated Jeremy Chen (Essex), 6-0, 6-0.
At No. 3 Singles: Eli Conti (Essex) defeated Hammond (MUHS), 6-1, 6-3.
At No. 4 Singles: Ian Plasse (Essex) defeated Rheaume (MUHS), 6-0, 6-0.
At No. 5 Singles: Lewis Pilcher (Essex) defeated Biancosino (MUHS), 6-0, 6-1.
At No. 1 Doubles: Nelson and Cook Yoder (MUHS) defeated Donovan Ho and Omar Khan (Essex), 6-3, 6-4.
At No. 2 Doubles: Henry Farrell and Deven Shedd (Essex) defeated Malhotra and Copeland (MUHS), 6-2, 6-3.

Outdoor opportunities endless

Thought of the day: I’ve been living in Addison County for more than 35 years now, and I continue to find more to discover and enjoy in the many outdoor opportunities that abound in and around our county and state: new places to fish, new places to hike (or just walk), new state parks and national parks, and (as I noted in my last column) new birds to appreciate.
New birds I have seen, identified by both song and sight since my last column (thanks to my Merlin app from the Cornell Lab of Ornithologyh, merlin.



MATT DICKERSON

allaboutbirds.org) and somehow managed to photograph include: a veery, common yellowthroat, American redstart, mourning warbler, ovenbird and red-eyed vireo. I don’t claim this to be a noteworthy accomplishment. You can’t walk in our woods without hearing red-eyed vireos. And that’s true almost any time of day. But they like to hang out in the treetops projecting their song across the woods. The mourning warbler can also be herd daily from our back porch. But the warbler can be hard to spot for the opposite

reason: it stays in the thick brush in the understory.
When I went out to my garden this morning, a common yellowthroat was singing away for 20 straight minutes from a nearby hedge (though I never saw it). And the wood thrush is even more prevalent in the backyard song, though I have still not actually seen one this summer.
Avid area birders wait until they see something much rarer before excitedly announcing their finds. But that doesn’t make it any less enjoyable for me to photograph one. Or just to spot one. Or even just to listen to a part in the morning birdsong and to have a name for it. (I’m still hoping to see a chestnut-sided warbler and a wood thrush this summer, though I will enjoy their voices in the song whether I see one or not.)
•
I also had the joy of fishing a new stream a couple times during the past few weeks. Working on an earlier outdoor story, I had been looking at the website for the Green Mountain National Forest and reading about the Joseph Battell Wilderness Area and I came up on a reference to Bingo Brook. It was called a high-quality brook trout water. That prompted my exploration instincts.
Though most of my fishing on Bingo Brook during two May expeditions was just outside of Addison County, the headwaters of the stream start up in our county in the designated wilderness area, which accounts for the pristine quality of the water that flows out of a protected forest. Bingo Brook and its tributary Falls Brook begin respectively in the saddles between the peaks of

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MUHS JUNIOR MIDFIELDER Quinn Doria goes airborne to score this first-quarter goal against Rice during the teams’ June 5 Division I quarterfinal in Middlebury.

Independent photos/Steve James

Tiger girls



(Continued from Page 1B)
was too much to overcome. He said he thought early on Rice played with more assertion, and that also at first his team was feeling nerves.
“Sometimes the ball rolls in a different direction than you want it to. We definitely needed to up our draw game,” Weaber said. “There was a lot of pressure on the girls, more than they felt all season, being at home and having the whole town here to watch, and I think that’s probably part of it.”
That said, the Tigers righted the ship and almost pulled off the comeback, an effort that capped a successful season with a winning record that included big victories over top teams.
“We definitely took a step forward, and it was not because of skill on the team, it was how the team came together and supported each other,” Weaber said. “And that’s the kind of culture I was hoping to be able to leave the program with, and we’re in good hands now (with Wood) ... Caroline was awesome. She really stepped in and led the girls.”
Weaber acknowledged the team did have plenty of talent.
“And there’s more coming,” he said. “There’s a good lacrosse mentality in Middlebury, and we’ll keep building.”
Unfortunately, this season ended a little earlier than all in and around the program had hoped.
Rice struck first 2:45 into the game on the first of three Payton Borick goals, which prophetically came after the Green Knights won the first draw and first three ground ball duels.
Still, the Tigers seemingly took charge with three goals during the next 2:30. Junior Quinn Doria converted a free position after a strong run, and sophomore Isabel Quinn and senior Ada Weaber netted unassisted scores. Weaber’s came after junior Kenyon Connors stole the ball.



MUHS SOPHOMORE GOALIE Ida Blackwell has this save on Rice’s Payton Borick lined up during the teams’ June 5 Division I quarterfinal in Middlebury.

But Rice outscored the Tigers by 4-1 during the rest of the period, with two goals from Bayleigh Clark and one apiece from Borick and Kayden O’Connell. Quinn netted a free position in the final minute to make it 5-4, and Tiger sophomore goalie shortly afterward denied O’Connell to keep it a one-goal game headed into the second quarter.
But the Tigers didn’t gain momentum from those two plays. The Green Knights rattled off six unanswered goals in the second period to take their 11-4 lead 2:27 before the half. Clark scored two of them to finish with four goals, and Borick completed her hat trick in the period. In all, that completed Rice’s 10-1.
The Tigers went into the break with a bit of traction thanks to the two late second-period goals from Quinn and Calzini, and Calzini kept it rolling with the first two goals of the second half to make it 11-8 at 6:52 of the third. The second was a coast-to-coast burst in which Calzini left most of the Rice team in her wake before whipping the ball home.
The Tigers meanwhile held the Green Knights in check, but were also not threatening consistently, in part because Weaber, the captain and leading scorer, was hurt with


four minutes to go and sat out most of the rest of the game. Each team added one more goal in the period, Harper Murray for Rice with 2:12 to go, and Livesay from senior Sara Kent at 1:06 for the Tigers, and it was 13-9 with a quarter to go.
Two nice plays in the first 3:19 made it 13-11. Connors cashed in Quinn’s feed from the left side, and Livesay converted a behind-the-net feed from Kent at 8:41.
At 5:44, a Rice player drew a two-minute penalty for an illegal check. But the Tigers soon lost the ball, and Rice went into stalling mode, with the speedy O’Connell especially effective in protecting the ball. Rice took one shot, and Blackwell made a strong kick save on Borick, and the ball bounced back to Rice.
The Tigers finally got the ball back with about three minutes left, but two free position bids and another shot all sailed wide, and eventually time ran out on the comeback bid and the season. Blackwell finished with eight saves, and Rice goalie Tayton Barrett made six.
As well as Weaber and Kent, the quarterfinal was the last as a Tiger lacrosse player for attacker Aven Frankovic and defenders Addison Schnoor, Lila Cook Yoder, Georgie Kiel and Juliette Hunsdorfer.




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Let the games begin! Local green thumb — and frequent Garden Game champion — **Gary Miller** has delivered the season’s very first entry, and it’s a big one! Eager to “get things started,” Gary submitted a hulking horseradish leaf measuring a whopping 16.25” L x 8” W.

What an *a-maize-ing* kickoff—thanks, Gary!




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Tiger boys’ lax survives in OT

By ANDY KIRKALDY
MIDDLEBURY — The top-seeded Middlebury Union High School boys’ lacrosse team needed an overtime goal on Friday from sophomore Brady Lloyd to get past visiting No. 9 Rice, 10-9, in a Division I quarterfinal.

The Tigers improved to 14-2 and were set to take on No. 4 Champlain Valley (12-6) on Wednesday afternoon in a semifinal. The result wasn’t available until after the deadline for this edition.

The winner of that game advances to a final on Sunday at the University of Vermont, with a

time to be announced. The Tigers defeated the Redhawks twice this spring, 13-5 at home and 8-6 in Hinesburg. No. 2 Mount Mansfield and No. 3 South Burlington played on Wednesday in the other D-I semifinal.

The Tigers had handled Rice easily twice this spring, but under rainy, wet conditions on Fucile Field on this past Friday the 5-13 Green Knights gave them a battle. Rice tied the game on a shot that went into the Tiger goal just as the final horn sounded.

But Lloyd, who had forced overtime a week earlier with a

late goal when the Tigers defeated Mount Mansfield to clinch the top seed, this time completed a hat trick with his game-winning overtime goal to keep the Tigers’ title hopes alive.

Also coming up big for the Tigers were Logan McNulty (two goals, assist), Ben Debisschop (two goals), goalie Levi Nuceder (15 saves) and Cal Boulanger (17 out of 22 on faceoffs).

Andrew Greene led Rice with four goals, while TJ Avonda had three goals and an assist, and Owen Cook had a goal and three assists.

VUHS scores points in D3 track

By ANDY KIRKALDY
BURLINGTON — The Vergennes Union High School girls’ and boys’ track and field teams scored in a number of events in the June 5 Division III championship meet at Burlington High School, but both finished back in the pack overall.

The Commodore girls finished 10th out of 16 teams with 15 points. Peoples (104 points) edged Bellows Falls (99) for the crown, with White River Valley third with 73 points.

Thetford rolled to the boys’ crown with 164.5 points, followed by White River (65.5) and Green Mountain Union (46). The Commodore boys took 15th with nine points.

VUHS sophomore Isabella Van Voorst had the best individual result for either Commodore team by taking third in the girls’ 400-meter race. Van Voorst also joined seniors Torrey Hanna and Jing Williams and freshman Lauren Hill on the Commodore girls’ second-place four-by-800-meter relay team.

Also scoring points for the Commodore girls was the third-place 4x100 relay team of Junior Faith McAllister and seniors Mary Cosgrove, Eliza Olenga and Hanna.

For the boys, individually senior Brody McGuire was fifth at 400

meters, and senior Grey Fearon took sixth in the 1,500.

Also scoring points for the VUHS boys was the third-place 4X400 relay team of freshman Rowan Neffinger, and seniors Connor Brogan, McGuire and Fearon.

GIRLS RESULTS
The winners and VUHS finishers in girls’ events were:
200: 1. Cassandra Armstrong, White River Valley, 26.86; 20. Isabel Miguel, 31.24; 26. Mary Cosgrove, 31.73; 30. Faith McAllister, 32.04.
400: 1. Katerina Lemelson, Stowe; 3. Isabella Van Voorst, VUHS, 1:04.43; 12. Georgia Kunkel, 1:11.55; 12. Eleanor Wilkinson-Sachs, 1:11.66.
800: 1. Ava Hayden, Thetford, 2:58.49; 11. Torrey Hanna, VUHS, 2:51.47; 20. Jing Williams, 3:00.91.
1,500: 1. Hayden, Thetford, 5:22.9849; 7. Lauren Hill, VUHS, 5:50.41.
100 hurdles: 1. Autumn Hales, Green Mt., 16.11; 18. Eliza Olenga, VUHS, 21.47.
4X100: 1. Peoples, 52.39; 3. VUHS, 58.73 (McAllister, Cosgrove, Olenga, Hanna).
4X400: 1. Peoples, 4:17.84; 9. VUHS, 4:52.92 (Kunkel, Wilkinson-Sachs, Hill, Van Voorst).
4X800: 1. Bellows Falls, 10:39.9; 2. VUHS, 11:07.37 (Williams, Hanna, Hill, Van Voorst).

Discus: 1. Laura Kamel, Bellows Falls, 115’-5”;; 9. Kunkel, VUHS, 69’-4”.

Long jump: 1. Sadie Baranyay, Peoples, 16’-0.5”;; 20. Olenga, VUHS, 13’-0.75”;; 23; Hanna, VUHS, 12’-3.25”.

BOYS RESULTS
The winners and VUHS finishers in boys’ events were:
200: 1. Brody Wells, Enosburg, 23.19; 23. Rowan Neffinger, VUHS, 26.57; 34. Chance Koenig; 27.61.
400: 1. Luke Miller, Thetford, 50.40; 5. Brody McGuire, VUHS, 54.60; 11. Neffinger, VUHS, 57.98; 20. Koenig; 1:00.24; 28; Emerson Morrill, VUHS, 1:01.82; 29. Joey Maneen, 1:01.93; 34. Marwan Liebhaver, VUHS, 1:02.60; 44. David Coburn, VUHS; 1:07.71.
800: 1. Brady Sloop, Thetford, 2:03.15; 10. Caleb Hatch, VUHS, 2:18.42.
1,500: 1. Sloop, Thetford, 4:12.86; 6. Grey Fearon, VUHS, 4:32.81; 7. Hatch, VUHS, 4:36.97.
4X400: 1. Springfield, 3:39.66; 3. VUHS, 3:47.10 (Neffinger, Brogan, Fearon, McGuire).
Discus: 1. Connor Sloop, Thetford, 130’-2”;; 11. McGuire, VUHS, 106’-7”.

Triple jump: 1. Tristan Boylan, Bellows Falls, 39’-0.5”;; 8. Koenig, VUHS, 35’-6”.



MOUNT ABE SOPHOMORE Stefan Johnson slides safely into third base during the Eagles’ D-II quarterfinal home game vs. Enosburg on Monday.

Independent photos/Steve James

Baseball

(Continued from Page 1B)
scored on a wild pitch, and Corrigan walked and stole second.

Johnson bolted home on Irie Mazur’s ground ball to second, and Corrigan scored on Riley Coffey’s squeeze bunt. The pitcher made another throwing error on the throw to first trying to get Coffey out, and Coffey went to second with one out. But Bentley worked around a walk with two strikeouts to escape the inning with Enosburg up, 8-4.

The Eagles appeared to have momentum, but over the next two innings managed only two more baserunners off two more Hornet pitchers. Gervais tossed 1.2 innings and walked Johnson, and Sawyer Bentley came on to strike out the game’s final batter in the bottom of the seventh.

There were a couple debated calls that went against Mount Abe, but



MOUNT ABE JUNIOR leadoff hitter Brody Barnard finds his path to first base blocked when an errant throw pulls the Enosburg first baseman off the bag during Monday’s D-II quarterfinal in Bristol.

ultimately the Eagles, normally a strong offensive team, managed just one hit off the four Hornet pitchers — Castillo’s second-inning single.

Most of the Mount Abe roster

MAV boys’ lax battles Solons, but falls

By ANDY KIRKALDY
MONTPELIER — Host No. 2 Montpelier on Monday edged the No. 3 Mount Abraham-Vergennes boys’ lacrosse team, 8-7, in a Division III semifinal.

The setback ended the 6-8 Eagles’ hopes of repeating as D-III champions.

MAV gave the Solons a battle, however — they had lost at home to Montpelier on May 30, 11-4.

On Monday, Lincoln Painter led the Eagles with three goals,

and Chase Atkins scored once and added two assists. Asa Pratt, Joe Sullivan and Addy Halby added a goal apiece, and Baxter Montgomery chipped in with an assist. Goalie Connor Nason capped a strong season and helped keep MAV in Monday’s game with nine saves.

Phin Hilferty sparked the Solons with four goals. Preston Scribner scored twice, and Bodi Hollister and Duncan Schrader had a goal apiece. Montpelier

goalie Oren Chapman made four saves.

Coach Ed Cook’s team was a young outfit this year, and only four seniors will graduate: Atkins, an attacker; Brayden Duggento, a midfielder; Jake Prouty, a short-stick defensive midfielder; and Spencer Gebo, a long-stick defensive midfielder.

Gebo, Prouty and Atkins were captains along with junior Cooper Cook.

U-32 tops MAV girls’ lax in second OT

EAST MONTPELIER — The No. 6 seed Mount Abraham-Vergennes girls’ lacrosse team came up just short of an upset of No. 3 U-32 on June 5, losing in overtime to the Raiders, 10-9.

The Commodores trailed at halftime, 6-1, before mounting a comeback to tie the game on a Meredith Dufault goal with two minutes left in regulation. Dufault and June Yates-Rusch each scored three goals to spark the MAV attack, and goalie Kendra Jackson’s 12

saves, two in overtime, were key in mounting the comeback and keeping the Commodores in the game.

