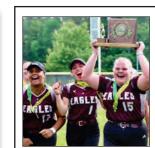


Paint the town

Sparrow Art Supply staged its first Plein Air Festival over the weekend in Middlebury. See Arts+Leisure



Eagles rule D2

The Mount Abe softball team worked extra innings to win a title on Saturday. See Page 1B.



Grads!

Area schools and their senior classes are celebrated in this year's salute to 2025 graduates.

ADDISON COUNTY

INDEPENDENT

Vol. 79 No. 25

Middlebury, Vermont ◆ Thursday, June 19, 2025 ◆ 76 Pages

\$2.00

Historic education bill passes

Many loose ends threaten legislation unless goals are met

By John Flowers, Marin Howell, and Vt. Digger

MONTPELIER— The Vermont Legislature on Monday passed the year's landmark education reform package, setting in motion years of transformation to the state's public school and property tax systems.

H.454 would radically alter Vermont's education funding and governance landscape over several years, consolidating school districts and shifting the balance of power over district budgets from the local to the state level.

Despite months of contentious debates and moments when the entire package looked bound for failure, the final vote was anticlimactic. House Speaker Jill Krowinski, D-Burlington, announced the vote the chamber was considering, and when no **SEN. HARDY** one immediately stood up

to begin debate, she called the vote by voice. That meant individual members did not have their position tallied, and no rank-and-



After the

'yeas' and 'nays' rang out, representatives appeared surprised by what they'd just done.

file members spoke for or

against the legislation on

the floor before the vote.

Rep. Troy Headrick, I-Burlington, stood up in disappointment.

"I'm a little shocked actually at the speed that that vote was called," he said.

Though the legislation proposes

generational change, the bill is replete with caveats and contingencies, requiring years of further work until the biggest transitions begin in 2028. Among the most significant moves, H.454 would start to create a new education funding formula, impose class-size minimums and reimagine income-sensitive property tax relief.

While Gov. Phil Scott has said the bill will save "hundreds of millions," the exact financial (See Education bill, Page 14A)

State pulls out of city juvenile center project

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES officials are backing off from their goal of siting in Vergennes a 14-bed locked detention and counseling center for teens with law enforcement involvement.

But it remains unclear what their plans are to establish a facility that the heads of the Department for Children and Families (DCF) and the Department of Buildings and Grounds and General Services

(BGS) have insisted — including during public forums held in Vergennes — is badly needed as a temporary stop for troubled Vermont youth on their way to more permanent placements.

What is certain is that in a July 12 email from BGS Commissioner Wanda Minoli to Vergennes Zoning Administrator David Austin and City Manager Ron Redmond, Minoli wrote BGS is no longer interested in

(See Center, Page 11A)

ACEDC gets boost in workforce development

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Economic development efforts in Addison County will receive a two-year turbocharge, thanks to a new partnership with the Vermont Department of Labor (DOL). The DOL will allocate a full-time worker to address local workforce shortages, connect priority populations with in-demand jobs, and support the long-term economic vitality of the county's employment hubs.

It's all part of the Workforce Expansion Program, which the Legislature created in 2022 as part of Act 183. The new law, among other things, promised funding for up to three "workforce expansion specialists" assigned to up to three different regions of the state.

The DOL earlier this year rolled out the Workforce Expansion Program as a pilot project, and invited applications from economic development organizations in all 14 of the state's counties.

The Addison County Development Economic Corporation (ACEDC) and the Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce submitted the winning (See ACECD, Page 15A)



Hello, all parents with children aged 18 years and younger: Free summer meals started on June 17 and will be offered through Aug. 15 at multiple sites in Addison County. No income eligibility requirement. The *Independent* provided an overview of the county's free meals programming last month. You can also find the (See By the way, Page 13A)

Index

Obituaries6A
Classifieds 10B-11B
Service Directory8B-9B
Entertainment Arts + Leisure
Community Calendar6B
Arts Calendar Arts + Leisure
Sports 1B-5B





PETER OXFORD OF Middlebury donned revolutionary war garb and with revolutionary zeal joined over 700 other protestors in Middlebury this past Saturday as part of the national No Kings rally. The protest signs, as below, spoke of the reasons millions of Americans across the country chose to protest President Trump's threats to the nation's democracy.

No kings

Thousands of Vermonters join national protests against Trump

By Alice Finno and Henry Fernandez, VtDigger

Vermonters turned out in force around the state Saturday as part of the nationwide "No Kings Day" protests, championing myriad causes but generally united behind opposing President Donald Trump. Washington, D.C.,

geared up for a military parade to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Army and celebrate Trump's 79th birthday, 1,800 events unfolded across the country to protest the Trump administration as part of the "No Kings Day" of national (See Protest, Page 11A)



Tela is mayor after dogged effort



TELA, A GOLDEN/LABRADOR retriever mix, puts her paw to contract for a one-year term as Middlebury's ceremonial mayor at her swearing-in on Monday. She'll spend the next year popping up at local events, spreading good cheer, and lending her support to animal-welfare initiatives.

Independent photo/John Flowers

Canine to be Middlebury's best friend

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury capped its canine campaign season late last week, and on Monday, June 16, swore in its first-ever "dog mayor" — a beautiful, sweet golden/labrador retriever mix named Tela (pronounced Tee-La) who'll spend the next year spreading good cheer, supporting human- and animal-friendly initiatives and showing unconditional loyalty to her constituents.

You know, the kind of stuff we expect from each of our 535 Congresspeople in D.C.

Truth be told, with the political polarity on the national stage, you'd probably have less chance of being bitten by Tela than by a U.S. House member these days.

Under the glare of a statewide paw-parazzi, Tela at her swearingin proved she'll literally work for kibble and belly scratches. Tela topped a field of four candidates for the ceremonial major's role, which was pitched as a Homeward Bound fundraiser and endorsed by the Middlebury selectboard.

Hannah Manley, Homeward Bound's development director, said Middlebury's dog mayor contest was inspired by a promotion/fundraiser similar that a Florida-based shelter had undertaken.

"(The idea) came at a time I was sitting at my desk wondering, 'How do we make a bigger splash for Homeward Bound in honor of (See Middlebury mayor, Page 13A)

Bristol hires new municipal executive

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — Bristol will have a new town administrator next month.

Town officials have chosen Gregory W. Faust to serve in the role, with an anticipated start date of July 28. Faust will succeed former Bristol town administrator Valerie Capels, who retired from the post this past December.

The selectboard voted to hire Faust at its June 2 meeting. Faust is in the process of moving from Phoenix to Vermont with his partner and their three dogs.

"What drew me to Bristol was the town and area's natural beauty, democratic values, and sense of community," Faust told the Independent. "I'm honored to serve the town of Bristol and look forward to working with the selectboard, staff, and residents to steward Bristol's growth with transparency, integrity and heart."

Faust holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing and a Master of Science in Industrial & Organizational Psychology, both from Grand Canyon University.

(See Faust, Page 16A)

Bristol mulls expanding its police district

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — Bristol residents in March could weigh in on whether to expand the Bristol Police Department's coverage area to include the entire town.

It's a question the town has previously taken up, with past committees and surveys exploring the potential of broadening the police department's service. The department currently serves about one square mile in the village area.

Interim Town Administrator and Selectboard Member Ian Albinson noted at a June 9 selectboard meeting that residents continue to bring up the matter, prompting town officials to add the question to next year's Town Meeting Day agenda.

Selectboard members at that meeting discussed what data needs to be compiled to inform future conversations and residents' understanding of the matter.

"Obviously it has implications for both residents that are in the district and outside the district, but we want to present as much information as possible," Albinson

(See Bristol police, Page 16A)

Midd housing project underway

First Stonecrop units to be ready later this summer

BY JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY multiple years of planning and permitting, the largest subdivision in Middlebury's history is quickly moving from two-dimensional drawings to vertical construction on a 30-acre site off Seminary Street Extension.

We're talking about Stonecrop Meadows, a new neighborhood that, when fully built, is projected to feature around 250 units of affordable, workforce and marketrate homes, both for sale and rent. Folks driving by the site lately have been seeing "phase one" of the subdivision take shape in real

Phase one involves 45 homes that will be built in three segments, according to Zeke Davisson, COO of Summit Properties, the developer of Stonecrop Meadows. phase-one modular structures are being constructed off-site by East Montpelier company Huntington Homes.

The first segment of phase one is a six-unit building that's already taken shape in the nascent neighborhood. All six of those units, sold through the Vermont Housing Finance Agency's (VHFA) Middle-Income Homeownership Program, are spoken for at this point and will be occupied by late summer.

The second segment will involve an additional 20 homes to be sited within the new road loop that serves Stonecrop.

"Those homes will begin to drop in September, or maybe the first week in October, through next February," Davisson said. "From when they're dropped, to when they can be sold, will be two or three months."

The third and final segment of phase one will consist of 19 homes, to drop from May-October of 2026. Those units will be for sale during the second half of next year.

Of the 45 units in phase one, 37 will be priced for middle-income households, eight will be sold at market rate.

To qualify for a middle-income unit, a buyer must earn no more than 150% of the county's household median income — a stat that gets updated each April. So those who reserved one of the first six Stonecrop units last year met a not-to-exceed household income level of \$165,000. That threshold



THIS SIX-UNIT building is the first of many that will make up the Stonecrop Meadows subdivision off Seminary Street Extension in Middlebury. Work is underway on the first 45 units of the planned 250-home

Independent photo/Steve James

— due to income raises for some far emerged largely unscathed, folks — has increased this year to \$174,000, which will govern the sale of each of the 20 homes in the second segment of phase one, according to Davisson.

As of this writing, 16 of the 20 homes that will made up the second segment of phase one have already been reserved, Davisson noted.

Groundwork for the new domiciles was laid this past winter, when work crews began laying in Stonecrop's infrastructure, including roads, sidewalks, curbs, municipal water and sewer line extensions, and stormwater treatment.

"The cold winter was great for that," Davisson said. "The frost was deep enough that it kept the ground stabilized ... As we entered 'mud season,' the site was stabilized enough that we could get that building site ready and concrete poured to receive the modulars."

Housing development has become more challenging during the Trump Administration, which has imposed tariffs and is proposing significant cuts to, among other things, the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Community Development Block Grant program.

Fortunately, Stonecrop has thus

according to Davisson.

"Prices are going up, but through our lessons learned, through value engineering, through the flexibility and good faith of our partners, it's staying pretty good," he said of Stonecrop's financing plan, which has benefitted from significant state and federal grants — including American Rescue Plan Act funds.

"The history arc of a project is long, and ours started early enough that there was still enough ARPA funding — and before the funding cutbacks and pull-backs — that our project has been insulated from that," Davisson added.

As for tariffs: "We've been pleasantly surprised. We haven't had any tariff impacts yet; with some of our federal funding to build infrastructure, we had an American-made iron and steel requirement anyway. I think there have been some iron and steel price increases since the tariffs, but we were sourcing domestically already, so that was figured into our pricing.'

Summit is already looking beyond phase one.

Workers last week broke ground on a 35-unit, mixed-income, multi-family rental building, which will be stick-built, as opposed to modular. Davisson is anticipating a 12- to 14-month construction period, with those units available for rent during the summer of 2026.

Who's signed up for the phase one homes?

Middlebury-based IPJ Real Estate is handling Stonecrop marketing/sales. Sarah Peluso is a broker at the agency who's been fielding inquiries from buyers. She confirmed there's been strong interest in the units and offered insights into the categories of buyers who've stepped up.

"It's a nice mix of ages and situations," Peluso said. "We have some first-time homebuyers who've been patiently waiting on the market for something that's somewhat affordable; having something brand new doesn't exist in our area right now. There are also folks who are downsizing who own a (large) home and are looking for less maintenance."

With few exceptions, those committing to the phase one units intend to use them as their primary residence — which is a requirement for those receiving assistance through the VHFA, Peluso said.

John Flowers is at johnf@ addisonindependent.com.



Outdoor space coming for Bristol library

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — Bristol's Lawrence Memorial Library sees a lot of community members come through its doors in the summer months. Now, those patrons will have another space at the library to hang out

The LML team is in the process of creating a revitalized outdoor space in the library's backyard, which will include a new pavilion to host events and allow patrons to read or work outdoors.

"Part of the motivation for creating this outdoor space here at the library is that we have a really well-loved and well-used library, and we have capacity needs we really need to address," Library Director Katie Male-Riordan told the Independent. "Programming has flourished here at the library over the last two years, and so one of the ways ... to help build capacity is to ... extend our footprint to the (backyard) area we have here."

Male-Riordan said the library's programming reaches about 4,000 individuals throughout the year, with LML seeing about half of those people attend activities throughout the summer.

LML has previously held some of its activities outside, using a large tent. Male-Riordan noted using a tent created maintenance challenges, and the new space will offer a lower maintenance option for outdoor programming.

The revamped outdoor space will feature an 18-by-20-foot covered pavilion with a wooden floor. The pavilion will sit on a gravel pad in the backyard. The spot will also contain chairs and tables, as well as shade sails to make it cooler on hot summer days. A three-foot privacy fence will surround most of the area.

The library this past October received \$50,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funds from the town of Bristol to put toward the project.

Male-Riordan said the outdoor space could host activities like Thursday morning story times and early literacy programs, as well as events like lecture series or community poetry nights.

"There's just something about being able to get outside and connect in the natural world that I think is something the community and staff are excited about," she said.

Male-Riordan noted there are other ways patrons could use the space, such as working outside in the pavilion.

"It's expanding our footprint, and I think it's also thinking about the ways that people might approach that space," she said.

Efforts are underway to get the space ready by later this summer. LML Board of Trustees Chair Scott Kluever said the pavilion is about six weeks out from being built, so the space could be completed by late July or early August.

He said the LML team is excited to see the revitalized space come

Kluever recalled recently coming across a young resident reading on the bench in front of the Bristol library. It was raining lightly that day, but he said the child was immersed in the book and undeterred

"I was like, 'come back in about three months, and we're going to have a perfect space for you back there," he said.

Wet weather paves way for mosquitos

By MARIN HOWELL

ADDISON COUNTY There's at least one group of Addison County residents that's enjoyed all of the rainy weather the region has seen this spring mosquitos.

Such precipitation helps create the pools of stagnant water that mosquitos rely on for breeding.

"The 23 days of rain in May gave the mosquitos a head start. Jeffrey Schumann, Chair of the Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District (OCWICD) Board of Trustees, told the Independent. "We couldn't do a whole lot of treating and (the weather) created perfect breeding conditions for them.'

The insect control district serves the towns of Brandon, Leicester. Salisbury, Goshen, Pittsford and Proctor. OCWICD uses various methods to manage the mosquito population in its member towns, including applying adulticide and larvicide. The approach it uses is known as Integrated Pest Management, which the USDA states is a "science-based decision-making process that combines tools and strategies to

identify and manage pests.'

Schumann noted that all treatment is based on surveillance. According to the OCWICD website, the district can only spray in an area once its "surveillance and insect trapping shows that established adult mosquito population thresholds have been met." Weather conditions (such as rain and wind) must also allow for treatment

Schumann said the insect control district has so far been able to go out and do treatments at night when needed. He noted the OCWICD has a new team this year, including two college interns, an applications supervisor, an entomology lab supervisor and seven applicators.

"We've got a brand new group of people. They're enthusiastic, they're working hard, they're out there doing the best they can each day," he said. "I'm just really impressed with how they've really acclimated to the work and the passion they're bringing to the job."

DRONE SERVICE

(See Mosquitos, Page 3A)

MEMBER DEALS





Buy one, get one free Vegetable, herb and flowering annual starts!

> *some exclusions apply, while supplies last.

1329 Lapham Bay Rd. | Shoreham, VT 802-897-7031 | GoldenRussetFarm.com





(excludes alcohol) (minimum purchase \$3.00) (Expires Wednesday, 6/25/25)

9 Washington St | 802.388.7276 middlebury.coop

CO-OP WEEKLY SALE 6/18-6/24

cop basi¢s LOCAL-

fresh deals





Cracked Wheat

everyday low price!



Members Take an Extra



Scan the QR code or see the Fresh Deals flyer in the store!

Jun 18 - Jun 24

Porter celebrates 100 years

BY JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — There was no giant cake bearing 100 candles (there were cupcakes), but one really wasn't needed for Saturday's centennial birthday party for Middlebury's Porter Medical Center.

Top officials representing PMC, University of Vermont Health Network, the state Legislature and the county's many emergency response, mental health and human services agencies were on hand to help celebrate the import of Addison County's health care hub.

Turnout was somewhat lighter than expected on what was the first wall-to-wall sunny Saturday since March. There were several competing events of interest, including the funeral service for former Middlebury Selectman John Tenny and a No Kings Day rally that drew an estimated 2,500 protesters to Leicester, Salisbury, Middlebury, Haven, Vergennes, Ferrisburgh and Brandon.

But a steady stream of PMC stakeholders and community members wandered through the Porter campus, drinking in various exhibits charting the institution's birth and maturation from 1925 to

Among the keynote speakers for Saturday's party were Sunny Eappen, president and CEO of UVMHN; Bob Ortmyer, Porter's president and COO; state Sen. Ruth Hardy, D-Middlebury; and David

executive vice president of finance and administration.

"It truly is a remarkable moment, standing here today, celebrating the vision William Henry Porter and Middlebury College had over a century ago," Ortmyer said. "We wanted to create a model facility in rural Vermont where healing and health care innovation would thrive. Over the years, Porter has thrived and expanded to help meet the needs of this region, expanding access to services as our community changes."

Hardy read the text of a Senate concurrent resolution (tinyurl.com/



MIDDLEBURY College's executive vice president of finance and administration, serenades Porter Center and its workers at the health care hub's 100th birthday party this past Saturday.

Provost, Middlebury College's bddztbvh) commemorating PMC's centennial, a legislative shout-out endorsed by the county's entire delegation.

The resolution notes the hospital's humble beginnings following a \$118,000 seed gift in 1923 from Middlebury College Trustee and banker William Henry Porter "on the tract of land where the family farm of his youth was located" off South Street. The hospital opened on June 15, 1925.

Fast-forward to today: PMC has evolved into a modern medical complex, featuring 25 acute-care beds; a 105-bed Helen Porter Rehabilitation & Nursing facility; and around a dozen affiliated physicians' practices. The hospital includes a full-service birthing center; emergency, infusion, surgical, and urgent care services; and an ExpressCare clinic.

Hardy, a member of the Senate Finance Committee, noted PMC is an outlier within a Vermont health care system that some might argue is on life support.

"The healthiest hospital in the state, the one that's doing the absolute best job of any hospital in the state, is Porter Hospital," she said to applause. "I'm incredibly proud to represent Porter Hospital and the community you all serve." Provost regaled onlookers with

"happy birthday" song salute to

"During the 1920s, it was clear to the college that the college wasn't going to exist for another



Among those present at Porter Medical Center's June 14 birthday bash were, (L-R), Kim Farnham, chair of the PMC Board of Trustees; Porter President Robert Ortmyer; Linda Havey, PMC's chief nursing officer; Sunny Eapen, president and CEO of the University of Vermont Health Network; David Provost, Middlebury College's executive vice president of finance and administration; and state Sen. Ruth Hardy, D-Middlebury. Photo courtesy of PMC

100 years if we didn't have strong health care," he said. "The college knew for it to continue to be strong, it was critical that we find a partnership that provided health services to the community."

Addressing PMC officials, he said, "I want to recognize that you've delivered our children, you've helped us through difficult health times and you've been here as s staple of this community. Middlebury College will always be your partner."

He pointed out substantial financial investments the college has recently made in local child care (the Otter Creek Child Care without a robust, healthy health care

expansion on Weybridge Street) and housing (Stonecrop Meadows).

"Childcare, health care, education, housing — that's where Middlebury College is committed, that's where our board is standing, before us and behind us," Provost said.

Eapen emphasized PMC has been able to survive and thrive for the past 100 years largely because of community support.

"As I look ahead, health care is going through a lot of changes. The one thing I want to leave all of you with is the confidence that Porter and UVMHN system is totally committed to this community ... We know that

system to be able to support the businesses, students, professors who live here, our community won't be able to thrive."

"Community" was indeed the most oft-invoked word by Saturday's speakers.

"There are so many lives that have been touched by Porter this past century, from the newborns who took their first breaths here, to the elderly who took comfort in their last days," Ortmyer said. "Each story is a testament to the profound impact that we have on this community.'

John Flowers is at johnf@ addisonindependent.com.

City tweaks plan to allow more housing

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES Vergennes City Council on May 27 unanimously approved three changes to the Vergennes municipal plan, two of which are intended to pave the way for zoning changes that would allow housing in the city's Commercial zoning district and permit shops in the city's central Historic Neighborhood district.

The changes came on the recommendation of the Vergennes Planning Commission, which forwarded them to the city council earlier this year after planners conducted a process that included a public hearing.

The council also held two hearings, one in February and one in May. Those produced only one person's spoken testimony. In the first hearing Mel Hawley said he was concerned that Historic Neighborhood zone residents might not be aware of impending plan and zoning changes that could affect

Hawley also said he was also concerned that if too many people lived in a commercial area they might also eventually want to unduly influence commercial activity, and that he believed the proposed retail component was not a good fit for the city's oldest neighborhoods.

The Commercial District has three components, the largest in the city's northeast quadrant. It includes the Shaw's Supermarket and Kinney Drug Store plaza. The next largest area runs along the south side of New Haven Road nearest the city center and includes the Big Barn Furniture Center, a Laundromat and a car wash. The third and smallest is along the north side of Monkton Road nearest Main Street. A bank is its most prominent

The Historic Neighborhood district generally runs south from the city's downtown along East,

Planning Commission Chair Shannon Haggett told the council in February that planners discussed the housing shortage among themselves and were also influenced by an early 2024 "Community Conversation on Housing" in which many pointed to the need for more — and more affordable — residential options in Vergennes. He mentioned the Big Barn Furniture Store and its land as an example of a property that is zoned commercial, but that in the future could possibly also support residential units.

Haggett also told the *Independent* last week that planners believe the type of neighborhood retail businesses they envisioned would fit into historic neighborhood development patterns.

Any community's zoning must be supported by its municipal plan. The May 27 council vote paves the way for planners to rewrite zoning in the two districts to (See City Plan, Page 7A)

Mosquitos

(Continued from Page 2A)

The OWICD and the nearby Lemon Fair Control District are also exploring the use of drones to distribute larvicide. The Lemon Fair Control District, LFICD, serves the towns of Bridport, Cornwall and Weybridge.

drones); it's certainly

going to be more cost

Craig Zondag is the Field Coordinator/ **Biologist** for LFICD. He said both districts have "We're excited about been looking into that opportunity (using hiring CNY Drone Services this season.

"The drone will be used to broadcast a helicopter can be." the Bti (Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis) granules over identified areas

where mosquito larvae are most concentrated," he said. "There has not been a time recommended for a treatment yet this season. It's all weather dependent."

Like the OCWICD, the Lemon Fair Insect Control District uses an integrated pest management approach to control the area's population mosquito necessary. Like Schumann, Zondag said the wet weather gave

mosquitos a boost. "An early spring hatch got away on us due to fluctuating high water flood lines," he said. "Hatches depend upon sustained puddling conditions. We have witnessed on numerous occasions when a hatch of mosquito larvae is present in the floodplain and within a few days the floodplain dries down and the larvae

stonecdjr.com

die in the mud or tall grasses."

"It generally takes 4-7 days for a mosquito egg to hatch and go through its four instar stages of development and pupate to become an adult mosquito," he explained, adding the wet conditions this spring were ideal conditions for hatches.

control districts noted a Vermontbased applicator is also in the process of getting certified and could provide effective, and it's going another to be more precise than service option for the districts.

The

insect

drone

in

Using the drone — Jeffrey Schumann, OCWICD chair service help address some challenges

> distributing larvicide. In a mosquito season update included in this edition of the Independent, Zondag notes that the LFICD has previously relied on a helicopter service if it had a large area to treat.

"They required a 1000-acre minimum treatment area before they would come up. Rarely, would 1000 acres 'light up' with mosquito larvae at the same time," he wrote. "As of this year, we are poised to be at our Best Management Practice (BMP) for the season. We've connected with a drone service that will treat up to 250 acres at a time. This will afford us to 'stamp out fires' of mosquito hatches."

Schumann shared a similar sentiment, noting that the drone service will allow the OCWICD to cover more area in a day and distribute larvicide in tougher

"We're excited about that opportunity; it's certainly going to be more cost effective, and it's going to be more precise than a helicopter can be," he said.

IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD

Local insect management officials noted there are some steps residents can take to reduce mosquito populations and protect themselves on their properties.

Zondag and Schumann both pointed to the use of Mosquito Dunks, which use a "naturallyoccurring type of bacteria" to manage mosquitos.

"If you know you've got a spot that's going to get wet and pool, you can put a dunk there,' Schumann said.

Zondag outlined how Mosquito Dunks work to control insects in his mosquito season update.

"Dunks will also target Black Flies, but all other aquatic invertebrates don't seem to be affected by the bacterium," he wrote. "You can purchase these Dunks at most farm stores. Remember, always read the label for ways in which this product can be used."

Zondag and Schumann both emphasized the importance of minimizing mosquito breeding habitats.

"The general population can do a lot on their own — elimination of standing water, period," Schumann said. "You've got to find the standing water and you've got to get rid of it because that's where they want to breed."

Green, and South Maple and South reflect the amended plan. Haggett City council backs civil rights

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — Vergennes joined at least five other Vermont communities last week when the city council adopted a resolution supporting Constitutional rights — notably those of "Due Process and Equal Protection" found in the U.S. Constitution's Fifth and 14th Amendments — for all those who live in the United States.

Specifically, the resolution states the council "opposes any unconstitutional policies or actions — local, state, or federal — which target persons based on who they

WWW.GSTONEMOTORS.COM

are, where they come from, or what practiced since President Trump they believe in."

The council took that action in a current climate in which many who live in the nation, with or without documentation, have been arrested, detained and even deported without treatment demanded by U.S. law. The resolution demands that law enforcement agents have warrants and provide explanations for arrests, provide access to counsel for those arrested, and offer explanations of legal rights to detainees.

The resolution specifically refers to "government overreach" as

came to power this past January, and the danger of it escalating further.

Councilor Mark Koenig wrote and brought the resolution to the council table, saying he had modeled it after the document was recently adopted by the Rutland City Council. Other Vermont communities that have adopted similar resolutions include Bennington, Shaftsbury, Wallingford and Brandon.

There was some discussion before adoption. Resident Mel Hawley suggested some language was too

(See Civil rights, Page 7A)

Addison County's Hometown Dealer



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

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



ADDISON INDEPENDENT

Editorial

Protestors reclaim the flag and its patriotic message

The signs told much of the No Kings story.

"No Fascism, No Kings." "In this Nation the Law is King!" "Stop Ice, Deport Ignorance." "Resist." "No America without the Rule of Law." "Fox News Lies To Us." "Hands Off Our Freedom." "Democracy not Dictatorship.'

Over 40,000 Vermonters took part in dozens of events statewide, with 16,000 gathered at the largest demonstration on Burlington's lakefront. Millions more participated in events in every state in America.

The theme was uniform. Trump's dramatic, and often illegal and unconstitutional, efforts to consolidate power in the past five months are a threat to the nation's democracy. Trump has disobeyed, disregarded or delayed court orders, even from the Supreme Court, with blithe contempt for any restriction on his executive power. Moreover, his callous disregard for the lives of Americans he threatens to deport, insult, dismiss or mock, is shockingly cruel — unlike any president's behavior in our lifetimes.

His orders to have hooded and masked law enforcement officers arrest people off the streets and deport them, sometimes handcuffing frightened women and shoving them forcefully into unmarked cars and hauling them off to isolated prisons without due process, is the stuff of third world dictators. Americans are shocked at the country we've become under Trump's misguided, and increasingly unpopular, second term.

The signs made their disgust for Trump and his administration plain. "We the People Say, Oh Hell No!" "Trump is a National Security Threat." "Stop the Fascist Coup, Stand Up for Democracy." "Hands off Farmworkers." "Democracy Not Hypocrisy!" "No Kings, No Rapists, No Traitors, No Felons." "Democracy Doesn't Fear Protests, Dictators Do." "Cruelty, Lies, Fear, Hate — We Oppose the Trump MAGA State." And a personal favorite: "No Kings, No Idiots Either."

Importantly, the No Kings rally was much more than being opposed to Trump. It celebrated Americans rallying around the nation's democratic idealism and the novel idea (at the time) of a country being ruled "of the people, by the people and for the people." That's the memorable phrase from President Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address in which Lincoln articulates the core principles of democracy — emphasizing that the government gets its power from the consent and participation of the people, not from the top down.

Throughout Addison County and Vermont, and in most states, the protests celebrated that idea — almost as earnestly as cheerleaders yelling for the home team.

"Liberty & Justice for All" read one sign on the outskirts of Middlebury (along Route 7 where the car caravan from the Mass border to Canada would later go by). "We the People — It's Our Country" proclaimed another. "Help Over Hate." "USA Rejecting Kings Since 1776." "We're Not Going to be Silent." "We Shall Overcome.'

Up and down the state, the protest was marked by friends and neighbors standing up for their sincere belief in democracy, and united in their willingness to rebel against a leader, and the MAGA faithful, intent on taking freedoms away from the individual.

Indeed, more conservative voters who have long argued against Big Brother government and for state's rights and the rights of the individual over big government (traditionally a Republican theme), should revisit what today's Republican Party stands for. From voting restrictions to a loss of abortion rights to restrictions on being free to marry whomever you please, Trump has is treading on state rights. Worse, some Americans now can't live without fear of unreasonable searches, or being arrested without the right to defend yourself. Trump has turned the states rights movement on its head, and is making the Republican Party like the Nazi Party once was: a front for Hitler to take control of Germany and saddle that once great power with a tragic and horrific

My favorite sign that addressed that issue read: "My Grandpa Didn't Fight Nazis So We'd Become Them."