But Raider Ruby Eaton scored with 56 seconds left in a second overtime period that was delayed an hour by lightning, and the Raiders (12-5) advanced to the semifinal round, while the Commodores wrapped up a competitive season at 7-8.

For U-32, Lydia Trombly (three goals, two assists), Chloe Pembroke (three goals, assist), Hannah Drury

(two goals, two assists), and Eaton (two goals) carried the scoring load. Raider goalie Linnea Darrow made four saves.

Also contributing offensively for MAV were Ada Hellier, with a goal and two assists, and Ruby Hellier and Thompson Davis, with a goal apiece.

The Commodores were a young team, but will lose to graduation Jackson, attackers Esme Visco-Lyons and Ruby Hellier, and attacker/defender Safoura Camara.

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Softball

(Continued from Page 1B)

On Monday the Eagles opened their playoff quest by brushing aside No.10 Milton, 25-10, in a quarterfinal game that was not as close as the final score might indicate. Mount Abe led, 19-0 after four innings, when Coach Don McCormick pulled starting pitcher **Gretchen Toy**, who to that point had not allowed a run, surrendered just one hit and one walk, and fanned six Yellowjackets.

The Eagles led by 10-0 after three innings and essentially ended the game by adding nine more runs in the bottom of the fourth. **Brooklyn Ryersbach** helped stake Mount Abe to an early lead with a three-run homer and added two more hits, and she was just one of many offensive contributors for the Eagles.

Also chipping in were **Abba Parker** (two doubles, single, four RBI), **Reagan LaFreniere** (homer, single, three RBI), **Leah Tierney** (three hits), **Morgan Larocque** (double, single), **Gen Forand** (two-run double), **Emmali Rougier** (two hits, two RBI), **Nora Hurlburt** (double, two singles), and Toy (solo homer).

Once Toy left the mound, Milton started scoring. Olivia Hayden (four hits, RBI), Sydney Greenfield (solo homer), and Cianna Tomasi (hit, two RBI) were productive for the 7-10 Yellowjackets.



EAGLE SENIOR ABBA Parker makes solid contact during the Eagle softball team's Monday quarterfinal win over visiting Milton. Independent photos/Steve James

OTTERS

In Brandon on June 6 the Otters defeated No. 6 Hartford, 9-3, in their quarterfinal, breaking a 3-3 tie with a four-run fourth inning and cruising home from there.

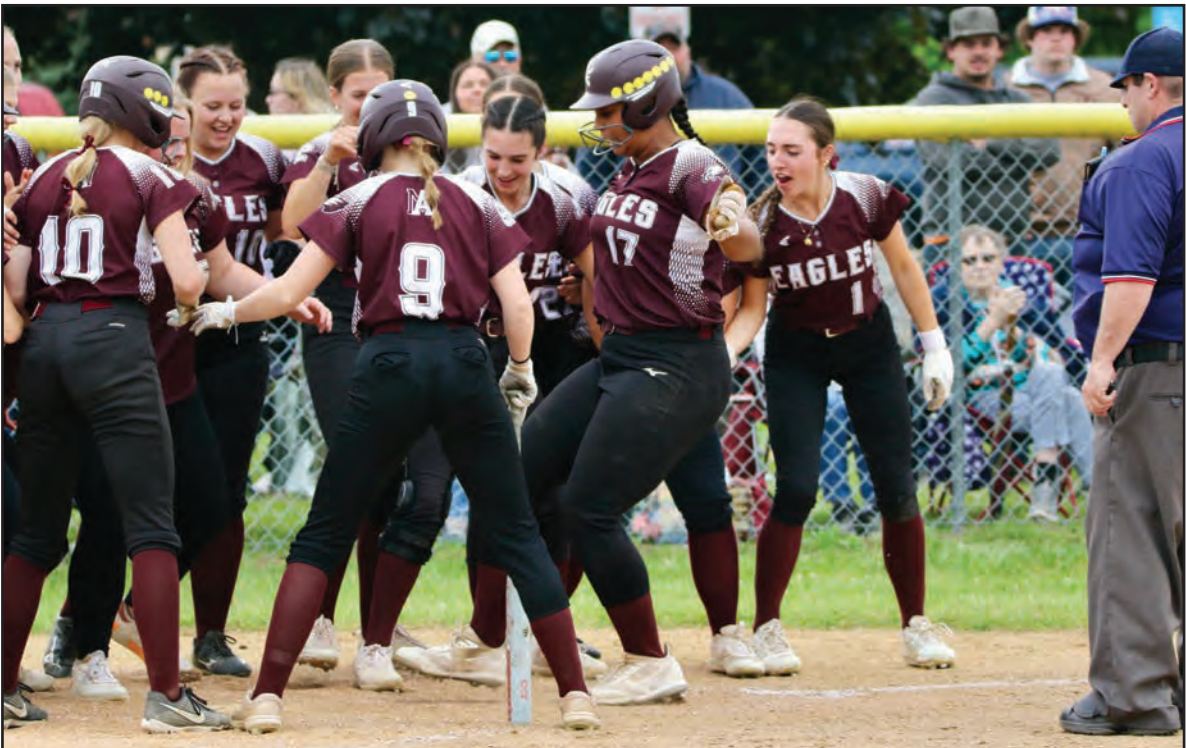
Hartford scored in the first on hits by Emerson Whitney and Haley Maxham and in the second on a Faith Brown sacrifice fly.

OV matched them with two runs in the first on a homer by pitcher **Sophia Parker** and singles by **Leanne Thomas** and **Kaylee Maloy**, and tied the game in the second when **Randi Lancour**

walked and worked her way around the bases to score.

The Otters broke the game open in the fourth when **Hannah Desabrais** belted a two-out, three-run double off losing pitcher Serenitee Martel. OV loaded the bases on a Maloy single and walks to **Noelle Seigle** and Parker. The walk to Parker was intentional and didn't pay off because it brought Desabrais to the plate. Maloy soon also scored, and it was 7-3.

OV added its final two runs in the sixth. Desabrais reached base, and Thomas singled her home and



THE MOUNT ABE softball team greets teammate Brooklyn Ryersbach at the plate after she belted a three-run homer early in the Eagles' quarterfinal win over visiting Milton.

scored on an error on the play.

Parker went the distance on the mound, striking out seven, walking none and allowing seven hits.

Martel struck out 13 and also allowed seven hits, but they included the bases-clearing double and Parker's homer. Hartford finished at 11-6, including three losses this spring to the Otters.

TIGERS

On June 5 top-seeded Lyndon (11-1-1) rallied for two runs in the

bottom of the seventh inning to deny the No. 8 Tigers' upset bid, 8-7.

The Tigers took a 7-4 lead by the third inning with an attack powered by **Lily Dame** and **Skylar Choiniere**, each of whom tripled and singled, and **Lexi Whitney**, who doubled and singled. But Viking reliever Jenna Royer got the final out in the third inning and shut the Tigers out the rest of the way, allowing four hits, walking none and striking out two.

Kendall Hale's infield hit off Whitney scored the winning run in the seventh. Whitney allowed eight runs, seven earned, on six hits and seven walks. Ella Marshia and Jill Dwyer each had two hits for Lyndon.

Dame, Whitney, **Meredith Cameron** and **Emma Morrissey** suited up for the MUHS softball team for the last time on that Thursday.

Track

(Continued from Page 1B)

Senior Joshua Kafumbe was the only Tiger boy to place in an individual event, taking fifth in the 110-meter hurdles. Kafumbe also teamed up with Keil Broderson, Haakon Olsen and Sawyer Malzac on the Tiger four-by-100-meter relay team that scored points with a third-place finish. The Tiger 4x800 team of Gabe Schmidt, Lucas Flinner, Blake Davidson and Ellington Patterson also contributed with a sixth-place effort.

Otter Valley did not send a scoring team, but seniors Luke Calvin and Elisha Bagley ran creditably in two distance events.

The full girls' team scores were: 1. U-32 138; 2. Rice 88; Tie for 3. Montpelier and Lake Region 42; 5. Harwood 39; 6. Fair Haven 37; 7. Lyndon 31; 8. Hartford 24; 9. MUHS 20; 10. Woodstock 17; Tie for 11. Lamoille and Milton 16; 13. Mount Abraham 14.

The complete boys' team scores were: 1. U-32 167; 2. Hartford 80; 3. Rice 57; 4. Fair Haven 55; 5.

Lake Region 31; 6. Lamoille 25; 7. Montpelier 25; 8. Lyndon 18; 9. Harwood 17; 10. Woodstock 15; Tie for 11. Mount Abe and Milton 11; 13. MUHS 8; 14. Missisquoi 4.

GIRLS' RESULTS

The girls' event winners and Tiger and Eagle results were:

100: 1. Hurley, MUHS, 12.69; 12. Ruby Connell, Mt. Abe, 13.74; 33. Eliza Ruble, Mt. Abe, 14.65; 34. Selma Citarella, MUHS, 14.78.

200: 1. Hurley, MUHS, 26.10; 11. Connell, Mt. Abe, 28.66; 22. Citarella, MUHS, 30.51.

400: 1. Isobel Kroger, U-32, 1:00.44; 9. Sophie Underwood, Mt. Abe, 1:09.54.

800: 1. Ginger Long, U-32, 2:22.67; 11. Beth McIntosh, MUHS, 2:40.27; 14. Cameron Vose, Mt. Abe, 2:42.12; 15. Annika Bruning, MUHS, 2:42.44; 19. Mary Harrington, MUHS, 2:51.94.

1,500: 1. Long, U-32, 4:51.57; 8. McIntosh, MUHS, 5:10.33; 12. Harrington, MUHS, 5:33.25.

3,000: 1. Evey Slavik, Rice, 11:08.18; 10. Meredith Carr-Perlow, MUHS, 13:02.18.

300 hurdles: 1. Clara Maker, U-32, 49.41; 7. McIntosh, MUHS, 54.57.

4x100 relay: 1. U-32, 51.65; 9. Mt. Abe, 57.13 (Stoddard, Ruble, S. Underwood, Connell).

4x400 relay: 1. U-32, 4:09.86; 8. MUHS, 4:43.7 (Bruning, Carr-Perlow, Citarella, McIntosh).

Javelin: 1. Heather Alexander, Lake Region, 110'-10"; 3. Stoddard, Mt. Abe, 77'-3".

High Jump: 1. Maeda Urie, Lake Region, 4'-7.75"; 2. Stoddard, Mt. Abe, 4'-7.75".

BOYS' RESULTS

100: 1. Shane Raetz, Fair Haven, 11.33; 8. Malzac, MUHS, 11.74; 13. Sawyer, Mt. Abe, 12.37; 24. Jonathan Kafumbe, MUHS, 12.56.

200: 1. Jeonghun Jin, Rice, 22.84; 8. Malzac, MUHS, 24.27.

1,500: 1. Bennet Moreno, Hartford, 3:58.48; 12. Calvin, Otter Valley, 4:33.58; 15. Bagley, OV, 4:41.76; 18. Jorgen Pirrung, MUHS, 4:46.50.

3,000: 1. Jake Borland, Montpelier, 9:04.12; 15. Calvin, OV, 10:18.66; 20. Aaron Carr-Perlow, MUHS, 10:43.19; 21. Bagley, OV, 10:49.21; 23. Pirrung, MUHS, 11:16.68.

110 hurdles: 1. Cavan Farrell, U-32, 16.98; 5. Joshua Kafumbe, MUHS, 17.56; 10. Jonathan Kafumbe, MUHS, 18:51; 13. Are Jorgenson, Mt. Abe, 19.2; 16. Elliot Senecal, Mt. Abe, 20.11; 17.

Raine Evans Nash, MUHS, 20.11.

300 hurdles: 1. Farrell, U-32, 42.44; 14. Jackson LaMarche, Mt. Abe, 48.96.

4x100 relay: 1. U-32, 43.86; 3. MUHS, 46.48 (Broderson, Olsen, Malzac, Joshua Kafumbe).

4x400 relay: 1. U-32, 3:32.02; 11. MUHS, 4:28.96 (Ellington Patterson, Blake Davidson, Lucas Flinner, Gabe Schmidt).

4x800 relay: 1. U-32, 9:17:08; 6: MUHS, 10:25.08 (Schmidt, Flinner, Davidson, Patterson).

Javelin: 1. Adler Lahar, Lake Region, Lake Region, 148-7; 6. Mount, Mt. Abe, 114-11.

Pole vault: 1. Tyler Noyes, Lyndon, 10-11.5; 8. (tie) Lamarche, Mt. Abe, 8-6.

Long jump: 1. Ayodele Lowe, Hartford, 22-1; 5. Sawyer, Mt. Abe, 19-2.5.

Triple jump: 1. Jayden Forbes, Hartford, 41-0.25; 2. Sawyer, Mt. Abe, 39-2.5.

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Dickerson

(Continued from Page 2B)

Monastery Mountain (3,225 feet), Worth Mountain (3,235 feet), and Gillespie Peak (3,366 feet). As numerous little feeders flow in from both sides, Bingo Brook

grows quickly over its short six-mile stretch until it comes together with Brandon Brook just off Route 73 in Rochester to form the West Branch of the White River.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife

doesn't list Bingo Brook on its fish stocking schedule (anrweb.vt.gov/FWD/FW/FishStockingSchedule.aspx), so I went expecting a stream managed for wild fish and especially for Vermont's native brook trout. I was only a little surprised when the first fish I caught was a rainbow trout. However, even a casual look at the fish made it clear that it was wild. Though rainbow trout are not a species native anywhere on the East Coast, stocked fish in the right conditions do often survive to reproduce. This one had the brighter colors, smaller size, and lack of raceway scars of a fish that had hatched in the river and not in a hatchery.

In two mornings fishing there, I didn't see any other anglers. One campsite was occupied. And a total of three bikers and four cars passed on the dead-end road during my several hours of fishing. Though I had to work hard and cover a lot of water for each fish I found to take a fly, it was worth the trip for the beauty and relative quiet of a new-to-me water.

I opened this column calling it a "thought of the day," but it really could have been a thought for any day or week of any season of the year. I am fortunate. Addison County is a great place to live for many reasons — but especially for those who enjoy the outdoors.

Editor's note: "Birds in the Sky, Fish in the Sea," Matthew Dickerson's recently published book, is available at The Vermont Book Shop. It is collection of narrative non-fiction essays about attentiveness to the natural world, with original prints from Florida-based artist Matt Clark. Dickerson has been writing an outdoor column for the Addison Independent for more than a quarter century.

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community calendar

june 12 THURSDAY

Book Donation Day, in Vergennes. Thursday, June 12, 3-6 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Donate your used books to the Bixby Library Book Sale. Donations accepted in the back parking lot. Fiction should be published after 2014 or written by a popular author, and non-fiction should be current and saleable. Donated books will be featured at the book sale on Saturday, June 14

Read with Therapy Dog Charlie Girl in Starksboro. Thursday, June 12, 3:30 p.m., Starksboro Public Library, Route 116. Read with Charlie Girl and Ms. Myriah (RES Kindergarten Teacher).

“Driving and Aging — Challenges, Strategies and Things to Consider” in Middlebury. Thursday, June 12, 4 p.m., Congregational Church of Middlebury, 3 Main St. Brought to you by Elderly Services, this session will be led by Andrea Spinale from the Vermont Department of Health. Join us for an informative session on the challenges older drivers face in Vermont. The program will also cover how to approach the difficult conversation about driving retirement and how to start planning for the future. Free and open to all.

june 13 FRIDAY

“Everything you ever wanted to know about geothermal but were afraid to ask!” in Middlebury. Friday, June 13, 8:45 a.m., Unity Hall, Congregational Church of Middlebury, 30 N. Pleasant St. Learn about the promise of geothermal (i.e., ground-source) heat pumps for heating and cooling buildings from experts in designing, engineering, and deploying these systems. Sponsored by the Town of Middlebury Energy Committee. Free, but please register at bit.ly/GEOTHERMAL-WORKSHOP.

june 14 SATURDAY

Vermont Days Weekend, Saturday, June 14, Mount Independence, Chimney Point, and Hubbardton Battlefield state historic sites. Free admission to all Vermont's state historic sites. Bring a kite to fly or try ours.