The rally was also unique in its almost cheerful sense of humor. "Democracy is Not a Game... No Thrones." "Impeach the Peach N.O.W.!" "Crowns Belong in Fairy Tales, not in the Land of the Free." "ICE our Drinks, Not Our Streets." "Never a King, Only a Clown." "Trumty Dumty Will Have a Great Fall." And several signs that featured versions of a naked, cartoonish overweight Trump sitting on a toilet with the obvious connection: "Not a King, BUTT he Can fill a Thone," and a similar poster with a cartoonish Trump, pants pulled down, reading "47 Dumps On Democracy."

Then there was this message posted by a solitary protester in her chair, rather meekly waving a small American flag, albeit with ardent intent: "Things Are SO BAD Introverts are Here. No Kings."

At the end of the day, what struck me most was realizing the protestors had reclaimed Old Glory — the American flag. The Stars and Stripes were flying boldly and proudly in the hands of patriots who were resisting a president who rules like a tyrant; they were proclaiming the American flag as "of the people" not for the rule of a dictator willing to violate the Constitution. They were flag-waving Americans willing to stand against fascism and stand for equal justice and the rule of law.

The signs said it well: "Indivisible with Liberty and Justice for All." "Make America a Democracy Again!" "Free Press, Free Speech, Freedom," and, another favorite, "Pro-America, Anti-Trump."

It's that last message that resonates loudest: that Americans of all stripes are speaking out in favor of democracy with fervor. They are supporting the Constitution, individual freedom, due process, and the core values of what our democracy represents. That is true patriotism — not pledging allegiance to greedy man intent on enriching himself and his family, and a misguided party too enthralled with power to say no.

Angelo Lynn



Lies and deceit

Protestors at the No Kings rally in Middlebury this past Saturday speak to the lies and misinformation spread by President Trump and his supporters, including Fox News, which has contributed to the naton's partisanship. Misinformation about the benefits of tax cuts don't help.

'Small worlds' provide connection

Ways of

Seeing

By Alice

Leeds

Shortly after landing my first teaching job, I viewed rehearsed in scene groups and performed for the an exhibit of "Planets" by glass artist Josh Simpson. Each piece was a globe infused with a world of organic forms. The smallest orb was less than two inches in diameter. Inside, an underwater landscape seemed to come alive, a tiny striped fish about to dart through drifting seaweeds as they brushed against orange corals and jagged rock formations. I had to have it.

This sculpture continues to intrigue me. It led me to contemplate the magic and power

of small worlds. Our wide world is big and messy and confusing. Thankfully, we can enter and enjoy small worlds that give life joy and connection. And when we collaborate within and across our spheres, all the better. This moment as well as our future existence will require us to come

together, share resources, and coordinate efforts to solve problems too complex for any single individual or nation to tackle alone. It will take countless small

During my years as an educator, I was part of a cluster of small worlds of learning, creativity and questioning in the microcosms of our classrooms. We read books, then discussed them. Students wrote stories and essays and shared them. Working in teams, they built balloon-powered rocket cars and tried them out. They collected data about their inventions and hypothesized what adjustments made them most effective. Together, we expanded our knowledge of Vermont's past. We explored the democratic process. Students memorized lines from Shakespeare,

community, then celebrated this achievement. We spent seven hours a day together. People got angry and frustrated and got over it. In time, we knew and accepted each other. We became a community.

In retirement, I have opportunities to enjoy other small worlds.

Now that it's gardening season I'm sweeping the Bristol Peace Garden paths, collaborating with my garden partner Amanda, who removes weeds that

pop up between bricks. Other volunteers collaboratively plant, water and groom the raised beds that comprise the garden, each representing one of the seven continents. As she's done for years, teacher Andrea Murnane parades her second graders here from Bristol Elementary School to mulch the beds. Over thirty years

ago, the students of Bristol envisioned this garden. It's wonderful that student involvement continues and that the garden has drawn an intergenerational

circle to support it. As the growing season unfolds, each bed comes alive with color, brightening our village green in the center of town. While I sweep, children and adults who frequent the green, perhaps for the adjacent playground, stop by and chat with me or each other. Just being there among folks who visit the garden offers a feeling of belonging and participation in a world of gardening that contributes to our community.

On Sunday mornings a group of friends gather at Open Sky Studio in Bristol. As we're getting on in (See Ways of Seeing, Page 5A)

What podcasts offer in age of Al

automated world. While AI promises to democratize genuine surprises of podcast conversations become expertise, eliminate drudgery, and amplify human precious. The background noise, the technical

plagued humanity for centuries, these same AI advances threaten to create what we might call the "connection paradox" — simultaneously connecting us globally while isolating us individually. We might have access to anyone, but meaningful connection with no one.

Enter the podcast. Americans are consuming over seven hours of podcast content per week, more than ever before, according to Priori Data: "The average American listens to 8 podcasts weekly, with the average podcast listener spending 7 hours per week tuned into their favorite shows; podcast listeners globally has reached 548.7 million and is projected to hit 630.9 million by the end of 2025."

This isn't coincidence — it's resistance.

Podcasts offer something increasingly rare in our digital landscape: proof that real humans, with real thoughts and feelings, are still behind the microphone.

The authenticity hunger has emerged as a direct response to AI's growing sophistication. When ChatGPT can write our emails and algorithms predict

Something curious is happening in our increasingly our next words, the hesitations, interruptions, and intelligence, potentially solving problems that have glitches, the moments when hosts lose their train

of thought—these aren't flaws, they're features that signal authentic human presence in a world where distinguishing reality from AI-generated content becomes increasingly difficult.

Perhaps the most striking contrast between AI communication and podcast conversation lies in their relationship to efficiency. AI systems optimize for outcomes, providing relevant information quickly with high user satisfaction. Podcasts celebrate inefficiency as a feature of authentic human communication.

Consider how Joe Rogan might spend twenty minutes discussing the hunting habits of ancient humans before somehow connecting it to modern cryptocurrency trends. It's exactly the kind of meandering conversation AI

would optimize away, yet it's precisely what makes the exchange feel authentically human.

AI systems, despite their sophistication, are fundamentally predictive. They generate responses based on patterns, optimizing for the most (See Vila, Page 5A)

Letters to the Editor

Jan. 6 saw no Trump order

Where was the president's order to activate the National Guard on January 6 when an actual insurrection against the United States took place? Oh yes, I recall now. He was watching TV after activating the rioters.

Christy Alger,

Thanks to 'No Kings' crowd

On Saturday June 14th, millions of Americans came out to demonstrate, celebrate our flag, and also say NO KINGS in America to the current president who aspires to be a king or dictator. After a tense week of ICE raids, demonstrations in many cities, and threats to protesters from some law enforcement entities and the president, the demonstrations were not only massive and peaceful, but also joyous. Creative signs expressed feelings of loyalty to the Constitution, anger at the myriad cruel, illegal actions of the current regime, and a love of democracy.

In Addison County, thanks go to the 700-800 folks who turned out to cheer on the flag relay and express their love for this country and the rule of law, as well as their opposition to the authoritarian direction Mr. Trump and his minions are pushing. Early counts have more than 40,000 Vermonters turning out for numerous demonstrations and events around the state, and more if you include all the honks and thumbs up from passing cars!

We will need to show up again and again and keep the pressure on to effect the changes we want to see, to return to a country where the rule of law for all is followed, science and education is valued, international allies and friends are treated respectfully, our resources are used to improve lives here and around the world, and promote democratic values of justice, equality, inclusion and dignity for all people.

Thank you again to all who showed up and we look forward to seeing you, and all who care about the future of our democracy, at future events.

Bethany Barry, Dorothy Mammen, Revell Allen, Jen Wasiura, Lise Anderson,

Theresal Gleason, Heidi Willis Leadership Team of Indivisible Middlebury, for the members of Indivisible Middlebury.

H.454 offers needed reform

After a two-week glide-path, Gov. Scott and Democrat and Republican leadership skillfully navigated the big H.454 Education bill home to a successful landing on Monday. There were many voices trying to reroute the governor's mission to reform, and the solution will not fully satisfy everyone. But it strikes a balance that we can all live with to achieve the goals of improving quality and reducing costs of Vermont's education system that we so desperately need.

The keys to reform are larger districts and a foundation formula. First, larger districts do NOT necessarily mean larger schools and closing smaller schools. It means encapsulating more schools within a larger district, enabling sharing of vital services and new opportunities across schools with a reduction of redundant administrative overhead. It will foster a larger sense of community and achieve quality/opportunity improvement while more of our education dollars will flow to our students rather than the bureaucracy.

Larger districts also enable communities to equitably and compassionately plan for declining student populations.

Second, a foundation formula regains the equitable and controlled funding of education across the state. This mechanism directly ties the funding and thus school district budgets to the

(See North letter, Page 5A)



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

Assistant Editor: John S. McCright Reporters: John Flowers Andy Kirkaldy Marin Howell Multimedia: Megan James Photographer: Steve James

Front Office: Vicki Nolette

Advertising Managers:

Christine Lynn Jenna Hunsinger Advertising Representatives Tom Van Sant

Business Manager: Elsie Lynn Parini Production Manager: Susan Legget Graphic Designers: Copy Editor: Sarah Pope Circulation: Sean Dougherty Driver: Dennis Smith









The Addison Independent USPS 005-380









Published every Thursday by the Addison Press, Inc. Member Vermont Press Association; New England Press Association; National Newspaper Association.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: All print subscriptions include online access. 1 Month \$10.00, 1 Year \$120.00. Discounted rate for Senior Citizens and students call for details. 802-388-4944.

Online Only – 1 Week \$3.00, 1 Month \$8.00, 1 Year \$75.00

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



of Writing and rhetoric at

Letters to the Editor

Federal FY'26 budget would make impactful cuts

Federal programs are in Jeopardy, and people will suffer and die.

Too often, global moments are measured by lives lost — conflicts. pandemics, natural disasters. The creation of effective, accountable, and life-saving programs like PEPFAR, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance ushered in an era that could be measured by lives saved - lives that have now been abruptly sidelined in the name of cutting a mere fraction (0.5%) of the budget.

The White House's full budget request for FY2026 proposes excessive cuts to US foreign assistance that would threaten America's national interests and international leadership.

A subsequent attempt, via rescissions, to claw back previously appropriated funding for life-saving health programs and development initiatives would

make matters worse. Take, for example, US investments in the fight against HIV/AIDS. The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief – PEPFAR – has helped save 26 million lives since its founding in 2003. It's a remarkable achievement, yes, but we shouldn't reduce these lives to a mere, albeit impressive, statistic. These are children who get to grow up healthy, and parents who get to watch them do so.

The White House's proposed rescissions package would reduce them even further – to 11 vague

sentences that seek, without justification, to cut nearly \$1B from health and infectious disease funding. When lives hang in the balance, Congress — and the American people — need real details. That's why we must urge U.S. Sens. Peter Welch and Bernie Sanders, and U.S. Rep. Becca Balint and their fellow members of Congress, to reject rushed attempts to override their previous decisions and to continue supporting smart, effective international assistance programs.

And one more thing; these programs promote peace and security around the world and actually benefit us here at home.

Richard Butz,

Bristol

Proposed budget bill will greatly harm Vermonters

The US Congress, controlled by Republicans, is preparing to pass a federal budget bill that will do great harm to Vermont. The House of Representatives already passed the bill - by one vote. Every Democrat voted against it. The Senate will vote soon. Our local and state Republican elected leaders Rob North, Steve Heffernan, and Governor Scott — need to use their influence and urge their Republican allies in Washington, DC to vote no on the Senate Budget Reconciliation bill. If the proposed bill passes, it will dramatically change life as we know it.

The big bill includes: • tax breaks for billionaires like Elon Musk

- huge cuts to food assistance programs, in part by shifting responsibility for these programs to states already hammered by budget cuts. One out of every four veterans receives supplemental nutrition assistance (SNAP)
- equally huge cuts to rural health care and to Medicaid. Vermont's rural hospitals will be further threatened
- a provision that would severely restrict federal courts' authority to hold government officials in contempt if they violate judicial orders. Currently, numerous judicial orders are being ignored by the Trump Administration. There will be no recourse to hold the executive branch accountable. (See here for more on this: tinyurl.com/ yc24bs84).
- reduced funding for public education by approximately \$349 billion over the coming decade, reducing resources for primary and

secondary schools in Vermont • tax breaks for companies that produce silencers for firearms

• your tax dollars going

- an increase of \$151.3 billion for mass deportations
- to subsidize big tech and its determination to push artificial intelligence right down to primary schools, where we might imagine students giving up entirely on reading, math, and fundamental skills. The bill will establish a 10year moratorium that will prevent state and local laws and regulations regulating artificial intelligence models and systems, except for any law or regulation that helps promote AI adoption.
- dramatic cuts in programs that have helped address climate change, with a pivot to provide subsidies and support for increased production of oil, gas and coal, guaranteeing a rapid acceleration to runaway climate disruption
- huge cuts in FEMA and disaster assistance funds despite predictions of more storms, droughts, and floods
- · an increase in the federal debt ceiling by 5 trillion dollars, leading to explosive deficits and threatening the future value of our dollars. One economist predicts that if passed, the USA may eventually start to look like Argentina as we pay higher interest rates to finance our debt to other creditors, making inflation potentially catastrophic in the future.
- threats to Medicare despite President Trump's promises to the contrary. According to the Congressional Budget Office, the Senate budget bill would

increase the federal deficit by over two trillion dollars over 10 years, triggering automatic cuts to Medicare absent congressional

· dramatic increases in military spending even though the United States already spends more on the military than the next nine countries combined.

The bill is over 1,000 pages long and has lots of hidden threats in addition to those mentioned here. If you care about your children, our immigrant workforce and neighbors, access to healthcare, our local schools, and preservation of our democracy, it is time to push very hard on our local Republican elected officials who have access to those in Washington who are preparing to do great damage to our brave little state.

We need all of our Vermont Republican elected officials to stand up right now to say no to any budget bill that helps the billionaires, Big Oil, and Big Tech while abandoning pretty much everyone else.

E mail or call Steve Heffernan at: sheffernan@leg.state.vt.us or (802) 828-2228.

E mail or call Rob North at: rnorth@leg.state.vt.us or (802) 828-2228

Call Governor Scott and urge him to use his political clout in Washington, DC (802) 828-3333. Urge them to call their

Republican allies in the Republican Party and the White House. This bill must not go forward as drafted.

> Betsy Taylor, **New Haven**

ADDY WEBSITE www.addisonindependent.com

Track update - I just wanted to let the *Independent* readers know more about some of our local track athletes and how they

finished up their great seasons. At the NCAA Division III

Championships in Geneva, OH on May 24, MUHS grad Isabel Olson placed 8th in the 1500m with a time of 4:34.93 and was named a first team All-American, her second such designation as she had accomplished it in cross country last fall. She holds the Colorado College school record in the event, set earlier this year, with a time of 4:27.59. She also ran the 5000m later that same day.

Middlebury College's Audrey

MacClean placed second in the 3000m steeplechase at the D-III meet with a time of 10:23.59, and 8th in the 5000m with a time of 16:42.81 and also made first team All-American.

Local runners were successful this track season

Xander Swann placed third in the 400m hurdles in a time of 52.63 and was also a first team All-American.

And Midd's Dave Filias placed 15th in the hammer throw with a toss of 56.09m, good for a second team All-American. Middlebury throws coach Jake

Rigoli was named Mid-East Regional Assistant Coach of the year by the USTFCCCA. And finally, MUHS star Jazmyn

of the 100m at the New England Championships in Connecticut last Saturday in a time of 12:53, and 16th in the 200m, with a time of 25.76.

Hurley placed 9th in the finals

Jazmyn not only won the D-2 state championships as reported in last week's *Independent*, she set the Division II state records of 12:22 and 25.14 at the Essex Invitational on June 1. She now holds MUHS school records in the 100m, 200m, 400m and the 300m hurdles.

Congrats to all these athletes! Ed Blechner, Addison

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A) years, some of us walk up the steep stairway slowly. Whoever arrives first arranges a circle of chairs and cushions. People gradually enter, remove their shoes and find a seat. When it's time to begin, one of us rings a bell. As its vibration fades, we settle into breathing and quieting our minds as best we can.

After our sitting meditation, we spend another 10 or 15 minutes walking in unison around the circle in stillness. Or we may listen to a recorded teaching, perhaps by

Thich Nhat Hanh, the Vietnamese Buddhist monk and peace activist, who offered the idea that the next Buddha will be a community.

At the end of many school years, I'd invite the class to gather in one more circle. I'd share a necklace of glass beads strung for the occasion and thank each student for their contributions to our group, which had been tied together for many months. Then I'd break the necklace open and offer a bead to each student. We were going our separate ways, but

our connections would remain, held in each symbolic bead. When I am fortunate to happen upon one of "my kids" on the street - now grown, perhaps with a spouse and children of their own in tow that connection is still there.

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

√illa

(Continued from Page 4A) likely "correct" answer. This predictability eliminates genuine moments when conversations take unexpected turns that couldn't have been anticipated. Surprise is what we hanker for in a mundane and possibly boring automated reality.

Podcasts thrive on these moments. The best episodes often occur when neither host nor guest know where the conversation will lead. When someone articulates an idea they've never expressed before, or when two perspectives combine to create something entirely new, we witness human creativity that AI cannot replicate.

The podcast medium has democratized public discourse in unprecedented ways. Anyone with a microphone can start a podcast, bypassing traditional gatekeepers. This has led to an explosion of diverse voices and perspectives that might never have found platforms in traditional media, from the Ezra Klein Show to Conversations with Tyler to Radio Ambulante.

This diversity contrasts sharply with AI's homogenizing effects. While AI can mimic different styles, it ultimately reflects patterns in its training data, creating subtle

convergence toward the most common communication patterns. AI faces challenges with biases hallucinations—mistakes or alignment failures when AI optimizes for the wrong goal or misinterprets what humans want. Podcasts preserve regional accents, cultural references, and local perspectives; they're not smooth, rather they're irregular and must address mistakes and misalignments on the fly.

Successful podcast hosts often share personal struggles, admit acknowledge mistakes, and This vulnerability limitations. creates deep emotional connections and stands in stark contrast to AI's flawless, optimized responses. The willingness to be imperfect, to not have all the answers, to change one's mind in real time—these are fundamentally human qualities that AI avoids but that make communication meaningful.

When a podcast host breaks down discussing a personal loss or admits they were wrong about something they previously argued authentic empathy and genuine emotional cost, which will be

in increasing demand in an AI-

mediated future.

We're not choosing between human communication and AI; we're learning to value both for what they do best. AI excels at information processing and routine tasks. Podcasts excel at emotional connection, creative inspiration, and the experience of authentic human consciousness exploring ideas in real time.

In an AI mediated world, two humans having an unscripted conversation becomes almost radical. Podcasts aren't just entertainment—they're cultural antibodies against the homogenization of human communication. They serve as proof of human cognitive effort, emotional labor, and authentic presence in an increasingly artificial world.

The future of communication will involve both AI efficiency and human authenticity. Podcasts ensure that as we gain artificial intelligence, we don't lose our most human qualities: the ability to surprise ourselves, to connect passionately for, they're engaging emotionally, and to find meaning in emotional labor that AI cannot in the gloriously inefficient act perform. They're demonstrating of two people simply talking. The podcast becomes a sanctuary for everything that makes us irreplaceably human.

North letter

(Continued from Page 4A) number and type of students they serve. This ensures every student is provided ample funds to be well educated.

The foundation formula values and weights are constrained to no more than the NIPA inflation index of about 2.4%/yr. The Vermont Joint Fiscal Office estimates this effect alone will provide \$321M in tax savings to Vermonters during the first four years of the phase-in period.

The three-year timeline compromise is the right amount of time to define the new school districts, construct voting wards, elect new school boards, and perform all the legal hand-offs from current to future districts. We added a 5-year phase-in to school funding and property tax changes. This may sound like a long time for tax relief, but it is as fast as humanly possible given the seismic changes being made. The governor will do his best to buy



down rates until the new controls are in place, and school boards will begin shaping their budgets to smoothly transition to the new rates before they take effect.

Even with this bill passed, we're not done. After the Vermont Districting Task Force does its work this off-season, we'll be ready in next year's session to continue our work on education reform.

Rep. Rob North. Ferrisburgh



60th Reunion

Sat., June 28th | 12-3 pm **Branbury Beach East Shelter**

To the right, near beach, next to the concession stand

Otter Creek Bakery lunch includes ice, dishes, utensils - \$15/person Please bring your own beverage(s)

R.s.v.p. to Jean Baldwin McLevedge at jmclevedge@ gmail.com or 401.996.7804 Or drop in and say hello if you would like to!

We would love to see you.

Don't back down - drop in

Beck is not your average employee—he makes the workplace better just by being there. He approaches his job with ease and a no-drama attitude, getting things done on time, every time. His team describes him as easygoing and dependable, with an effortless ability to keep things running smoothly. What really stands out about Beck is his perspective on life—one shaped not just by his academic experience, but by his passion for snowboarding.



"Something I've learned over the past four years through both school and snowboarding, is not to think too much. With snowboarding, you can stare at a jump being scared to do whatever trick you're learning, or you can just not think about it and do it. Snowboarding really showed me how thinking too much, stops me from doing what I know I can do.

And with school, I learned that if you sit down and do what you need to do, instead of procrastinating, everything comes a lot easier and will

This fall, Beck heads to Ithaca College to continue his education, and we're fortunate he's working with us this summer. We appreciate you, Beck.

be over before you know it."

Congratulations, Beck! You have the skills, the balance, and the guts to shred those college goals! Remember, every fall is just a setup for a sicker comeback and fuel for the next trick.



21 Macintyre Ln, Midd, VT / (802) 388-7755 / ninosmiddlebury.com Hours: Monday-Friday 11-8 Saturdays 1-8 / Closed Sundays

Elderly Services Inc. ESI College

Tenets of Effective Leadership: A Discussion

Two sessions: July 22 and 29, 10:00-11:30 AM At Elderly Services, 112 Exchange St., Middlebury

There are many styles of effective leadership; what do they hold in common? We will discuss what makes effective business, nonprofit, and government leadership, both from the perspective of an entrepreneurial startup and from a mature delegatory organization, including what constitutes founder's syndrome. Bring examples from your own life about effective leaders.

Bill Schubart has lived in and written about Vermont for decades. He has served as board chair for numerous Vermont organizations, including Vermont Public, UVM Medical Center, Vermont Digger, and the Vermont Board of Libraries. He has published several novels set in Vermont and regularly contributes to local print and radio media.



Register Now!

https://elderlyservices.org/esi-college-summer-2025/

or call 802.388-3983



ADDISON COUNTY

Obituaries

Dan Bergstrom Noel, 50, formerly of Bristol

TELLURIDE, Colo. — I am a Vermonter.

This is how Dan Masson Bergstrom Noel described himself to his palliative care doctors on Feb. 20, 2025. To Dan, being a Vermonter meant working for the things you have. Born Oct. 29, 1974, to Nicole and Francis Noel, Dan grew up eating from the garden they planted and heating the house with wood they cut, split, and stacked. From his father, Dan learned skills to repair his own house. From his mother, he learned to cook, can vegetables, and hem his own pants.

The cul de sac in Shelburne, Vt., where Dan and his sister Amy grew up was populated with boys his age. In summer they played kick the can and ghost in the graveyard. In winter they'd sled down the cemetery hill and try not to get caught by the groundskeeper. These boys became like brothers lifelong friends—and every year since college they went on fishing trips around the world.

Dan attended Keene State College in New Hampshire because it had a good teaching program. His desire to be a teacher stemmed from dissatisfaction with his own teachers—he thought he could do their job better. He student-taught third grade, but his first teaching job was with at-risk high schoolers—kids so delinquent they weren't allowed on campus. On his way to school, he would wake the kids up and get them out of bed. The job was emotionally taxing, but it affirmed he could make a difference.

I am a Vermonter meant when Dan wasn't in Vermont, he looked for a place like Vermont. Dan moved to Telluride in 1999 after finding it on a road trip. The quaint main street reminded him of his home state. This is where he met his wife, also a teacher, Nicki Bergstrom Noel. The two were married in 2002 at Alta Lakes in the depths of winter. Being a Vermonter, inclement weather was no cause for concern—their families were snowcatted in for an intimate ceremony outside.

In 2005, Dan and Nicki moved to Vermont and bought an 1875 house in Bristol with horsehair plaster walls, knob-and-tube electric, and a tacked-on kitchen. They gutted and refinished every part of that house. Dan did all the wiring. He redid the bathrooms and the tiling. He installed new maple flooring. There was no handyman job Dan couldn't do.

Robinson Elementary, just down the road from Bristol, is where, at age 30, Dan became principal for a rural K-6 school with 200 kids. Though he was the school's youngest employee, the loving and committed staff trusted him to improve the school ... and he did. Being a Vermonter meant he had an intense sense of community



DAN BERGSTROM NOEL

responsibility. He believed you're beholden to the people around you. If they ask for help, you help them—in fact, you look for ways to help. For instance, rather than hiring a roofing company to replace the roof of the school, he had the community come do the work together. The moms and dads created a chain to pass things to the one guy on the roof who knew how to do it.

I am a Vermonter meant family is everything. There was nothing more important to Dan than his two daughters Cordelia Rose Noel (born 2008) and Hazel Hettie Noel (born 2010). Dan was pleased they were born in Vermont—after all, you have to be born in Vermont to be a Vermonter. Though Dan was a great teacher and a great handyman, he was an off-thecharts father. He knew just how to love his girls every single moment of every single day. Dancing with them. Singing with them. Helping them with their work. He had a clear sense of right and wrong and set boundaries for the girls that helped instill their sense of self.

The most un-Vermontery thing Dan did was move with his family to St. Kitts.

Vermonters don't tend to leave, but feeling overcommitted at the school, Dan thought moving abroad was the best chance to specialize in his family. In 2012, the foursome moved to the hottest little piece of dirt in the Caribbean. Nicki recalls, "Because there is nothing there, we had to make our own fun as a family for two years. Going to the beach and making forts. Teaching the girls to swim and snorkel. Biking on the golf course cart paths. Dan built furniture out of palettes. He made himself lobster traps. We didn't have a boat, he would swim the lobster trap out. He built a swing set for the girls in our back yard which was a feat given that supplies are really hard to obtain there. Dan wanted us to be tight. And those two years assured that that was true."

Choosing to live out West again in 2014 was another un-Vermonter

thing to do, but Dan did it for Nicki. He became a Vermonter in Telluride. He was ever-frustrated and thwarted because he couldn't grow anything. On the other hand, he thrived on fly fishing. Loving the water. Loving the woods. Being peaceful outside. Knowing

how to be a steward of the land. Dan had boundless energy for doing unusual things-especially when it came to teaching and making school fun. Telluride Public School families will remember how he taught math with Matchbox cars and Pokémon scavenger hunts on the mountain. Star Wars nights. Crazy parodies. The Math Olympics. Making pies on Pi Day. Dan would say, "I am giving you brownies," but they were brown construction paper Es. Once, as a prank, he convinced most of the Intermediate School they had to retake the state's standardized test, CMAS.

He will be remembered for creating The Miner School—a TMHS program that matches high school students with mentors in the community working with doctors, bakers, electricians, auto mechanics, outdoor guides, and more. He knew if kids could be motivated to learn outside the classroom, that would help with the times they had to sit at a desk.

Music was an important part of his life. He loved going to festivals and concerts. He taught himself to play guitar and loved singing with friends and his daughters. Playing and singing became especially important toward the end of his life when he was less able to leave the house.

It was very Vermonter-y the way Dan fought cancer with everything he had. He endured more than twenty rounds of chemo. His two surgeries drastically changed his life. "But being with us, that mattered to him more than anything," says Nicki, "and he was going to do whatever it took. There was bravery inherent in every choice he made. He fought cancer for me, Delia, and Hazel. And gave up his fight bravely, too." Dan died in his home on April 13, 2025, surrounded by his family, being sung to by his girls.

There will be a celebration of life on Saturday, July 5 at Seyon Lodge State Park in Groton, Vt. For more information contact Nicki Bergstrom Noel nbergstromnoel@telluride. k12.co.us. Dan requests that in lieu of flowers you give to two organizations for which he cared deeply: Telluride Adaptive Sports Program—he loved teaching skiing and snowboarding with them-(https://tellurideadaptivesports. org/donate/) and the Michael Treinan Foundation (https://www. michaeltreinenfoundation.org/) which supports families battling cancer including the Bergstrom

Michael Jon Richardson, 59, of Pittsford

PITTSFORD — Michael Jon Richardson, age 59, of Pittsford, Vt., passed away on June 1, 2025. Born in Saugus, Mass., Feb. 8, 1966, he was the youngest of three children. Due to his early health issues, primarily Cerebral Palsy, the family moved to Florida to take advantage of the warm climate and therapeutic ocean waters. The Easter Seal Society was immensely helpful with getting him the needed equipment and therapies that allowed him to attend public schools. He was always doted after for his big smile and red hair!

The family eventually returned to Middlebury, Vt. where Michael attended and graduated from Middlebury High School, Class of 1984. While enrolled there he participated in woodworking classes that eventually landed him a job with Middlebury Resource Center where they built and sold the Adirondack chairs that supported their mission.

Michael is survived by his sister Wendy (James) Fortney and his brother Mark Richardson. Nephews Eric (Bre) Meador, Brian Meador, and a niece Meghan Richardson. He was preceded in death by his parents Brenda (Galusha) Richardson Korpi and Russell Richardson.