Vermont Free Fishing Day. Saturday, June 14, around the state. Designed for young or novice anglers and families, this event offers a variety of activities to participate in, including basic fishing instruction, fish biology and ID, crafts and lure making, and more. It also includes a chance for participants to catch big trout in a hatchery pond. No prior fishing experience is needed. Vermont Fish and Wildlife will supply fishing rods, reels and bait for use by participants. More info at vtfishandwildlife.org.

Used book sale in Vergennes. Saturday, June 14, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Stock up for summer reading. Browse through the selection of used books for sale in the Otter Creek Room downstairs. Enter from the back parking lot. Choose from a large variety of fiction, non-fiction and children's books, some on orderly shelves and the more recently donated in boxes and on carts. Not priced – sold by donation.

Midd Summer Market in Middlebury. Saturday, June 14, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Triangle Park corner of Main Street and Merchants Row. In conjunction with the Sparrow Art Supply Plein Air Festival, come see what's on offer from Vermont artists, craftspeople and purveyors of fine Vermont products and prepared food. Shoppers can expect beautiful handmade items perfect for gifts, mementos, or staples for everyday use. Rain or shine. Learn more at ExperienceMiddlebury.com/midd-markets.

Tie Dye Day in Cornwall. Saturday, June 14, 10 a.m.-noon, Cornwall Town Hall, 2629 Route 30. We will have lots of colors of dye and plenty of rubber bands. Bring your shirt, or any materials you would like to dye. All are welcome. Get ready for a fun morning! There will be no rain date, so keep your fingers crossed. Hosted by the Cornwall Recreation Committee.

No Kings rally in Brandon. Saturday, June 14, 10 a.m.-noon, Central Park. Indivisible Brandon will hold a local rally. Bring your signs and flags and good cheer. Let us know you're coming by registering online. A few Vermont Indivisible groups have scheduled a flag relay on Route 7 to run concurrently with the rallies planned for the 14th. Help if you can.

Flag Day and No Kings Day in New Haven and Vergennes. Saturday, June 14, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., along Route 7 in New Haven and Vergennes. A flag relay traveling from southern to northern Vermont. This nonpartisan, grassroots action invites Vermonters to come together along Route 7 to stand up for democracy and say, “NO KINGS.” Stand and wave in eight areas between River Road in New Haven and Route 22A. More info at www.mobilize.us/nokings/event/796325/. Contact Northeast Addison County Indivisible (neaddisoncountylvindivisible@gmail.com) for good parking and standing areas.

Honoring Our Flag from Border to Border in Middlebury. Saturday, June 14, 11 a.m.- 2 p.m., Court Square and various points along Route 7. Addison County No Kings Day demonstrators will line our section of “The Spine of Vermont” with pride as we greet The Flag Relay for Democracy: Honoring Our flag from Border to Border. The largest rallies will be in City Park, Brandon, Court Square, Middlebury and Vergennes City Park. Vergennes will feature a hand-off of these two ceremonial flags between 12:15 pm-12:35 pm. Visit <https://www.mobilize.us> for more details and information.

Bridport Day in Bridport. Saturday, June 14, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., town green, 82 Crown Point Rd. Activities for kids, games, live music by Jim Shaw, Judd Markowski, and O'hAnleigh, craft/vendor tables, dunk tank, Bridport community group information tables, Andrea Warren line dance instruction and dance. Plus there will be food, including creemees. If you have any interest in donating to this event or are willing to volunteer, please email bridportevents@gmail.com.

Porter Medical Center Centennial in Middlebury. Saturday, June 14, 11 a.m., Collins Drive. Gather for live music, food, activities and fun for people of all ages. Help complete the story by contributing to the historic timeline display and time capsule. Share your photos, stories, memories, hopes and predictions for the future.

No Kings Protest in Vergennes. Saturday, June 14, 12-2 p.m., Vergennes City Green. The No Kings Border-to-Border flag relay truck will stop at



Animal ambassador

VINS WILL BE at the New Haven Library with three of their animal ambassadors, possibly Ferrisburgh, the American Kestrel, on Saturday, June 14, 2 p.m. Come see some of Vermont's wildlife and how it can startle, impress, and even fool the eye.

Photo courtesy of VINS

Vergennes between 12:15 and 12:45 p.m. Bring signs and enthusiasm. Family-friendly.

Prize Bingo in Leicester. Saturday, June 14, 1 p.m., Senior Center, Leicester Four Corners. Sponsored by the Leicester Historical Society. Refreshments served and all are welcome. Final Bingo until Sept. 13.

“John Hancock: First to Sign, First to Invest in America's Independence” in Orwell. Saturday, June 14, 1-2 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 472 Mt. Independence Rd. Noted historian Willard Sterne Randall will speak about John Hancock, whose bold signature was the first on the new Declaration of Independence in 1776.

VINS' animal ambassadors in New Haven. Saturday, June 14, 2 p.m., New Haven Town Hall, 78 North St. In partnership with the Vermont Summer Reading Program, The Vermont Institute of Natural Science will be at New Haven Town Hall with three of VINS' animal ambassadors. Learn how nature's palette can startle, impress, and even fool the eye. Witness the rainbow of techniques our wildlife uses to hunt, hide, and survive in this 45-minute program geared towards families and children of all ages!

Puccini's “La Bohème” in Middlebury. Saturday, June 14, 2 p.m., Main Stage, Town Hall Theater, 76 Merchants Row. See June 12 listing.

Bingo in Vergennes. Saturday, June 14, 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.

Takeout-only chicken and biscuit supper in Vergennes. Saturday, June 14, 5- 6 p.m., Vergennes United Methodist Church, Main St., across from the Vergennes Opera House. Chicken and gravy over biscuits, stuffing, vegetable, cranberry sauce and dessert. Adults \$12. Take out preorder only. Must place order by 7 p.m. Thursday, June 12. To order call 802-877-3150.

june 15 SUNDAY

Vermont Days Weekend. Sunday, June 15, Mount Independence, Chimney Point, and Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Sites. See June 14 listing.

june 17 TUESDAY

Pollinator Pathway of Addison County in Middlebury. Tuesday, June 17, 1 p.m., Middlebury Natural Foods Co-Op. Volunteers from Pollinator Pathway of Addison County will provide general information about native plants and answer questions about the new native plant section of the Co-Op garden in front of the store.

june 18 WEDNESDAY

Summer political luncheon series in Middlebury. Wednesday, June 18, 12:30 p.m., EastView at Middlebury, Middlebury College Professor Matt

Dickinson will host this popular series of talks on politics bi-weekly all summer long, in-person at EastView and via Zoom. Please call 802-989-7501 for the Zoom link.

Home: “Gather” and Fair Housing in Middlebury. Wednesday, June 18, 6 p.m., NBM Meeting Room, Mini Ilsley Public Library, 30 Main St. In Ken Cadow's book “Gather,” Ian loses his home through no fault of his own, illustrating how Vermont's housing landscape can be unfair and exclusive. Kahlia Livingston and Jess Hyman of the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity discuss the roots of Vermont's lack of affordable housing and describe potential approaches to reduce housing discrimination. A Vermont Humanities Speakers Bureau Program. The meeting room at the back of the library, down Printer's Alley.

Strawberry Festival in Shoreham. Wednesday, June 18, 6-8 p.m., Town Gazebo, on the green. Shoreham Congregational Church will offer its famous Strawberry Shortcake with fresh Vermont strawberries, biscuits, and real whipped cream. Generous portion \$7/smaller portion \$4. Bottled water \$1. Afghan raffle tickets, \$5 each or 3 for \$10.

Bristol Town Band in Bristol. Wednesday, June 18, 7-8:30 p.m., town green. Bristol Town Band will be holding their 155th season of weekly summer band concerts. Rain location will be Holley Hall. All are welcome to join the band. More information at 802-281-2315.

june 19 THURSDAY

Pollinator Week in Middlebury. Thursday, June 19, Middlebury Natural Foods Co-Op. Volunteers from Pollinator Pathway of Addison County will be on hand to speak about native plants for native pollinators and to introduce people to the new section of the Co-Op garden in front of the Co-Op.

Bristol Historical Society meeting in Bristol. Thursday, June 19, 7 p.m., Howden Hall, 19 West St. Kevin Hanson will be presenting a talk on information about his Grandfather Joel Carpenter's Starksboro Store from the 1880s. With insight to inventory in a country general store, the art of barter, open accounts (both accounts payable and receivable) in the 1880s. A short membership meeting following our speaker. Free, open to the public, and accessible to those with disabilities. For more info, contact 802-453-3526 or dear4@gmavt.net.

june 21 SATURDAY

Pollinator Week in Middlebury. Saturday, June 21, Middlebury Natural Foods Co-Op. Pollinator Week at the Co-Op will include volunteers from Pollinator Pathway of Addison County staffing a table of information for those interested in learning more about native plants for native pollinators, as well as other initiatives. Volunteers will encourage people to take a few minutes to see the newly transformed section of the flower bed.

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Reader Comments

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

A subscriber writes:

“My dad grew up in Salisbury, attended Middlebury High School, although he lives outside the county, he likes to see the news from there.”

Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.



ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

Public Notices

can be found in this

ADDISON INDEPENDENT on **Pages 6B and 10B.**

TOWN OF NEW HAVEN DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4464, a public hearing before the Development Review Board of the Town of New Haven will be held at the Town Offices, 78 North Street, New Haven, VT 05472 on Monday, July 7, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. to consider the following:

- Application #2025-DRB-04-BP submitted by Royce and Grace McConnell requesting extension of time for reconstruction of dwelling at 5918 Ethan Allen Highway in New Haven, per Section 425 on Non-Conforming Structures, and Request for Waiver per Section 333 of the New Haven Zoning and Subdivision Regulations.

Please note that participation in the local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal. The hearing will be held as a hybrid meeting, either in person at the Town Offices, or by remote:
<https://zoom.us/j/98142119190?pwd=U0pFdDQ2a1ZRZzVCRkN4ZGcyYUF3dz09>

Meeting ID: 981 4211 9190
Passcode: 4jYbTA

An electronic copy of the application may be obtained by emailing: newhavenzoning@gmavt.net; a hard copy is available at the Town Offices during normal business hours, and can also be found on the Town's website at: <https://www.nethavenvt.com/>

New Haven Zoning Administrator (802) 453-3516

ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REVIEW OF NEW HAVEN TOWN PLAN AND CONSULTATION REGARDING NEW HAVEN'S PLANNING PROCESS

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission's Local Government Committee (ACRPC) and New Haven Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing on June 30th 2025 7:00 PM at the New Haven Town Office at 78 North Street in New Haven. The Town of New Haven has requested that ACRPC grant regional approval of their Town Plan pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 4350(b). The purpose of the review is to determine whether the New Haven Town Plan:

- (1) is consistent with the goals established in 24 V.S.A. § 4302;
- (2) is compatible with its regional plan;
- (3) is compatible with approved plans of other municipalities in the region; and
- (4) contains all the elements included in 24 V.S.A. §4382.

ACRPC shall also conduct a municipal consultation with the Town of New Haven regarding its planning processes pursuant 24 V.S.A. §4350.

Copies of the Consultation Agenda are on the Addison County RPC website: www.acrpc.org

Questions, please call:

Adam Lougee,
Executive Director
Addison County Regional Planning Commission
388-3141

Summer reading programs kick off at Lincoln library

LINCOLN — The summer reading program kicks off with a chess and pizza party on Wednesday, June 18, from 3. to 5 p.m. at the library. Stop by to sign up, win prizes, and set your reading goals for the summer. By signing up for summer reading you enter for the chance to win a creme coupon.

Summer means passes and rackets. Don't forget that the library has passes available to give you discounts to The Shelburne Museum, Echo Museum, State Parks and State Historic Sites. They also have pickleball and tennis

Lincoln

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

NEWS

rackets available for checkout to use on the Lincoln court.

The new Lincoln Town Meeting Advisory Committee is comprised of Rob Reiber, Chair, Kudd Rood, Vice Chair, Sally Ober, Clerk (Town Clerk), Christie Sumner, Mary Gemignani, Lori Atkins, Karen Lueders, Tim McGowan (Selectboard Chair), Paul Forlenza

(Town and School Meeting Moderator) and Bill Finger, Ex Officio Non-Voting Member.

The purpose of the Committee is to research and propose options to optimize participation in Town of Lincoln voting, create opportunities for an informed vote, and a process that is fair, accessible and inclusive.

This committee was formed after voters at the March 3, 2025, Town Meeting voted to table Article 9: Shall the Town of Lincoln vote on all money articles by Australian ballot beginning in 2026? [17 V.S.A § 2680(c)(1)]. The Committee was formally approved by the Lincoln Selectboard on May 6, 2025. The Committee is hopeful for approval from the Lincoln School Board.

Before changing the entire structure of voting that has been practiced for decades, more thought and research was needed before making this very important decision. Some of the items the committee will

be researching: Should the Article be worded differently? How do we retain the in-person collaborative environment that is the staple of democracy? How do we increase the voter response? What are the benefits and consequences of going to an Australian ballot?

All Lincoln voters are encouraged to share their hopes, thoughts and constructive ideas with the Committee.

More information can be found on the Town's website at lincolnvermont.org.

FROM THE TOWN

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission Delegate represents Lincoln on the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, which promotes community development within the Addison Region. The delegates from 21 municipalities typically meet monthly in Middlebury, and each commissioner is required to serve on one of six committees that meet separately. The town is looking for an Alternate to represent Lincoln when the delegate cannot.

The town is also looking for someone to fill the Energy Coordinator role. The Energy Coordinator helps to establish and implement the community's energy goals and engages in regional energy planning. This is a one-year term.

Those interested in either of these opportunities, please contact Selectboard Chair Tim McGowan at tmcgowan@lincolnvermont.org or Town Administrator Trish Waugh at townadmin@lincolnvermont.org.

STATE OF VERMONT, SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION, ADDISON UNIT DOCKET NO.: 25-PR-03365 IN RE ESTATE OF: KAREN HAURY NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of: Karen Haury, late of New Haven.
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: 06/03/25

Nicole Machia
PO Box 42, New Haven, VT 05472
802-207-8843
vtchick84@gmail.com

Publication: Addison Independent
Publication Date: 06/12/25
Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court, Addison Unit, Probate Division
Address of Court: 7 Mahady Court, Middlebury, VT 05753

TOWN OF FERRISBURGH NOTICE OF HEARINGS

The Ferrisburgh Planning Commission will hold the following public hearings on **Wednesday, July 2, 2025** at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall at 3279 US Route 7, beginning at **7PM**. The hearings will also be available to participants remotely via Zoom; the link will be included in the agenda posted on the Town's website (ferrisburghvt.org) at least 48 hours before the meeting.

Application Number 25-046: (continued) New outdoor basketball court; Applicant: Mary Lou H. Ivey / Long Point Corporation; Long Point Road at East Road (Laflam Park); Parcel ID number 04/01/10; Rural Agricultural District (RA-5); Conditional Use Review and Waiver.

Application Number 24-125: (continued) Single-family residence for pastor on church property; Applicant: David Wolniewicz; 1759 US Route 7; Parcel ID number 15/01/02; Industrial (IND-2); Conditional Use.

The files for the above applications are available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office. Persons wishing to appear and be heard may do so in person or be represented by an agent or an attorney. Communications about the above hearings may also be filed in writing with the Board or the Zoning Administrator at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall or by email to zoning@ferrisburghvt.org.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 4464(a)(1)(C) and 4471(a), participation in this local proceeding is prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

ADDISON COUNTY MAPLE SUGARMAKERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, June 28th 2025, at 12pm at the Maple Building at the Addison County Fair and Field Days grounds.

Agenda will include:

- 1.) Review of Financials
- 2.) Field Days overview
- 3.) Election of Officers
- 4.) Any other business deemed necessary

TOWN OF ADDISON REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TOWN HALL REPAIRS

The Town of Addison, in Addison County, Vermont, is seeking the services of a qualified contractor to complete minor repairs to the Addison Town Hall. The selected contractor must be insured and will be expected to (1) demonstrate the ability to complete the needed roofing, chimney, bell tower, and window sill repairs, (2) have experience in related work. A detailed scope of work can be found on the Town of Addison's website at www.addisonvt.gov on the Town Hall Building Committee page, or at the town clerk's office.

Bids will be accepted until 5:00 pm, July 14th, 2025 by email to addisontown@gmavt.net with "Town Hall Repair RFP" in the subject line, or by mail to the Town of Addison, 65 VT RT 17W, Addison, Vermont 05491.

Questions? Contact Town Clerk Cheri Waterman at (802) 759-2020.

The Town of Addison is an equal opportunity provider and employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, gender or familial status.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

Every year we at the Addison Independent marvel when the school year ends and another batch of talented high school students graduates and moves on to the next stage in their life journey. The time between when the first Students of the Week are published and the last seems to fly by so quickly, and this year was no exception. Congratulations to all of these outstanding humans on their accomplishments in the past year, and best of luck as they venture out on their own. Below is a full list of Mount Abraham Union High School and Otter Valley Union High School Students of the Week and their destinations in the fall.



What's next? Mt. Abraham Union High School

Chase Atkins — University of Vermont
Lorenzo Atocha — Middlebury College
Sophie Batten — Quinnipiac University, Conn.
Rosemary Behounek — University of Vermont
Safoura Camara — Bentley University, Mass.
Lauren Cousino — Tufts University, Mass.
Ryan Cross — Norwich University
Alina Donaldson — Gap Year/ Emerson College, Mass.
Whitney Dykstra — University of Vermont
McKenzie Griner — Norwich University
Hazel Guilmette — University of Vermont
Bella Hartwell — Skidmore College, N.Y.
Brailey Livingston — SUNY Cobleskill, N.Y.
Elizabeth Mikkelson — Hudson Valley Community College, N.Y.
Louisa Painter — Concordia University, Q.C., Canada
Abigail Parker — Ithaca College, N.Y.
Maya Shea — Colby Sawyer College, N.H.
Hazel Stoddard — University of British Columbia, B.C., Canada
Esme Visco-Lyons — Brandeis University, Mass.

What's next? Otter Valley Union High School

Jordan Bertrand — Vermont State University Castleton
Savanna Cook — Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, N.Y.
Riley Hanfield — Employment
Calvin Ladd — University of Vermont
Miley Lape — Coastal Carolina University, S.C.
Oliver Laval — Chapman University, Calif.
Logan Letourneau — Vermont State University Castleton
Sarah Loyzelle — University of Vermont
Kiera Mallette — Vermont State University Castleton
Ivy Manchester — Gap Year/Employment
Jackson Marks — College of Charleston, S.C.
Brendan McLoughlin — Bowdoin College, Maine
Ian Miner — Paul Smiths College of Arts and Science, N.Y.
Sophie Moore — Vermont State University Castleton
Drew Pelkey — University of Vermont
Lucas Politano — Rutgers University, N.J.
Jazmin Rivera — University of Miami, Fla.
Elyse Singh — Vermont State University Castleton
Isaac Whitney — Vermont State University Electrical Apprenticeship



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Students of the Week from all area high schools are entered into a raffle to win a \$100 gift card to The Vermont Book Shop.

The winner will be chosen at the end of the school year.

Students of the Week are chosen by school teachers and administration.

Best of luck to all Addison County students!

Vermont Book Shop

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

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Vergennes, Vermont

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Great work, students!

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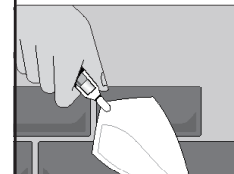
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CLASSIFIEDS

Public Meetings

AL-ANON OFFERS HELP and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking. Middlebury hosts an online meeting Sunday night 7:15pm and a face to face one Wednesday at 1:30pm at CVUUS (2 Duane Court Middlebury near the high school) that you can also access by Zoom. Visit vermontalananonlateen.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.

VERGENNES FREE THINKERS Founded in 1935 on the principle of one alcoholic helping another to achieve sobriety, A.A. is an effective and enduring program of recovery that has changed countless lives. A.A. has always been committed to making its program of recovery available to anyone, anywhere, who reaches out for help with an alcohol problem. The Vergennes Free Thinkers meeting was created in January of this year to maintain a tradition of free expression, conduct a meeting where alcoholics may feel free to express any beliefs, doubts or disbelief they may have, to share their own personal form of spiritual experience, their search for it, and/or their rejection of it, without having to accept anyone else's beliefs or having to deny their own. Meetings are held with a high regard for compassion and inclusion without judgment or exception. If you think we can help, please join us on Thursdays at 6pm by contacting Vergennesfreethinkers@gmail.com for Zoom and in-person meeting information.

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.

Public Meetings

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS in person meetings are available. For a list of local virtual meetings visit <http://bit.ly/district9aa>. For more information visit <https://aaavt.org/> or call the 24 hour hotline at 802-802-AAVT (2288).

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS is a 12 step program offering recovery from compulsive eating and food behaviors. For meeting times and general information please visit www.oavermont.org or call (802)863.2655.

THE TURNING POINT CENTER of Addison County is open for in-person services, Monday through Friday, 10am-4pm, 79 Court St, Middlebury. We are available by phone 24/7 at 802-388-4249.

Services

BROWN'S CONSTRUCTION renovations, interior/exterior painting, drywall, plumbing/electrical services. Fully insured w/ 30+ years of experience covering Northern Addison and Southern Chittenden, references available. Call 802-238-4864

Help Wanted

Services

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Help Wanted



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Full-Time Seasonal Position
Songadeewin of Keewaydin seeks a highly qualified, detail- and systems-oriented administrative assistant to run the camp office full time this summer. Songadeewin of Keewaydin is a summer camp for girls on Lake Dunmore in Salisbury, Vermont which specializes in wilderness canoe tripping, with a capacity of roughly 200 campers and a staff of 75. Proficiency required in Microsoft & Google Suite as well as ability to learn our camp database and organizational systems. Dates include training: July 10 - August 21, 2025. Salary, if commuting \$20/hour. Salary, if living on campus, \$475/wk with room and board provided. 75% tuition benefit for children to attend a Keewaydin camp.

To learn more about Songadeewin and Keewaydin, visit our website at www.keewaydin.org. To apply or to view a full job description, please send an email and your resume to Annette Franklin annette@keewaydin.org.

Services

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



Mountain Community Health Front Desk Receptionist

Are you friendly and outgoing and looking to make a great first impression? We have a new position available as a part-time Front Desk Receptionist. Supports daily clinic operations: greeting patients, answering phones, managing scheduling, and various tasks related to medical records, referrals and insurance verifications.

This position will be M-F afternoons - 20 hours/week. Some flexibility may be requested to support clinic/workflow needs and help cover vacation shifts.

Qualifications: High School Diploma or equivalent; Excellent customer service skills; Prior medical or dental office experience preferred; Excellent communication and organizational skills; Proficiency in MS Office, Outlook and Teams preferred.

Help deliver quality healthcare to our community!
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AGWAY

Nursery/Greenhouse Assistant

Now taking resumes and applications for immediate employment for an **IN SEASON up to 40 hrs/OFF SEASON 20+ hrs** per week position. Middlebury Agway is seeking an experienced, qualified and highly motivated individual to assist in a thriving retail plant sales department. Responsibilities include Care and Sales of Greenhouse and Nursery Plants, Seeds and Bulbs, plus a genuine interest in providing knowledgeable customer service. Extensive Plant knowledge is a must!

Any Cashier experience is a plus.
Qualified Candidate must have a dedicated work ethic and be able to perform physical lifting as required and work hard in the spring and summer seasons.
Excellent Perks including an Employee Discount and Flexible Schedule but ability to work weekends is also a must.

Please stop in to pick up an application or send Resume and References to:
Middlebury AGWAY Farm & Garden,
Attn: Jennifer Jacobs
338 Exchange St. Middlebury, VT 05753
or by email to info@middleburyagway.com

Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. – Middlebury, VT.

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Interested? Please contact Kristen Wilson, Human Resources Director today!
Kristen Wilson, SHRM-CP
Director of Human Resources
kwilson@achhh.org
802-388-7259

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Charter House Coalition Volunteers



Charter House Coalition is looking for volunteers to help with food donations, meal prep, deliveries, and serving meals in our dining room. We also train volunteers to take shifts in the shelter, providing general oversight of the home. In all these roles, our volunteers engage with clients in the long-time Charter House mantra of “neighbor helping neighbor”.



To learn more, visit:
chcvt.org/want-to-get-involved/volunteer



United Way of Addison County

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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: _____

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Or, submit your classified ad on our website: addisonindependent.com

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• Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Notices | <input type="checkbox"/> Work Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Att. Farmers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Card of Thanks | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personals | <input type="checkbox"/> For Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Cars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Meetings** | <input type="checkbox"/> Trucks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free** | <input type="checkbox"/> For Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> SUVs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lost 'N Found** | <input type="checkbox"/> Want to Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiles |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn & Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate | <input type="checkbox"/> Wanted |
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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!

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LARGE GARAGE SALE
Sat June 14th, 10-2. 1229 Main St, New Haven

SALISBURY GARAGE SALE

June 13 and 14, 9AM to 5PM. Furniture, antiques, household items, 4ft fluorescent bulbs, misc, and much more.

WHOLE HOUSE SALE

323 Foote St, Middlebury. Mostly all must go, lots and lots. July 4th, 5th, and 6th, 10am-3pm

Help Wanted

BREAKFAST SERVER- FULL TIME Swift House Inn in Middlebury is hiring a full-time breakfast server. Join our friendly, guest-focused team and help create a warm, welcoming morning experience. Early mornings and weekend availability required. Prior serving experience preferred but not necessary — we're happy to train the right person. Apply in person or email owner@swifthouseinn.com.

DENTAL HYGIENIST

Full Time or Part Time. David E. Congalton, DDS 106 Main Street, Vergennes. Dr. Congalton's office is seeking a full or part time dental hygienist. Excellent pay and full benefits. Please contact the office at drcongalton@yahoo.com for more information.

FRONT DESK AGENT/ CONCIERGE- FULL TIME

Swift House Inn is hiring a full-time front desk agent. This guest-facing role includes check-ins, reservations, and concierge services. Ideal candidates are detail-oriented, friendly, and comfortable with computers. Weekend availability required, prior hospitality experience a plus. Apply in person or email owner@swifthouseinn.com.

PART-TIME PERSONAL CARE assistant wanted to help 77 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 ellenresnik@gmail.com.

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porcelain green with glass door. \$1200 or best offer, must sell. Call 802-349-2918.

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5,000 SQUARE FEET

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advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

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in house in Addison. Bedroom, bathroom, living area with TV, and kitchen facilities with small refrigerator, microwave, toaster/oven, double burners. Access to laundry. \$700 month includes utilities, call 802-349-6312

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is currently taking wait-list applications for 2- br apartments. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply- rent based on income- 2 person minimum occupancy. Equal Housing Opportunity. Handicapped accessible. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

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Wanted

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RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT

Sales for 6/5/25 & 6/9/25

		COST	
BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$
K. Burt	1105	1.85	\$2044.25
Iroquois Acres	2115	1.70	\$3595.50
Spring Lake	1290	1.70	\$2193.00
Maoglafin	1500	1.60	\$2400.00
Conants	1430	1.50	\$2145.00
U. Pease	1235	1.40	\$1729.00
Nop Bros	1195	1.35	\$1613.25

		COST	
CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$
Sunderland	82	15.00	\$1230.00
Barnes Bros	74	15.00	\$1110.00
A. Brisson	93	14.00	\$1302.00
M. Rushton	91	13.10	\$1192.10
Savello	98	12.60	\$1234.80
Deer Valley	97	12.40	\$1202.80

Total Beef - 114

Total Calves - 233

We value our faithful customers.

Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.

call 1-802-388-2661

(1679) FARM EQUIPMENT ONLINE AUCTION

Auction Closes: Wednesday, June 25 @ 10AM

Preview: Monday, June 23 from 11AM-1PM



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OCCUPANTS OF: 384 Stove Pipe City Road, Panton, VT 05491

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

In accordance with the Judgment Order and Decree of Foreclosure entered October 22, 2024, in the above captioned action to foreclosure a mortgage given by Lois L. Wildasin, to CitiFinancial, Inc., dated September 29, 2005, and recorded with the Town of Panton Land Records in Volume 31, Page 470, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by an assignment from CFNA Receivables (MD), Inc. f/k/a CitiFinancial, Inc., to CitiFinancial Servicing LLC, dated January 13, 2017 and recorded with the Town of Panton Land Records in Volume 38, Page 513; by an assignment from CitiFinancial Servicing LLC, to Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, dated January 13, 2017 and recorded with the Town of Panton Land Records in Volume 38, Page 514; by an assignment from Community Loan Servicing LLC FKA Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the LB-Tiki V Trust, dated December 2, 2022 and recorded with the Town of Panton Land Records in Volume 41, Page 641; and by an assignment from U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the LB-Tiki V Trust to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee for LB-Dwelling Series V Trust, dated June 21, 2023 and recorded with the Town of Panton Land Records in Volume 41, Page 686, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 A.M. on the 23rd day of June 2025, at 384 Stove Pipe City Road, in Panton, Addison County, VT 05491, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

To wit:

ALL THAT CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND IN PANTON, ADDISON COUNTY, STATE OF VT, AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN VOLUME 25 PAGE 136 ID# 03-01-22-000, BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS BEING ALL AND THE SAME LAND AND PREMISES CONVEYED TO PAUL H. WILDASIN SR. AND MILDRED L. WILDASIN, HUSBAND AND WIFE, AND LOIS L. WILDASIN BY WARRANTY DEED OF PAUL H. WILDASIN SR. AND LOIS L. WILDASIN, DATED APRIL 4, 1982 AND OF RECORD IN THE PANTON LAND RECORDS AT VOL 19, PAGE(S) 3.

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED BY FEE SIMPLE DEED FROM PAUL H WILDASIN, SR. AND MILDRED L WILDASIN, HUSBAND AND WIFE AND LOIS L WILDASIN TO LOIS L WILDASIN BY QUIT CLAIM DEED DATED 09/26/1996 RECORDED ON 10/29/1996 IN VOLUME 25, PAGE 136 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 control.

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



Public Notices

can be found in this
ADDISON INDEPENDENT
on Pages 6B and 10B.

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT

ADDISON Unit

CIVIL DIVISION

Docket No. 24-CV-01364

HERITAGE FAMILY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION,

Plaintiff,

vs.

SOLANGE NYANDAMBYA MINYATI, SPAFFORD AND SONS and OCCUPANTS at 527 Main Street, Orwell, Vermont

Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue of the order for public sale contained in the Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure by Judicial Sale issued by this Court in favor of the Plaintiff, Heritage Family Federal Credit Union, dated August 2, 2024, the lands and premises which are the subject of this foreclosure action will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 a.m. on the 25th day of June, 2025, at 527 Main Street, Orwell, Vermont, County of Addison, and State of Vermont.