VERGENNES — Lee Earl

Lapell, 62, passed away Monday,

June 9, 2025, at his home in

He was born June 2, 1963, in

He was an avid hunter,

Lee is survived by his wife

camping, hiking, playing with his

Lorrie Cahill Lapell; five children

Soloman Lapell-Kuni and wife

April Densmore Lapell-Kuni,

Ashley Lapell and significant

other Doug Hall, Ben Lapell and

wife Rachel Duke-Lapell, Katlyn

Lapell, and Jonathan Lapell and

significant other Jordon Norris;

Colett, Erik Preston, Kyra Hallock,

and Xavier Hallock; a brother

Wayne Lapell and his wife Molly

and several nieces and nephews,

and cousins, especially his cousin

Ellen Davis and her husband Fred

Davis; his dog Ollie and his cat

Mowgli.

grandchildren Sabastian

grandchildren and NASCAR.

Shoreham the son of Winston and

Vergennes.

Evelyn Beebe Lapell.



MICHAEL JON RICHARDSON

The family would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to Patrick and Diane Eugair who provided Michael with a warm and nurturing home, and to his public guardian for her unwavering support and advocacy on Michael's behalf.

Services will be held privately by the family. Those who wish to remember him may consider a donation to the Easter Seal Society, the Special Olympics or another nonprofit dedicated to supporting individuals with disabilities. Also visit CerebralPalsy.org.

Arrangements by Miller & Ketcham of Brandon. ◊



Frederic DeHaven, 87, of Cornwall

Cornwall — D. Frederic DeHaven (Fred) died peacefully at home surrounded by his loving family on June 4, 2025. He was 87 years old.

Fred grew up in northern Michigan. He was a musician at heart from early childhood. He won a scholarship to Oberlin College to study organ and graduated from the University of Michigan. He then won a full scholarship to the Juilliard School of Music and graduated with a degree in organ and conducting in 1964.

For much of his career he conducted choirs of men, boys and girls in the Anglican Church choral tradition. His career began in New York City and he then went to Trinity Church in Southport, Connecticut. In 1975, he became the organist and choirmaster at Christ Church in Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan. He also conducted large adult choral groups with orchestra.

During his career he conducted throughout Europe and Australia. In 1989, he was invited to concertize in East Germany and Russia. After 32 years in Grosse Pointe, Fred retired in 2007. In 2017, the DeHavens moved to Vermont to be closer to family.

He was an inspiration to many through his music, his kindness, his gentle humor, and ever-positive

Fred is survived by his wife of 63 years, Sharon of Cornwall; his daughters, Mary Claire DeHaven (Jim Scheid) of East Middlebury and Anne DeHaven of Shoreham; and his grandson, Luca DeHaven Scheid of Burlington.

A memorial service at St. Stephens Episcopal Church in Middlebury, Vermont will be held on July 26 at 10:30 a.m.



LEE EARL LAPELL

To send online condolences to his family please visit www. There will be no funeral services. brownmcclayfuneralhomes.com. ◊

Janet A. Miner, 96, of Ferrisburgh

Lee Earl Lapell, 62, of Vergennes

FERRISBURGH — Janet A. Miner, 96, passed away Sunday, June 15, 2025, at Helen Porter Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center in Bristol

She was born March 20, 1929, in South Burlington the daughter of Guy and Dorthy Bissonette Abare.

She was a member of St. Peter Church in Vergennes. Her hobbies were bingo, puzzles and reading.

Predeceased by her husband John Miner on Oct. 10, 1999.

Janet is survived by her children, Larry Miner and wife Pam, Keith Miner and wife Lorretta; a granddaughter Kellie Frazier and husband Brandon; two step grandchildren Peggy and husband Bryan and Loren L'Heureux and wife Lisa; sister Alice Bachman; several nieces and nephews.

Visiting hours will be held on Sunday, June 22 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Brown-McClay Funeral Home in Vergennes. A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated 10:30 a.m.



JANET A. MINER

on Monday, June 23 at St Peter Church in Vergennes. Interment will be in St. Peter Cemetery in Vergennes.

To send online condolences to her family please visit www. brownmcclayfuneralhomes.com. ◊



SHELLY MORRISSEY

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. ◊

Popular Pioneer Auctions

STARKSBORO — Anthony

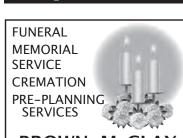
M. Haskins, 75, of Starksboro,

passed away on Wednesday,

May 28, 2025, at the University



(802)353-8825 ThePopularPioneer.com



BROWN-McCLAY FUNERAL HOMES

BRISTOL VERGENNES 802-453-2301 802-877-3321 brownmcclayfuneralhomes.com of Vermont Medical Center in Burlington. Born on March 11, 1950, in Burlington, he was the son of the late Lawrence and Bernice (Ploof) Haskins.

Anthony M. Haskins, 75, of Starksboro

Andy was a jack of all trades who travelled a lot and was a talented artist and put the beauty he saw in his many travels into his paintings, drawings, carvings, sculptures, and so much more.

He will be greatly missed by his family. His girlfriend of 35 vears. Carolyn Morse, and son. Timothy Morse, Amanda Plankey (daughter-in-law), Karson Morse Plankey (grandson), a brother, Dana Haskins, and his wife, Ruth, two sisters, Charlene Smith and Candice (Candy) Laplatney, and his cousin Lester Ayers.

A graveside service will be held on Saturday, June 21, 2025, at 1 p.m. at the Maple Street Cemetery, 380 Maple St., Waterbury Center, Vt. 05677. ◊

Cremation

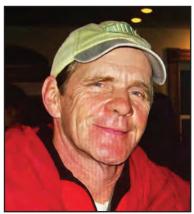
with a Service

A Celebration of Life, for those left behind, helps those family members and friends with closure. Even though your loved one says "I just want to be cremated – no funeral," they forget the Celebration of Life service is not for them, but for the ones left behind. A service is a healthy way to say good-bye.

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

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



RESIDENT OF MIDDLEBURY, Cristian, kneels next to his faithful Anthbot Genie 3000 robotic lawnmower, which he has owned for two months and has loved the results.

Independent photo/Paige Hescock

Robotic lawnmowers are coming!

Routine in Sweden, are they right for your lawn?

BY PAIGE HESCOCK

While many people are familiar with the Roomba—the robot vacuum cleaner—robotic lawnmowers might be a foreign piece of technology for them. However, this isn't the case for the locals in Sweden as this type of mower is a common appliance.

Cristian, a former native of Sweden who has lived in Middlebury since '97, first noticed this during one of his visits back roughly 10 years ago. "I was completely stunned by the number of robotic lawnmowers people were using as they were practically everywhere," he said during a recent interview.

Cristian has owned his Anthbot Genie 3000 robotic lawn mower for two months now, which costs about \$1,000 and is an advanced upgrade to his lawncare routine. He owns the second-generation time it saves. model, which has a GPS, utilizes AI-powered 3D mapping, and has 4-camera recognition technology, allowing for automatic and precise lawn mapping.

"Setting up the lawn mower was simple since I only had to walk around the perimeter of the yard to establish the two zones: east and west. As the lawn mower can detect the boundaries of the lawn, it effectively operates without

☐ MONTHLY

the ANTHBOT Genie app on my phone to pinpoint the location of the robot and to determine which zone it mows in as it only mows one at a time," he explained.

Cristian finds many perks from using a robot lawn mower compared to a gas-powered one.

"I appreciate that it's fully electric, so there's no burning of gas and it's very quiet. It also cuts the grass clippings so short that it's not visible, but it still acts as a natural fertilizer for the lawn. So far, it's been fairly low maintenance and only requires replacement of the blades sometimes. And due to the regularity of the mowing—half of the lawn every day— the lawn always looks tidy.3

Cristian also praises the intellect of the technology: "It returns to its charging place when it begins to rain outside and has strong obstacle avoidance as it steers clear of even a hose lying around."

His primary reason for using a robotic lawn mower is how much

"I don't use mine just to save time for passive activities like watching TV. For me, it's about reclaiming time for more stimulating or rewarding things, like working on projects or going for a run," Cristian told the Independent. As he has two jobs and is constantly busy with house and yard work, having a robot mow his lawn for him gives Cristian one less thing to worry any perimeter wires. I then use about and opens opportunities for

him to work on other tasks around his property.

He receives interest daily from passersby, whether it is children finding pure entertainment from the robot or individuals simply inquiring about the mechanics of it. 'I wouldn't be surprised if, within the next decade, more people owned robotic lawnmowers," he said. However, he understands that some people might assume he is "lazy" for having a robot do the work for him, but the reality is far

Cristian can use his time more wisely and maximize the efficiency of his land. He also recognizes that this form of lawn mowing is not perfect for everyone. "Steep slopes, poor GPS reception (like under dense tree cover), or larger lawns can pose challenges. Many models are ideal for smaller properties—probably up to an acre or so," he said.

Could this be something Vermonters see more of in the near

Cristian thinks such days are coming. "While I believe people are often hesitant to change and can be stuck in their ways, I foresee more and more people adopting this type of technology — it's only a matter of time."

Note: Paige Hescock is a summer intern for the Addison Independent. A former grad of MUHS, she grew up in Shoreham and is now a rising junior at Hamilton College.

THANK YOU!

INDEPENDENT

SENIOR

City plan

(Continued from Page 3A)

told the council that planners have been working on drafting some of those changes, and the process of amending zoning could begin soon. That process will also include public hearings before the planning commission and city council before any changes can take effect.

The third amendment to the city plan the council approved is essentially cosmetic, but it involves civic pride. Planners made it to satisfy a request from an official at the Vermont Division of Historic Preservation, according to Haggett. That official questioned the city plan's claim that Vergennes was the nation third-oldest chartered city.

Haggett said he owned a book that provided the necessary evidence, and it is quoted in the plan amendment.

Thus, the plan was reworded from "It is Vermont's oldest city and the third-oldest incorporated city in New England, being succeeded by Hartford and New Haven, Connecticut)," to "It is the only city in Vermont that was not chartered first as a town or village and as such is supposed to be the third-oldest 'city' in the United States (after New Haven and Hartford, Connecticut)."

Civil rights

(Continued from Page 3A)

broad and could obligate the city to spend time and money defending individual parties who accused another party of discrimination. Some councilors expressed a milder level of similar concerns.

Councilor Sue Rakowski thus recommended an amendment to the document consisting of two small wording changes that satisfied the council. In one place, Koenig's motion to adopt was changed from "pledges to oppose" to read simply "opposes." The other change removed the words "to support and protect" from a sentence that first read the "Vergennes City Council affirms its unwavering commitment to support and protect the constitutional rights of all persons in the City of Vergennes.'

The resolution as adopted reads:

"A Resolution in Support of Due Process and Equal Protection, and Affirming the Constitutional Rights of All Persons in the City of

"Whereas the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution states, in part, that 'No person ... shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law' and the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution states, in part, that 'All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws';

"Whereas the United States guarantees Constitution process, equal protection, and fundamental rights to all persons regardless of citizenship status,

immigration status, race, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, or political belief;

Whereas recent governmental actions, including the detention of legal residents in Vermont without clear justification or timely access to legal counsel, represent a dangerous escalation of government overreach and a violation of constitutionally guaranteed protections;

"Whereas history has shown that when the rights of any group are violated, other groups that do not conform to the views of those in power also suffer violations of their rights; and,

"Whereas the silence of public officials in the face of such abuses amounts to complicity, and failure to defend the Constitution of the United States only emboldens those who seek to dismantle the rule of law and divide our communities through fear; now, therefore, be it Resolved that:

1. the Vergennes City Council unequivocally condemns all violations of due process, equal protection, and unconstitutional government actions against any persons in the United States;

2. the attorney for the City of Vergennes shall review all relevant city policies, practices, and protocols to ensure that the constitutional rights of all persons within the City of Vergennes' jurisdiction are upheld and protected;

3. the Vergennes City Council affirms its unwavering commitment to the constitutional rights of all persons in the City of Vergennes regardless of citizenship status, immigration status, race, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, or political belief; and,

4. the Vergennes City Council opposes any unconstitutional policies or actions — local, state, or federal — which target persons based on who they are, where they come from, or what they believe in, and to maintain the City of Vergennes as a community rooted in justice, accountability, dignity for all."

In other business, on June 10, the council:

· Heard from Public Works Director Jim Larrow that he is working on obtaining a new estimate for the city's decrepit winter materials shed near the intersection of West and Canal streets. The city originally won a federal grant to help what was budgeted several years ago at \$300,000. With federal requirements and a number of delays and inflation, it is now a \$1.27 million project with a local match approaching \$650,000.

Larrow told the council he is working on new estimates and hopes to present the council with a less costly plan. Mayor Chris Bearor later told the Independent he hoped a reasonable cost for the badly needed project could be incorporated into the upcoming Fiscal Year 2027 budget and be discussed this week. The council must set that budget and the city tax rate needed to support that spending by the end of June.

· Heard from Councilor Sue Rakowski that she will step down from her position on the council effective June 31, once the council has set the next annual budget. Rakowski said she wanted to devote more time to personal and family matters. She was first elected in March of 2021 and easily won reelection twice.

Notably, during her tenure she has served as the board's representative to the city's growing recreation department. Rakowski also served several years on the Addison Northwest School District Board, including as its chair.

Bearor praised Rakowski's contributions, both at the meeting and in a phone call with the *Independent*, and at last week's meeting thanked her publicly for her service.

The business of recruiting and appointing a new councilor will wait until after the council finishes working on the budget, Bearor said.



Business you can trust, and quality you can count on! Come experience the difference

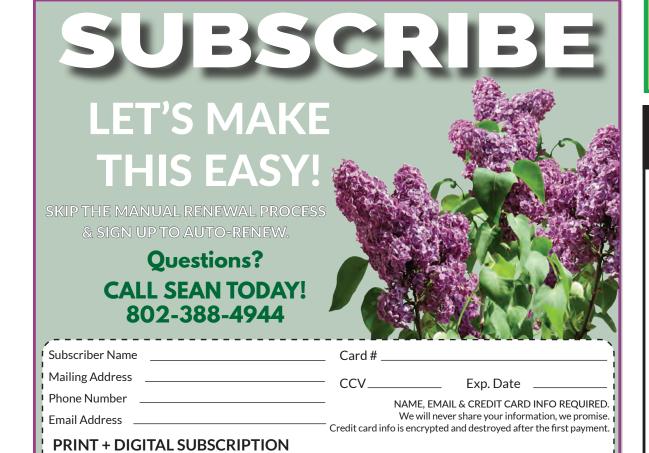
DISTINCTIVE PAINT AND INTERIORS



JEN DOANE

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

Located next to 7 South Sandwich Company



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

YEARLY

PICK A PAYMENT SCHEDULE THAT WORKS FOR YOU!

SENIOR

SCHOOL VACATION SALE!



2010 TOYOTA TACOMA Crew Cab 4X4, Longbox, V6, auto, 196k miles \$13,995





2015 SUBARU FORESTER Touring AWD, Auto, Loaded, 113k miles \$13,995



2018 HONDA CRV EX AWD, 4cyl, Auto, Loaded, 100k miles \$18,995

We also buy cars,

locate specialty orders

& consider consignments

Call Dave for an appointment



\$14,995



2018 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER XLE AWD, Third row seat, Loaded, 91k miles \$24,995

Lompanu AFFORDABLE, SAFE & RELIABLE **USED CARS AND TRUCKS**

Wimett Trading (Michael Jackman, 53 Years Experience **David Wimett, 40 Years Experience** Mark Grant, 12 Years Experience

802-465-4688

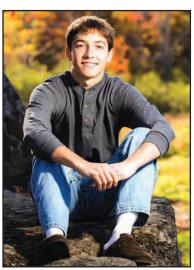
2668 Route 7 • Leicester, VT 05733 • wimetttradingco@gmail.com

School News

Chase Edwin Atkins is a Good Citizen

Each year a Mt. Abraham Union High School senior is chosen for the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) Good Citizen's Award. Faculty members begin by nominating three seniors and then the senior class elects one of those three as their Good Citizen. This year Chase Edwin Atkins, son of Matthew and Kayla Atkins, been selected for the award. His outstanding essay focused on how service can foster a strong sense of community and strengthen our American Identity.

The award is sponsored by the local Daughters of the American Revolution, Ethan and Mary Baker Allen Chapter and is intended to encourage and reward the qualities of good citizenship. The DAR Good Citizen's Award



CHASE EDWIN ATKINS

recognizes a student that possesses the qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism to an outstanding degree. Congratulations to Chase and his

Ferrisburgh student earns place in art society at St. Lawrence

CANTON, N.Y. — Hannah Kelly, of Ferrisburgh, has been Class of 2025 and is majoring in selected for membership in the art environmental studies-sociology. and art history honorary society at Kelly attended Vergennes Union St. Lawrence University.

Kelly is a member of the High School.

Students named to Dean's List

of 2,331 undergraduate students at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) in Worcester, Mass., were named to the university's spring 2025 Dean's List, including:

Spencer Doran from

WORCESTER, MA — A total Middlebury, class of 2025, majoring in Biomedical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering;

> Reagan Kayhart North Ferrisburgh, class of 2025, majoring in Aerospace Engineering.

Weybridge student earns degree

Mason E. Kaufmann, of Weybridge, received a degree laude with a Bachelor of Arts.

MASS. from Clark University on Monday, May 19. Kaufmann graduated cum

Police cite Whiting man for DUI-drugs

Police Log

New Haven barracks reported Bristol, and an assault

call in Leicester. $_{at\ around}^{On\ June}$ $_{11:30}^{12}$ Vt. State a.m., state police responded to a report

a potentially under-the-influence person at the Otter Creek Academy in Leicester. Police said their investigation revealed that Joshua Thorpe, 41, of Whiting, had driven his vehicle to the school. While speaking with Thorpe, troopers reported detecting "indicators of drug impairment."

State police screened Thorpe, cited him for DUI-drugs, and took him to the Vergennes Police Department for a drug influence evaluation. At the conclusion of the evaluation, authorities took Thorpe to Porter Medical Center, where he consented to provide an evidentiary blood sample.

On June 17, at 6:14 a.m., troopers responded to a single-vehicle crash

COUNTY— on Route 116 south of Bristol Vermont State Police based at the village, near the intersection of Terrier Drive. A police investigation responding to three incidents revealed that Joshua Therrien, 41, in Addison County last week, of Middlebury, had been traveling including a DUI-drugs case in north in his 2008 Chevy truck when Leicester, a single-vehicle crash in he left the northbound lane and

struck a telephone pole, whereupon his vehicle overturned.

with a criminally

suspended license at the time of the crash. State police cited Therrien for that offense. Troopers were assisted on the scene by members of the Bristol Police and Fire departments and the Bristol Rescue Squad.

On June 16 at 1:33 p.m., VSP troopers responded to an alleged assault off Dogwood Drive in Leicester. State police said after an investigation, they alleged that Steven Martin, 69, of Rutland City, had "purposely caused bodily injury" to William Pitkin, 76, of Leicester. Martin had left the scene but was later found by the Rutland City Police, whereupon he was cited for simple assault.

Poet laureate Stone is carrying on a legacy

BY SCOTT KRANICK, for VTDigger.org

GOSHEN — Nestled in wooded hills, an old white house sits along a gravel road, patiently awaiting the next writers, artists and musicians to fill its halls with poetry and music. A small brook babbles peacefully alongside the dwelling, and a screened-in patio provides the perfect place to enjoy a beer and listen to a local poet's work. In a time of political instability, Ruth Stone House is an oasis for writers and artists, both in Vermont and across the world.

The house is named for the poet Ruth Stone, who lived and wrote there for most of her life. After her husband, Walter Stone, died in 1959, she supported herself and her family by teaching creative writing, publishing poetry books and winning literary awards. She was Vermont's poet laureate from 2007 until she died in 2011.

Ruth Stone's poetry is known for its seamless blend of domestic themes and cosmic strangeness. Chard diNiord of the Guardian said her poetry has "a tragic/comic register few other American poets have struck, often reminiscent of Emily Dickinson's double-edged verse, only in a more conversational style.'

Ruth Stone's legacy is carried on by her granddaughter and current Vermont poet laureate Bianca Stone. She says her poetry is very much shaped by her grandmother's.

"I look to her poems all the time," said Stone. "And I feel like my poems speak to hers so much."

During her life, Ruth Stone cultivated a community of poets, often hosting workshops and

poetry readings at her house. Today, Ruth Stone House is a nonprofit organization. It continues to provide support for a grassroots literary community through poetry workshops, public readings and other events. Bianca Stone is not the only family member involved. Her husband, poet Ben Pease, is the nonprofit's executive director. Both have worked on the house's continued improvement and larger mission. Bianca Stone is deeply passionate about maintaining the house as a space for writers and local artists to share their work.

"It's very collaborative," she said. "It's like the team's making it together. It keeps changing and deepening, and we're just discovering so much."

Pease added, "Part of our mission is encouraging everyone who's working with us to take things that they like personally and incorporate that into outreach to the community."

Their community now extends far beyond the physical house. The couple offers a free online poetry workshop every Tuesday night. The Zoom format has allowed them to work with poets beyond Vermont. Aimée Algería Barry, a tai chi instructor from Philadelphia, has been joining the online workshop for four years.

"One of the most amazing things about working with Bianca and Ben is that you're dealing with two people living the poetry life," Barry said. "They're very dedicated to poetry, and yet there's this humbleness and generosity that is constantly in action. I feel like I'm getting an MFA just from being with them and learning from them,



BIANCA STONE, RIGHT, Vermont's poet laureate; Ruth Stone House Executive Director Ben Pease, her husband; and their dog Orpheus stand next to the historical marker for Ruth Stone House.

Photo by Scout Kranick

Ruth Stone House plans to host more in-person events this summer, including its Beer & Broadsides poetry readings. They are informal, open mic-style events where folks gather and listen to a local poet's work. Broadside posters of the featured poet's work are printed by hand using an in-house Vandercook SP15 letterpress, which belonged to Ruth Stone. That way, everyone can take a free broadside home with

Local poet Ben Aleshire, who is also a photographer and printer, said he loves getting involved at Ruth Stone House. He has run the letterpress at Beer & Broadside events. "There's a poetry reading, but there's also other stuff going on," Aleshire said. "It's just a really magical little event." Aleshire said he's grateful that there's a noninstitutional, informal center for poetry in the state. He appreciates the casual, easygoing nature of the Ruth Stone House. "Academics are welcome, of course, but it's mostly know, fellow travelers who come out endures anyway."

of the woodwork," Aleshire said.

But cultural institutions like Ruth Stone House are threatened by a loss of federal funding. Because the National Endowment for the Arts is being targeted by the Trump administration, Stone and Pease are worried their nonprofit won't receive key awards in the future. "A lot of the grants that we were gonna apply for are federally funded," said Stone. "And things like the NEA are very precarious right now."

Stone and Pease had hoped to use future grants for scholarships for writers to come to retreats and classes, for payments for featured guests on the "Ode & Psyche Podcast" and for printing and freelance costs for their literary publication, ITERANT.

With or without the money, Bianca Stone said poetry survives because poets are driven to write, especially in this political moment. "I feel radicalized by it," Stone said. "I feel motivated by it. I don't feel defeated by it, but I feel sad about like neighbors and friends and, you it. Somehow," she said, "poetry

Students build, launch new boat at LCMM

VERGENNES Champlain Maritime Museum launched the newest boat in Lake Champlain, Ruth M. Kennedy, on Friday May 23. Built by local high school students, this boat is the culmination of seven months of work for students from the Addison Central Program (ACP) and Middlebury High School (MUHS) as part of the Museum's innovative Champlain Longboats program.

These students came to the Museum's boat shop two to three days a week to learn how to build from tree to boat, getting hands-Police said they on experience in woodworking, determined Therrien communication, math, had been driving teamwork in LCMM's active boat shop. Students also got time to experience other hands-on activities at the Museum to learn about the ecology, history, and culture of the Lake Champlain watershed.

The boat is a 25' Whitehallstyle four-oared wooden rowing gig. It was sponsored by Peter Beckett and named in honor of his great aunt Ruth Kennedy, the founder and owner of a trucking company in New York City in the early 1900s. Peter Beckett is a longtime supporter of the museum and boat shop volunteer, whose commitment to empowering youth has been invaluable in making the boatbuilding program possible.

Launch day for boat building students is a special day at the



STUDENTS IN THE Lake Champlain Maritime Museum's boat-building program bless the Ruth M. Kennedy, which they built this year, before launching it into Lake Champlain. Photo / Buzz Kuhns

Maritime Museum. Students were joined by an audience of their family, Museum staff, and community members to celebrate accomplishment. Each student got the chance to give a presentation sharing the technical skills they learned, their favorite moments, and the big lessons crafting a boat taught them.

After the presentations, the audience paraded to the water with the students towed in their new boat. It was, and always is, a proud, exciting, and unforgettable moment for all the boat builders,

family members, and the educators. The boat was launched in Lake Champlain for the first time after a blessing from all the students and they got to take turns rowing it on its maiden voyage.

The Ruth M. Kennedy will become a part of the Museum's fleet of boats for our youth and adult rowers and education programs, continuing to serve the community for years to come.

From boat building education to on-water experiences, the Champlain Longboats program fuels a full community of students

and adults with alternative education, rowing practices and races, environmental education, and expeditionary programs.

"We are so proud of the hard work student boatbuilders put into this boat," said Nick Patch, Director of Maritime Programs at the Museum. "We're also grateful for all the staff, volunteers, and donors who help make this program possible every year."

Learn more about the Museum's Champlain Longboats program at lcmm.org/champlain-longboatsprogram.

Greenhouse Clearance Sale

50% OFF annuals, perennials & veggies



FREE Flat of Plants

4" Rd. Perennials And/Or Herbs With Any \$40.00 Purchase (15 Plants per Flat)

Greenhouse #1 Special

All Plants in This Greenhouse 99 cents! Tomatoes, Other Veggies, Morning Glories, etc. **Just Reduced** Reg. Sale \$4.99 \$2.45 Annuals 4 or 6-Pak \$2.75 Annuals 4 ½" Sq. \$5.49 \$2.49 Annuals 4" Rd. \$4.99 \$2.99 \$5.99 Geraniums 4 ½" Sq. \$29.99 \$19.99 Hibiscus 3 Gal \$5.49 Perennials 6" Red Pot \$10.99 \$12.99 \$6.49 Perennials 6" Blk Ridge \$7.49 Perennials 6" Blk Smooth \$14.99 \$2.99 \$5.99 Topsoil 1 cu ft \$19.99 Hydrangea 3 Gal \$29.99 \$21.99 \$12.49 10" Hanging Baskets

First Season Greenhouses

6 Miles West of Vergennes at 2153 Button Bay Road Open 9 to 5 Seven Days a Week

ERGENNES SENIOR LIVING

Vergennes Grand Senior Living is now welcoming residents!

Enjoy a vibrant lifestyle in downtown Vergennes, with enriching activities, stunning Adirondack views from our Grand Dining Room, and a warm, welcoming community.



Scan to Learn More About Your New Home!

34 North Street, Vergennes, VT (802) 877-3562 | www.VergennesGrand.com

Life is GRAND Here

Independent Living | Assisted Living | Memory Care 🗈 &

MUHS students honored with awards

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury Union High School held its Senior Awards Ceremony on June 2 and its Final Assembly on June 6. Students receiving awards at both events included:

Peer Leader Coordinators: Sarah Benz, George Devlin, Baker Nelson, Luke Nuceder and Ada Weaber

Community Service Awards: Lia Calzini, Navah Glikman, Ruby Harrison-Irwin, Julia Morrissey, Grace Ritter and Sawyer Witscher.

The St. Michael's College Book Award for Academic Achievement and Social Conscience: Lia Calzini and Marshall Eddy.

Green Mountain Girls' State: Esra Anzali and Alixis Williams.

Green Mountain Boys' State: Kirin Biancosino and Kaden Hammond.

The Harvard Book Award: Alex Almeida-Perez.

The Bowdoin Book Award: Max Goodfellow.

Clarkson University The Leadership Award: Maya Breckenridge.

The Clarkson University Achievement Award: Mattisen Austin.

RIT High School Awards: Graham-Gurland, Berkeley Emily Computing; Johnson, Women in STEM; Alixis Williams, Humanities and Social Sciences.

Society of Women **Engineers** North Country Section: Honors, Navah Glikman; High Honors, Mary Harrington; Highest Honors, Solstice Binder.

2022 HOBY (Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Seminar): Brady Lloyd, Evelyn Schoelzel and Adelena Young.

Rotary Youth Leadership Award: Kayla Haugan, Lila Hescock, Alice Livesay and Henry McConnell.

2021 National Merit Scholarship Program: Finalists - Lucas Flinner and Avery Hamilton; Commended Students - Indy Fetterolf, Baker Nelson and Margaret Orten.

Vermont Golf Association Scholarship: Cooper Quinn.

Addison County Foundation Scholarship: Ruby

Mike Ringey Baseball/Softball

Sportsmanship Scholarship: Lily Dame and Alex Sperry. Century **Twenty-First**

Discovery Awards Language and Literature

Grade 9: Alayna LaFlam, Connor Desabrais, Maddy Bishop and Nora

Grade 10: Ida Blackwell, Ezra Choudhury, Logan Taylor and Ari Santiago.

Grade 11: Berkeley Graham-Gurland, Josie Gaiotti, Logan Edmonds-Beattie, Candace Bloom and Hex Bingham.

Grade 12: Clara Chant, Silas Quinn, Joshua Kafumbe and Xavier

Individuals & Societies

and Elle MacIntyre.

Ruby Reed and Nason Watson.

Littlefield and Emily Johnson.

Cooper Quinn.

Mathematics

Landwehr and Christopher Bunt. Grade 10: Jason Sperry, Isabel Quinn, Cora Bliven, Isla Weaber

Grade 11: Navah Glikman, Maya Breckenridge, Kirin Biancosino,

Grade 12: Eva Andrews, Addison Schnoor, Addison Dunakin, Margaret Orten and Jackson Trump.