The sale shall be conducted by a sheriff or any licensed auctioneer. The property to be sold is all and singular the premises as described in a certain Mortgage Deed from Solange Nyandambya Minyati to Heritage Family Federal Credit Union and which was recorded in the Town of Orwell Land Records in Book 106 at Page 212. The lands and premises are more particularly described as follows:

“Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Maurice Minyati and Solange Minyati by Warranty Deed from Catherine S. Euber dated October 24, 2018 and recorded in Book 97 at Page 480 of the Town of Orwell Land Records and Quit Claim Deed from Maurice Minyati to Solange Minyati dated August 19, 2022 and recorded in Book 105 at Page 384 of the Town of Orwell Land Records and more particularly described as follows:

Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Gordon F. Euber and Catherine S. Euber by Warranty Deed of Florence A. Hadwen dated May 28, 1968 and recorded June 8, 1968 at Book 29, Page 532 of the Orwell Land Records and more particularly described as follows:

Being a parcel of land containing one acre, more or less, with buildings thereon situated on the southerly side of Main Street in Orwell Village, bounded on the North by the highway (Route 73, so-called); on the West in part by lands nor (sic) or formerly of Augustus Lamoureux, in part by lands now or formerly of Edith Munger and in part by lands now or formerly of Gerald Frazier; on the South by lands of said Gerald Frazier; and on the East by lands nor (sic) or formerly of Albert Peltier.

Meaning and intending to described and to convey hereby all and the same lands and premises conveyed to the Grantor, Florence A. Hadwen, by Julia H. Abell Gregory by her Warranty Deed dated August 31, 1964 and recorded in Book 29 at Page 444 of the land records of the Town of Orwell.

EXCEPTING the lands and premises conveyed by Catherine S. Euber to Patrick W. Halnon by Quitclaim Deed dated March 11, 2003, as recorded in Book 69, Page 351 of the Orwell Land Records and more particularly described as follows:

A strip of land approximately eighteen (18") wide and 260.85 feet long on the westerly border of lands owned by Catherine S. Euber and easterly of lands owned by Patrick Halnon all as depicted on a survey dated December 30, 1996 prepared by Michael R. Magoon and recorded in the Town of Orwell Land Records on January 12, 1997 as Map #136.

A more up-to-date description of the premises is as follows: Beginning at a concrete monument in the supposed right-of-way limit of Vermont Route 73 which point marks the North and Northwest corner of the premises herein described and the Northeast corner of premises now or formerly of Corey O. Buxton.

Thence proceeding on said right-of-way limit S 79° 09' 50" E 68.02 feet to a 5/8" inch reinforcement bar;

Thence turning and running on lands now or formerly of Desna Gail Jenkins S 09° 37' 00" W 259.15 feet to a 5/8" inch reinforcement bar;

Thence continuing on lands of said Jenkins and lands now or formerly of Theodore C. and Arnolda J.R. Michel S 09° 37' 00" W 113.00 feet to a 5/8" inch reinforcement bar;

Thence turning and running on lands now or formerly of Delbert C. and Bonita M. Frazier N 80° 23' 00" W 68.00 feet to a concrete monument;

Thence turning and running on lands now or formerly of Sheila A. Nichols N 09° 37' 00" E 113.00 feet to a concrete monument;

Thence continuing on lands now or formerly of Corey O. Buxton N 09° 37' 00" E 260.53 feet to the point and place of beginning.

Continuing by estimation 0.58 acres be the same more or less with buildings thereon.

The foregoing described premises are shown on a Survey entitled "Boundary Survey Plat property of Catherine S. Euber, 523-527 Main Street, Orwell, Vermont", prepared by Stuart J. Morrow, L.L.S. and recorded at Map #239 of the Orwell Land Records.

Also conveying the benefit of a drainage and cesspool easement as set forth in a deed from Martha E. Boynton to Warren S. Roberts recorded at Book 17, Page 216 of the Orwell Land Records.

Gordon F. Euber died on February 8, 1991." The Defendant Mortgagor shall be entitled to redeem the premises at any time prior to the sale by paying the full amount due under the Mortgage, together with the costs and expenses of sale.

TERMS OF SALE


The above-described property foreclosed by the Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure by Judicial Sale issued in this matter shall be sold to the highest bidder in "AS IS" condition and subject to all outstanding municipal assessments. The property shall be sold as a whole and not in parcels. The terms of the sale shall be cash, certified bank draft or official bank (treasurer's) check for the full amount of the purchase price. In the alternative, bidders may provide a Ten Thousand Dollar (\$10,000.00) down payment (by cash, certified bank draft or official bank (treasurer's check) with written evidence of bank financing acceptable to Plaintiff in its sole discretion, with closing to take place not later than ten (10) days from the date of confirmation of the sale by the Court. In the event that the high bidder fails to close for any reason, the Ten Thousand Dollar (\$10,000.00) down payment shall be forfeited to the Plaintiff, in which case Plaintiff in its sole discretion may then either proceed to re-auction at a second judicial sale or seek to amend the Confirmation Order to approve a sale to the second highest bidder. The high bidder may also be required to sign a Purchase and Sale Agreement.

The sale shall further be subject to confirmation by this Court at a hearing to be held at the Vermont Superior Court, Addison Unit. Custodian of the proceeds of the sale pending confirmation shall be Kupferer & Blake, Ltd. OTHER TERMS to be announced at the sale.

DATED at the City of Rutland, County of Rutland and State of Vermont, this 19th day of May, 2025.

KUPFERER & BLAKE, LTD.
By: /s/GARY R. KUPFERER
Gary R. Kupferer, Esquire
ERN #3547
Attorneys for the Plaintiff
25 Washington Street
Rutland, Vermont 05702
802-773-9109
kupferer@kupfererlaw.com

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ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT



More Help Wanted ads can be found on Page 9B.

ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison Independent

June 12, 2025



John Freidin, Louise Cadwell, Amy Panitz and William Sessions lean over the well-loved art table at Panitz's house on Weybridge Street. The four friends have an exhibit on view now through June at Village Wine & Coffee in Shelburne.

PHOTO / OLIVER PARINI

Three friends floated into Amy Panitz's home-studio on Weybridge Street on a Wednesday in May. It was the regular twice-monthly meeting time for these amateur artists to paint alongside one another, and get ready for the opening of their first exhibit at Village Wine & Coffee in Shelburne. But first...

BY ELSIE

LYNN PARINI

"We talk," Panitz said, looking around the room at William Sessions and Louise Cadwell, and remembering John Freidin (the fourth friend, who wasn't able to make the May meeting). "It always starts with interesting conversation, wouldn't you say?"

Nods all around.

"We are a book club, film club... we talk religion and politics... we cover it all!" said Panitz. "It's

part of what makes this wonderful."

The group came together four years ago at the suggestion of Freidin and Sessions.

"One day I ran into Bill and we got to chatting," Freidin said over the phone. "He said he paints a little and I told him I was looking for a group to paint with and would he be interested?"

"I said, well maybe," Sessions remembered, then he called Panitz to see if she would be willing to host. "And that's how it started... Then we recruited Louise two years later."

"Bill, Amy and I took a class with Kate Gridley two summers ago, and Amy and Bill said 'You should come paint with us,'" Cadwell recalled. "And I said, 'Well that's flattering.' So I started."

Now it's a habit. The four friends meet

diligently.

"What we find is because there's a group, we've gotten back into painting more," Sessions said. "If you're on your own there isn't that kind of social pressure."

"It's also the time," Panitz added. "We set aside the time.... I find group work not just gets me to paint, but gets me to do things differently than if I were doing it by myself."

"For me, it really coincided with my wanting to have my own creative practice," Cadwell explained. "It's not an art class. I have my own practice, but I'm going to be supported by a regular time and place and group of friends."

The meeting place at Panitz's home is convenient and cozy, filled with plenty of

SEE FRIENDS ON PAGE 2

CELEBRATE BLOOMSDAY with Vermont Book Shop and Shalom Goldman

WHEN: Monday, June 16, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
WHERE: Vermont Book Shop, Middlebury

Join the Bloomsday celebration with Middlebury College Pardon Tillinghast Professor of Religion Shalom Goldman as master of ceremonies on Monday, June 16, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., at Vermont Book Shop in Middlebury.

Taking its name from Leopold Bloom, the protagonist of James Joyce's 1922 novel "Ulysses" — the events of which occur over the course of Thursday, June 16, 1904 — Bloomsday is celebrated around the world with a variety of festivities, including readings, performances and lectures. The Monday event at VBS will consist of a brief tutorial on Joyce by Goldman, participant readings and interludes of Irish music. Hearty Irish soda bread and appropriate beverages will be provided.

Bloomsday has special significance this year, as book-banning campaigns gain momentum

SEE BLOOMS ON PAGE 15



JAMES JOYCE

FRIENDS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

convenient and cozy, filled with plenty of natural light, warm coffee and

stimulating conversation.

"There comes a time, when we say: OK, John, stop talking," Panitz said playfully. "Then it gets very quiet in here, and we get very focused... and then we get down to work."

Sessions and Freidin set up on easels with oil and water-based oils; Panitz and Cadwell use oil and watercolors and sit at a well-worn, art table that has moved with Panitz from Bennington to Manchester and finally to Middlebury, 10 years ago.

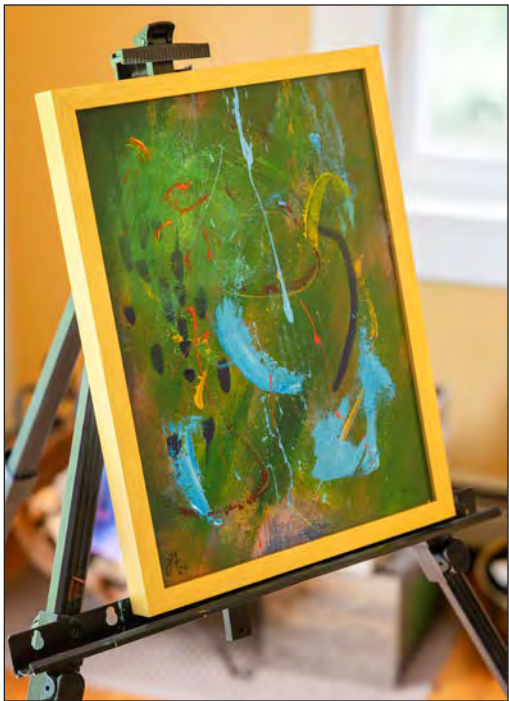
"We have totally different perspectives," Sessions described. "I like to say, I throw paint. And John's pretty wild — yeah, wild and abstract."

"As I go about my day, if I encounter something interesting I take a photograph," said Freidin. "I may use that as a taking off point in the studio... I paint some landscapes, but I'm not very literal. I do a log of very abstract stuff."

"I really have an aspiration to improve,"

**"FOR ME IT'S JUST THE
PROCESS OF PUTTING
PAINT ON THE CANVAS."**

— William Sessions



John Freidin's work sits on an easel.

Cadwell said, adding that she got started with oil classes in Bennington, and has since studied with Kate Gridley, Mary Lower and Susan Abbott. "I want my paintings to be more and more expansive and meaningful... Like Hannah Sessions's paintings — every time I look at them I'm transported — it is really a way of seeing that leads you to see something more deeply... that's what I'm after."

"For me it's just the process of putting paint on the canvas," Bill Sessions said simply. "I don't demand that I become better as an artist. I just love color, and I love to throw stuff at the canvas and have the color come out. I'm not so demanding on myself. It's just the experience... I find it totally absorbing."

On this particular day, Sessions began mixing his water-based oils, while standing

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

COME JOIN US!

GRAND OPENING JUNE 20 & 21

- ❁ Terrarium workshops
- ❁ Flower bar
- ❁ Wearable flowers
- ❁ Honey tastings by Ariel
- ❁ Meet our local vendors
- ❁ Surprise giveaways & more!

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THEFOURPILLARSFARMSTEAD.COM



William Sessions, Amy Panitz, John Freidin, Louise Cadwell and Mettow the dog pose in Panitz's home studio where the artists meet twice a month to paint together.



Louise Cadwell and Amy Panitz get to work with their detailed paintings.

PHOTOS / OLIVER PARINI

WHAT: Four Friends exhibit
WHEN: On view for the month of June
WHERE: Village Wine & Coffee, Shelburne

on large pieces of cardboard laid out over the floor. On his easel was a painting he was repeating from one he painted 55 years ago.

"I stopped painting for childrearing — so for 35 years I didn't paint," he explained. "I always loved this painting though, so I did it again. It hasn't changed much, except now I switched over to water-based (oils) because — I don't know if you've noticed... but I'm a mess. If I had oil-oils I'd be forever scrubbing my hands. Water based oils are fine... and you just wash it off."

"You might be a mess as a painter, but that's not your personality," said Panitz, who delicately worked on a piece with oils at the table. "You put so much paint on so fast. It takes me weeks to get as much paint on there."

"Yeah, and you're driving me nuts, just being so precise, oh my God!" Sessions laughed, and the banter continued.

Panitz is in good company with Cadwell —

who also likes precision and detail.

"I find that drawing something helps you pay attention," Cadwell said, flipping through a pocket sketchbook of drawings and paintings. "I just love this practice of spending even just 10 minutes looking at something — like these apple blossoms — I am absorbed in what I am seeing. A little book like this (with a tiny watercolor pack), that I can just throw in my bag or backpack and go."

The chatter quiets down and the artists' attention focuses on their work. Soon, it's time for this reporter to either leave or pick up a paintbrush.

Noted.

Want to see these four friends' finished artwork? Lucky for you there's a rare exhibit happening now through the end of the month at Village Wine & Coffee in Shelburne, where you can see the work from Panitz, Cadwell, Freidin and Sessions on display.

"We're amateurs, we're not professional painters so why would we feel brave enough to have a show?" Cadwell asked rhetorically. "Well, it was kind of why not? Also we will each donate proceeds from any sales to various causes... There are so many places that need money right now more than ever."

"I REALLY
HAVE AN
ASPRIATION
TO IMPROVE."

— Louise Cadwell

FROM THE ARTISTS:

WILLIAM SESSIONS

I first picked up a paint brush in 1967 at Middlebury College. I've been painting for about 55 years, but took 35 years off to raise my three super kids. I practiced law in Middlebury and have been a Federal judge for the past 30 years. Aside from raising kids, spending time with my grandkids, and hiking with my wife, one of my favorite things to do is to throw paint — and lots of it — onto a canvas.

AMY PANITZ

A retired middle school educator, I always incorporated art in my lesson planning to help bring history alive for my students. I majored in art at Middlebury. Since college, I studied at MICA (Maryland Institute College of Art) in Baltimore, with Robert Henry (a student of Hans Hoffmann), with Kate Gridley in Middlebury, and have done two residencies at the Vermont Studio Center in Johnson. Some of my art heroes are John Marin, Richard Diebenkorn, Alex Katz, and Joan Mitchell. My regular travels to New Mexico and Maine always inspire me to paint.

LOUISE CADWELL

I have been an arts educator for my whole working life. I am also an author, writing about an aesthetic and poetic approach to learning and life from Reggio Emilia, Italy. My mother loved art and took me to museums and painted with me from an early age. I have always kept a sketchbook journal and encouraged my family to do the same. In the last ten years, I have started to paint with oils. It is a joy to find a group of friends to paint alongside.

JOHN FREIDIN

Writing and words were my medium until 2013, when I participated in a two-hour painting class in the basement of the National Bank of Middlebury. Those two hours were so refreshing that I started to take classes — first with Mary Lower, then Janet Fredericks. Working with Janet was such fun that several of us, including Carol Calhoun, Sarah Ashe, and Ken Oboz, began painting monthly in Janet's studio. Ever since I've always found a way to paint with others rather than alone. I hope you enjoy what we've done.

The Dogteam Theatre blazes new trails this year

In association with Middlebury College, the Dogteam Theatre Project announces its 2025 Building Season with "Trailblazing!"