Grade 9: Emily Zenteno-Sanchez, Ben Dutton, Eve Menguc, Paras

Grade 10: Taylor Altemose and

Grade 11: Marilyn Almeida-Perez and Callan McDowell Grade 12: Subia Khan, Clara

Language Acquisition Grade 9: Nora Warren, Ella

and Sadie Chance. Grade 10: Isaiah Robinson, Isabel

Malcolm. Grade 11: Lyle Carey, Grace Ritter, Esra Anzali and Alixis

Williams. Grade 12: Anika Heppell, Jessie Bodette, Sara Kent and Keil

Fuentes-George.

Grade 9: Emily Zenteno-Sanchez

Grade 10: Gwenn Rheaume,

Grade 11: Nick Carpenter, Oprea

Grade 12: Natalie Gillett and

Grade 9: Havyn Brush, Ellie Orten, McMillan Caldwell, Mary

and Raphael Mitchell.

Katelyn Busby and Austin Gero.

Biancosino and Lilia Peterson.

Nataly Johnson.

Chant and Bea Hooper.

Cram, Elle MacIntyre, Maya Jacobs

Quinn, Truth Fetterolf and Rowdy

Broderson

Physical and Health Education Grade 9: Wyatt McKee. Grade 10: Graeham Zieger.

Grade 11: Kendra Mahler. Grade 12: Avery Carl. Design

Grade 10: Logan Taylor. MUHS CORE Theory of

Knowledge Award Grade 11: Gunnar Boe, Avery Hohenschau and Katelyn Busby. Grade 12: Ella Kozak, Lucas

Flinner and Gabriel Schmitt. Rose Martin Foreign Language

Award: India Danyow. Faith Sholes Biology Award:

Leila Stillman-Utterback. Millicent Rooney Arts Award

Baker Nelson. Literature Janet Winkler

Award Leila Stillman-Utterback. Carl Ciemniewski Book Award

Indy Fetterolf. George Perkins-Marsh Book

Award

Ada Weaber. Language Book Awards In Spanish Ethan Spritzer. In French Indy Fetterolf. In Latin Ian Sinclair.

MUHS Departmental Awards for Academic Achievement Language & Literature

Grade 12: Margaret Orten. Honorable Mention, Sarah Benz and Leila Stillman-Utterback, Grade 11: Maya Breckinridge.

Honorable Mention, Grace Ritter and Navah Glickman,. Grade 10: Isla Weaber. Honorable

Mention, Maggie Morter and Taryn Burns. Grade 9: Anni Broderson. Honorable Mention, Louisa Orten

and Jonathan Carpenter. *Individuals & Societies* Grade 12: Quinn Collins. Honorable Mention,

Kolesnik and Alex Sperry. Grade 11: Maya Breckinridge. Honorable Mention, Hammond and Esra Anzali.

Grade 10: Alice Livesay. Honorable Mention, Maggie Morter and Genevieve Volpe.

Grade 9: Louisa Orten. Honorable Mention, Jorgen Pirrung and Selma

Language Acquisition Grade 12: Beth McIntosh. Honorable Mention, Poduschnick and Sarah Benz.

Grade 11: Peter Conklin. Honorable Mention, Maya Breckenridge and Kaden Hammond.

Grade 10: Graeham Zieger. Honorable Mention, Sam Sherman and Ida Blackwell.

Grade 9: Emily Zenteno-Sanchez. Honorable Mention, Eve Menguc and Henry Kervick.

Mathematics Grade 12: Keil Broderson.

Honorable Mention, Ethan Spritzer and Sarah Benz.

Grade 11: Max Goodfellow. Honorable Mention, Solstice Binder and Mary Harrington.

Grade 10: Annan Duquette-Hoffman. Honorable Mention, Alice Livesay and Graeham Zieger. Grade 9: Louisa Orten. Honorable Mention, Killian Barry and Edi Newhouse-Ringling.

Science Grade 12: Sarah Benz. Honorable Mention, Eva Andrews and

Margaret Orten. Grade 11: Theo Fallis. Honorable Mention, Max Goodfellow and Mary Harrington

Grade 10: Isabel Quinn. Honorable Mention, Alice Livesay and Ida Blackwell.

Grade 9: Harper Hendy. Honorable Mention, Louisa Orten and Eve Menguc. Fine Arts

Grade 12: Ethan Spritzer. Honorable Mention, Ella Kozak and Sara Kent.

Grade 11: Molly Thalen. Honorable Mention, Jonathan Kafumbe and Kirin Biancosino.

Grade 10: Isaiah Robinson. Honorable Mention, Annan Duquette-Hoffman and Adalaide Markowski.

Selma Citarella. Grade 9: Honorable Mention, Henry Kervick and Mira Biancosino.

Physical & Health Education Grade 12: Indy Fetterolf. Honorable Mention, Jackson Trump and Avery Hamilton

Grade 11: Jonathan Kafumbe. Honorable Mention, Austin Gero and Solstice Binder.

Grade 10: Sophia Nicolai. Honorable Mention, Wylie St. Clair and Ida Blackwell. Grade 9: Louisa Orten. Honorable

Mention, Sadie Jette and Adam

Eagle honor

AN EAGLE COURT of Honor was held on Sunday, June 8, to celebrate the elevation of VUHS Senior Brody McGuire (left) and VUHS Senior Grey Fearon (right) to Eagle Scouts of the Vergennes Troop 539.

Design

Grade 12: Gavin Jones. Honorable Mention, Chase Boudreau and Zackery Ho.

Grade 11: Barlow McWilliams. Honorable Mention, Lackard and Julian Vukoder.

Grade 10: Jack Hoyler. Honorable Mention, Wylie St. Clair and Taryn Burns.

Grade 9: Chris Bunt. Honorable Mention, Porter McDonnell and Kilian Barry.

The William Lawson and Catherine Dieman Principals' Awards: Grade 10: Tripp Stone; Grade 11: Mercedes Sheldrick and Austin Gero; Grade 12: Grace Charbonneau and Chase Boudreau.

Dud Phinney Sportsmanship Award: Sarah Benz and Luke Nuceder

Paul Gonzalez Athlete of the **Year Award:** Alex Sperry and Beth

McIntosh. **Dorey Cup Award:** Mary

Harrington and Cooke Riney. **International Baccalaureate** Honors

Grade 12 Certificate Candidates: Matthew Berg, Joseph Bergevin, Blackwell, Angus Boulanger, Keil Broderson, Aaron Carr-Perlow, Quinn Collins, Piper Farnsworth, Lucas Flinner, Aven Frankovic, Anika Heppell, Subia Khan, Georgie Kiel, Ella Kozak, Elizabeth McIntosh, Luke Nuceder, Cooper Quinn, Silas Quinn, Addison Schnoor, Ian Sinclair, Penelope Stein, Jackson Trump, Ada Weaber and Nachuan Zhang.

Grade 12 Diploma Candidates:

Sarah Benz, Jessie Bodette, Sophia Boise, Elsa Burrows, Clara Chant, Lila Cook Yoder, India Danyow, Greyson Dennison, George Devlin, Jillian Dragon, Addison Dunakin, Indy Fetterolf, Avery Hamilton, Meredith Horne, Juliette Hunsdorfer, Sara Kent, Emma Morrissey, Baker Nelson, Margaret Orten, Lucy Poduschnick, Jacques Snell, Ethan Spritzer, Leila Stillman-Utterback and Ronan Young.

Cum Laude Medallions GPA 3.5 - 3.74: Joseph Bergevin, Ollie Choudhury, Lila Cook Yoder, Jillian Dragon, Natalie Gillett, Meredith Horne, Juliette Hunsdorfer, Sophia Lawton, Tucker Morter, Luke Nuceder, Ian Sinclair, Pelagia Slater, Alex Sperry, Avery Vant, and Nachuan Zhang

Magna Cum Laude Medallions **GPA 3.75 - 3.99:** Eva Andrews, Matthew Berg, Jessie Bodette, Keil Broderson, Elsa Burrows, Aaron Carr-Perlow, Clara Chant, Quinn Collins, India Danyow, George Devlin, Addison Dunakin, Piper Farnsworth, Lucas Flinner, Anika Heppell, Bea Hooper, Georgie Kiel, Ella Kozak, Avery Hamilton, Ruby Harrison-Irwin, Emma Morrissey, Haakon Olsen, Lucy Poduschnick, Silas Quinn, Addison Schnoor, Jacques Snell, Nel Stein, Jackson

Trump and Ada Weaber. **Summa Cum Laude Medallions** GPA 4.0+: Sarah Benz, Indy Fetterolf, Sara Kent, Beth McIntosh, Baker Nelson, Margaret Orten, Ethan Spritzer, Leila Stillman-Utterback and Ronan Young.

GRAND OPENING



LaRose.

CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, JUNE 21 10 AM - 5 PM

Celebrate with us as we open the doors to Toad Hall Flowers in downtown Middlebury—a shop where flowers, creativity, and seasonal beauty come to life!

- **☆** Make-Your-Own Terrarium Station
- **☆** Honey Tasting with Our Local Honey Vendor
- **Create-Your-Own Bouquet at the Flower Bar**
- **Wearable Flower Patches for Kids & Adults**

& Browse Our Thoughtful Goods, Plants & Gifts

PLUS: Hidden Prizes & Surprises All Day!



SHOP FRIDAY THE 20TH TO SATURDAY THE 28TH FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A **GOLDEN TICKET!**

> (redeemable for a private first-look shopping experience for 2 with exclusive discounts for the holiday season.)

Stop in, get inspired, and help us kick off this next chapter—we can't wait to welcome you

228 Maple Street, down the alley from Main Street into the Marble Works, Middlebury • Open Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. • 802-989-0083 Follow @toadhall_flowers on Instagram or visit thefourpillarsfarmstead.com for details















No Kings Day

MORE THAN 2,500 people participated in No Kings Day rallies MORE THAN 2,500 people participated in No Kings Day rallies organized at several Addison County locations this past Saturday, June 14. Attendees brought their signs, voices and energy to what was a nationwide protest of Trump Administration policies that they believe demonstrate an increasingly authoritarian presidency. Rep. Peter Conlon, D-Cornwall, joined a No Kings rally in Leicester (top photo). A nice crowd also turned out in Salisbury (lower left photo). More than 700 people flooded Middlebury's Court Square and its downtown area to hammer home their concerns (the balance of these photos). Other protesters (not pictured) gathered in clusters along Route 7, from Salisbury to North Ferrisburgh — as well as an estimated 525 in the Vergennes City Park — during a four-hour period, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Photos provided by Independent staff and protest participants





Center

(Continued from Page 1A) pursuing a zoning change needed to build such a facility on a stateowned 8-acre site on Comfort Hill in northern Vergennes.

Minoli wrote:

"I am following up on the letter submitted by the Department of Buildings and Grounds and General Services (BGS) on June 25, 2024, in which BGS requested the expansion of the Public District (PUB) to support the state's efforts in siting the future Green Mountain Youth Campus on state-owned property in Vergennes that is outside the PUB. Thank you for your time and consideration of that request over the past year. BGS is formally withdrawing that request."

However, she and other state officials had yet, as of Tuesday, clarified what their plans are moving forward for the juvenile detention and counseling center, and whether those plans might still include Vergennes.

After receiving a copy of Minoli's Thursday email, the Independent emailed Minoli and Department for Children and Families Commissioner Chris Winters seeking to answer those questions.

The Independent asked, "What plans, if any, do you folks have at this point for such a facility in Vergennes or elsewhere, please?"

Midafternoon the next day. June 13, BGS Spokesperson Cole Barney replied to that email with the following (italics as in the

"I am following up on inquiry yesterday to vour Commissioners Minoli and Winters regarding BGS' PUB expansion request withdrawal. Please see the statement below in response:

We have put our plans for this parcel on hold as the State considers and evaluates options. It is a priority for both BGS and DCF to move forward in a way that will support the unique needs of Vermont youth in crisis. We appreciate the City of Vergennes's consideration of our request to date."

The *Independent* replied to that email at 3:05 p.m. on June 13, copying Barney, Minoli and Winters. That email asked: "The statement indicates options are being considering. Do any of those options involve Vergennes?"

As of Wednesday morning there was no response to that email. **CITY CONCERNS**

Meanwhile, Mayor Chris Bearor and Councilor Mark Koenig, who chaired the Ad Hoc Committee the residents while making their pitch city council appointed to negotiate with state for compensation if it Mountain Youth Campus. should accept the Green Mountain

Campus within city limits, are concerned the state could be eyeing some of the roughly 60acre Northlands Job Corps campus for the youth facility if the U.S. Department of Labor succeeds in closing the center.

The National Job Association Corps on June 4 won in court a temporary restraining stopping the DOL from shutting down Northlands and the 98 other contractoroperated Job Corps centers. A Tuesday hearing in the U.S. District Court of Southern New York State was set to determine if that would association

win an injunction to further delay to go forward, which they told us the shutdown.

Per Northlands Center Director Michael Dooley late on Tuesday the judge extended the restraining order on the centers' shutdown until June 25 while he makes a ruling on the request for the injunction.

But that decision would probably not decide Northlands' and other centers' long-term fate, as an appeal of the decision by either side is

Regardless, Koenig pointed out the Northlands campus is already zoned in the city's Public District, and DCF and BGS would not need

zoning permission to establish a new juvenile facility there, theoretically even on a small part of the campus.

Koenig noted the agencies could simply say, "We set up some fencing around it, and we're done. We don't have to ask permission of anybody."

He added, however, such an action would run counter to what Winters and former BGS Commissioner Jennifer Fitch told city officials and to Vergennes for hosting the Green

"But then their (position), 'We only want to come to a community where

we're welcome,' is

still trying to out the door," Koenig figure out what said. Also, on June 6 the we can do to committee Koenig gain control of chairs met to approve all that empty a draft letter stating it had come to an end of land to bring in its mission because some housing. of a lack of progress The governor in its work and what is still saying Koenig called a lack of cooperation from housing is an state officials. They important thing, approved that letter and we need to as a report to the city *bring in more* council on June 10, and the city council people, and accepted it on that there's 180 date. acres of land

> — Councilor Mark Koenig

not being used."

"Vergennes is

feel like 'We there is nothing to go forward on right now. The state has not given us the information we need

they were going to (do) a number of times," Koenig said. "The planning commission didn't take up a motion to change any zoning because they don't have the information they need to make any decisions.'

Koenig told the council, "As far as the Ad Hoc Committee is concerned, as far as something happens from the state, we are done with our work."

The Independent asked Koenig about the issue of compensation to the city for hosting the center, something that Winters and Fitch had more than hinted could be

forthcoming, and that Springfield received for agreeing to allow a prison to be built within its town limits. City officials believe police and fire protection would be called to the facility, and residents and officials alike expressed concerns about property values declining.

"When we had a smaller meeting in Montpelier (on April 6) with the two commissioners with a smaller group from Vergennes, the implication we got was our ask for the land was probably not going to happen, and they didn't understand why we would be needing any extra money for safety and fire,' Koenig replied. "They didn't say we were not going to get it, but it felt like we were not going to get it. Since those were pretty much the only things we were asking for, it felt like, well, why are we even

Koenig said regardless of the fate of the Green Mountain Youth Campus there remains the larger issue of the state owning a large chunk of northwestern Vergennes, and what is the best use of that property for the public good. City officials believe that use is housing, including affordable housing.

"Vergennes is still trying to figure out what we can do to gain control of all that empty land to bring in some housing," Koenig said. "The governor is still saying housing is an important thing, and we need to bring in more people, and there's 180 acres of land not being used."

The mayor said the council has formally discussed the committee's report, but Bearor was confident in speaking for the councilors on the

"We haven't discussed it, but I think everyone is in agreement that the committee has spoken, and we're going to support whatever they tell us to do," Bearor said.

And the ball is in the state's court, he added.

"We're not going to have any more meetings unless they come to us with something," Bearor said. "We're totally waiting on the state if they want to pursue anything more. Our committee has done due diligence."

Protest

(Continued from Page 1A) mobilization.

Burlington saw one of its biggest protests in recent years. Geri Peterson, lead organizer with the activist network 50501, said 8,000 people signed up to participate in the rally on the Burlington waterfront. But as everyone gathered in front of the stage set up for the event, she said the crowd grew to more than 16,000 people, based on the group's drone footage.

People showed different protecting reasons: democracy, standing up for immigrants, protesting the Trump administration's budget and program cuts, showing solidarity with Palestinians, upholding LGBTQ+ and reproductive rights, and more.

The protest in Burlington unfolded peacefully Saturday. As the lawn filled with people, speakers began taking the stage.

Mohsen Mahdawi, a Palestinian activist and Columbia University student previously arrested by ICE during an interview to obtain U.S. citizenship, shared his experience growing up in a refugee camp under the Israeli government and witnessing the killing of his best friend. He said the solidarity and love of Vermonters helped him heal from the trauma he experienced.

"We see the fires in California and the violence, and it's like a spark, and if we don't put it down, any spark of violence here, the fire will spread," Mahdawi said. "We have to put it down with love and care. We have to keep guarding our communities."

Rep. Becca Balint, D-Vt., Vermont's lone member in the U.S. House of Representatives, also spoke to the crowd: "Today is an urgent call for every American, no matter who you voted for, no matter if you voted at all," she said.

Balint referenced how Sen. Alex Padilla, D-Calif., was recently taken to the ground and zip-tied by Homeland Security agents after

interrupting a press conference hosted by Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem.

"He was doing his work — his responsibility to do oversight over Homeland Security," Balint said. "If they will do that to a man with that much power, what are they doing to the least among us?"

Balint denounced the threats and harassment faced by students, residents and migrant workers and encouraged people to continue organizing and resisting.

"We, today, are community by doing this important work together" she said, "and we will use it to push back against policies that don't serve us, against politicians who divide us, against people who want to keep us down. That's why we are out here today."

Meanwhile, in Montpelier, the Statehouse lawn was teeming with more than a thousand people attending the capital's "No Kings"

Ron Dufresne, a veteran, said attending the rally was part of his

"I came to the protest today because we have to reclaim our country," Dufresne said. "I took an oath to support and defend the Constitution as a U.S. Army officer, and I take that oath very seriously. I see this administration trampling on the Constitution. Our country will only be strong if we, the people, reclaim our devotion to the Constitution and rule of law.'

More than 40 events were held around the state Saturday, including border-to-border anti-Trump flag parade that traveled up Route 7 from Massachusetts to Canada. Vermonters honked and waved along the route as the parade passed by. At least 15 communities outside of the parade route held their own anti-Trump protests. Several thousand people gathered throughout Addison County, including over 750 in Middlebury.

Keep up to date with all the action, read

Arts + Leisure

every Thursday in the Addy Indy!

Swap out your old water heater. For free.



(888) 921-5990

While funds last, you can get up to 100% of costs covered on a new heat pump water heater.*

Water heating is a home's second-highest energy expense. The good news: you can reduce energy costs by about 50% when you swap out old equipment for a qualifying, all-electric heat pump water heater.

- Low-income Vermonters are eligible for 100% of costs covered (up to \$5,000)
- Moderate-income Vermonters are eligible for 90% of costs covered (up to \$4,500)
- Even if you don't qualify, you can still receive a \$600 rebate and low-interest financing through Efficiency Vermont's Home Energy Loan. Federal tax credits and additional electric utility incentives can help you save even more.

Act soon – this funding is available for a limited time only!

Learn more at:

efficiencyvermont.com/hpwh (888) 921-5990



City man cited for disrupting protestors

VERGENNES — Vergennes police on June 14 cited a city resident for allegedly smoking his tires on more than one occasion on the southbound lane of Main Street "uncomfortably close" to protesters during No Kings Day who were crowding the sidewalk at the time.

Police allege that Edward Wildasin, 40, was the driver of the vehicle being driven in that manner and cited him into court to answer to charges of negligent operation of a motor vehicle, reckless endangerment and disorderly

In other activity between June 9 and 15, Vergennes police conducted seven cruiser patrols and 14 traffic stops, honored nine fingerprint requests, responded to a false alarm, and also:

On June 9:

- Took a complaint from a woman who said she was bitten by a dog at Monkton Road business, but its owner refused to identify himself or help her. Police contacted the owner and referred the case to the city health officer.
- Investigated a report of unlicensed dogs at a South Maple Street address.
- Conducted an untimely death investigation at a Hillside Acres address. Police determined no foul play was involved.

On June 10:

- Took a report of damage done to a vehicle during a snowstorm in February. Police said there was insufficient information to investigate the incident.
- Helped a Main Street resident with alleged ongoing issues with a former spouse; police are still looking into the situation.
- Took a report of minor motor vehicle damage that allegedly

Vergennes Police Log

occurred on School St. during the Memorial Day parade. On June 11:

- Served two relief from abuse orders on a Vergennes resident.
- · Were told a man wandered onto a Green Street resident's porch and sat on furniture there without permission; the incident is still under investigation.
- · Were informed a student had left the high school and was last seen walking on Monkton Road but were quickly told the student had returned to school.
- Turned over a student who had left the high school to the parents.
- Responded to a two-vehicle crash at the intersection of West Main Street and Panton Road. Police said one vehicle sustained significant front-end damage with airbag deployment and fluid leakage, requiring a tow and fire department response, while the second vehicle had minor rear-end damage and was driven from the scene. One person later reported a minor arm injury from the airbag. On June 12:
- Calmed a dispute between Second Street neighbors sparked by one neighbor's dog going on the other's property. Police told the dog owner to be sure it is leashed or on a run at all times and to discontinue any contact with the neighbor.
- Checked an allegation of animal neglect at a Hillside Acres address, but found no problems.
- Checked the welfare of a First Street resident after the individual

didn't show up for a doctor's appointment and discovered the individual was hospitalized.

- Were informed by the manager of the Vergennes Farmer's Market that two vehicles were parked on Park Street, which had been blocked for the market. The manager supplied plate numbers, and police contacted the vehicle owners, who moved the vehicles.
- Conducted a Drug Influence Evaluation for Vermont State
- Completed a records request on behalf of a Vergennes resident.

On June 13:

- · Looked unsuccessfully for an allegedly suspicious man knocking on a Bowman Road door in the
- · Responded to the report of a vehicle running into the Methodist Church on Main Street. Police said there was extensive damage to the car as well as the church's handicap ramp and front stairs, but no one was hurt.
- Fulfilled two records requests for a Vergennes resident.
- Cited Christal Ramos, 42, of Vergennes into Addison County District Court for failure to appear for a court proceeding. Police said there was an active arrest warrant for Ramos ordering that she be issued a citation for the next Monday.
- Were told of a possible attempted break-in at a Meadow Acres residence. The homeowner discovered plexiglass on a back door had been broken the night before, but nothing was missing. Police said there was not enough information to justify police action.
- On June 15 took a report of minor damage to a grave decoration; police said as of Monday an investigation was pending.



Time to lay some eggs

A SNAPPING TURTLE made its way through the Marble Works last Saturday in search of a spot to lay eggs - and she was not alone. A few days later another, smaller version, did the same just outside the Addison Independent.

Photo by T Chatary

ADDISON COUNTY

School Briefs

Catherine Harrison Middlebury was recently elected to membership into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor

society, at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Harrison is among approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for



DOWNLOAD the WVTK App Today

Streaming | On-Demand | Contests | and more Android Auto and Apple CarPlay Compatible







921WVTK.COM

Sheriff's Log

The Addison County Sherriff's Office completed patrols in multiple towns, stopped 21 vehicles for various motor vehicle violations and also logged these activities between June 8-14: 06/08/2025:

• In Middlebury, fingerprinted 8 people for background checks;

• Pittsford – New hire attended training at the Police Academy.

• Ferrisburgh - Assisted with traffic control at a special event.

• Middlebury - Provided a transport for a prisoner from jail to their hearing at the courthouse. Also, in Middlebury, assisted a person that had locked themselves out of their vehicle.

06/10/2025:

• 06/09/2025:

• Middlebury – Sheriff Elmore attended a meeting with CSAC and other County police departments to provide feedback on the department's partnership with

• Monkton - Arrested Isaac Fleming (45) and Sabrina Wedge (42) of Ferrisburgh for stealing cans that had been donated to the Monkton Boy Scouts.

06/11/2025:

 Addison – Assisted VSP with a theft in progress at the Bridge Restaurant.

• Montpelier – Sheriff Elmore attended a legislative update provided by the State Attorney and Sheriff's central office.

• Vergennes – Assisted a landlord with an eviction.

• Middlebury – Provided security at a State building due to threats. 06/12/2025:

• Barre - Sheriff Elmore attended a training course to become a TASER instructor.

• Middlebury – Provided security at a State building due to threats.

• Cornwall – Assisted rescue and VSP with an overdose call. 06/13/2025:

• Middlebury – Provided security at a State building due to threats. 06/14/2025:

• Bridport – Provided a cruiser for "Bridport Day" so anyone interested could look at the cruiser and learn more about what we do.

• Ferrisburgh – Provided security for a special event at the Maritime Museum.





SUNDAY AUGUST 17, 2025

.9 mile swim • 28 mile bike • 6.2 mile run

All races start and end at Lake **Dunmore's Branbury** State Park



BRANBURY CLASSIC SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2025

1.5 mile Paddle | 14 mile Bike | 3.1 mile Run

Teams and Individuals • 802-388-6888

VERMONTSUN.COM



JENN AND ERIC Montgomery proudly show off Middlebury's new ceremonial mayor, Tela, who kicked off her one-year term on Monday. Tela's duties will include advocating for spay & neuter and rabies vaccinations, inspiring young people to become voters, and providing cheer to town employees.

Middlebury mayor

(Continued from Page 1A) our 50th anniversary milestone?" she recalled. "The timing was serendipitous... and the rest is history.

What ensued was a mini campaign season that saw the four mayoral candidates jump, beg,

roll over and just plain look cute for voters. "The race The field included Tela, Reggie, Ed and was classy Nat. You can see their from the photos at tinyurl. start; no com/32xh3a82. There's scandals." not a loser in the bunch.

"We were looking for a dog mayor that would be a proponent of spay & neuter, registering your dog with the town and getting a rabies vaccination; an animal

that would inspire the fun in voting All candidate contributions for the young people in the area, totaling \$7,500 — went to a local that would model proper behavior in the communities — specifically at the dog parks," Manley said. "And another reason to have a dog mayor, we felt, was to boost the morale of the hardworking members of the town staff."

Supporters cast votes in an online election — for \$5 per tally, with all proceeds going to the nonprofit Homeward Bound,

Addison County's Human Society. When the fur had stopped flying, Tela finished on top with 533 votes, followed by 412 for Nat, 334 for Ed, and 237 for Reggie.

Nat — an absolutely adorable pup who provides stellar

> companionship residents of the EastView at Middlebury retirement community — was on hand to support the victor. Word in the local dog park is that Nat is being sized up for a deputy mayor

— Homeward post. It was a campaign for the ages. Zero political speeches. No TV ads. No poop slinging (all of that was bagged and disposed of properly).

nonprofit that looks after animal welfare.

"The race was classy from the start; no scandals," Manley said with a grin. "The candidates complemented each other, promoted each other. It was clear they were encouraging participation rather than a specific dog to vote for."

She said her favorite election

moment was a honk-and-wave appearance by three of the four pups and their handlers on Thursday, June 12, just as local schools were letting out.

"It was incredible. 'Honk and waves' can be kind of awkward when it's a human being; you don't want anyone to feel bad. But this was a 100% approval rating from the community..." she said. "The guardians did all the work; the canines just looked good and acted friendly."

Jenn and Eric Montgomery stood next to their Tela on Monday as Middlebury Town Clerk administered the oath of office for mayor. Tela placed her paw on a box of milk bones, swearing to steer clear of all malice, postal workers and cats. With help from Eric Montgomery, Tela put inked paw to contract, officially launching her one-year term.

"Thank you to the selectboard and to (Middlebury Town Manager) Mark (Pruhenski) for saying 'yes' to this crazy idea," Manley said with a smile.

"The team here is excited to get right to work with our new mayor," Pruhenski said.

John Flowers is at johnf@ addisonindependent.com.

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A) closest free summer meals site by logging onto hungerfreevt. org/summer-meals.

Charity Bryant and Sylvia Blake were a same-sex couple who lived an open and public life in Weybridge, Vermont from 1807 until Charity's death in 1850. When Sylvia passed away 17 years later, they were buried side by side in the Weybridge Hill Cemetery under a single headstone acknowledging their relationship to each other. This Saturday, June 21, their legacy as one of the Vermont's first acknowledged same-sex couples will be commemorated with a state historic marker to be installed at the Weybridge Hill Cemetery. Among those attending the ceremony, from 1-2 p.m., will be U.S. Rep. Becca Balint, D-Vt., several LGBTQ+ leaders, and officials from Middlebury's Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History, holder of the Charity and Sylvia Archive. The Sheldon will host a pop-up exhibit from the Bryant/ Drake Collection from 2:30-4 p.m., after the marker dedication ceremony.

Vermont Secretary of State Sarah Copeland Hanzas issued a strong rebuke of the recent political assassinations of Minnesota state Rep. Melissa Hortman and her husband, John, at their home in Brooklyn Park, Mn., on June 14. Also, state Sen. John Hoffman and his wife were wounded at their home in Champlin, a nearby suburb of Minneapolis. Minnesota authorities Sunday night took the suspected shooter — 57-yearold Vance Luther Boelter into custody following a twoday manhunt. Authorities have reported taking into evidence a "hit list" of 45 names - all

Democrats - that Boelter had allegedly compiled. "I am appalled and sickened by the political violence in Minnesota and grieve for the victims and their families," Copeland-Hanzas wrote in her statement. "I am thankful and we can avoid additional bloodshed. This tragedy highlights the unfortunate truth that we must continue to be vigilant and work hard to keep everyone who participates in our democracy - voters, clerks, election volunteers, and those that serve - safe. My office will continue this work, but we need everyone's help; we are stronger together. Our democracy is designed so that we can address differences through dialogue and at the ballot box. There is no excuse for violence in our country."