The Dogteam Theatre Project brings together college students and professional artists to create meaningful theatre through multidisciplinary workshops and productions. This summer's Building Season will culminate in a series of benefit readings and design presentations beginning Thursday, June 19 and continuing through Saturday, June 21.

Professional guest artists include director and playwright Gerard Watkins, playwright Sally Seitz '17, director Amanda Whitely '19, actors Pamela Gray and Fidel Vicioso, lighting designer Raquel Davis, stage manager Joel Cote, and translator Rose Cano.

All events are open to the public and held at the Seeler Studio Theater at the Mahaney Arts Center in Middlebury.

Trailblazing is presented as a benefit for the company with a suggested donation price of \$20 for the whole series, but your presence is more important than your money, so come either way, and contribute if you feel so inclined.

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, AT 7 P.M.
"Untitled Owl Play" by Sally Seitz '17
Directed by Amanda Whitely '19

Emily, Elena, and Becca are three friends in their late 20s who meet every Friday night on a back porch in Austin, TX to drown beers and avoid growing up. Yet their weekly ritual is jeopardized by a lurking, particularly vocal Barn owl, who calls into question the stability of their chosen



This year's Dogteam Theatre Project Company posed at the kickoff meeting at Seeler Studio Theater in the Mahaney Arts Center at Middlebury College. See their work beginning Thursday June 19.

COURTESY PHOTO

family. This play exists in that special time at night where reality brushes with myth, magic, fable, and faith.

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, AT 7 P.M.
"Voices" by Gerard Watkins (France)

Translated & Directed by Gerard Watkins
"Voices" is a haunting and lyrical exploration of the phenomenon of hearing voices — an experience as ancient as it is misunderstood. In a stark meeting room, Véronique steps into a gathering of young voice-hearers, embarking on a journey through the many voices of her life. As she listens — and speaks — trauma and aspiration, confusion and clarity, begin to intertwine. Voices blends poetic language, lived experience, and a touch of the surreal to examine the fluid boundaries between perception and reality, affliction

and insight. At the center of the group is a mysterious figure known only as The Voice, who challenges our assumptions and perceptions. As the meeting unfolds, the play becomes a tribute to the unheard and misunderstood—asking what these voices might reveal about our fractured world, and the deeper empathy we might find if we truly listen.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, AT 11 A.M.
"The Standard" by Emma Dobson '27
Directed by Elsa Marrian '25

It's 1924, and under the steaming Southern sun, secrets simmer. A husband vanishes, and five women must decide what silence truly costs. Gritty, lyrical, and unflinching, "The Standard" unearths buried truths of love, rage, and survival in a world that

SEE DOGTEAM ON PAGE 8

FANCY FRIDAYS



JESSICA'S
— AT —
SWIFT HOUSE INN

This weekly event at the Blue Bar at Jessica's is an upscale lounge featuring DJ Serena Kim, spinning eclectic tunes while resident mixologist Laura Fenn crafts creative and unique cocktails utilizing local ingredients and innovative flavor combinations. Fancy Fridays is for kicking off the weekend and unwinding with friends! Dress accordingly.

Dinner service starts at 5; the DJ goes on at 7. Though the restaurant stops serving at 8:30, you can still order nibbles. Music stops at 10 p.m.

CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH

with a concert at St Paul's in Vergennes

Celebrate Juneteenth (on June 19) at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Park St., Vergennes with a lunchtime organ recital beginning at 12:15 p.m.

Playing selections ranging from J.S. Bach to Florence Price, Charles Callahan to Calvin Taylor, the Organist and Music Director at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Middlebury, Robert Ludwig, will present the concert program. All are welcome to attend this free concert.



ROBERT LUDWIG

ART ON EXHIBIT

EDGEWATER AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury

For more info visit edgewatergallery.com, call 02-458-0098 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com.

"Pastoral Impressions," featuring the landscapes of local artist Joe Bolger. Bolger's paintings are characterized by his commitment to plein air painting, a practice that allows him to observe and depict the transient effects of light in real-time. Join an artist talk and brunch on Saturday, June 14, at 11 a.m., where Joe Bolger will share insights into his inspiration, artistic process, and painterly techniques. Coffee and light fare served. On view June 7-July 27.

EDGEWATER ON THE GREEN

6 Merchants Row, Middlebury

For more info visit edgewatergallery.com, call 02-989-7419 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com.

"Pools of Reverence," a solo exhibition featuring work by Rory Jackson. View the collection, meet the artist, enjoy live music and lite bites. This event is free and open to all. On view May 16-June 29.

K. GRANT FINE ART

37 Green St, Vergennes

For more info visit kgrantfineart.com.

"Signals," a group exhibition featuring works by Steve Budington, Grace Hager, David Kearns, JoAnne Lobotsky, Jennifer McCandless, and Aimée Papazian. On view May 3-June 21.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

72 Porter Field Road, Middlebury

For more info visit middlebury.edu/museum/exhibitions

"Series Without Limits: Photographs, Prints, and Film by Andy Warhol" presents Andy Warhol's artistic legacy through a selection of prints, photographs, and film to illuminate the complex tensions animated within his artistic practice. Warhol investigates how images function as currency within society. The selection of screenprint portraits on view reveal Warhol's fascination with fame and celebrity culture. On view May 23-Aug. 10.

PHOTOPLACE GALLERY

3 Park Street, Middlebury

For more info visit photoplacegallery.com.

"Dreams and Imagined Realities." Featuring photographs that embody the spirit of dreaming — images that are deeply personal, ethereal, mysterious, or even unsettling. These images capture the blurred line between reality and fiction, bringing forth the magic, wonder and complexity of the mind's eye. Juror Emma Powell (a Middlebury native!) selected approximately 35 images for exhibition in the Middlebury gallery, and 40 more for the online gallery. On view June 6 - June 27.

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 15

Cosmic Forecast

ARIES: March 21/April 20. Aries, the universe is giving you a chance to get in some rest and relaxation before you have to tackle your very long list of tasks. Soak it all up while the break lasts.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. Taurus, you value comfort and security, which is probably why you will want to revisit some of your investments over the next few days to figure out if you are maximizing your money.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. You excel at seeing both sides of a situation, Gemini. Follow your intuition as you try to navigate a tricky situation at work that requires you to make a firm decision.

CANCER: June 22/July 22. This is a great week to work behind the scenes, Cancer. Consider stepping back from any projects you had planned and let someone else take the lead for a little bit.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Don't try to cram too many experiences into this particular week, Leo. You may be disappointed by the results if you take on too much. It's best to spread everything out.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. Virgo, aim for balance right now. Everything may seem like it is up in the air, so if you focus on two or three important things in your life you can tackle them successfully.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. It isn't the job of someone else to make you happy, Libra. You have to figure out how to do that on your own.

A bit of conflict over miscommunication may arise this week.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Exercise caution if you are thinking of changing things up, Scorpio. People are used to routine and too much change at once can lead to a lot of floundering and lack of effort.

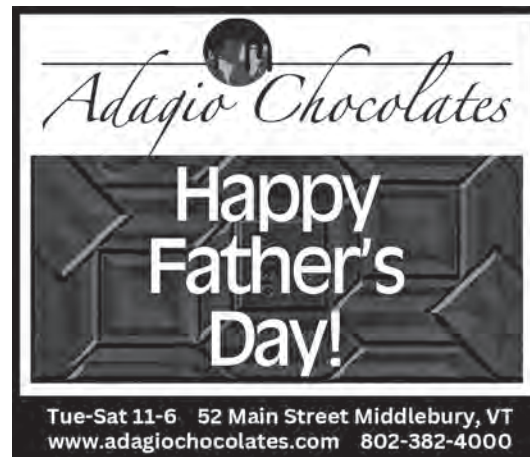
SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. Touch base with your dearest friends, Sagittarius, especially if they haven't heard from you in a long while. This might be the week to make some plans and reconnect.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Capricorn, spring cleaning has long passed, but you might want to revisit some organizing and decluttering projects at home. Get rid of as much as you can.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/Feb. 18. Aquarius, slowing down and taking stock of your situation is a good idea this week. Not everything needs to be done in a day, so pace

yourself and make a good plan of action.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. Try turning off all the excess noise in your life right now, Pisces. Focus on your own thoughts and feelings this week, rather than what others want from you.



FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

JUNE 13 — W. B. Yeats, poet (d)
JUNE 14 — Che Guevarra, revolutionary (d)
JUNE 15 — Josiah Henson, abolitionist (d)

JUNE 16 — Katharine Graham, publisher (d)
JUNE 17 — M.C. Escher, artist (d)
JUNE 18 — Paul McCartney, musician (83)
JUNE 19 — Lou Gehrig, baseball player (d)

CALENDAR

JUNE 12-20
2025



THURSDAY, JUNE 12
"A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, June 12, 1 p.m., Marquis Theater & Café, 65 Main St. Join Ilsley Public Library and Marquis Theater for a screening of this 1992 film, followed by a short discussion. A memoir of two very different brothers — one reserved, the other a hell-raiser — angling for the attention of their preacher father, who uses fly-fishing as a metaphor to teach his Cain and Abel offspring about life in early 20th-century Montana. As always, the popcorn is on us.

PUCCHINI'S "LA BOHÈME" IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, June 12, 7:30 p.m., Main Stage, Town Hall Theater, 76 Merchants Row. Join Opera Company of Middlebury for the timeless story of La Bohème. There have always been people who live on the fringes of society — artists, writers, musicians — who sacrifice much in pursuit of their art. All are welcome to a pre-performance talks in the new wing at THT one hour before each show. Non-alcoholic option available. Tickets and info at townhalltheater.org.

NEW MUSIC ON THE POINT CONCERT IN SALISBURY. Thursday, June 12, 7:30 p.m., Salisbury Meeting House, 853 Maple St. Hear world

premiere chamber works by our participating composers from around the world, performed by participant performers and the Bergamot Quartet, Popebama, pianist Adam Tendler, soprano Tony Arnold and many more. Presented by Point CounterPoint.

FRIDAY, JUNE 13
ATOM & THE ORBITS IN BRISTOL. Friday, June 13, 5-8 p.m., BCC Botanicals, 140 North St. Noah Hahn has spent the last decade playing in two-step bands from Vermont to Louisiana. Atom & the Orbits is the rocket ship he has assembled to launch those danceable rhythms in the form of two-minute old-school power pop songs a la Chuck Berry. Live, the Orbits blast off from the early rock 'n roll universe, expanding and exploring the outer reaches of what it means when they say, "Let's Rock!" More info at bristolcollaborativecampus.com/gathering#freshie-Friday.

PUSH TO THE PAVILION CONCERT IN VERGENNES. Friday, June 13, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Veterans Memorial Park, 43 East St. Live music featuring the Pavilion Rock Band, food (the good stuff: pizza, ice cream, beer) and prizes, including the chance to win outdoor furniture from Woodware.

HARD SCRABBLE IN NEW

HAVEN. Friday, June 13, 6-8 p.m., Lincoln Peak Vineyard, 142 River Rd. Free Live music at the vineyard featuring local musicians and food trucks. Bring a blanket and a friend and celebrate the weekend with Vermont wines and Vermont vibes. Food by La Chapina and wine available for purchase.

ART OPENING RECEPTION IN BRANDON. Friday, June 13, 7-8:30 p.m., Brandon Artists Guild, 7 Center St. An opening for works by artist David Munyak. Refreshments served.

PUCCHINI'S "GIANNI SCHICCHI" IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, June 13, 7:30 p.m., Anderson Studio, Town Hall Theater, 72 Merchants Row. Come experience the Opera Company of Middlebury Young Artist Program's fully-staged production of this one-act comedy sung by a talented group of 2025 Young Artists from around the country. Sung in Italian with English supertitles.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14
VERMONT DAYS WEEKEND, SATURDAY, JUNE 14, MOUNT INDEPENDENCE, CHIMNEY POINT, AND HUBBARDTON BATTLEFIELD STATE HISTORIC SITES. Free admission to all Vermont's state historic sites. Bring a kite to fly or try ours.

VERMONT FREE FISHING DAY. Saturday, June 14, around the

state. Designed for young or novice anglers and families, this event offers a variety of activities to participate in, including basic fishing instruction, fish biology and ID, crafts and lure making, and more. It also includes a chance for participants to catch big trout in a hatchery pond. No prior fishing experience is needed. Vermont Fish and Wildlife will supply fishing rods, reels and bait for use by participants. More info at vtfishandwildlife.org.

WILDLIFE WALK IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, June 14, 7 a.m., Otter View Park, intersection of Weybridge St. and Pulp Mill Bridge Rd. Otter Creek Audubon and the Middlebury Area Land Trust invite community members to help us survey birds and other wildlife at Otter View Park and the Hurd Grassland. Birders of all ages and abilities welcome. For more information, call 802-388-6019.

PLEIN AIR ART FESTIVAL IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, June 14, all day, locations around Middlebury. Sparrow Arts Supply invites all to join them for a choose-your-own-adventure weekend of outdoor art making. Whether you're a seasoned plein air painter or new to painting outside, this two-day festival is designed to inspire creativity in the great outdoors.

Middlebury will come alive with artists at scenic spots around town — parks, river overlooks, sidewalks, and gardens — capturing the beauty of Vermont on the spot. One Day Pass: \$35. Two Day Pass: \$50, artists age 15 and younger participate for free with registration. Spectators welcome. More info at sparrowartsupply.com/plein-air-festival.

AMPHIBIAN WALK IN THE WOODS IN THE BRISTOL. Saturday, June 14, 9 a.m. to noon Watershed northern section. Herpetologist Jim Andrews will lead this walk, where he hopes to find 5-6 species of amphibians, including the unusual four-toed and blue-spotted salamanders, in addition to one or two species of snake. Free. Sponsored by the New Haven Conservation Commission. Limit 20 people. Contact Marianne Eaton 802marianne@gmail.com.