Ever thought about birding? Well, here's your chance to get off to an educated start. A "beginning birders walk" has been organized for Saturday, June 21, from 9-11 a.m., in Middlebury's Wright Park. Meet at the Wright Park parking lot north of Pulp Mill Covered Bridge. Participants will divide into three groups and explore side trails of the nearby Trail Around Middlebury. Experienced birders will lead the groups, which "will look and listen for birds and whatever nature gifts come our way," according to birder Barry King. As always, there will be a surprise station and hike-appropriate snacks. Bring binoculars; for those without, there will be some available to borrow. The event is being jointly sponsored by Otter Creek Audubon Society and the Middlebury Area Land Trust. Call 713-818-7033 with any questions.

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (AOT) preparing to modernize its aviation program by reviewing and revising policies, minimum standards for airport use, and operational procedures at stateowned airports with paved that law enforcement has runways throughout the state. apprehended the perpetrator, Included in that review will be the Middlebury State Airport, which will the subject of a public engagement meeting on July 15. Before the scheduled meeting, the AOT will provide links to join meetings virtually or by telephone https://vtrans.vermont. gov/aviation. The topics the Agency will address in the policy modernization process will include assessing lease rate structures; airport access and security, including vehicle and pedestrian access; policy development and mechanisms for ongoing feedback; airport development, hangar use and inspections; commercial use of airports; and community access and economic development. The initial phase of policy modernization is expected to take about a year. An online survey is now available for responses through Aug. 15, at tinyurl.com/a98my9cz.

> Average gasoline prices in Vermont have risen 1.6 cents per gallon during the past week to \$3.04, according to GasBuddy's survey of 626 stations. Prices are 4.1 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and 41.5 cents lower than a year ago. The cheapest station in Vermont sold at \$2.59 per gallon earlier this week, while the most expensive sold at \$3.29. Meanwhile, the national average price of gasoline has risen 1.1 cents per gallon to \$3.08. That average is down 9.5 cents from a month ago and 32.7 from a year

Introducing: Public health vending machines



Vending machines, now in Middlebury and coming soon in Bristol, are stocked with life-saving naloxone (Narcan), test strips for xylazine and fentanyl, personal hygiene products and wound care supplies.

Free support is always available

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Turning Point Center of Addison County

ADDISON COUNTY

School Briefs

Bound

Director

Development

Hannah Manley

been named to its spring 2025 dean's list at the University of Rhode Island. They are: **Melody** List, fulltime students must have Berenbaum and Isadora Luksch completed 12 or more credits

Several area students have of Middlebury and Ila Collette of North Ferrisburgh.

To be included on the Dean's

for letter grades which are GPA applicable during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality

point average.

Community Wellness Starts Here

Stay informed, inspired, and proactive with the Addy Indy's Health & Well-Being special. Filled with helpful stories, local expertise, and real-world wellness tips — it's your guide to living better, right here in Addison County.

Catch it in next week's edition!

"There is still so

right foundation

formula? There

decisions still to

— Sen. Ruth Hardy

be made."

Education bill

(Continued from Page 1A) implications are impossible to like. The bill's supporters insist it voted 'Yes' for it because I ran

will bring stability to districts and bend the cost curve that's caused property taxes much work that to rise rapidly in needs to be done recent years.

on this bill. How Earlier in the day, do we (draw) the Senate had passed the districts? H.454 despite most What do we do of the chamber's Democratic caucus about special education? voting in opposition. In the Senate — and How do we later in the House fund career-— the bill survived and technical attempts to kill it on education? procedural grounds. What do we do **LOCAL** REACTION about pre-K?

The Independent What is the reached out to three lawmakers for their thoughts of are so manu passage on H.454: state Sen. Heffernan, Steve who serves on the Senate Education Committee: Sen.

Ruth Hardy, D-Middlebury, who serves on Senate Finance; and Rep. Peter Conlon, D-Cornwall, who chairs the House Education Committee and was a member of the legislative conference committee that negotiated the final version of the landmark bill.

• Conlon (who voted yes): "H. 454 sets up a framework for change that will unfold over a decade, but only if numerous contingencies are met and the Agency of Education demonstrates that it can provide the support and management of this level of change.

"School districts in areas like Addison County with high per-pupil spending will face a need to adapt to the new funding formula, but that funding will be stable and predictable. And our

equation, too."

 Heffernan, who voted yes: predict without knowing what "(H.454) is a landmark change future school districts will look for our education (system)...I

on, and feel and believe, that my constituents wanted to see a change in our education system."

"What concerns me is the concerns that people have may all be for naught if we cannot decide next January and February on new districting. It all hinges on that... That's another reason I voted for it, is that it shows change, it brings us to a foundation formula which will give our schools and state numbers, known rather than waiting for the school boards to put together their budgets and then, whether the voters

pass or don't pass

them, it will give a more constant and even keel to what schools can spend, and there is a provision in there that if the school (district) decides they want to spend more... then they will have that ability to vote and to spend more in the district if they choose.'

• Hardy, who voted no, (excerpts from her remarks delivered from the Senate floor on June 16): "We had a conference committee that didn't represent the Senate's version (of H.454.) and did not engage in good faith with the public school community... The conference committee colored outside the lines.'

"There is still so much work that needs to be done on this bill. How do we (draw) the districts? What do we do about special education? taxpayers should see significant How do we fund career- and relief. That is a major part of the technical education? What do we in the school, to substitute in

do about pre-K? What is the right foundation formula? There are so many decisions still to be made.

"I have literally put blood, sweat and tears into this process, and a lot of heart. This is a hard vote for me today.'

Herb Rep. D-Starksboro, who said (via social media) before the June 16 voice vote in the House, that he was leaning toward a "no" vote:

"I'm not OK, and I do not believe most of the community is OK, with a bill that includes policies likely to result in the arbitrary closure of our elementary schools, even if they are providing a good education at a reasonable

Please see the letter to the editor, in this edition, from Rep. Rob North, R-Ferrisburgh, who voted yes on the bill.

The bill drew ire from the associations representing Vermont's education community, over the weekend, superintendents and school board members went public with their opposition.

In an interview, Don Tinney, president of the state teacher union VT-NEA, criticized how H.454 consolidated power in Montpelier.

"I think that we know that the best decisions for students are made by people who know their students," the union leader said. "Our local school boards currently make those budget decisions, policy decisions for kids within their community, and so the centralization of power within the education system to Montpelier gives real cause for concern.

Tinney argued the state doesn't need to change how much it pays for education, but rather how it levies taxes. To that effect, the teachers' union has called for funding schools with an income tax rather than a property tax, an idea that received little air time

"I would ask any policymaker, any legislator to spend a week



Dinner is served

THESE OSPREY AT Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area seem unruffled by all the rain. For them it means an abundance of fish ... and dinner. **Photo by Dottie Nelson**

classes, to work in the cafeteria, to ride the school buses for a a framework week, and at the end of the week, decide where all the fat is in the budget," he said.

Before Monday, H.454 had unusual backing for such a are met and controversial bill.

The Democrats, leading the House and Senate, had voiced support, as had Scott, a Republican. Yet provide the a majority in either support and chamber was far from certain, with a slice of both Democrats and Republicans opposed, though perhaps for

different reasons. Some have argued the bill spends lawmakers proposed phasing in too much. Others say it underfunds schools. Some fear it will gut rural school districts and shutter small schools. Still others argue it shifts too much power out of local hands

and into Montpelier. WHAT'S IN THE BILL?

Lawmakers describe H.454 as working toward two broad the help of Scott's the concerns goals: expanding educational team, devised a new that people have opportunity across the state and income-sensitized may all be for making public education more affordable for taxpayers.

To that end, the bill would consolidate Vermont's 119 school districts into larger, regional bodies, and move the state to a new education funding formula.

The state would gradually pivot to funding its education using a foundation formula beginning in fiscal year 2029. The method — used in most states across the country — moves primary authority over how much school districts can spend from the local to the state level. That's a huge change from the current system, which gives the vast majority of authority to local officials.

Under "H. 454 sets up foundation formula, districts for change that receive money based on the number of will unfold over students enrolled, a decade, but with only if numerous dollars for students contingencies who are more expensive to educate, such as English the Agency learners and students of Education from economically demonstrates disadvantaged that it can backgrounds. Districts could choose to spend more —but not less management — than the formula of this level of provides. change."

To ease — Rep. Peter Conlon transition to the formula,

the new system. As intended, that process would slowly pull back funding from districts that spend well above average now district debt and different and ramp up spending

in historically low- "What really spending areas.

Lawmakers, with concerns me is property tax discount. The framework would Vermonters allow making \$115,000 or less to exempt a portion of their new districting. house value from It all hinges on property taxes, that." with the possibility of increasing the threshold income in the future. The exemption creates a sliding scale, transformation falls apart. The with lower-income homeowners eligible for bigger exemptions. Up to \$425,000 in home value is

The bill would put into effect average class-size minimums in

eligible for the discount.

the first grade through high school for certain subject classes. But school districts would only face the possibility of repercussions for being out of compliance after three years of not meeting the minimums. Plus, a waiver process additional would allow schools to petition for an exemption. Despite the sweeping changes outlined, almost as many details need to be hashed out. The bill's biggest unknown is what future consolidated school districts could

> the Legislature would need to vote on as soon as next session. In rough terms, that group might bring back plans with anywhere from 10 to 25 future districts. Those maps, as well as the

> look like. A task force will hash

out not more than three possible

configurations this summer that

new funding formula, would take effect in July 2028.

Other key, outstanding details include how to handle existing

teachers' contracts in new, consolidated districts. Lawmakers also need to figure out how to pay for and bring down the cost of - special naught if we education, and how cannot decide money would be next January allocated to career and February on and technical education and prekindergarten. The bill

> – Sen. Steve Heffernan

structured so that if certain future requirements not fulfilled, the

foundation formula is contingent on creating consolidated school districts. Several aspects rely on future studies and the outcomes of those analyses.

INDEPENDENT DIGITAL marketing

BOOST YOUR BUSINESS WITH ACCURATE ONLINE LISTINGS

The Addy Indy's **Digital Directory** Management platform ensures your information stays up-todate across 40+ online directories including Google, Yelp, Facebook, and more.



More Visibility. More Customers. Less Hassle.

LET'S FIX YOUR LISTINGS -**SCHEDULE A DEMO TODAY!**



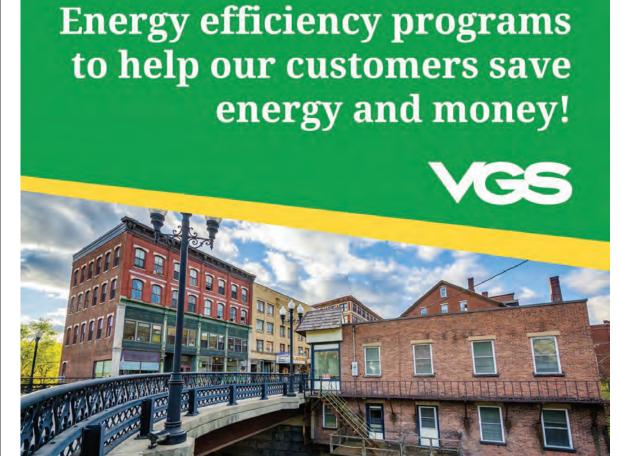
802-388-4944



digital@addisonindependent.com



addisonindependent.com/digital-directory-management-services



ACEDC

(Continued from Page 1A) applications. The ACEDC is now recruiting its first-ever workforce expansion specialist.

"With such a tight labor market, workforce development in Addison County is a complex issue with no easy fix. Having the additional capacity and support offered by the Workforce Expansion Program will be critical in helping our industry and community

underemployed with "There are just populations meaningful job opportunities," said a few hundred ACEDC Executive open jobs. It's Director Alex Armani-Munn.

not like there Camille Lyons, the $are \ a \ lot \ of \ local$ ACEDC's projects employers who and grants manager, need to hire was instrumental in assembling the 100 people or organization's 50 people; they application on a tight need to hire deadline. "I think we had two or three,

three weeks to work on it," she said during a Monday really hard to that do right now." interview included Armani-Munn.

DOL and The ACEDC are currently recruiting

the new workforce expansion access to capital; workforce specialist, whose job description development; entrepreneurship; can be found at tinyurl. com/3vvcp7ey. The application deadline is June 26.

and that's

Ideally, the new worker will have very good economic development credentials and reside in Addison County, according to Armani-Munn. The ACEDC will make its offices available to the new hire, who will also have the option of working remotely.

Once on board, the new temporary hire will begin working with employers and workers in an

unique wrinkles.

The county in April recorded a jobless rate of 2.7%, according to the DOL. There are plenty of jobs available and plenty of folks willing to take them; but sadly, there isn't enough available housing to accommodate them especially folks seeking starter homes.

And that's one of the key partners establish thoughtful, economic development roadblocks targeted strategies for connecting the workforce expansion specialist is going to have to

help solve.

"I started in this position in February (succeeding longtime ACEDC Executive Director Kenney), and every conversation I have begins and ends with housing," Armani-Munn said.

become so essential to the health economic of the county that the ACEDC board recently made it a "fifth pillar" to its raison d'etre. — ACEDC Executive The organization's Director Alex other four pillars Armani-Munn are, according to

Armani-Munn, and organizational sustainability, resiliency and effectiveness.

"In the past, our strategic development had really looked at how we could promote job opportunities and training opportunities to create those jobs; in reality, what we've found is it's a lot more complicated than that,"

Quoting from DOL statistics, Armani-Munn acknowledged that in any given month, there are 300-500 Addison County residents Addison County jobs landscape who are looking for work. The that reflects some of the statewide county — and indeed Vermont

challenges, along with some as whole — is home to a large number of retirees.

> "When we poured through all the data, we realized that with workforce development... it's a housing issue. There's not a large enough labor pool."

> Addison County had a labor pool of around 22,000 during the decade of 2000-2010, according to Armani-Munn. The county shed around 1,000 from that pool during the past 10 years, he said.

> Armani-Munn added that 34% of the county's workforce population is currently aged 60 or older. And 40% of Addison County's workforce resides outside of the county, according to ACEDC statistics.

"Unless we can get more housing in Addison County, we will not solve our workforce issues," he said.

It should be noted that some of the jobs available in the Housing creation county are seasonal and not necessarily integral to firing the area's economic engines, which include Middlebury College, Porter Medical Center, Agri-Mark Cabot, Vermont Hard Cider and BFGoodrich Aerospace Aircraft Integrated Systems in Vergennes.

"There are just a few hundred open jobs," Armani-Munn said. "It's not like there are a lot of local employers who need to hire 100 people or 50 people; they need to hire two or three, and that's really hard to do right now. We've found there's not a ton of unemployed people and there aren't a ton of open jobs. But the vacancies that exist on the supply and demand side is very stubborn and complex."

As of May 18, global job search websites reported the following number of postings in Addison County: Glassdoor (331), Indeed (300), Vermont JobLink (150), and ZipRecruiter (67).

Local health care and school district leaders, in particular, have cited examples of idea candidates having to bail on job offers



THE VERMONT DEPARTMENT of Labor has granted the Addison County Economic Development Corp. a full-time staff person to spend the next two years expanding the local workforce. Here, (L-R), we see ACEDC board Chair Jason Laroque, retiring ACEDC Executive Director Fred Kenney, and the organization's new top administrator, Alexander Armani-Munn.

Photo courtesy of Kathleen Ramsay

because they couldn't find an is a smaller-scale version of includes representatives from affordable home in the area.

With that in mind, Armani-Munn said the ACEDC will make a major pivot this year to encouraging and facilitating housing development as a recruitment agent for local businesses

How will it do that?

The strategy, which will be built by Lyons and the new workforce expansion specialist, will include:

• Helping developers and communities spearhead new housing through Vermont's newly enacted Community and Housing Infrastructure Program (CHIP). That program, according to recent reporting in VTDigger,

Vermont's existing tax increment financing program, allowing municipalities and developers to borrow money for infrastructure like roads, sidewalks and sewers for a housing project — and then use the increased property tax revenue from the homes to help pay back the debt.

• Attracting developers to the community to meet with town planners to get a sense of where new housing settlements could ideally be sited.

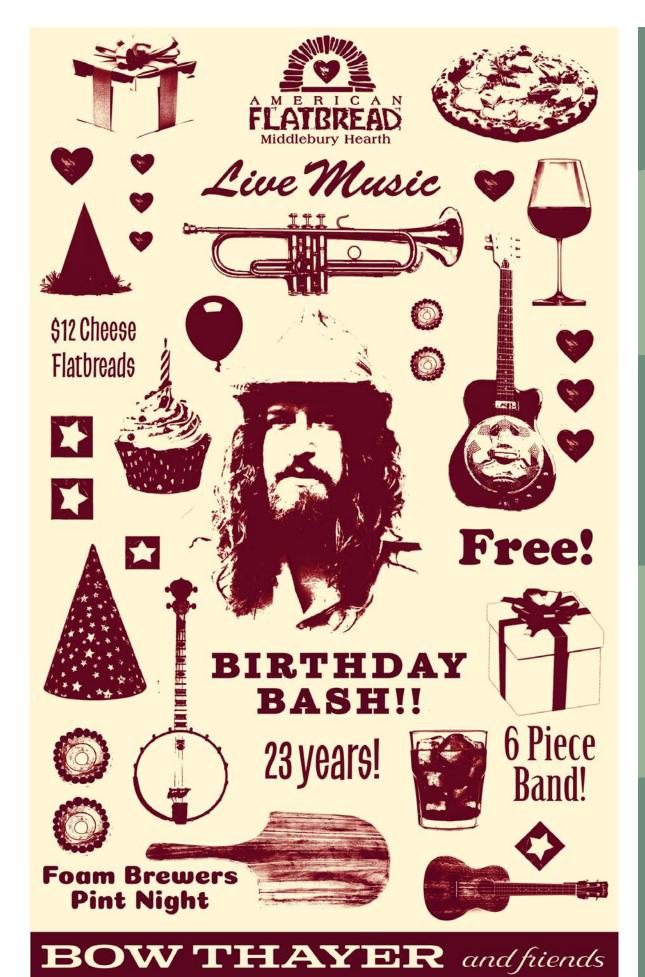
· Creating a workforce action plan, an endeavor that Lyons said will include the Addison County Workforce Alliance,

16 county employers and human services agencies.

The action plan will become even more pivotal after the ACEDC loses its workforce expansion specialist in two years.

"We're not going to build 5,000 housing units overnight or in the next year, but we're starting to play that long game — looking at the big picture to create a new strategy for starting to move the needle on housing," Armani-Munn said.

John Flowers is at johnf@ addisonindependent.com.





CONTACT US:

Tel. 802-388-2333

Food scraps

Leaf & yard debris

AddisonCountyRecycles.org

Saturdays:

7 AM to Noon

addison.co.waste.mgmt **f** addisoncountysolidwaste

FACILITY OPERATED BY JR & SONS For details on pricing, contact 802-735-9760

Faust

(Continued from Page 1A) He brings to the table over two decades of leadership experience in military service, housing development and public sector innovation, according to a biography provided to the Independent.

"His work has consistently focused on building strong communities through collaboration, equity, and resultsdriven policy," the bio reads.

More recently, Faust has served as project manager for the City of Phoenix Housing Development Division. In that position he "played a central role in designing and implementing affordable housing projects across one of the largest public housing portfolios in the country," according to Faust's

Prior to that, Faust served as a regional outreach manager at the former Human Services Campus, a nonprofit organization focused on ending homelessness.

He's also worked as a psychiatric nurse, an operations supervisor for the U.S. Army and the director of Veteran Services & Community Programs for



SPREAD THE WORD calendar @ addisonindependent.com

fabric options to create

a look that's truly yours.

802-388-6297



GREGORY W. FAUST

the UMOM New Day Centers, which provides shelter and other services for those experiencing homelessness in the Phoenix metropolitan area. His bio states that under his leadership, Arizona's Maricopa County eliminated the waitlist for veteran families experiencing homelessness and sustained functional zero (ensuring homelessness is "rare, brief and non-recurring") for more than three

"The interview committee and Selectboard were very impressed by his diverse work experience, his views on economic development and housing growth, and his ability to think strategically," Interim Town Administrator and selectboard member Ian Albinson told the *Independent*.

"We believe Greg will bring a wealth of knowledge, strong leadership, and valuable experience to the role of Bristol's Town Administrator," he continued. "He draws on his diverse background in the military, nonprofit sector, and municipal work, along with a strong understanding of financial management, which we feel will genuinely benefit our community."

The Independent will provide a more in-depth profile of Faust after he gets settled in Addison County.



It's a beauty!

The Strawberry Moon rose over Middlebury on June 11. The Strawberry Moon is typically the last full moon of spring or the first of Photo / Jonathan Blake

Bristol police

(Continued from Page 1A)

Town officials also discussed the logistics of voting on the question at Town Meeting Day, noting that police district residents would need to vote on whether to disband the current district and that a budget for a potential town-wide department should be prepared in case residents favor expansion.

"We want (Chief of Police Bruce Nason) to budget, and we want him to craft it with the idea that if it does go town-wide this is what they would like to see or this is what is manageable for the amount

of people that they would serve and the area in which they serve," Albinson explained.

The board agreed on various types of information to collect, including the general call volume for Bristol (calls that originate in and outside of the district), nature of calls, types of responses to calls, and what calls Vermont State Police receive and respond to.

"You're trying to build a picture of what the police are doing, knowing that the majority of their services are focused already in their district, as they should be," Albinson said.

"(Nason) just wants to be able to have, whether it's a single district or whether it's town-wide, he needs a clear idea of what the people want, so he can adjust accordingly the services they want to get."

Selectboard member Jessica acknowledged Teets discussions over whether to expand the department's coverage area could also explore what kinds of services the department offers in the future.

"If the purpose of this is to try to make the police budget more sustainable, we need to expand out the number of people who are paying for it, but we also might want to see what sort of calls we're getting and say, 'What sort of service can we really offer," Teets said. "If you have the capacity to unlock people's car doors for them ... that's great, but that's going to be a question I think of what people are expecting, what sorts of services are they expecting from the police department, and what are they willing to pay for."

Selectboard Chair John "Peeker" Heffernan noted that Bristol police not those involve district residents.

"It doesn't matter where you're from, if something happens in the district, they take care of it," he said. "The idea that a district resident pays the tax and they're the only one that gets the service is wrong ... I think we need to make it clear that even though you're a district resident and you're paying this tax, there are a ton of other people getting the benefit that aren't paying anything for that service, and this would be a way to even that out."

Teets pointed out that having data on calls for service could help illuminate for residents what services the police department provides.

"I think having that sort of information and sharing it really clearly will make it clear to people what is the benefit, the costs and then, if we want to keep these services and make them sustainable, we need to broaden out the tax base," Teets said. "Hopefully, that will be compelling."

Albinson noted than an intern will be working with town officials currently respond to any incident to help compile the information in the police district, whether or needed in the coming months.



www.woodwarevt.com

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

FINE FURNITURE

\$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 Sunday, June 22 Tuesday, June 24 Wednesday, June 25

10 am-1 pm | Saturday, June 28 10 am-1 pm Sunday, June 29 12-3 pm 4-6 pm Tuesday, July 1 4-6 pm | Wednesday, July 2

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

12-3 pm

4-6 pm

4-6 pm

- 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

PEASANT MARKET WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY, JULY 12TH FROM 9AM - 1PM

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3 Main Street, Middlebury • ststephensmidd.org

Proceeds benefit local human service and relief agencies.

MUHS tennis star holds court

"I think I'm

and mentally

willing to do

whatever it

takes to get

and play my

best tennis.

I'm pretty good

Murray

at adapting to

and physically

Dedication to sport pays off for Murray

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Two of the all-time great guitar gunslingers Jimi Hendrix and Stevie Ray Vaughan used to practice upwards of six hours a day on their Stratocasters. They were even known to fall asleep with their axes, ready to play them when they woke up.

Middlebury's Jackson Murray wields a different kind of axe, though his commitment to his craft is no less impressive. Only he generates sweet music with a racquet, hitting a ball over a net on a court. Murray, a member of the Middlebury Union High School tennis team, scaled the Vermont varsity heights of the sport on May 31 by winning the individual boys' tennis state championship in Essex.

Murray, a polite, introspective and committed young man, became the first MUHS player to win the boy's singles

title since Alex Davydov did it three years running, from 1996 to 1998. The latest Tiger consistent, tennis wunderkind graduated on Saturday, June 7. This fall, Murray will pack his racquet, tennis balls, laptop and other gear as he heads to St. Lawrence University. There, he'll write the next chapter the right result in his academic and athletic

"Jackson lends credence to an increasingly understood scientific theory/belief as explored by researchers and my opponent." scientists that intentional practice, in the right way, results in a high level of excellence, of mastery,"

MUHS boys' tennis coach Ken Schoen the captive tennis ball. said of his star player's well-earned prowess.

"Jackson is proof that persistent hard work produces extraordinary results for himself and others."

That hard work began at an early age.

When other 5-year-olds were playing with toy trucks and building blocks, Jackson was taking swipes at a tennis ball that his dad, Chris Murray, had tied to a string tethered to a tree branch in the backyard.

"My dad has always been into tennis and got me into it," Jackson Murray said during an interview last Thursday at his second home, Middlebury Indoor Tennis (MIT).

— Jackson "I'd hit the ball, it would come back to me," he said of his frequent yoyo duels with

Truth be told, the ball didn't always come back to him; he had to adjust to the at-times irregular return. Those (See Murray, Page 5B)



JACKSON MURRAY, SHOWN at Middlebury Indoor Tennis, has spent more than a decade living and breathing tennis. It paid off big-time this year, with an individual state title.

Independent photo/Steve James

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Section THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2025

ALSO IN THIS SECTION:

- School News
- Classifieds
- Legal Notices
- Police Logs



MOUNT ABE SENIOR Abba Parker slides safely into second base during Saturday's Division II softball

Eagle softball claims title

Mount Abe earns dramatic marathon win over top seed

By ANDY KIRKALDY

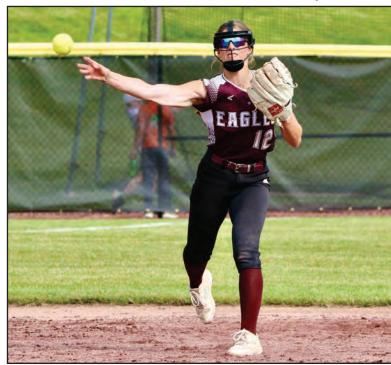
CASTLETON — It took 10 innings to decide Saturday's Division II softball final between No. 1 Lyndon and No. 2 Mount Abraham at Vermont State University-Castleton.

In the end the Eagles broke through for the victory. After junior Gretchen Toy singled to lead off the top of the 10th, the Eagles moved freshman courtesy runner Mady King around the bases for the run that gave Mount Abe its decisive 6-5 lead.

And then Toy, the winning pitcher, slammed the door on the Vikings, striking out the final batter with her 155th pitch to clinch the dramatic win.

The Eagles finished at 14-3, and Lyndon at 12-2-1.

Toy finished by allowing eight hits and three walks while striking out nine. She also drove in three runs with a double and a sacrifice (See Champs, Page 4B)



MOUNT ABE JUNIOR shortstop Gen Forand throws to first for the key second out in the 10th inning of the Eagles extra-inning victory in the D-II final on Saturday.



THE EAGLE SOFTBALL captains, from left, juniors Morgan Larocque and Gen Forand, and seniors Elise Parker and Abba Parker, join title game MVP junior Gretchen Toy and Coach Don McCormick in posing with the D-II championship trophy on Saturday at VTSU-Castleton.

Legion team ready to take field

By ANDY KIRKALDY

ADDISON COUNTY — Head Coach Tim Paquette has selected the 2025 Addison County American Legion baseball team, and the squad is ready to begin action this week with a home game on Thursday vs. Champlain Valley.

AC will also scrimmage The Strikers, an Under-16 team, on Sunday at home, and South Burlington is scheduled to visit AC on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

All of AC's home games will be played on Middlebury College's new turf field on South Street. See related story for a full team schedule.

This summer's team has nine players from Middlebury Union High School, including six who helped the Tigers win the 2024 Division II title; five from Mount Abraham; three from Vergennes; and one from Champlain Valley.

Paquette will be assisted by Timm Hanley and Eric Jennings, and believes the team has the talent to contend.

'We hope to be in the hunt for

AC set to open with home games

MIDDLEBURY — The Addison County American Legion baseball team swings into action this week with one Northern Division home game on Thursday and a scrimmage on Sunday. AC also hosts another Northern Division game this coming Tuesday.

The local nine, featuring players from all three county high school, will play its home games at Middlebury College's new turf field on the east side of South Street, with parking near the college's new tennis courts on the west side.

The full schedule, barring weather changes, is:

	-		
6/19 CVU at AC	5:30 PM	7/6 AC at S. Burl. (2)	Noon
6/22 Strikers U-16 at AC	1 PM	7/8 AC at St. Johnsbury	5:30 PM
6/24 S. Burlington at AC	5:30 PM	7/10 Montpelier at AC	5:30 PM
6/26 AC at Montpelier	5:30 PM	7/12 Franklin at AC (2)	Noon
6/28 AC at Essex (2)	Noon	7/13 Essex at AC	Noon
6/29 AC at Franklin Co.	Noon	7/17 AC at CVU	5:30 PM
7/2 St. Johnsbury at AC	5:30 PM	7/19 AC at Montpelier	Noon
7/3 CVU at AC	5:30 PM	7/20 St. Johnsbury at AC	Noon

the championship this season," Paquette said in a text to the Independent.