ABENAKI HERITAGE WEEKEND IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, June 14, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. Join Vermont's Native American community for Abenaki Heritage Weekend and Arts Marketplace. Explore Abenaki perspectives on life in the Champlain Valley. Activities include storytelling, craft demonstrations, drumming, *CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE*

MCTV SCHEDULE Channels 1071 & 1091		MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY TELEVISION: P.O. Box 785, Middlebury, Vt. 05753		Please see the MCTV website, www.middleburycommunitytv.org, for changes in the schedule; MCTV events, classes and news; and to view many programs online. Submit listings to the above address, or call 802-388-3062.	
Channel 1071 Through the Night: Public Affairs From Around the State Friday, June 13 5 a.m. Press Conferences 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church Service 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church Service 5:30 p.m. Energy Week 6:30 p.m. The Talk 8 p.m. Vermont Media Exchange Saturday, June 14 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service 5:30 p.m. Eckankar 6 p.m. Memorial Day Ceremony 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. The Talk 9 p.m. Press Conferences 11 p.m. Energy Week Sunday, June 15 6 a.m. Energy Week 7 a.m. The Talk 9 a.m. Catholic Mass	11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Selectboard 4 p.m. Congregational Service 6:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Public Affairs Monday, June 16 4:30 a.m. Energy Week 5:30 a.m. Eckankar 6 a.m. Press Conferences 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 3:30 p.m. The Talk 6:30 p.m. ACSD Board Meeting 10 p.m. Chat with an Artist: Bob Greene Tuesday, June 17 5 a.m. Community Mindfulness 5:30 a.m. Tai Chi 6 a.m. Yoga 12 p.m. Our Schools: Meetings, Events 5:30 p.m. Tai Chi 6 p.m. Audio Book - The Belonger 8 p.m. Chat with an Artist: Kelly Hickey Wednesday, June 18 5 a.m. Tai Chi	6 a.m. Chair Yoga 7 a.m. Our Schools: Meetings, Events 2 p.m. The Garden 4 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 5 p.m. The Belonger 7 p.m. S. Burlington Community Choir 5 p.m. Press Conferences 7:30 p.m. Public Affairs Tuesday, June 17 7 a.m. Press Conferences 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard 4 p.m. Congregational Service 5:30 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Selectboard 11 p.m. The Talk Wednesday, June 18 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Selectboard 10 p.m. Energy Week Thursday, June 19 5 a.m. Press Conferences 8 a.m. Congregational Service	12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 6:30 p.m. The Talk 8 p.m. Energy Week 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. Selectboard Channel 1091 Friday, June 13 4 a.m. Tai Chi 6 a.m. Yoga 7:30 a.m. Gardens & Conservation 1:30 p.m. Mary Hogan Elem. Graduation 5 p.m. The Belonger 7 p.m. HCC Celebration of Learning 9 p.m. Bob Greene Saturday, June 14 4:30 a.m. Tai Chi 5 a.m. Chair Yoga 6 a.m. Gardening 8 a.m. Mary Hogan Graduation 10 a.m. HCC Celebration of Learning 12 p.m. MUMS Graduation 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. The Belonger 7:30 p.m. Art Talks	Sunday, June 15 5 a.m. Yoga 6 a.m. Kelly Hickey 7 a.m. Tai Chi 8 a.m. Gardens & Conservation 12 p.m. ACSD Board Meeting 4 p.m. Mary Hogan Graduation 6 a.m. HCC Celebration of Learning 8 p.m. MUMS Graduation 10 p.m. All Things LGBTQ Monday, June 16 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 a.m. Chair Yoga for Better Energy 7:30 a.m. Authors & Poets 12 p.m. Tai Chi 12:30 p.m. Chair Yoga 8:15 p.m. Authors & Poets Thursday, June 19 4:45 a.m. S. Burlington Community Chorus 6 a.m. Tai Chi 6:30 a.m. Chair Yoga 8 a.m. Gardens & Conservation 12 p.m. Our Schools: Meetings, Events 8 p.m. Book Talk	

singing, and more. Bring a picnic basket for your lunch. Free. Learn more at the abenakiart.org.

ELECTROSTATIC CATS IN BRANDON. Saturday, June 14, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Kennedy Park, off Center Street. Come hear a small band with a big sound. Free. Part of Bandon's Live at Kennedy Park series.

ARTIST TALK WITH JOE BOLGER IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, June 14, 11-12:30 p.m., Edgewater Gallery at the Falls, 1 Mill St. Free.

SHEEP AND WOOL DAY IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, June 14, noon-3 p.m., Rokeby Museum, 4334 Route 7. Live sheep, weaving demonstrations, food, live music, John Vincent (A Revolutionary Press) and his monotype printing press, and the Instrument Petting Zoo, presented by Vermont Folklife. Free. More info at 802-877-3406, rokeby.org.

LADIES DAY ON THE NEW HAVEN RIVER: INTRODUCTION TO FLY FISHING IN BRISTOL. Saturday, June 14, 1-4 p.m., Sycamore Park, Route 116. Learn the art of the cast, knots, flies and, of course, lots of water ecology and ethics. Try your hand at wading and catching that trout. Enjoy a fun afternoon and leave with new friends and a new favorite sport. Make sure to wear comfortable clothing for being outdoors. Waders will be provided. Register at tinyurl.com/LCMM-Ladies-fly-fishing.

PUCCINI'S "LA BOHÈME" IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, June 14, 2 p.m., Main Stage, Town Hall Theater, 76 Merchants Row. See June 12 listing.

"PAUL REVERE RESISTS" DRAMATIC READING IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, June 14, 2:30 p.m., St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, on the green. Indivisible Middlebury hosts this dramatic reading on No Kings Day. Written for Writers for Democratic Action and Based upon the classic Henry Wadsworth Longfellow poem "Paul Revere's Ride," the play runs around half an hour with audience discussion to follow taking up the critical question of rescuing our democracy. Directed by Rebecca Strum. Free.

NEW MUSIC ON THE POINT CONCERT IN SALISBURY. Saturday, June 14, 7:30 p.m., Salisbury Meeting House, 853 Maple St. Hear world premiere chamber works by our participating composers from

TOP PICK

SHEEP & WOOL DAY IS SATURDAY, JUNE 14, from 12-3 p.m., at Rokeby Museum in Ferrisburgh. Come for live music, live sheep, spinning and rug-hooking demonstrations, kid's crafts, and food. Food is for purchase from Samosa Man and Bangkok-to-Go. The Historic Robinson House will be open. Admission is free.

BTW, there's also free admission on Thursday, June 19, in celebration of Juneteenth.



Vermont's housing landscape can be unfair and exclusive. Kahlia Livingston and Jess Hyman of the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity discuss the roots of Vermont's lack of affordable housing and describe potential approaches to reduce housing discrimination. A Vermont Humanities Speakers Bureau Program. The meeting room at the back of the library, down Printer's Alley.

around the world, performed by participant performers and the Bergamot Quartet, Popebama, pianist Adam Tendler, soprano Tony Arnold and many more. Presented by Point CounterPoint.

SUNDAY, JUNE 15

VERMONT DAYS WEEKEND. Sunday, June 15, Mount Independence, Chimney Point, and Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Sites. See June 14 listing.

PLEIN AIR ART FESTIVAL IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, June 15, all day, locations around Middlebury. See June 14 listing.

ABENAKI HERITAGE WEEKEND IN FERRISBURGH. Sunday, June 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. See June 14 listing.

PUCCINI'S "GIANNI SCHICCHI" IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, June 15, 2 p.m., Anderson Studio, Town Hall Theater, 72 Merchants Row. See June 13 listing.

MONDAY, JUNE 16

FIBER ARTS CIRCLE IN STARKSBORO. Monday, June 16, 1-3 p.m., Starksboro Public Library, Route 116. Explore the world of fiber arts. Join us for a weekly gathering dedicated to the fiber arts. All fiber arts welcome. You do not need to be an expert to come knit, crochet, weave, embroider, sew or quilt with us. All levels welcome. Bring a friend or two and come learn a new stitch or technique and share your current projects! No registration required. Drop in anytime between 1 and 3 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 17

INTRODUCTION TO FLY FISHING IN FERRISBURGH. Tuesday, June 17, 1-3 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. Learn the basics of fly fishing in this

hands-on course designed for the beginner caster to the more advanced fly fisherperson. Learn about knots, rods, flies, and how to cast (or advance your cast). Make sure to wear comfortable clothing for being outdoors. Waders will be provided. Register at tinyurl.com/LCMM-Intro-to-fly-fishing.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

T KINGFISHER SUMMER BROWN BAG BOOK GROUP IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, June 18, noon, Mini Ilsley Library, 30 Main St. Join Renee for a different take on summer reading in this author study book group on T Kingfisher. This summer discussion series will explore Kingfisher's adult horror novellas, dark fantasy and YA fantasy. Bring your lunch and enjoy some stimulating conversation. We will have soft drinks and snacks. Stop at the circulation desk to pick up a copy of the book each month.

THE ALBANY SOUND IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, June 18, 5-8 p.m., The Tillerman, 1868 North 116 Rd. The Albany Sound is Lowell Thompson, Michael Chorney, Pat Melvin and Jeremy Fredrick. The band honed its sound, a rich combination of American country, folk and rock, with a weekly residency in Bristol. Thompson's songs make up the heart of the Albany Sound and complement their repertoire with renditions of rarities by Lucinda Williams, John Prine, Bobby Charles, Small Faces and others. Music is free. Food and beverages for purchase.

HOME: "GATHER" AND FAIR HOUSING IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, June 18, 6 p.m., NBM Meeting Room, Mini Ilsley Public Library, 30 Main St. In Ken Cadow's book "Gather," Ian loses his home through no fault of his own, illustrating how

BRISTOL TOWN BAND IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, June 18, 7-8:30 p.m., town green. Bristol Town Band is holding its 155th season of weekly summer band concerts. Rain location will be Holley Hall. All are welcome to join the band. More info at 802-281-2315.

THURSDAY, JUNE 19

VA ET VIENT IN STARKSBORO. Thursday, June 19, 6 p.m., Starksboro Pavilion, Starksboro Public Library, Route 116. Va-et-vient celebrates the many colors found in music from several French cultures. These musiciennes will take you through the centuries from France to Québec to New Orleans to the Caribbean with lively dance numbers, touching love songs, kickin' Cajun and Créole tunes, and rollicking Québécois favorites. Free.

"UNTITLED OWL PLAY" IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, June 19, 7 p.m., Seeler Studio Theatre, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Emily, Elena and Becca are three friends in their late twenties who meet every Friday night on a back porch in Austin, Texas, to drown beers and avoid growing up. The first of four productions of "Trailblazing," a benefit showcase of new work presented by the Dogteam Theatre Project. Suggested donation of \$20 for the whole series.

CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH IN VERGENNES. Thursday, June 19, 12:15 p.m., St. Paul's Episcopal

Church, Park St. This lunchtime organ recital will feature selections ranging from J.S. Bach to Florence Price, Charles Callahan to Calvin Taylor, all played by the Organist and Music Director at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Middlebury, Robert Ludwig. All are welcome to attend this free concert.

FRIDAY, JUNE 20

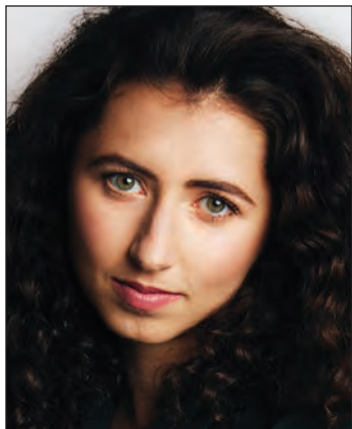
GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE/WALK IN CORNWALL. Friday, June 20, Lemon Fair Sculpture Park. Easy walk of under 2 miles to enjoy a diverse collection of sculptures spread over a large, sloping field with great views to the west. Open fields, with little elevation gain. Contact leader David Andrews at 802-388-4984 or vtrevda@yahoo.com for details. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

ANDRIANA & THE BANANAS IN BRISTOL. Friday, June 20, 5-8 p.m., BCC Botanicals, 140 North St. Armed with an expressive alto and a theatrical voice compared to the emotional depths of Rufus Wainwright and Sarah McLachlan, Andriana Chobot brings a genre-blurring blend of pop, indie-folk, rock and jazz to the stage. More info at bristolcollaborativecampus.com/gathering#freshie-Friday.

VA-ET-VIENT IN NEW HAVEN. Friday, June 20, 6-8 p.m., Lincoln Peak Vineyard, 142 River Rd. Free live music at the vineyard featuring local musicians and food trucks. Bring a blanket and a friend and celebrate the weekend with Vermont wines and Vermont vibes. Lincoln Peak Vineyard. Food by La Chapina and wine available for purchase.

AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT IN BRISTOL. Friday, June 20, 6 p.m., Lawrence Memorial Library. The Bristol library will host local author and journalist Kieran Mulvaney for a lecture and presentation on Mulvaney's latest publication, "Arctic Passages." Free and open to the public. Doors open at 5:45 p.m.

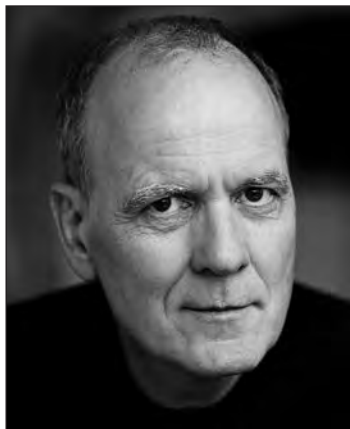
"VOICES" IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, June 20, 7 p.m., Seeler Studio Theatre, Mahaney Arts Center. This is a haunting and lyrical exploration of the phenomenon of hearing voices — an experience as ancient as it is misunderstood. The second of four productions of "Trailblazing," a benefit showcase of new work presented by the Dogteam Theatre Project. Suggested donation of \$20 for the whole series.



AMANDA WHITELEY



FIDEL VICIOSO



GERARD WATKINS



PAMELA GRAY



SALLY SEITZ

DOGTEAM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

expects women to endure.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, AT 7 P.M.
"The Journey of the Saint" by César De María (Peru)

Translated by Rose E. Cano
 Directed by Olga Sanchez Saltveit

A rollicking adventure filled with deception and mystery, told by a late 18th century Latin American traveling theatre troupe. Juan del Camino, a renowned Spanish actor is in crisis following the death of his wife. Tomaso Malaspina, the Italian master of theatrical special effects fleeing the Spanish Inquisition, arrives at Juan's door as if by miracle, providing Juan a new purpose for living. Together they embark on an adventure to cross the Atlantic to the New World, traversing into the heart of the Southern Cone bearing the remains of St. Fortunata to Moquegua, a small village in the Viceroyalty of Peru. Their encounters along the way, filled with wonder, mischief, and danger, challenge everything they believe, as they struggle to stay true in an era of revolution.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

GERARD WATKINS (PLAYWRIGHT, TRANSLATOR, AND DIRECTOR OF VOICES).

Watkins was born in London, and grew up in the U.S., Norway and France. He received his training at the Conservatoire National Supérieur d'Art Dramatique, has performed as an actor in over 40 productions, and was awarded the Prix du Syndicat de la Critique. International film credits include *Taken*, *Love Me If You Dare*, *Diving Bell and the Butterfly*, and *Largo Winch*. As a playwright he has written and directed over 13 productions and was twice awarded the Grand Prix de Littérature Dramatique. His plays have been translated in Spanish, German, Italian, Chinese, Romanian, Swedish, Serb, Portuguese, and English.

PAMELA GRAY (ACTOR, VOICES)

For almost three decades Pamela has made her living as an actress in theatre, television

and film. Gray has worked in over 30 theaters throughout the country including leading roles Broadway (including Present Laughter and Butley) and many Off Broadway productions in NYC. In television she has worked as a series regular as well as many guest star roles (including *The Sinner*, *Sons of Anarchy*, *Law & Order SVU*), and film (*The Wretched*, *Carbon Canyon*, *In the Orchard*, *Michael Clayton*, *The Devil's Advocate*).

Gray has written and directed for several streaming projects (*States of Horror*, *The Hot Take*, *Borderline Talent*), and she is currently on the faculty of San Francisco Film School where she teaches Acting for Directors. She received her MFA from the Yale School of Drama.

SALLY SEITZ '17 (PLAYWRIGHT, UNTITLED OWL PLAY)

Seitz is a screenwriter, playwright, and director originally from Nashville, Tenn. Seitz's dark comedy *Six Inches Above the Knee* is a 2025 O'Neill Finalist, The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival's 2025 recipient of the Mark Twain Prize for Comic Playwriting and an official selection for the 2025 The Lanford Wilson New American Play Festival. Currently, Seitz is commissioned by 20th Television (a Walt Disney Production Studio) to adapt *Six Inches Above the Knee* into a dark-comedy YA TV series as part of her first-place selection for the studio's inaugural Emerging Playwrights Initiative. Starting this fall, Seitz will join University of Pittsburgh's Film and Media Studies Program faculty as a professor of screenwriting. For seven years and counting, Seitz has been a part of the Austin Film Festival team. Seitz holds a BA from Middlebury College, an MFA in Dramatic Writing from Carnegie Mellon University's School of Drama and is a proud member of WGA East and the Dramatist Guild of America.

AMANDA WHITELEY (DIRECTOR, UNTITLED OWL PLAY)

Whitely is a director, producer, and photographer from North Jersey. An alumnus of Middlebury College, she is currently pursuing her MFA in Directing at Yale's David Geffen School of Drama as a part of the class

of 2027. New York credits include numerous productions with her site-specific theatre company, Spokehouse Productions, and collaborations with Red Bull Theater, Project Y, Mile Square Theatre and Mercury Store. As a filmmaker, Whitely also directs narrative music videos and works as a commercial producer. Later this summer she will be directing a Romanian production of Harold Pinter's *Betrayal* in Bucharest.