AC's full roster is:

From MUHS: Carter Paquette, Cole Warren, Tucker Morter, Alex Sperry, Gabe Velez, Ryan Brouillard, Tucker Wright, Trevor

Wright and Owen Butterfield. From Mount Abe: Clark Crary, Aricin Griffin, Brody Barnard,

Jackson Jennings and Riley Coffey. From VUHS: Evon Tembreull, Tyler Kimball and Aiden Fuller.

From CVU: Mike Dunbar.



SENIOR MIDFIELDER LANDON Kean probes the CVU defense during the D-I lacrosse semifinal played on June 11 at Middlebury College's Alumni Stadium.

Independent photos/Steve James

Tiger lacrosse falls to CVU in semi

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — The topseeded Middlebury Union boys' lacrosse team had defeated No. 4

Champlain Valley twice during the in a June 11 semifinal played at regular season, but the defending Division I champion Redhawks turned the tables on the Tigers



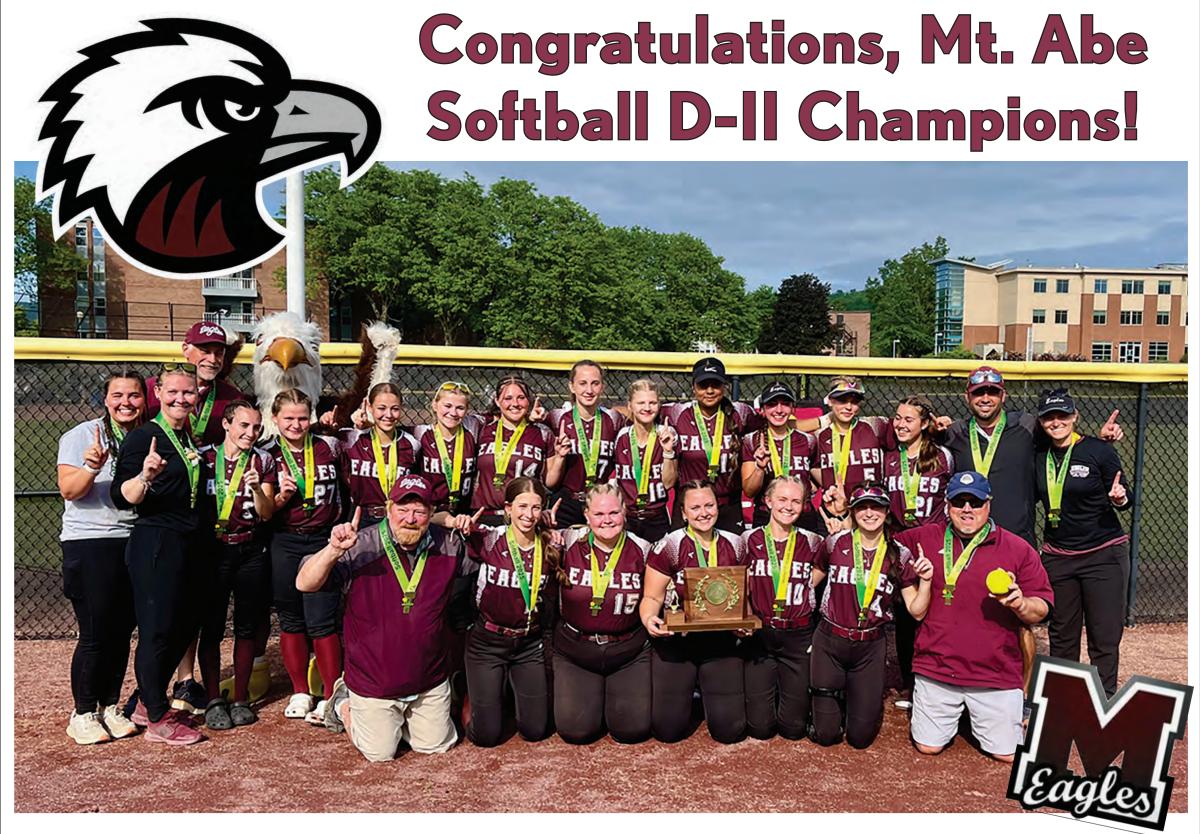
TIGER SENIOR ATTACKER Angus Blackwell shoots at goal during the D-I lacrosse semifinal played on June 11 at Middlebury College's Alumni Stadium. Blackwell scored his 100th career goal during the game.

Middlebury College's Alumni Stadium, claiming a 12-5 victory.

The Tigers finished an outstanding season at 14-3, while the Redhawks advanced to this past Sunday's Division I final against No. 2 Mount Mansfield with a 12-6 record.

The teams battled on even terms in the first quarter, but CVU took a 2-0 lead by the period's end with an early goal by Ike Buehler and a late goal by William Thomas.

Critically, in between those scores CVU goalie Shamus Phelan made four saves, two on Tiger junior attacker Logan McNulty, and one each on sophomore middie Brady Lloyd and junior middie Ben DeBisschop. Phelan had a strong outing overall, with 11 saves, and he and a steadfast Redhawk defense allowed only one first-(See Lacrosse, Page 5B)



Mt. Abe Varsity Softball

Nora Hurlburt	Grade 9	*Genevieve Forand	Grade 11
Leah Tierney	Grade 10	Reagan LaFreniere	Grade 10
*Morgan Larocque	Grade 11	*Elise Parker	Grade 12
Brooke Barnard	Grade 10	Molly Mangini	Grade 11
Reese Kihm	Grade 10	Brooklyn Ryersbach	Grade 11
Emmali Rougier	Grade 10	Gretchen Toy	Grade 11
*Abigail Parker	Grade 12	Meg Park	Grade 9
Adrianna Earle	Grade 9	Mady King	Grade 9

* Denotes Captain





Sun. 9am-5pm Redemption Closes 1 Hour Prior 21 Prince Lane • Bristol 453-3990



The diamond is your place to play!

Way to go Eagles!

12 Main St, Bristol • 453-6945

www.simonsaysvt.com

Congratulations,

A place to play

Commercial Roofing





Head Coach: Don McCormick

Athletic Trainer: Meg Quiet

Asst. Coaches: Emily Ringquist, Justin Tierney, Andy Toy,

Kevin Masse, Mary-Kate Mansfield, Gabbi LaFreniere













Bill Lee saves Karl from Pete Rose

I was walking the dog early on a Sunday morning and I was in a bad mood.

I had already started to write my next Addy Indy column, this column, on Pete Rose — and it was not going well.

Writing about Pete Rose filled me with despair. Pete died last September at age 83. I was hoping interest in him might fade with the man.

Alas, he's back. Our esteemed current President has taken up the cause of Pete's Hall of Fame exclusion and anointed him a baseball martyr, a victim of the game's do-gooders.

Birds of a feather.

My intent was to first document Pete as a contemptible human being, a martyr of no sort, a cheat, a liar, a philanderer and any number of other offenses to humanity.

Then I would discuss his shortcomings as a baseball player: he was a "one tool" player. Yes, he has more hits than anyone else ever, but also more at-bats and games played in his 24 years as a ballplayer. He was a big guy (210 pounds)

who hit singles. It takes no special skill to sprint to first base; in fact, it's a "hot dog" move: "Charley (Superfluous) Hustle.

So, on that Sunday I was morning, dismayed. I growled at my dog, Paco. Why was I giving more air to this fellow I found so reprehensible?

My phone buzzed in my pocket. I took it out and checked the caller ID . . . and was exultant. I said, "Hallelujah, Paco, we are delivered!"

The call was from "Bill Lee!" Serendipity. My mood immediately lifted. "Paco, we're gonna write about Bill Lee!"

It's always an enjoyable exercise to report on this Red Sox left-handed ace, the "Spaceman" to some, now 78 years old.

I hadn't seen nor heard from Bill since the last time he graced this space, 20 months ago, and have been concerned about his health. While pitching for the Savannah Bananas in August 2022, Bill collapsed, his heart stopped, first in Savannah (warming up in the bullpen) and then again in June 2023 in Indianapolis (on the mound this time). He was defibrillated and revived both times.

"Karl," he said that recent morning, we're in Vergennes at 11:00. You coming?" I was glad he was apparently alive and was keen to talk with him.

He was playing again for the Burlington Cardinals in the 10team Vermont Senior League, where he has played since its inception in 1989. It's an over-35 league but the average age of players is between 48-54. He is the oldest player in the league, "by far!"

Bill has made Vermont his home for nearly 40 years, first living in cabins in Middlesex Notch and Greensboro Bend before buying 14 acres in 1994 in Craftsbury on a hill that looks directly east to the Common.

He likes being a lefty in the Kingdom. When asked what he especially appreciates about the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont, he said "the Free Parking! I can



BATTERY MATES: Former Red Sox pitcher Bill Lee celebrates the Burlington Cardinals' 3-1 win over the Chelsea Bat Company on Sunday at the Essex High School ballfield with his catcher for the past 13 years, former Burlington Mayor Miro Weinberger.
Photo by Karl Lindholm

park wherever I want. I love it. We what we wanted to cover, so have no traffic lights . . . three stop signs but nobody pays any attention to 'em. I pick up every hitchhiker."

This time of year, he tends his garden ("planting potatoes now")

> and splits his own wood with a 20-pound maul. "I do something every day," he said. "Work for 20 minutes, rest for 20 minutes, have a cuppa coffee, and go inside when the black flies come out."

"Bill, I can't come to your game today," I told him. "I'm going to Commencement at the

College, wear the cap and gown. I'll meet you in Vergennes after the

Sports (Mostly)

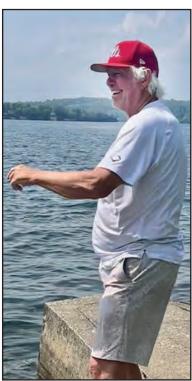
KARL

LINDHOLM

There he was at 2:00 p.m. sitting outside 3 Squares Café in his baby blue and red Cardinals jersey and gray pants after a win against the Vergennes Codgers. "I went two innings," he reported, "no earned runs, three hits, one K, no walks. A good outing.'

In games now, Bill comes in to relieve Cardinals starter "Johnny O," who's only 59. "Johnny O was the head federal drug enforcement officer in Vermont (before retiring)," he said, "and now he's a teammate with me, a guy who was on the cover of *High* Times Magazine" (That's true: July

Time was too short to cover



FORMER RED SOX pitcher Bill Lee of Craftsbury surveys the lake and landscape from the shore of Caspian Lake in Greensboro, ten minutes from his home.

Photo by Karl Lindholm

we agreed to meet again in a few days at Caspian Lake in Greensboro, ten minutes from Bill's home.

In that beautiful spot, we discussed his health after these scary episodes. Bill had been seen at a number of medical centers without finding the blockage causing the problem — that is, until he was treated at Dartmouth-Hitchcock by Dr. Hannah Chaudry. She found the blocked artery and put in a stent and sent him on his way, advising him to "be active and keep playing baseball."

Music to his ears. "I finally found the lefty doctor I was praying for!"

Bill will be pitching again for the Savannah Bananas on July 6, coming right up, in the second game of a two-game sold-out weekend at Fenway Park. Bill Lee back in Fenway! If you haven't been paying attention, the Bananas have become the biggest thing since Barnum and Bailey, selling out football stadiums and ballparks throughout the country.

Bill is not traveling with the Bananas, but enjoys making appearances. "I like playing for anybody," he said. "I always answer my phone. 'No' is not in my vocabulary."

Last Sunday, I took in a Senior League game at the Essex High School ballfield between the Cardinals and the Chelsea (VT) Bat Company, last year's champs. Burlington won 3-1. It certainly looked like real baseball.

Bill DH'd in this game and had a nice line drive hit to right. He was warming up in the bottom of the ninth, but Johnny O set 'em down 1-2-3, going the whole way.

At game's end, I met with Bill's batterymate on the Cardinals for the past 13 years, four-term Burlington mayor, Miro Weinberger.

He described Bill's mound efforts as "genuine pitching. He mixes things up, pitches to locations."

"I like that I am catching a guy who started Game Seven in a World Series."

(Karl Lindholm Ph.D taught two baseball classes in the American Studies Program at Middlebury College. Bill Lee became his "closer," visiting the last class as a reward to students for their earnest efforts — and never disappointed.



THE NO. 2 MOUNT Abe softball team celebrates its Wednesday, June 1, Division II semifinal win over No. 3 seed Otter Valley. Independent photos/Steve James

Eagles first had to topple OV

Otters finish fine season at 15-4

Bv ANDY KIRKALDY

BRISTOL — The No. 3 Otter Valley softball team entered its Division II semifinal in Bristol against No. 2 Mount Abraham on June 11 riding a 12-game winning streak and carrying an impressive 15-3 record.

For three and a half innings the Otters traded blows with the Eagles, the last team to defeat them, 19-7, back on May 1 on the same field. In the top of the fourth inning OV sophomore Sophie Parker, the pitcher, homered, and then base hits by juniors Hannah Desabrais and Leann Thomas cut an Eagle advantage to 10-8.

But things took a turn in the bottom of the fourth. OV sophomore pitcher Sophie Parker struck out the first batter, but then walked leadoff hitter Leah Tierney. Next, Parker got the inning's second out on a ground ball back to the mound.

Then it went south for OV. The next nine Eagle hitters reached base, and eight of them scored. Four errors contributed to the damage, and Parker uncharacteristically walked a couple more hitters.

Abba Parker reached on a bunt, Eagle pitcher Gretchen Toy, Reagan LaFreniere and Nora Hurlburt poked RBI hits. Tierney bunted safely and scored a run, and Morgan Larocque beat out an infield hit to drive in the final run of the inning. The score was 18-8 with three innings to go, and the Eagles were on the way to a 21-12 victory that pushed their record to

The victory also sent the Eagles into Saturday's 2:30 p.m. matchup with No. 1 seed Lyndon (12-1-1) at Castleton University for the D-II title.

"That game's going to be a challenge," Eagle Coach Don McCormick said. "When we get to Castleton, those are hard games to win. I'm hoping our experience helps us out."

OV Coach Kelly Trayah was disappointed the Otters couldn't make the trip to Castleton, but happy they had such a memorable season.

"This team has accomplished a lot more than a lot of people thought they were going to," Trayah said.

The coaches had slightly different explanations for the key factors in Wednesday's game, but they agreed the Eagles made a lot



OTTER SENIOR CENTER fielder Randi Lancour ranged into left center to track down an Eagle fly ball during the Wednesday. June 11, D-II semifinal at Mount Abe.

of hard contact at the plate.

"We just hit the ball. We're just a good hitting team," McCormick said. "I've always felt really confident in our offense."

McCormick acknowledged this spring's constant rain has taken a toll on the Eagles' field, and both teams struggled on defense, more so the Otters, who finished with a half-dozen errors. In fact that was the first thing

Trayah said when asked what went wrong. "Errors," Trayah said. "You've

got to play the ball, or it's going to play you."

Both teams scored a run in the first. Sophie Parker singled, stole second, moved up on a groundout and scored on Ady Humiston's groundout. The Eagles equalized when Abba Parker singled, stole second and romped home on a Gen Forand base hit.

OV took a 4-1 lead in the top of the second on consecutive singles by Michelle Hendee, Kaylee Maloy and Lana Karnai, with an outfield misplay mixed in that allowed

Karnai to reach third. From there she scored on a Randi Lancour groundout.

The Eagles answered with a four-run second. Lafreniere walked and Hurlburt doubled. Infield hits by Tierney and Abba Parker plated two runs, and a Gen Forand sacrifice fly combined with a throwing error made it 5-4.

The Otters took their last lead in the third. Thomas and Hendee singled and moved up on a wild pitch. Maloy drove in a run with a groundout, and Karnai doubled home another run to make it 6-5. The OV rally ended when Eagle center fielder Brooke Brody raced in to snatch a line drive and double a runner off second base.

The Eagles then plated five runs in their half of the third to take the lead for good, in part by putting their speed to good use. Hurlburt and Tierney beat out infield hits to open the inning, and Larocque singled in a run. Parker bunted her way on to load the bases, and Forand and Toy ripped back to

(See Otters, Eagles, Page 4B)



Monkton, VT Homeowner **Recommends Bristol Electronics**

For over 20 years we have had a goal of owning a solar system. Bristol Electronics helped us to reach that goal by installing a (16) panel system. All of our goals were met. The price was right. The installation and quality of work was professional. Most importantly, we have not had to pay an electric bill since the installation.

Chris mentioned that I could use a roof rake to remove snow from my array but I taped a cloth mop to a 20' closet rod that I had hanging around. I store it under the array and when the array is covered with snow I use it to gently brush the panels off. My array starts producing power quicker and I am very happy with my electric bills.

If we buy the electric car that we have been thinking about, we will have Bristol Electronics return and add to our system, and cover the cost of the added electricity. Solar has been a good investment for us.

John & Beverly Teer - Monkton, VT



Champs

(Continued from Page 1B)

fly. There were no doubts about the game MVP or the Eagles' competitive spirit.

"We came here to win," Toy said. "We didn't come this far to lose."

In the first inning the Eagles scored twice off Viking pitcher Jenna Royer, who like Toy tossed a complete game. Junior Morgan Larocque started the rally with a double, and senior Abba Parker walked. Both scored when Toy lined a double down the left-field line.

Lyndon equalized in the second inning when Toy briefly lost command of the strike zone. Kendall Hale reached on an infield hit, and a Royer bunt single and a walk loaded the bases. Toy then hit one batter and walked one to force in two runs.

The Eagles answered in the third when Royer struggled with her control. Royer hit Larocque with a pitch, and Parker walked. Junior Gen Forand singled to score Larocque. An error allowed Parker to score, and Mount Abe led. 4-2.

Things quieted down until the fourth, when Eagle left fielder Brooklyn Ryersbach made the defensive play of the game, a twoout tumbling catch on the warning track of a drive belted by Viking first baseman Ella Marshia.

Some background: After the Eagles' semifinal win over Otter Valley, McCormick said his speedy outfield could be a factor in the spacious Castleton ballpark. Before Saturday's game during

warmups he hit deep fly balls to his outfielders, Ryersbach in left, sophomore Emmali Rougier in center, and Sophomore Leah Tierney in left, and they combined for six catches when the action started. He said that drill was just typical of things the Eagles work on and prep for.

"Every once in a while it comes around, and we make a play," he

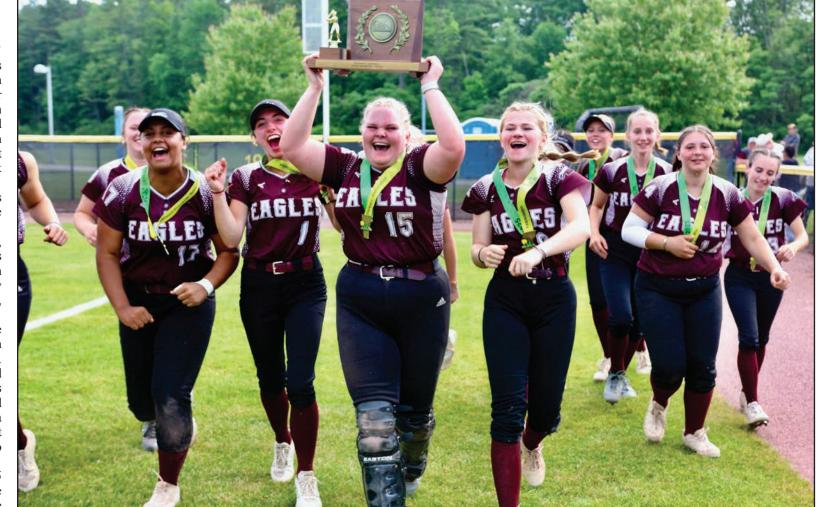
In the Eagle fifth, with one out, both Parker and Forand drew walks and stole bases to put runners on second and third. Toy's sacrifice fly scored Parker, and the Eagles led,

The Vikings also scored once in the fifth. Ashleigh Simpson singled, and Jill Dwyer walked. Hale, the cleanup hitter, grounded out to Parker, with the runners moving up. Lexi Goodwin singled in a run to make it 5-3 before a Royer bunt loaded the bases. But Toy whiffed the next two batters to snuff the threat.

Lyndon then tied the game at 5-5 in the sixth. Doubles by Anneliese Webber and Marshia scored the first run, and Marshia moved up on one fly ball out and scored on a Dwyer sacrifice fly.

Then the test of nerves really

Parker singled with two out in the seventh, but was stranded. Royer doubled with one out for Lyndon in the bottom of the inning, but Toy got the next two hitters. Freshman Nora Hurlburt in the eighth belted a one-out double, but Mount Abe



SENIOR CO-CAPTAIN ELISE Parker, with the D-II trophy, leads the Eagles in a charge out of their post-game meeting after winning the title on Saturday.

couldn't bring her home.

In the Eagle ninth, with two out Larocque legged out an infield hit, and Parker walked again, but they were stranded.

Lyndon had the Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 hitters due up in the ninth. It was Lyndon's golden opportunity, and Toy knew it.

"I was just trying to convince myself that I got it. And I had my teammates behind me," Toy said. "I really trust everybody on this team."

Simpson singled to lead off, and Eagle fans held their breath. But after a fly ball, a pop-up and a ground ball, the Eagles were grabbing their bats and helmets for the top of the 10th inning.

Toy led off and singled. King ran for her, and Hurlburt walked. With runners on first and second bases, Rougier hit a grounder to shortstop, who tossed to the second baseman in an effort to get a double play, but the throw glanced off the second baseman's glove and bounced away. King, running on the play, rounded third and never stopped running until she crossed home plate: 6-5, Eagles.

Now it was up to Toy and the Eagle defense.

Forand at shortstop nailed the first runner with a strong throw, and Larocque tossed the second batter out. But of course it wasn't going to be without drama: Viking

and stole second to put the tying run in scoring position, bringing up Webber. Soon Toy fired the final fastball into senior catcher Elise Parker's mitt and the Eagles celebrated.

Abba Parker, along with Elise Parker, one of only two Eagle seniors on the team, described the Eagles' mindset as the game went into extra innings.

"Every inning after the seventh we came into the dugout and said we have to work hard," Parker said. "We all looked at each other and kept it going."

Toy acknowledged she was throwing a little harder than usual. McCormick noticed, calling it Toy's best effort.

"Gretchen's not a strikeout pitcher, but she had a few today," McCormick said. "There was a little adrenaline going out there."

teammate's stamina on the mound. "She's just a beast. After pitching like that all season, it's incredible,'

Parker was impressed with her

she said. McCormick talked about what everybody."

Independent photos/Steve James pinchhitter Ary Parker walked made this edition of the Eagles a

> championship team. "They just work hard and like

> each other," he said. And they are talented. McCormick said he has had a hard time setting the lineup because of

> "Most teams have four or five kids who can hit the ball," McCormick said. "We've got 12 kids."

the team's depth.

Parker said the team also had a strong bond.

"We are friends outside of this. We love each other. We click together. We understand each other. We work together. We work hard," she said. "And this is what brought us here."

For her and a few other players it is their second title after winning one in 2023.

"It feels surreal. Donnie always says don't expect to come back. I wasn't expecting to be in this position again. To be here I'm just beyond grateful, beyond proud of the people around me," Parker said. "I'm incredibly happy for



MOUNT ABE JUNIOR Gretchen Toy slugs a two-run double to give her softball team an early lead in the D-II title game on Saturday the Eagles eventually won in extra innings. Toy was the winning pitcher,







EAGLE JUNIOR PITCHER Gretchen Toy jumps for joy after striking out the final Lyndon batter to nail down the Mount Abe softball team's victory in the D-II championship game on Saturday.

Parker's homer and the Desabrais single cut the lead to two heading



into the bottom of the fourth, but then the roof caved in on the Otters.

After the Eagles' big inning, OV failed to score in the fifth, the first scoreless half inning of the game. The Eagles added three runs in the bottom of the fifth on Toy's two-run homer, which followed an error, and then two walks, a wild pitch, and a Tierney infield hit scored another run.

The Otters rallied for four runs in the sixth on a walk, a Humiston single, two errors, and a Karnai two-run single that created the final

Soon the Eagles were celebrating, and the Otters and their large and supportive contingent of fans headed back to the Brandon-Pittsford area.

Both offenses put up big numbers.

For the Eagles, sparking the attack were Toy (five hits, including the homer, six RBIs), Hurlburt

(double, two singles, RBI), Forand (three hits, five RBIs). Parker (four hits, RBI), and Tierney (four hits, two RBIs). Tierney also shone on defense by throwing out two baserunners from right field.

Leading the way for OV were Parker (homer, triple, two singles), Karnai (double, singles, three RBIs) and Thomas (two hits, RBI).

Beyond the numbers, Trayah said chemistry played a big role in the Otters' success this spring.

"Our seniors just said it out there (in the postgame meeting), 'This is the first team that we all cared about each other," Trayah said. "And they really did. They played together all year long."

Trayah and McCormick noted OV fielded a team with only two seniors, Maloy and Lancour. Both expect the Otters to be a factor in D-II for the foreseeable future.

"That's a good young team right there," McCormick said.



AS PART OF an MUHS class on the history of the 20th century, Jackson Murray talks with a witness of many big events in the last century, Charlie Robinson, a resident at the Eastview retirement community in Middlebury.

Photo by Emily Blistein/ACS

Murray

(Continued from Page 1B) adjustments improved his handeye coordination. He discovered footwork was critical in properly meeting and hitting the ball.

When the young lad had tamed his shackled orb adversary, it was time for lessons. And he's had great teachers and mentors, including MIT's Franz Collas, who has trained some of the most successful young players in the state.

proof that

persistent

hard work

results for

others.

himself and

made steady strides. In addition to his training sessions, he regularly volleys with his dad and his friends. Tennis is a springtime high school sport, but Murray has produces played year-round, in extraordinary the winter cocoon of MIT.

All told, he spends upwards of three hours a day playing tennis, though he allows himself the occasional day off.

Murray gave soccer (a fall sport) a go early during his MUHS career. But he abandoned it following his sophomore year to focus exclusively on tennis.

"I started taking it a lot more seriously," he said.

He of course immediately joined the MUHS tennis team his freshman year. As a 9th grader, he began as the Tigers' 4th (out of 5) singles player. The next year, he had moved up to number one.

As his coaches, teammates, pectators and opponents can attest, Murray is like a human backboard on the court. He relentlessly pursues the ball wherever it's hit and slaps it back. He can wear you down with lengthy volleys, confound you with passing shots, and he's decisive at the net.

Murray is humble, but when pressed to analyze his own game, he replied, "I think I'm consistent, and mentally and physically willing to do whatever it takes to get the right result and play my best tennis. I'm pretty good at adapting to my opponent."

He is lean and occasionally goes up against stronger opponents. But such adversaries soon learn that Murray can't be intimidated. He'll catch up to a hard-hit ball and rifle it right back.

until they miss," he said.

Opponents who try to exploit Murray by playing a softer game, using lobs and drop shots, don't fare much better. His footwork and anticipation usually make that a losing strategy.

LOSS TO A GOOD PLAYER

Last year, as a junior, Murray's one conspicuous tennis blemish was a straight-sets loss in the 2024 Murray took to the coaching and individual state championship

game against Nathan "Jackson is Kim of Brattleboro High School.

> "I lost to a really good player; he kind of wiped the floor with everyone throughout tournament," Murray acknowledged. But this year, it

was Murray with the bullseye on his back. — coach Ken He was the number Schoen one seed going into the championship tourney,

had not dropped a single set all season, and was the only player in the field who had played in a state interested in mathematics. final.

"I was trying

not to think

a one seed,

because at

the day that

really matter

unless I

ended up

winning it."

the end of the day that wouldn't really matter unless I ended up winning it," he said. "I was going to take it one of myself as point and one match at a time and leave it all out on the court." That's just what he the end of

did, and it worked.

After surviving a wouldn't thrilling three-set clash in the quarters against Burlington's Oscar Murray Crainich, topped Stowe's Max Biedermann in straight sets in the semis, then claimed the state crown with a 6-2, 6-3

Champlain Valley Union High School in the final.

"It feels amazing; surreal," Murray said of winning the singles title. "It was my biggest goal headed into the season. I feel like it's lifted a lot of weight off my shoulders."

It's allowed him to be more relaxed as he and his Tiger addisonindependent.com.

"I'm good at staying in the point teammates sought to repeat as the state's top high school boys' tennis team. Just a few hours after this interview, Murray and the MUHS squad beat Stowe, 4-3, in the quarterfinal round. Murray won his match over Stowe's Max Biedermann, 6-4, 6-1.

> How far will Murray take his tennis? He's not sure. But he knows he'll always love the sport.

"I've tried to have the mindset to not stress over (a match) to just play and have a really good time," he said.

Murray knows he couldn't have taken his game this far without a lot of people, including Collas, Schoen, his parents Chris and Andrea Murray, and Aaron Diamond, an assistant tennis coach at Middlebury College.

"Both my parents have been very supportive, whatever I do, whether it's tennis, soccer, or school," he stressed.

His folks are understandably proud, and noted the accolades don't stop with tennis. Murray is a good student and is particularly

"We know that when Jackson "I was trying not to think of sets his mind on a something, he myself as a one seed, because at goes all out," Chris Murray said.

"He learns everything he can about it and wants to master it. He has done this with tennis. He understands tennis better than most people ever will."

His mom noted Jackson has come a long way since swatting tethered ball.

"Jackson is thoughtful, sensitive young man. I am so proud of his accomplishments both academically and with — Jackson tennis. Two years ago, Murray at the individual state tennis tournament, he

victory over Oscar Andersson of lost in one of the early rounds, and he told me afterward that he was going to win the tournament before he graduated. Last year he made it to the finals; this year he won. He worked really hard to achieve this goal. What a great lesson to learn that if you set your mind to something, you can achieve it."

John Flowers is at johnf@

acrosse

(Continued from Page 1B) half goal.

And that was problematic for the Tigers because the Redhawks scored five times in the second period to take a 7-1 halftime lead. Tobin Stumpff started the assault 29 seconds into the period with a solo score.

Tiger sophomore goalie Levi Nuceder then stopped another CVU attack with one of his eight saves, but Phelan made back-to-back saves on McNulty and DeBisschop around two minutes into the period. And at 9:33. Redhawk Ethan Whitcomb made it 4-0.

Phelan made two more saves before McNulty finally beat him with a lefty shot inside the right post at 5:58 to make it 4-1. But a minute later, CVU long-stick middie Trevor Stumpff went coastto-coast to restore the four-goal

More trouble for the home team struck in the period's final seconds.

where we

went down

they had a

them."

lot of fight in

through the defense and whipped a shot back "I would say inside the left post. Then Trevor Stumpff won the ensuing draw, bolted in and fired an overhand We had a shot into the left side of couple games the net, and it was 7-1 at the break.

Hopes of a comeback soon looked unlikely in the third quarter. The the kids just Redhawks continued never gave to make life difficult for the Tiger attack. Meanwhile, the Tigers were rarely able to slow the Redhawks down when they moved the ball up the field in transition, and CVU won the majority of the groundball battles.

"They beat us on those ground balls," Tiger Coach Matt Rizzo said. "And we talk about it all year: ground balls win championships."

The Redhawks also scored the first two goals of the second half, with Dylan Terriciano at 8:13 and Tobin Stumpff at 5:20 doing the damage.

McNulty for MUHS and Terriciano for CVU traded goals over the rest of the third period, and it was 10-3 entering the final



TIGER SOPHOMORE GOALIE Levi Nuceder roams far out of his crease to scoop a ground ball despite a diving effort from a CVU player during the D-I lacrosse semifinal played on June 11 at Middlebury College's Alumni Stadium.

Independent photos/Steve James

12 minutes of the Tigers' season. In the final quarter, Tobin Stumpff and Buehler scored for CVU, and senior attacker Angus Blackwell scored twice for the Tigers — including the 100th goal of his productive career At 0:25, Buehler burst left-to-right — to create the final score.

Rizzo credited CVU and its coach, Brian Loughlin, for a strong the team was effort and a solid game very resilient. plan. Rizzo also pointed to what he said was a key factor in the result: The Tigers had trouble clearing and moving up the field, while the by a lot, but Redhawks used their speed effectively in transition. up. It showed "Total credit to those

guys. They played great. Huge tip of the cap to Brian for a wellcoached team," Rizzo — Tiger Coach said. "And the kids, they really showed Matt Rizzo up. What was really

evident to me was they had athletes, especially in the middle of the field they are very fast, and they are very skilled. I think clearing the ball is a great example. They do not have a traditional lacrosse clear. They give it to one guy who's very fast, and he runs it up the field."

Looking at the whole season, Rizzo was asked how the Tigers had been so successful. He pointed to the defensive backbone of Nuceder in goal, senior long-stick middie Cam Whitlock ("He was just awesome for us all year."), and low

defenders senior George Devlin and iuniors Cooke Riney and Marshall Eddy. And he noted the D-I coaches voted McNulty an All-American and said, "He really led us on the offensive end."

"We had a really good defense and a really good goalie, and we had an All-American attackman," Rizzo said. "On the defense, we had a lot of guys return from last year's state title runner-up team, so those guys had played together for a couple years ... they really anchored us."

And the team had intangibles as well, Rizzo said.

"I would say the team was very resilient," he said. "We had a couple games where we went down by a lot, but the kids just never gave up. It showed they had a lot of fight in them."

Rizzo added, "No. 1 in Division I is also a big deal. We had a good year. It turned out not to be a great year, but we had a really good year."

Graduation will cost the Tigers a number of seniors: Kean, defensive short-stick, defensive middie Tassilo Luksch, defender Cooper Quinn, Whitlock, midfielder Luke Nuceder, faceoff specialist Cam Boulanger, Devlin and Blackwell. Meanwhile a half-dozen

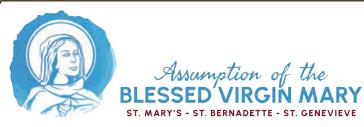
freshmen joined the varsity team for the playoffs, and Rizzo called them talented and athletic. And nine players who either started or saw time this spring for the Tigers were underclassmen.

"We've got a lot of great guys coming back," Rizzo said.



MANY FRIENDS, FAMILY members and lacrosse fans came on June 11 to see the MUHS boys' lax team take on CVU in a D-I semifinal played at Middlebury College's Alumni Stadium.





Come join us as we celebrate with our new Mass schedule

Beginning July 5/6 Saturdays, 5:15 pm (St. Mary's) Saturdays, 7:00 pm (St. Bernadette)

Sundays, 9:00 am (St. Mary's)

St. Mary's Church - 326 College Street, Middlebury, VT St. Bernadette Church - 9 Crown Point Road, Bridport, VT stmary.vermontcatholic.org | Parish Office: 802-388-2943



MIDDLEBURY LIONS CLUB **CASH CALENDAR WINNERS**

June 2025

Todd Thompson, Bucky Danyow, Matt Broughton, Cathy Bilodeau, Amy White, Craig Dupoise, Richard Laframboise, Kevin Bristo, Toby Welch, Eric Steele, Karen Schroeder, Tim Little, Mike LaDue, Lisa Bristol, Julie Howlett, Susan & Chris Daniels, Kevin Jackson Sr., Jane Roy, Adam Broughton, Luthera B. Rainville, Butch Bailey, Michelle Pope, Ashley Parker, Christin Gardner, Melody Wood, Howard Warren, David Preble, JP Carrara & Sons, Bob Fitzpatrick

Check winning amounts at MiddleburyLions.org!





Addison County Parent/Child Center

info@addisoncountypcc.org • addisoncountypcc.org

- Community Playgroups
- Parent Education Classes
- Home Visits
- Pregnancy Prevention Programs
- Parent Training & Child Center

Helping Young Families Get The Right Start

INDEPENDENCE DAY FLYER

Take the train from Vergennes to Burlington for the **Annual Independence day Celebration** and **Fireworks Display** at Waterfront Park this July 3rd!



PRICES Lounge Seating - \$35

Traditional Rail Seating - \$25 Child on Lap (2 years old & under) - Free!



Email us at: ADVERTISE ads@addisonindependent.com

Reader Comments

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

A subscriber from Leicester writes:

"Such an important part of the community."

Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.



community

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

SMART Recovery Meeting in Middlebury. Thursday, June 19, 1 p.m., Turning Point Center of Addison County, 79 Court St. This group is designed to empower individuals on their recovery journey by using practical tools from SMART Recovery. Meets in-person every Thursday at 1 p.m.

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.

une **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.

Town-wide yard sale in Monkton. Saturday, June 21. Get your yard sale location put on the Monkton Map for \$15. Contact Karen at puccidog@live.com or call/text 802-999-5145. Let's Go Birding! with Otter Creek Audubon in Middlebury. Saturday, June 21, 9-11 a.m., Wright Park, Seymour St. Ext. A delightful morning bird walk exploring the rich avian biodiversity of Wright Park. Perfect for both beginners and seasoned birdwatchers. Our expert guides will help you identify various bird species by song and sight. Family friendly. Light snacks provided. Tabling activities with bird nests and bird skulls. Free. More info and registration at www.maltvt.org/events.

Town-wide yard sale in Bristol. Saturday, June 21, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., locations around town. Join the Bristol Recreation Department for the 10th year of this exciting event and find some great treasures

Peasant Market Intake in Middlebury. Saturday, June 21, 10 a.m., St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 3 Main St. Clear your clutter and support your community! St. Stephen's will begin accepting donations for its annual Peasant Market—where every item sold helps fund local nonprofits. Donation period runs from June 21 through July 2

Celebrate Charity & Sylvia: Historic Roadside Marker dedication in Weybridge. Saturday, June 21, 1-4 p.m., Weybridge Cemetery & Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. Come to the dedication of the Vermont Roadside Drake: A Same-Sex Couple in Early America. Dedication Ceremony with U.S. Rep. Becca Balint and LGBTQ+ Leaders, will take place from 1-2 p.m. at Weybridge Hill Cemetery. A Reception and a pop-up exhibit from the Charity Bryant & Sylvia Drake Collection will take place from 2:30-4 p.m. at the Henry Sheldon Museum in Middlebury. More info at www.henrysheldonmuseum.org/events.

Live VINS animals in Starksboro. Saturday, June 21, 1 p.m., Starksboro Library, Route 116. Starksboro Library's Summer Reading program kicks-off with VINS! Come see live animals from the Vermont Institute of Natural Science and sign up for summer reading. There will be snacks and crafts too.

"Around the Kitchen Table: General Stores of Yore" event in Monkton. Saturday, June 21, 2-3 p.m., East Monkton Church, 405 Church Road. Back in the days before box stores and Amazon, people used to get most of what they needed right here in town. Join us to hear from folks who used to visit Monkton's General Stores and hear the stories of people who shopped, socialized and even managed these

SUNDAY

Strawberry Festival in Monkton. Sunday, June 22, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Russell Memorial Library, 92 Monkton Ridge. Celebrate the season with

strawberry shortcake, a book sale and more. Details forthcoming. The library will welcome any donations of books for their book sale, and cannot accept encyclopedias, religious, damaged or moldy books, textbooks, VHS or cassette tapes, music CDs, dictionaries, magazines or Readers Digest editions. Books that have been highlighted in or written it also cannot be accepted. More info at russellmemlibrary@gmail.com.

Ice cream social in Shoreham. Sunday, June 22, noon-3 p.m., Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Road. Come get your takeout ice cream and celebrate the Shoreham community in conjunction with the Car Show on the Town Green. Rain date is Sunday, June 29. Enjoy a dish of vanilla and/or chocolate ice cream for only \$4 or make it a Sundae for only \$7. Toppings include chocolate, caramel, maple, strawberries, and homemade whipped cream, adorned with nuts and sprinkles.

une

une

MONDAY

Vergennes City Band concert in Vergennes. Monday, June 23, 7 p.m., Green. A staple of Vergennes summer. Relax on the green and listen to live band music.

Ahead of their time

COME TO THE DEDICATION of the Vermont Roadside Historic Marker for Charity Bryant & Sylvia Drake: A Same-Sex Couple in Early America with U.S. Rep. Becca Balint and LGBTQ+ Leaders in Weybridge, Saturday, June 21, from 1-2 p.m. at Weybridge Hill Cemetery and head to the reception and a pop-up exhibit from the Charity Bryant & Sylvia Drake Collection from 2:30-4 p.m. at the Henry Sheldon Museum in Middlebury.

Image courtesy of Henry Sheldon Museum

une

TUESDAY

Landlord Connections presentations Resources Middlebury. Tuesday, June 24, 5:30 p.m., Middlebury Inn, 16 Court Sq. Are you an Addison County landlord or thinking about becoming one? Join us for a fun and informational event with great food and networking. Hear from Addison Community Action & CVOEO's Housing Advocacy Programs, VT Department of Housing & Community Development, Vermont Landlords Association, and others about programs and resources for landlords. RSVP by June 20 at https://forms.office.com/r/PPmGFyA0Wt. more info, contact Jess Hyman at jhyman@ cvoeo.org or 802-660-3456 x 106

Root Chakra drum circle in Middlebury. Tuesday, June 24, 6:30 p.m., 54 Main St., Unit B. Brought to you by Breanna Elaine music and Love Play Grow Wellness. \$10 suggested donation.

une

WEDNESDAY

Teddy Bear Picnic in Bristol. Wednesday, June 25, noon-1 p.m., on the green. Bring your favorite bear and join us on the Town Green for Stories, Songs, and Fun! Teddy Bear stories will be read by Ted's best friend, Ali. Rain location is at Holley

Beyond Bars: Reimagining Justice and Healing Vermont in Middlebury. Wednesday, June 25, 6:30-9 p.m., Marquis Theater, 65 Main St. In conjunction with the Sheldon Museum summer exhibit, "Finding Hope Within," the Sheldon presents a film made about Vermonters, for Vermonters, and by a team of four Vermonters. Beyond Bars hopes to bring Vermonters into conversation around how we are making sense of the very visible struggle on our streets and in our communities. More info at www. henrysheldonmuseum.org/events.

une

THURSDAY

Storytime in Starksboro. Thursday, June 26, 10:30 a.m., Starksboro Public Library, Route 116. Stories, Fun and Bubbles! All towns are welcome.

Next Steps: Addison County's Retirement Communities in Salisbury. Thursday, June 26, 6 p.m., Salisbury Free Public Library, 918 Maple St. Come meet representatives from Eastview, The Residence at Otter Creek, and Shard Villa, and hear about what makes their communities

une

FRIDAY

Town Hall Theater new wing celebration featuring Mihali in Middlebury. Friday, June 27, 5-8 p.m., Maloney Public Performance Plaza, Town Hall Theater, 72-76 Merchants Row. Come to The official launch of the THT's new wing and outdoor performance space. Mihali is a Vermontbased singer, songwriter, guitarist and cofounder of rock outfit Twiddle. Mihali draws on a rich mix of influences, with reggae and upbeat lyrics shaping the architecture of his original music. Free. More info at townhalltheater.org. Also, Rock 'n' Roll Strong Quartet, Cirque de Fuego, Samulnori Drums, food trucks, magic, pop-up costume photo booth, and more. Free. More info at townhalltheater.org.

SATURDAY une

Vermont Gran Fondo in Bristol. Saturday, June 28, Bristol Rec Park. The Vermont Gran Fondo was born from a famous bucket-list epic 4-gap ride known by the locals as the LAMB ride. LAMB comes from the names of Lincoln Gap, Appalachian Gap, Middlebury Gap and Brandon Gap. When combined into a single ride, can easily top 100 miles and over 10,000 feet of climbing - on a bike! The après ride party will get underway at the Start-Finish under the big tent. Enjoy live music, a variety of food choices, locally produced beverages, and farm-to-spoon ice cream. More

info at vermontgranfondo.com. Town Hall Theater new wing celebration in **Middlebury.** Saturday, June 28, 1-4 p.m., Maloney Public Performance Plaza, Town Hall Theater, 72-76 Merchants Row. Come celebrate the official opening of the Town Hall Theater's new wing, and the launch of the new outdoor Malonev Public Performance Plaza and Tilly Stage with a ribbon cutting, The Real McCoy Stunt Show, Bill Vitek Jazz Trio, Tom Verner Magic Show, plus Crazy Cotton Candy Lady and Lulu Ice Cream throughout. More info at townhalltheater.org.



SUNDAY

"The Strong Women of Western Vermont during the American Revolution" in Hubbardton. Sunday,

June 29, 1 p.m., Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. Site administrator Elsa Gilbertson will give an illustrated talk about some of the strong and resilient women and girls from western Vermont, in the southern Lake Champlain area, during the Revolutionary War.

une

MONDAY

Comic Art workshop in Shoreham. Monday, June 30, 3-5 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. Pick up your graphic novel on June 24 so you can join in our book discussion on the 30th. Ages 9 and up.

Strawberry Festival in Vergennes. Monday, June 30, 6-8 p.m., City Park, Main St. Strawberry shortcake (homemade pound cake, vanilla and fresh pi ked strawberi beverage: \$8 or 2 for \$15. Vergennes City Band will provide music. For more information, contact Marion at 802-417-4300.

Vergennes City Band concert in Vergennes. Monday, June 30, 7 p.m., City Green. A staple of Vergennes summer. Relax on the green and listen to live band music.

Cribbage Night in Bristol. Monday, June 30, 7 p.m., Libanus Lodge, corner of North and Elm Streets The Masons of Libanus Lodge in Bristol will hold their semi-monthly Cribbage Night at the Lodge. Starts at 7 and usually finishes around

uly

WEDNESDAY

Summer political luncheon series in Middlebury. Wednesday, July 2, 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.

Folk Art painting (part 1 of 2) with Ms. Kim in Shoreham. Wednesday, July 2, 3-4 p.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. "From Earth to Earth: The Lost Art of Dying in

America" in Middlebury. Wednesday, July 2, 6 p.m., New Haven Community Library, 78 North St. See the award-winning documentary, which describes natural burial and its benefits through stories from the people who worked to make it legal in Vermont, and the stories of people whose experiences have shown the ways it can help come to terms with the loss of a love one and with one's own mortality. Q&A to follow.

Bristol Town Band in Bristol. Wednesday, July 2, 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.



THURSDAY

4th of July storytime in Shoreham. Thursday, July 3, 10 a.m., Platt Memorial Library, 279 Main St. For ages 0-5 and their parents or caregivers

Great Brandon Auction in Brandon. Begins Thursday, July 3, 11 a.m., Brandon Town Hall,

1 Conant Sq. Our great indoor location will be open for 10 days and items will be available for silent auction bidding and e-bay style "Buy It Now" format. Antiques, collectibles, new merchandise, surprises and treasures from attics and barns. Many gift certificates to scores of local businesses including restaurants, stores, brew pubs, massages, services and much more. Runs through Saturday, July 12 at 2 p.m.

CALENDARONLINE

addisonindependent.com



Shoreham ice cream social to be held Sunday, June 22

Congregational Church will host an Ice Cream Social on Sunday, June 22, from noon to 3 p.m., in the Church Fellowship Hall on 28 School Road in Shoreham.

SHOREHAM — The Shoreham Come get your take-out ice cream or chocolate ice cream for only and celebrate the Shoreham \$4, or make it a Sundae for only Community in conjunction with \$7. Toppings include chocolate,

Enjoy a dish of vanilla and/ adorned with nuts and sprinkles.

the Car Show on the Town Green. caramel, maple, strawberries, Rain date is Sunday, June 29. and homemade whipped cream,





VUHS RISING SENIORS Chance Koenig, Sawyer Garthaffner, Ryker Mosehauer, Ryan Wright and Carter McGuire have been chosen to attend Green Mountain Boys' State this summer at Norwich University.

Photo courtesy of Anne Vincent

Monkton

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

NEWS -

802-999-5145.

It's time! The Monkton Townwide Yard Sale will be on Saturday, June 21 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Monkton Scouts are once again sponsoring this fun event. Come pick up a map and maybe browse awhile at Used To Be Someone's (thrift shop in the old town hall).A great way to start your search for those bargain buys! If you have any questions, contact Karen at puccidog@live.com or call/text

Also on Saturday, June 21,

come to the East Monkton Church on Church Road from 2-3:00 p.m. where you can hear some great stories of life in Monkton when people honored the local stores in town to get what they needed. Before the big box stores or internet places like Amazon, the local general stores were a big part of life. The east Monkton Church

association welcomes all.

Another great event happening on Sunday, June 22, from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m. is the Annual Strawberry Festival at the Russell Memorial Library! There will be strawberry shortcake, hot dogs and lemonade for sale to enjoy while listening to awesome music from the Cassarino's band, The Ridge Runners, featuring, Paul, Tracie and Josh. Enjoy food on the patio, watch the kids playing games and doing activities on the lawn while being entertained with great music!

And don't forget to browse the library and get some great book buys up in the Town Hall Community Room. Come one, come all to this day of fun. Contact the library at 802-453-4471 for questions. Leave a message with your name and phone number if no answer.

VUHS boys' state delegates named

Vergennes Union High School rising seniors have been chosen to attend Green Mountain Boys' State, which will be held June 22-27 on the campus of Norwich University in Northfield.

The Vergennes American Legion Post 14 is sponsoring Sawyer

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

Five Garthaffner, Chance Koenig, leadership laboratory for rising high Carter McGuire, Ryker Mosehauer and Ryan Wright.

These students were nominated by faculty and staff based on leadership, scholarship, character, and loyalty and service to their school.

Green Mountain Boys' State is a in Montpelier.

school senior boys. The main focus is Vermont town, county, and state government, and its organization, policies and procedures. They will work on issues relating to Vermont, and debate and discuss these issues during a session at the Statehouse

Lincoln

Have a news tip?

Call Dawn Mikkelsen at 453-7029

Public Notices can be found on Pages 7B, 11B and 12B. ********

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY SELECTBOARD MEETING **ROOM 116 – LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM TOWN OFFICES - 77 MAIN STREET** TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 2025 - 7:00 P.M.

Also available via Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84094763317 Bv Phone: +1 646-558-8656 (not toll-free) Webinar ID: 840 9476 3317

For those wishing to watch but not participate: Selectboard meetings are livestreamed to MCTV's YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/user/MCTVVermont and also broadcast live on Comcast Channel 1071

AGENDA

- 7:00 1. Call to Order
 - 2. *Approval of Agenda
 - 3. *Approval of Consent Agenda
 - 3a. *Approval of the Minutes of the June 10, 2025 Regular Selectboard Meeting
 - 3b. *Acceptance of Selectboard Subcommittee Meeting Minutes (if any)
 - 3c. *Approval of Applications Renewal of State Licenses/Permits (if any)
 - 3d. *Approval of Check Warrants
 - 3e. **Town Manager's Report 3f. Consent Agenda Placeholder
- 4. **Citizen Comments (Opportunity to raise or address issues not 7:05 otherwise included on this agenda)
- 7:10 5. Infrastructure Committee - Updates & Recommendations -
- 6.12.2025 Meeting
 - *WWTF/Pump Station Final Design Proposed Engineering Agreements - Wright-Pierce
 - * Proposed Excavator Purchase Public Works • **Other Project Updates
- 6. *Green Mountain Power Old Town Road Line Rebuild 7:35 7:45
 - 7. *Exchange Street Sidewalk Proposed Contract Amendment Ordinance for the Regulation of the Downtown Improvement
 - District Amendment District Levy Period Renewal
- 9. Agenda Placeholder 8:05
 - 10. **Board Member Concerns
 - 11. Executive Session Not Anticipated 12. Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session
- 8:10 **13.** *Adjourn

**Discussion *Possible Decision

PROPOSED STATE RULES

By law, public notice of proposed rules must be given by publication in newspapers of record. The purpose of these notices is to give the public a chance to respond to the proposals. The public notices for administrative rules are now also available online at https://secure.vermont.gov/SOS/rules/ . The law requires an agency to hold a public hearing on a proposed rule, if requested to do so in writing by 25 persons or an association having at least 25 members. To make special arrangements for individuals with disabilities or special

needs please call or write the contact person listed below as soon as possible. To obtain further information concerning any scheduled hearing(s), obtain copies of proposed rule(s) or submit comments regarding proposed rule(s), please call or write the contact person listed below. You may also submit comments in writing to the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules, State House, Montpelier, Vermont 05602 (802-828-2231).

NOTE: The three rules below have been promulgated by The Vermont Traffic Committee who has requested the notices be combined to facilitate a savings for the agency. When contacting the agency about these rules please note the title and rule number of the proposed rule(s) you are interested in

- · Rules Relating to the Closure of State Highways. Vermont Proposed Rule: 25P018
- Rules for Establishing Temporary Speed Limits. Vermont Proposed Rule: 25P019

use of State Highways with Limited Access facilities.

· Regulations Governing the Use of State Highways with Limited Access Facilities. Vermont Proposed Rule: 25P020

AGENCY: The Vermont Traffic Committee, Agency of Transportation CONCISE SUMMARY: The Vermont Traffic Committee proposes to make updates to references, titles, statutes and other language within the three rules listed above which relate to the closure of portions of the State Highway system to protect health, safety and welfare of the public; establishing temporary speed limits for State Highways during construction or maintenance; and govering the

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: lan Degutis, Agency of Transportation, Dill Building, 2178 Airport Rd, Berlin, VT 05641 Tel: 802-371-8827 Fax: 802-479-2210 E-Mail: lan.Degutis@vermont.gov URL: https://vtrans. vermont.gov/operations/OSB/traffic-operations/vermont-traffic-committee FOR COPIES: Joshua Taylor, Agency of Transportation, Dill Building, 2178 Airport Rd, Berlin, VT 05641 Tel:802-498-4339 Fax: 802-479-2210 E-mail: Joshua.E.Taylor@vermont.gov.

NEWS

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 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 \S 2680(c)(1)]. The Committee was formally approved by the Lincoln planning. This is a one-year term. 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

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.

Until next time ... Don't Be Pushed By Your Problems. Be Led By Your Dreams.



ADDISON COUNTY

INDEPENDENT

2025 Addy Indy Garden Game

This week's Garden Game entry comes to us from Pat Martin, who was urged by her brother, and frequent Garden Game contributor, Gary Miller to get in on the action. Pat brought in a remarkable asparagus spear that measured an astonishing 36" L x 2.25" C. This early-season perennial will be tough to top!



With only one entry this week, the competition is still wide open. Will Pat's asparagus remain the veggie to beat, or will another green-thumbed grower step up with something even bigger?

Take a look in your yard — you might have a champion growing right under your nose!

Play the Garden Game!

Do you have veggies to share in our pages? We welcome entries from any of the listed categories. Bring your entry into our office between 9am and 4pm Monday-Friday and we'll measure it and snap a photo. Each week, we'll publish new entries and update our frontrunners for each category in the contest. At the end of the season, each category winner* will be eligible to receive a gift certificate from our Garden Game sponsor, Middlebury Agway.

CATEGORIES & FRONT-RUNNERS:

Asparagus (length x circumference) - Pat Martin, 36" x 2.25"

Beet (circumference)

Broccoli (diameter) Cabbage (circumference)

Cantaloupe (circumference)

Carrot (length x circumference)

Cauliflower (diameter) Corn (length x circumference)

Cucumber (length x circumference)

Edible Leafy Greens (length x width - leaf only) - Gary Miller, 16.25" x 8"

Eggplant (circumference x circumference)

Fennel (length x circumference)

Green Bean (length) Kohlrabi (circumference)

Leek (length x circumference)

Melon (circumference)

Onion (circumference) Parsnip (circumference)

Pepper (circumference x circumference)

Potato (length x circumference)

Pumpkin (circumference x circumference)

Radish (circumference) Rhubarb (length)

Rutabaga (circumference)

Summer Squash (length x circumference) Sunflower (diameter)

Tomato (circumference) Turnip (circumference)

Winter Squash (length x circumference)

Zucchini (length x circumference)



SPONSORED BY MIDDLEBURY AGWAY



*PLEASE NOTE: EACH INDIVIDUAL IS ELIGIBLE TO WIN ONE GIFT CERTIFICATE, EVEN IF THEY WIN MULTIPLE CATEGORIES.

auto repair auto sales and leasing carpentry/contractors cleaning services

computers construction duct work & duct cleaning painting

flooring masonry plumbing

AUTO REPAIR

Hometown Service from Your Hometown Dealers!

Factory-Trained Technicians Servicing all makes and models



G Stone Motors 36 Boardman St., Middlebury (802) 388-6718 gstonemotors.com Stone

Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram 2149 Rt 7 So., Middlebury (802) 388-9961 stonecdjr.com



WESTSIDE AUTO REPAIR



General Car and Truck Repair

State Inspections for Cars Trucks and Trailers Tires and Tire Changeovers • Brakes/Oil Changes Trailer hitches • Rough country lift kits & off road products

Open Tue-Sat • Call or text for appointment **Gary Brown 523 Middle Rd., Salisbury** • **802-771-4936**

AUTO SALES & LEASING

G STONE MOTORS, INC.



Ben Kayhart Sales & Leasing Consultant

We will take anything in trade!

Office# 802-388-6718 Cell# 802-349-4662 Ben@gstonemotors.com

36 BOARDMAN ST | P.O. Box 748, MIDDLEBURY, VT 05753-0748

CARPENTRY/ CONTRACTORS



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

FULLY INSURED

Golden Ruler Construction

AFFORDABLE & HONEST **Residential & Agricultural Construction** Old Home Renovations Custom Homes • Barns Interior Painting • General Repairs **Call Jonathan Hescock** 2217 Rt. 74, Cornwall 802-462-3737



www.vermontcustommoldings.com

CARPENTRY CONTRACTORS

Quaker Village **CARPENTRY**

We have immediate availability!



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

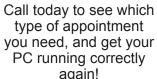
CLEANING SERVICES

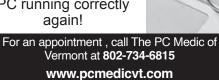


COMPUTERS



The PC Medic of Vermont now offers both on-site and remote computer services for your PC.





CONSTRUCTION



DUCT WORK & DUCT CLEANING

Like us on Facebook!



Specializing in **Duct Cleaning**

And Duct Work for Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning We use 5,000+ cfm HEPA

Vacuum Cleaning Systems We can design, fabricate, seal, insulate, clean, anything to do with your ducted systems

Buy Local! 802.989.0396

ommercial/Residential • Owner Operated • Fully Insured • Neat & Clea



PREMIUM BUSINESS SHOWCASE AD

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

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

This ad space could be yours!

Don't miss this special opportunity to promote your business. Contact your ad rep today to secure your premium

B&S package: christy@addisonindependent.com jennah@addisonindependent.com katyf@addisonindependent.com tomvs@addisonindependent.com



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

FLOORING

Wales Floors, Inc.

For a free estimate call 877-8323

Fully insured

Custom & non-toxic finishes Installation refinishing & restoration of residential and commercial wood floors

Over two decades experience!



FLOOR & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Stripping - Waxing - Buffing Carpet Cleaning & **Emergency Water Removal**



MASONRY

FINE DRY STONE MASONRY



Jamie Masefield CERTIFIED BY THE DRY STONE WALLERS Association of Great Britain

802-233-4670 jmasefield@gmavt.net

ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

Bruce A. Maheu's **MASONRY**

NEW & REPAIR

Residential • Lake Camps (Dunmore) Brick - Block - Stone

Chimneys, Fireplaces, Outside Barbecues, Steps, Patios, Stone Walls



35 Years Experience **Honest & Fair Pricing Free Estimates Fully Insured**

Salisbury, VT

Call Bruce 802-352-6050

The temps are rising!