FIDEL VICIOSO (ACTOR, JOURNEY OF THE SAINT)

Vicioso is an American multi-hyphenate thespian griot, known for his gripping raw performances on *Blue Bloods*, *Chicago PD*, *FBI Most Wanted*, *The Blacklist*, and *Gotham*. With over 25 years as a working actor, Vicioso has dedicated his life to the arts, teaching, and community service. His journey began with rigorous training at HB Studios and the Stella Adler Conservatory, where he specialized in the Adler Technique, a profound method that continues to shape his approach to the craft. Before fully committing to the world of acting, Vicioso spent seven years as a rising baseball player in the Baseball Farm League, advancing through the ranks of Class A and Double A in the minor leagues. The discipline and teamwork from his sports training have deeply influenced his artistic endeavors.

The Dogteam Theatre Project provides transformative experiences for emerging and professional artists, creating meaningful theatrical engagements for diverse audiences. Among its programs, the Dogteam Theatre Project provides training opportunities for emerging theatre artists in all realms of the field, including but not limited to acting, directing, playwriting, and design disciplines. The Dogteam Theatre Project produces theatrical works, including works in translation, reflecting the stories of our more connected world. The Dogteam Theatre Project is helmed by Alex Draper & Olga Sanchez Saltveit (co-Artistic Directors), Todd Canedy (Production Designer, Company & Budget Manager), and Mark Evancho (Resident Designer). For more info on the company, visit dogteam.org.



ASK A MASTER GARDENER

ALL ABOUT VERMONT'S STATE FLOWER

Introduced to Vermont by European settlers, red clover has become an essential part of the state's landscape and identity. Designated as the state flower in 1894, this pinkish-purple bloom symbolizes Vermont's deep agricultural roots — particularly its dairy farming heritage — and serves as a living tribute to the land's rural character and economic lifeblood.

BY **NADIE**

VANZANDT

Originally from Asia Minor and southeastern Europe, red clover spread to the British Isles from Germany in the 1600s and was later transported to North America by English colonists.

Red clover (*Trifolium pratense*) is an herbaceous biennial or short-lived perennial belonging to the legume family. The plant typically grows erect stems with leaves composed of three leaflets, each including light-colored "V" shapes. Its pink to rosy-purple pom pom-like flower heads are dense oval or spherical clusters each consisting of up to 125 individual pea-shaped flowers.

Adaptable and relatively hardy, red clover thrives in U.S. Department of Agriculture hardiness zones 3 to 9. It prefers full sun and performs best when the temperatures are between 60-75 F though it can tolerate both cold and heat. While it favors well-drained

loamy soils, it can also grow in a variety of soil types, including those with poor drainage, provided it receives moderate moisture during its growing season.

Like other members of the legume family (which includes peas and beans), the roots of red clover develop nodules when in contact with beneficial soil bacteria known as rhizobia. They convert atmospheric nitrogen into a form that plants can use through a process called nitrogen fixation. This enriches the soil with nitrogen, an important macronutrient for plant health. Red clover can contribute 75-175 pounds of nitrogen per acre, an amount that underscores its value as a soil enhancer.

This nitrogen-fixing ability, combined with its fast growth, flexible planting schedule, tolerance for a variety of soil types and ability to break up compacted soils, makes red clover an exceptional cover crop. As the plant decomposes, it contributes organic matter that further improves soil structure and health.

To maximize nitrogen fixation, red clover seeds are often inoculated with *Rhizobium trifolii* bacteria and a sticking agent to encourage nodule formation. Inoculation is important in soils lacking sufficient populations of beneficial bacteria.

Red clover is typically direct seeded in the spring (April to May) or in the fall, assuming optimal moisture conditions. Fall planting should occur at least six weeks before the first frost to allow the plant enough time to establish.

Farmers use red clover in a variety of ways: as hay, forage in pastures, as a cover crop or as part of a crop rotation

RED CLOVER IS A MAGNET FOR POLLINATORS. MANY INSECTS ARE DRAWN TO ITS NUTRITIOUS POLLEN AND NECTAR.



Nadie VanZandt is a UVM Extension Master Gardener from Panton.



Red clover, the state flower of Vermont, is a versatile plant used for everything from cover cropping to culinary dishes.

PHOTO / COULEUR/PIXABAY

system to improve soil health and reduce the need for synthetic fertilizers. In addition to its agricultural benefits, red clover is a magnet for pollinators. Many insects are drawn to its nutritious pollen and nectar with bees and bumblebees serving as its most effective pollinators.

Red clover is also edible to humans. The mildly sweet flowers are the most palatable, often added to salads, soups, jellies and baked goods. The leaves can be eaten in salads or brewed into tea. The seed pods are typically reserved for animal feed.

Historically, red clover has been valued for its medicinal properties. Native Americans used red clover infusions to treat various illnesses and applied it as an ointment for venomous bites. Its healing reputation spans ancient traditions across the globe.

Brought by settlers and embraced by generations of farmers, red clover reflects Vermont's deep-rooted traditions and pride in its rural character. Its designation as the state flower honors both Vermont's agricultural history and its enduring connection to the land.

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Pets of the Week



Hi Holmes & Watson!

Dogs Holmes and Watson before their morning coffee.

Bruce Baylis
Weybridge



Pet of the WEEK

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

Welcoming Dr. Scott Sutor!

Dr. Anja Wurm and her team are excited to introduce **Dr. Scott Sutor**, a trusted veterinarian with nearly 30 years of experience, as the newest member of the Full Circle Home Veterinary Care team!

Dr. Sutor is now accepting new patients in **Middlebury, Cornwall, Weybridge, Brandon, and parts of New Haven and Bristol**

Dr. Anja Wurm will continue to see her current clients and be able to add a limited number in northern Addison County and Charlotte. **Skip the stress of traditional vet visits.** Our mobile service lets your pet stay relaxed at home—while you get compassionate, convenient care you can trust.

At-home euthanasia is the most important service we offer. We come to your home to offer our non-judgmental advice, empathy, and compassion. Ask about this final gift of service we offer.

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Pets In Need

HOMEBOUND

Addison County's Humane Society

Flint

Flint is a handsome, long-haired sweetheart who needs a little time to acclimate to a new home. Not much is known about his history, but he seems to have been an indoor/outdoor cat given his condition on arrival. Flint is the father of 3 teenage cats that were brought in with him and gets along with other cats.



Inky



Inky is a super affectionate girl who arrived as a stray. Her history is unknown, but she is super friendly and was clearly socialized. Inky has not gotten along with other cats, and we are unsure about dogs. Inky is FIV+ and would need to be an indoor-only cat. Positive cats typically have the same life expectancy as those who are negative

Sandy

Sandy is a sweet, gentle 3-year-old boy who came all the way from Florida on a transport. He comes when called and loves to be held and cuddled. He is shy with fast movements or loud noises, but is getting better and gets along great with other animals.



Tofu



Tofu is a lovable 1-year-old tabby kitten. Petite for her age, she makes up for her small size with a big personality! She loves pets, cuddles, making biscuits, and is just the sweetest little thing. One of her cutest quirks is that she likes to carry her cat toys around in her mouth when she plays. Tofu is truly full of affection, charm, and love; eagerly waiting to bring a lifetime of joy and companionship to a loving family.

Blue

Blue! Am I handsome or what? I'm a one-year-old, 79-pound lab mix. When I arrived at the shelter I had not been around many other dogs and was only used to a handful of my favorite people. Now, I've made many new friends amongst the staff! I used to live with a male dog and some cats, too. I love to play with toys and to lean in for hugs. I would be fine in a home with older children as I'm quite the shy guy. I'm housebroken and learning some leash walking skills.



Homeward Bound
Addison County's Humane Society



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236 Boardman Street | Middlebury, VT

WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT DOOR

Valley Players puts up first Shakespearean play in 46 years



The Valley Players will present "As You Like It," by William Shakespeare, Thursdays-Sundays, June 26-July 13 at the Valley Players Theater, 4254 Main Street (Route 100), Waitsfield. Show times are Thursdays-Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 4 p.m.

"As You Like It" is a romantic comedy set in the Forest of Arden, where characters discover love, identity, and forgiveness. Rosalind (Stefanie Seng, Waterbury), disguised as a boy, flees with her cousin, Celia (Kohl Comtess, Montpelier) and Touchstone, the court jester (Susan Loynd, Fayston) to escape her power-hunger aunt, Duchess Fredericka (Sarah Storjohann, Barre). In the forest, she encounters her love Orlando (Aric Brown, Middlesex), who loves her in return but doesn't recognize Rosilind in her disguise.

The story weaves together comedic misunderstandings, philosophical musings, and a love triangle, culminating in reconciliations, revealed identities, and multiple weddings, celebrating love's transformative power and the joy of self-discovery.

Other cast members include Paul Cavaliere (Montpelier), as Orlando's jealous brother, Oliver; Cynthia Seckler (Fayston) as Ada, Orlando's faithful servant; Lee Chasen (Hinesburg) as Duke Senior, Rosalind's exiled father; Fred Patchen (Winooski) as Jaques, a melancholy poet who lives in the woods; Bob Carmody (Charlotte) as Corin, a shepherd; Tye Martin (Warren), as Silvius the shepherd and Charles the wrestler; Azalea Hudson (Goshen)



TOP: Orlando (Aric Brown) gets lessons in 'wooing' from Rosalind (Stefanie Seng) who is in a male disguise. ABOVE: Disinherited Orlando (Aric Brown) wrestles the royal champion (Tye Martin) in a rehearsal for "As You Like It," playing June 26-July 13 at the Valley Players Theater in Waitsfield.

PHOTOS / WAYNE FAWBUSH

as Phoebe, who loves Rosalind in her disguise as a youth; Marci Robinson (Warren) as Audrey, who falls in love with Touchstone; AJ Brooks (Warren) as William, a rival for Audrey's affections and other characters; and Marie Schmulak (Warren), Mary Scripps (Charlotte), and Sarah McDougal (Warren) as courtiers in exile with the duke, pages, and singers.

This production marks the first time the Valley Players have produced a play by Shakespeare in their 46-year history. The play will be directed by local playwright and director, Jeanne Beckwith (Roxbury). Tickets are available in advance at theaterengine.com. For more information, go to valleyplayers.com.

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BRISTOL NEW LISTING!
38 NORTH STREET
MLS #5044881 | \$375,000
MULTI-FAMILY DUPLEX | 1894 SF | 0.14ACRES

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3 BD | 2 BA | 2152 SF | 0.23 ACRES

Highly desirable Middlebury location. Nicely sited with a stone patio and space to plant and play. Eat-in-kitchen, fireplace in living area, walk-up attic space, and a one-car detached garage.



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EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

ROKEBY MUSEUM

4334 Route 7,
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Rokeby.org or call
802-877-3406

"Inspired by Nature: The Women Artists of Rokeby," shares a small portion of the work made by Ann Stevens Robinson and her daughters Rachael Robinson Elmer and Mary Robinson Perkins. On view May 10-Oct. 12.

SHELDON MUSEUM

1 Park Street, Middlebury
For more info visit henrysheldonmuseum.org

"Artists in the House: An Exhibit & Silent Auction Fundraiser" brings together contemporary artists in Addison County in this 50/50 fundraiser and summer exhibit, which features over 30 works on display in the Museum's historic kitchen. To bid, visit henrysheldonmuseum.org/events/artists-in-the-house-fundraiser. On view May 21-Sept. 6.

"Finding Hope Within: Healing & Transformation Through the Making of Art Within the Carceral System," features works of art that have emerged through the carceral system in Vermont alongside historical artifacts from the collection of the Henry Sheldon Museum. These original artworks were curated by A Revolutionary Press and Vermont Works for Women for their "Finding Hope Within" traveling exhibit. On view May 21-Sept. 30.

"Material Narratives: Ornament & Identity."

Organized by students of Professor Erin Sassin's course at Middlebury College, this mini exhibition is the result of meticulous research and thoughtful curation, showcasing many unique treasures in the Sheldon Museum's collection. On view May 21-Oct. 31.

"Slow Seeing: A Close Observation Room."

In this room, you're invited to ssslllllllooooooowwwww doooooowwwwnnnnnnnn and really look. This is a space for immersive attention, close looking, and paying attention to the details. Take a seat, use the magnifying tools at hand and take the time to look. You are invited to draw, to dream, to write, to read, to think. On view May 21-Oct. 31.

"Stitching Memories: Daughters, Samplers, and Family Records."

The six samplers on

display in the Judd Harris House were all made by girls whose father or grandfather fought in the Revolutionary War. This local exhibit was curated by Middlebury College student Julia Breckenridge. On view May 21-Jan. 3.

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.

BLOOMS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

nationally and the Secretary of Defense has ordered the removal of scores of books from military academies. Perhaps we can take heart

from the Ulysses case of 1933, in which Random House sued the U.S. government to overturn its ban by customs censors on the grounds that it might cause American readers to harbor "impure and lustful thoughts." In a triumph of freedom of expression, Judge John M. Woolsey, who heard the case, declared that the novel was not only not obscene, but that it was a work of literary merit. It may be unusually frank, he said, "(but) if one does not wish to associate with such folks as Joyce describes, that is one's own choice."

Vermont Book Shop's Bloomsday event is free and open to all. Attendees are encouraged to participate by reading a favorite passage from Ulysses or a Joyce title of their choice, to play flute or fiddle, and to accessorize with a straw boater or a Joycean bowler.

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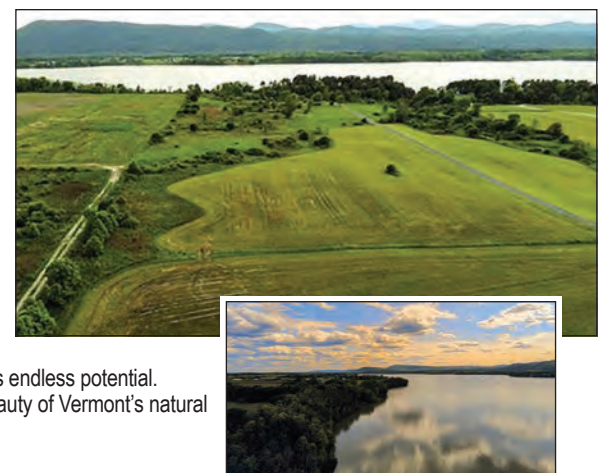


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ART ON EXHIBIT

Joe Bolger exhibits pastoral landscapes

In "Pastoral Impressions," local artist Joe Bolger presents a series of landscapes that capture the quiet beauty of rural life in Vermont. This new exhibit at Edgewater Gallery at the Falls, opened June 7 and will be on view through July 27, with an artist talk and brunch held June 14, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

In this latest body of work, Bolger pays homage to the American Impressionist traditions, experimenting with a bolder palette and larger-scale compositions. Bolger's paintings are characterized by his commitment to plein air painting, a practice that allows him to observe and depict the transient effects of light in real-time. Drawing inspiration from the Hudson River School and the Old Lyme Art Colony,

he focuses on the shifting warmth and coolness of the natural light as it dances across rolling fields and farmsteads. The result evokes a sense of tender nostalgia and joyful tranquility.

At the artist talk and brunch on the 14th, Bolger will share insights into his inspiration, artistic process, and painterly techniques. With decades of experience as an educator, including teaching at Middlebury Union High School, Bolger brings clarity and warmth to his discussions about art. Enjoy coffee and light fare as we delve into the world behind the brushstrokes.

For more information call 802-458-0098 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com.



"Morning Hay" (above) and "Middlebury Falls" (below) by Joe Bolger are on display at Edgewater Gallery at the Falls in Middlebury, June 7-July 27. The former MUHS educator will give a talk over brunch on June 14 at the gallery — free and open to all.



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