Thursday(Business(

painting plumbing renewable energy roof cleaning roofing

rubbish & recycling siding snow removal surveying

taxes tree service water delivery window treatments

PAINTING

HESCOCK PAINTING A friendly, professional,

Free Estimates

References

and affordable family business. Interior Painting 462-3737 or 989-9107 Kim or Jonathan Hescock

Let people know about **YOUR Business!**

PLUMBING



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



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

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Soak Up The Sun! When you're ready for a solar, heat pump or battery installation, we're here for you! Since 1972!



Call for a FREE on-site evaluation

BRISTOL BristolElectronicsVT.com

ROOF CLEANING

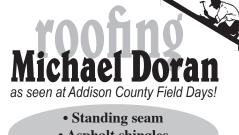
REFRESH YOUR ROOF LLC

Clean, Restore & Prolong the Life of Your Roof But why stop with a roof cleaning?

- Exterior House Washing Gutters
- Shingle Rejuvenation Deck Patios & Walkways
 Commercial Exteriors
 - Alan Chester (802)989-3352

RefreshYourRoof.com

ROOFING



 Asphalt shingles • Slate

mpdoransr@gmail.com Phone (802) 537-3555

Free estimates • Fully Insured

SEPTIC & WATER

INCOLN APPLIED GEOLOGY, INC.

Celebrating 40 Years

Environmental Consultants - Licensed Designers Steve Revell CPG, LD#178 BW

- Jeremy Revell LD#611 BW · Water Supply - Location, Development and Permitting
- On-Site Wastewater Design Single & Multiple Lot Subdivision • Property Development & Permitting
- · State and Local Permitting
- Underground Storage Tank Removal & Assessment

802-453-4384

Fax 802-453-5399 • Email: jrevell@lagvt.com 163 Revell Drive • Lincoln, VT 05443 www.lagvt.com

CHECK US OUT

ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

SURVEYING





ALTA Surveys • Full Boundary Surveys and Plat Commercial and Residential Subdivisions Light Boundary Work and Boundary Line Staking Easement Surveys • Elevation Certificates LOMA Surveys • Topographic Surveys

(802) 782-9273 • Philo Surveying LLC • Charlotte, VT Philosurveying.com • References available

TREE SERVICE



- Tree Removal
- Tree Pruning
- Storm Damage Clean up
- Stump Grinding Serving all of **Addison County**

Over 30 Years Experience

Fully Licensed and Insured

Call for a Free Estimate: 802-349-7459 sargentstreeservice.com

WATER DELIVERY



Residential Water delivery for Swimming Pools and Wells

Also offering: Timber Harvesting • Land Clearing Brush Hogging • Field Mowing • Driveway Repair Rough Sawn Lumber • Sand and Gravel

Call (802) 353-6846 Tracy Wyman, Brandon, VT

WINDOW TREATMENT

Your local source for window treatments from the nation's most popular brands. Free in-home consultations!



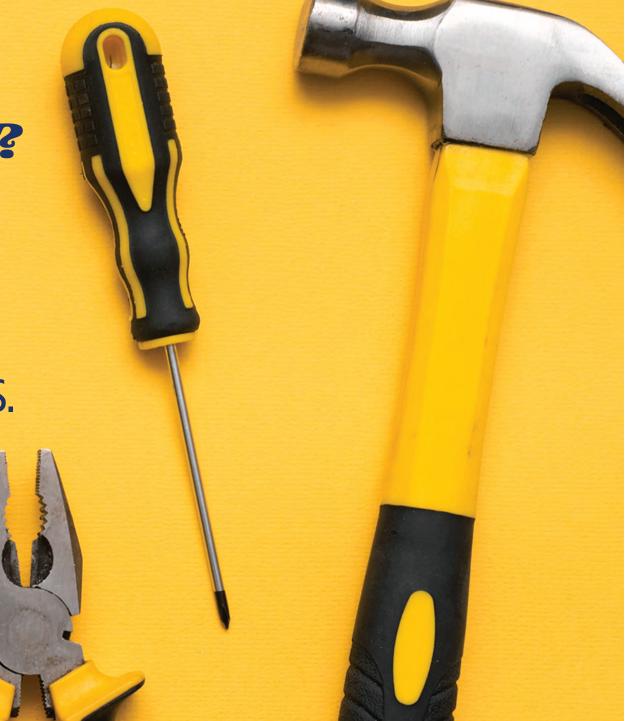
Vermont Window Treatments LLC



802-989-1531 | 3333 Case Street, Middlebury vermontwindowtreatments.com

JACK OF ALL TRADES?

CALL 802-388-4944 OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@ ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS.



Advertise your business on these pages for under \$10 per week. Call 802-388-4944 or email advertising@addisonindependent.com for details.

Public Meetings

AL-ANON OFFERS HELP and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking. Middlebury hosts an online meeting Sunday night 7:15pm and a face to face one Wednesday at 1:30pm at CVUUS (2 Duane Court Middlebury near the high school) that you can also access by Zoom. Visit vermontalanonalateen.org for links and list of other meetings in the region. If you'd like to speak to an Al-Anon member, call our answering service (866-972-5266) and an Al-Anon member will call you back.

ALCOHOLICS ANONY-MOUS in person meetings are available. For a list of local virtual meetings visit http://bit.ly/district9aa. For more information visit https://aavt.org/ or call the 24 hour hotline at 802-802-AAVT (2288).

Public Meetings

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 inclu-

sion without judgment or

exception. If you think we

can help, please join us

on Thursdays at 6pm by

contacting Vergennesfree-

thinkers@gmail.com for

Zoom and in-person meet-

ing information.

Public Meetings

OVEREATERS ANONY-MOUS is a 12 step program offering recovery from compulsive eating and food behaviors. For meeting times and general information please visit www.oavermont.org or call (802)863.2655.

THE TURNING POINT **CENTER** of Addison County is open for in-person services, Monday through Friday, 10am-4pm, 79 Court St, Middlebury. We are available by phone 24/7 at 802-388-4249.

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.

WHERE **YOU** AND

YOUR WORK **Matter..**.

Services

BROWN'S CONSTRUC-TION renovations, interior/exterior painting, drywall, plumbing/electrical services. Fully insured w/ 30+ years of experience covering Northern Addison and Southern Chittenden refernces available. Call 802-238-4864

CONSTRUCTION: ADDI-TIONS. RENOVATIONS new construction, drywall, carpentry, painting, flooring, roofing, pressure washing, driveway sealing. All aspects of construction, also property maintenance. Steven Fifield 802-989-0009.

MELISSA'S QUALITY CLEANING Services. Residential and commercial. Fully insured. Great rates. Reliable and thorough cleaning, 802-345-6257.

Help Wanted

Services Garage Sales



REFRESH YOUR ROOF Roof Cleaning and Exterior House Washing 802-989-3352 or www.refreshyourroof.com

SPRING PROPERTY CLEAN UPS, some landscaping, brush cutting, lawn work, weed flower beds, grocery pick up. Call us today, we do other jobs too. low rates. 802-999-2194, John.

Free

DIGITAL ACCESS View obituaries, calendar listings and classifieds online at addisonindependent.com. Don't miss out on events, garage sales, or opportunities- check out our free digital listings. Looking to read more? Become a subscriber!

Help Wanted

LARGE GARAGE SALE Sat June 21st, 10-2. 1229 Main St, New Haven

LAWN SALE RAIN OR SHINE Bristol 6 Meadow Ln, Sat June 21st 9-3. Vintage lawn chairs, Coca-Cola Collectibles, toy fire trucks, and tables + chairs

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 fulltime 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.

Help Wanted

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.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

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@

Help Wanted

swifthouseinn.com.

Help Wanted



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.

Help Wanted



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.





Director of Developmental Services

Community Associates at the Counseling Service of Addison County

Do you care deeply about Vermonters with intellectual disabilities? Are you passionate about inclusion and dignity?

CSAC is seeking a dynamic Director to lead our Developmental Service program. This role oversees a department of 100 staff providing residential, home-based, and community services to adults with intellectual disabilities and traumatic brain injuries.

The Director ensures services meet community needs, staff receive the training and support they need, resources are managed efficiently, and all compliance requirements are met. As part of CSAC's Management Team, the Director also contributes to strategic planning, advocacy, and overall administration.

The ideal candidate will have: a demonstrated history of collaborative leadership; a thorough understanding of the Vermont system of care; experience with managing a \$13M+ department budget; excellent communication skills; and a Master's Degree in a related field (preferred).

We offer competitive compensation and benefits package.

If you are ready to make a meaningful impact in Addison County supporting families, and helping hundreds of individuals thrive, we want to hear from you.

To apply, visit https://www.csac-vt.org/careers/careers.html Please include a cover letter.

CSAC is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Help Wanted



Administrative Assistant/Office Coordinator

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.

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.

Opportunities

Opportunities

WORKFORCE EXPANSION COORDINATOR - ADDISON COUNTY

The Vermont Department of Labor is looking for a Workforce Expansion Program (WEP) Coordinator based in Addison County. The WEP Coordinator will work closely with Addison County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC) to develop and implement their two-year Action Plan. The ideal candidate will have experience in workforce or economic development, strong communication and facilitation skills, and experience managing projects and tracking and communicating results. This is an exciting new role to support our two-year, regional pilot program designed to get people into jobs and jobs filled for employers. We welcome candidates with lived expertise. If you have a passion for building and growing partnerships in Addison County, we encourage you to apply!

Reference Job Posting ID#: 52864. Location: Home-based- must live within a reasonable commuting distance to and be familiar with working in Addison County. Status: Full Time, Limited Service. Pay Grade 25: As of July 14, 2025, step 1 rate=\$30.92 and step 15 rate=\$48.48, per hour. Application Deadline: June 26, 2025.

Apply online at https://careers.vermont.gov/job-invite/52864/ The State of Vermont offers an excellent total compensation package. Department of Human Resources Division, Recruitment Services at (855) 828-6700 (voice) or 800-253-0191 (TTY/Relay Service).

** no charge for these ads Spotlight with large 🗸 \$1

Learn more at: careers.vermont.gov

The State of Vermont is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Check here every week for local volunteer ADDISON COUNTY opportunities! INDEPENDENT

Addison Independent SSIFIED ORDER FORM

ash in on our 4-for-3 rates! Pay for 3 issues, get 4th iss	sue fre	e! An ad placed for	consecutive issues runs	the 4th time for free!
lame:	• Specie	al 4 for 2 rates not vali	d for the following catego	orios: Sonvicos
Address:			ood heat, Attn. Farmers, I	
Phone:		□ Notices	☐Work Wanted	Att. Farmers
none.		☐ Card of Thanks	☐ Help Wanted	☐ Motorcycles
mail:		Personals	☐ For Sale	☐ Cars
Dr, submit your classified ad on our website: addisonindependent	t com	☐ Services	☐ Public Meetings**	☐ Trucks
	ticom	☐ Free**	☐ For Rent	SUVs
DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m.		☐ Lost 'N Found**	■Want to Rent	Snowmobiles
		☐ Garage Sales	☐ Wood Heat	☐ Boats
• 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad		☐ Lawn & Garden	Real Estate	☐ Wanted
• 50¢ internet listing per issue • minimum 2 insertions		\square Opportunities	\square Animals	Real Estate Wanted
		Adoption		☐ Vacation Rentals

ADDISON INDEPENDENT 58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753 802-388-4944 addisonindependent.com • email: classifieds@addisonindependent.com

PLEASE PRINT YOUR	AD	
	Number of words:	
	Cost: \$	
The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error occurred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.	# of runs:	
	Spotlight Charge: \$	
	Internet Listing: \$	
	TOTAL: \$	

Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale

2011 38' CAMPER needs little work. \$6500, must sell. Call 802-349-2918.

ENCORE WOOD STOVE porcelain green with glass door. \$1200 or best offer, must sell. Call 802-349-

For Sale

FIREWOOD STOVE in excellent shape. \$1800 or best offer, must sell. Call 802-349-2918

Ford Pickup **FOR SALE!**

4 wheel drive, Long bed \$6,000



Help Wanted Help Wanted

Assistant Treasurer

The Town of Monkton is seeking a trustworthy, organized, and detail-oriented candidate to serve as its Assistant Treasurer. This position offers a competitive hourly wage based on experience, a flexible, welcoming, and casual work environment, and an opportunity to serve the community while assisting with managing the Town's finances. Town residency is not required.

Competitive candidates will have accounting experience, preferably with municipal fund accounting. Experience with NEMRC software is a plus. Accuracy, attention to detail, and a sense of humor are highly valued.

To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter with references to: Town Administrator, Town of Monkton PO Box 12, Monkton, VT 05469 or email townadministrator@monktonvt.com

Note "Assistant Treasurer Search" on your correspondence. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Vacation Rentals

ADDISON: LAKE CHAM-PLAIN waterfront camp. Beautiful views, gorgeous sunsets, private beach, dock, rowboat and canoe included. \$999. weekly, or call for weekends. 802-349-4212, no texts.

For Rent

1000 SQUARE FEET OF RETAIL available with parking on Bakery Lane in downtown Middlebury. 802-349-8544.

3 BEDROOM 2 1/2 bath 3 story house for rent. (1500 square feet.) Lots of windows and light, southern exposure. It is on 5 acres. some wooded and some open, with garden space on a dead-end road (399 Jockey Lane, Monkton) Two decks and a small porch. 30 minutes from Burlington. Energy efficient: solar electricity, heat pump. Rent is \$2400 per month plus electricity and fuel. We are responsible for mowing and landscaping; renter is responsible for snow removal. Washer/ dryer provided as well as all appliances. References required. Email is best but if you would like to call, the number is 802-877-3742. Please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

5,000 SQUARE FEET available. Exchange Street, Middlebury, VT. 802-349-

Help Wanted

For Rent

FERRISBURGH: Senior woman seeks homeshare quest for home near Basin ALL REAL ESTATE ad-Harbor. Enjoy quiet setvertising in this newspaper ting with friendly Vermonter is subject to the Federal who likes watching TV and Fair Housing Act of 1968 knitting. \$200/month in exas amended which makes change for companionship, assistance with household maintenance, light cleaning. 802-863-5625 or Ho-

For Rent

meShareVermont.org for

application. Interview, refer-

ences, background checks

FURNISHED SUITE

AVAILABLE in house in

Addison, Bedroom, bath-

room, living area with TV,

and kitchen facilities with

small refrigerator, micro-

wave, toaster/oven, double

burners. Access to laundry

\$700 month includes utili-

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAM-

PUS HOUSING available.

802-388-4831, AJ Neri

Property Rentals.

FINISHER

Addison Residential is seeking to hire a

full-time finisher for our busy paint shop.

Finisher will be responsible for spraying

a variety of projects - cabinetry, siding,

trim, etc. along with using a variety of

finish products. The ideal candidate will

have previous experience with finishing.

The job requires repetitive motion and

ability to lift-up to 65lbs. The candidate

should be able to work independently,

as well as be part of a team, and have

a keen eye for detail.

Benefits package available.

MARKET REPORT

ADDISON COUNTY

COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT

Sales for 6/12/25 & 6/16/25

LBS. /LB 1245 1.80

1745 1.60

1580 1.55

1515 1.50

LBS. /LB

90 14.00

80 14.00

91 13.50

86 13.10

103 13.00

80 12.40

Total Beef - 117 Total Calves - 221

We value our faithful customers.

Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.

call 1-802-388-2661

1.58

1.55

1.47

COST

1840

1845

1690

BEEF Nop Bros

Conants

Westminster

Vorsteveld

Goodrich

CALVES

Wilcon

A. Brisson

V. Malnati

Blue Spruce

M+L Quesnel

Barnes Bros

Correia

COST

\$2241.00

\$2792.00

\$2907.20

\$2859.75

\$2449.00

\$2272.50

\$2484.30

\$1260.00

\$1120.00

\$1228.50

\$1126.60

\$1339.00

\$992.00

ties, call 802-349-6312

required. EHO

it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Tollfree at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at

COMMERCIAL/OFFICE SPACE - 3000 sq ft - Middlebury. Loading dock. Tall ceilings. \$2,500.00 p/ month. 802-558-6092.

426-3500.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Wood Heat DRY OR GREEN firewood for sale. Delivery available.

VERMONT SUN BUILD-

ING Space for rent. 3600

square feet. Contact Steve,

mornings, 802-989-1244.

For Rent

OFFICE SPACE AVAIL-

ABLE in historic downtown Middlebury property. Very

reasonable rent with utilities

included, except internet.

Rental also includes off-

street parking. To inquire,

call Dick at (802)989-8822.

ORWELL: Outdoorsy retir-

ee who enjoys landscaping,

hiking, swimming seeking

companionable dog-friend-

ly housemate to share her

rural home, \$350/month, all

included. 802-863-5625 or

HomeShareVermont.org for

application. Interview, refer-

ences, background checks

VERGENNES VALLEY

VIEW APARTMENTS is

required. EHO

SummitPMG.com.

vermontsun.com

Att. Farmers

\$3.25. 2nd cut small square, \$4.25. 802-377-5455.

FARM WORK Pond agitating, liquid manure hauling, drag line aerating. Call for price. 462-2755, John Whitney.

Wanted

LIONS CLUB: needs good items for their annual auction. Please no appliances or electronics. Call for pick up: 802-989-1494. Help us, help others.

802-349-4212.

1ST CUT, SMALL square,

WHITNEY'S CUSTOM

Pay is based on experience/skill level. **AGWAY** Apply by emailing resume to: info@addisonresidential.com.

Cashier - Customer Service **Part-time and Full-time Positions available**

Immediate Openings available.

Must be able to work until 6pm. Days and Weekends a MUST. Up to 40 hours per week.

Wage commensurate with experience.

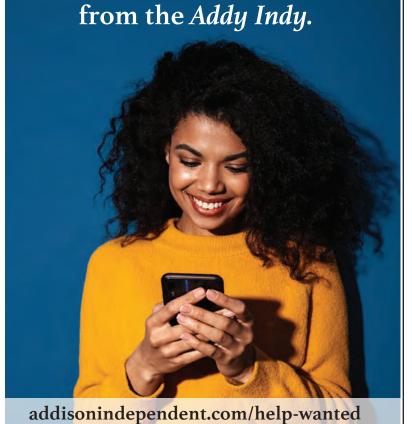
Please send Resumes to info@middleburyagway.com or Fill out Application at Middlebury Agway, 338 Exchange St., Middlebury VT.

Please no phone calls.

All of our positions offer generous, twice a year bonuses and employee discount on all products.

Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. - Middlebury, VT.

In print or online, find your dream job with help



ADDISON COUNTY



(1666) TOOLS & EQUIPMENT Auction Closes: Monday, June 30 @ 11AM Preview: Monday, June 23 from 11AM-1PM 131 Dorset Lane, Williston, VT







Over 125 lots in this online auction featuring quality tools and equipment from trusted names in the industry: Greenworks, Greenlee, John Deere, Massey Ferguson, Husqvarna, DR, Mantis, and much more!

THOMAS HIRCHAK COMPANY THCAuction.com • 800-634-7653

Email us at: ads@addisonindependent.com

Take time to visit pollinator gardens

ADDISON COUNTY — June 20, 2025, with over 15 hours of daylight, is the official start of summer and a peak of abundance. With other ways you may have to celebrate the Summer Solstice, it's a good time to visit gardens designed or transformed to align our lives more closely with beneficial insects and other wildlife.

The Pollinator Pathway of Addison County invites all to visit these gardens aimed at creating pesticide-free corridors of native plants that provide nutrition and habitat for pollinating insects and birds.

currently taking wait list applications. Occupants must Gardens include: Bridport be 62+ years of age. No School Garden in Bridport; smoking/ No pets. Income Mount Abraham Union Middle/ limits apply - Rent based High School Garden in Bristol; on income. Equal Housing Middlebury Natural Foods Co-Op Opportunity. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www. Garden and Megan's Meadow, (entrance for MREMS and past the dog park) in Middlebury;

Monkton Town Hall Garden and Monkton Central School Gardens in Monkton; New Haven Congregational Church Garden in New Haven; Robinson Elementary School garden in Starksboro; and the Town Clerk's Office Garden and Pulp Mill Bridge Garden, in Weybridge.

It's comforting to feel there's a community of caretakers of plants in pots, plots and meadows, pulling invasives, mowing around tiny blooms in the lawn, picking pests off plants to avoid pesticides and appreciating the work of those who do. Stop by the Middlebury Natural Foods Co-Op on Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday afternoon for a chat with a member of Pollinator Pathway of Addison County (PPAC) and to visit the new section of the garden in front. Or contact PPAC at pollinatorpathway.addisoncty@ gmail.com.

Public Notices can be found in this

ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 7B, 11B and 12B.

SECTION 106 PUBLIC NOTICE

T-Mobile Northeast, LLC proposes to collocate antennas on a 72-foot-tall (overall height) Silo located at 647 West Salisbury Rd, Salisbury, Addison County, VT 05769. Interested parties with comments regarding potential effects on Historic Properties may contact T-Mobile c/o Julia Klima at Dynamic Environmental Associates, Inc., 3850 Lake Street, Suite C, Macon, GA 31204, 877-968-4787, Sec106@DynamicEnvironmental.com within 30 days from the date of this publication. Re: 22505207

REQUEST FOR BIDS

Stewart Construction, located in Essex Junction, Vermont is seeking bids from qualified subcontractors for a fast paced, multi-family construction project off Seminary Street Extension in the town of Middlebury, Vermont. The scopes of work available for bids include but are not limited to: Sitework, Concrete, Wood Framing, Mechanical/Plumbing, Electrical, Fire Suppression and Finishes – both interior and exterior. Minority, Women, Small Owned, & Section 3 Businesses are encouraged to respond. Interested subcontractors must not be debarred from receiving State or Federal funding and must be capable of processing certified payroll with Davis Bacon wages. Please reach out to info@stewartconstruction.com for access to the Townhouse 2 (Lot 8) and Duplexes 1-4 (Lot 7) bid documents; bids will be accepted for the work until June 27th, 2025.

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT Addison Unit

CIVIL DIVISION DOCKET NO: 24-CV-03493

CAG NATIONAL FUND I LLC **PLAINTIFF**

ANDREW MONTROLL, ESQ., SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO THE PHILLIP H. LIVINGSTON AND HARRIET N. LIVINGSTON LIVING TRUST; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND OCCUPANTS RESIDING 498 BURGEY FARM ROAD, ADDISON, VT 05497 DEFENDANT(S)

NOTICE OF SALE

In accordance with the Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure by Judicial Sale filed on January 7, 2025, in the above captioned action brought to foreclose that certain mortgage given by Philip H. Livingston, Surviving Trustee under the Philip H. Livingston and Harriet N. Livingston Living Trust to MetLife Home Loans, a Division of MetLife Bank, N.A., dated August 26, 2011, and recorded in Book 98, at Page 154, of the Town of Addison Land Records, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by virtue of the following Assignments of Mortgage: (1) Assignment of Mortgage from MetLife Home Loans, a Division of MetLife Bank, N.A. to Nationstar Mortgage, D/B/A Champion Mortgage Company recorded in Book 99, at Page 469 (2) Corrective Assignment of Mortgage from MetLife Home Loans, a Division of MetLife Bank, N.A. to Nationstar Mortgage LLC D/B/A Champion Mortgage Company recorded in Book 101, at Page 450 (3) Assignment of Mortgage from Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Champion Mortgage to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development recorded in Book 109, at Page 551 (4) Assignment of Mortgage from Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to CAG National Fund I LLC recorded in Book 119, at Page 43, all of the Town of Addison Land Records, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on July 23, 2025 at 10:00 AM at 498 Burgey Farm Road, Addison, VT 05491 all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

All that certain parcel of land situated in the County of Addison, State of Vermont, being known as being all and the same land and premises conveyed to Philip H. Livingston Trustee under the Philip H. and Harriet N. Livingston Living Trust by Warranty Deed of Philip H. and Harriet N. Livingston dated 1/17/02, recorded 9/18/02 in Vol. 78 at Page 18; also being the same land and premises conveyed to Philip H. and Harriet N. Livingston by Warranty Deed of Philip T. and Monika Hauser dated 8/9/01, recorded 8/14/01 in Vol. 73 at Page 391.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

The public sale may be adjourned one or more times for a total time not exceeding 30 days, without further court order, and without publication or service of a new notice of sale, by announcement of the new sale date to those present at each adjournment or by posting notice of the adjournment in a conspicuous place at the location of the sale.

Terms of Sale: \$10,000.00 to be paid in cash or by certified check by the purchaser at the time of sale, with the balance due at closing. The sale is subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

The Mortgagor is entitled to redeem the premises at any time prior to the sale by paying the full amount due under the mortgage, including the costs and expenses of the sale.

Other terms to be announced at sale.

CAG National Fund I LLC Bozena Wysocki, Esq. BROCK & SCOTT, PLLC 23 Messenger Street 2nd Floor Plainville, MA 02762 VT_Noticesofhearing@brockandscott.com

Public Notices can be found in this ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 7B, 11B and 12B.

TOWN OF RIPTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Ripton Community House on Tuesday, July 8, 2025 at 7:15 p.m., to conduct a hearing and site plan review of application (#25-09) from Harold Doria and Jorene Doria for approval of their plans to subdivide their property located at 661 Wagon Wheel Road (Tax

The application is available for inspection at the Town Office. Interested parties who wish to appeal or to be heard at the hearing may do so in person, or may be represented by an agent or an attorney. Communications relating to the application may be filed in writing with the Commission either before or during the hearing. Remote access instructions are available from the Ripton

N.B.: Participation in the hearing is necessary to establish status as an interested person' and the right to appeal decisions rendered in that hearing, according to the provisions of 24 V.S.A. Chap.117 §§4465(b) and 4471(a) Participation consists of offering, through oral or written testimony, evidence or a statement of concern directly related to the subject of the hearing.

Respectfully submitted, Michael J. Cummings, Co-Chair

> STATE OF VERMONT, SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION, ADDISON UNIT **DOCKET NO.: 25-PR-03638** IN RE ESTATE OF: MARY BRACE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS To the Creditors of: Mary Brace, late of Starksboro, Vermont.

I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period. Dated: 06/05/25

> Carol Gooley PO Box 221, Hinesburg, VT 05461 802-557-5518 cgooleyvt@yahoo.com

Publication: Addison Independent Publication Date: 06/19/25

Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court, Addison Unit, Probate Division Address of Court: 7 Mahady Court, Middlebury, VT 05753

Police respond to a mental health crisis

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police responded to separate reports of a man having a mental health crisis in the College Street and South Village Green areas on June 11.

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

· Responded to a report of a person who had refused to leave the A&W restaurant on Route 7 on

on the Town's website.

Middlebury Police Log

June 9.

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Middlebury Development Review Board will hold a public hearing(s) at

the Middlebury Municipal Offices, Large Conference Room, 77 Main Street,

Middlebury, VT on Monday July 14th, 2025, beginning at 7:00 p.m. to consider

the following application(s). The hearing will be available to participants via a

Zoom video link. The Zoom link will be provided on the meeting agenda posted

Application ((file #2025-004064.008-PUD (amend)) is a request by

proposal to construct a 12,000 +/- gsf. building in Catamount Business

the new building will have a 6,000 gsf footprint with two stories intended

for multiple business uses such as offices and consultation rooms. The

property is identified as parcel #004064.008 in the General Commercial

2. Application (file #2025-028047.000-SP) is a request by Turning Point

Middlebury. Turning Point proposes the new addition as a meeting room

The applications will be heard in the order listed. Plans and additional infor-

mation may be viewed at the Planning and Zoning Office in the Town Offices or

by calling 388-8100, Ext 226. Participation in this public hearing is a prerequisite

to the right to take any subsequent appeal as an "interested person(s)". Interest-

ed persons wishing to participate in this hearing may do so by contacting J.R.

Christ at 388-8100, Ext 226 or email to jrchrist@townofmiddlebury.org.

Center of Addison County for an site plan review of their proposal to

construct a 747 +/- gsf. addition to their building at 79 Court Street in

for their use. The property is identified as parcel #028047.000 in the

Counseling Service of Addison Couty for an amended PUD review of their

Park at 109 Catamount Park on Exchange Street. The applicant proposes

• Received a report on June 9 of a man with a dog on Mary Hogan Drive who had allegedly been

• Assisted with a juvenile complaint at Middlebury Union Middle School on June 9

confrontational with a passerby.

- Helped a local woman who believed she was being scammed on June 9.
- Conducted a foot patrol in the downtown area on June 9 and June
- Checked on the welfare of a man in the town green gazebo at around 11 p.m. on June 10.
- Assisted Vermont State Police at a drunken driving-related stop on East Main Street on June 10.
- · Responded to a report of a woman allegedly abusing a child in a parking lot off Court Street on June 10.
- that a person was allegedly driving erratically on Elm Street on June

• Tried, in vain, to find a vehicle

- Responded to a report of "suspicious activity" on the Porter Hospital campus on June 11.
- Checked on the welfare of a woman in the Seymour Street area on June 11.
- · Checked on a man who was seen slumped over the wheel of his vehicle while parked off South Pleasant Street on June 12.
- Assisted with a juvenile complaint at Middlebury Union

Email your Public Notices to

legals@addisonindependent.com and Jenna makes sure it gets in the paper

Middle School on June 12.

- Received a report about a man allegedly driving while under the influence on Munson Road on June 13.
- Responded, along with Vermont State Police, to a report of a vehicle crash on Upper Plains Road in Salisbury on June 13.
- Helped Vermont State Police respond to a reported family fight at a Lake Dunmore Road home in Salisbury on June 13.
- Arrested Antonio Johnson, 29, of Middlebury, on an outstanding warrant on June 13.
- Investigated a report of a stolen cellphone from a North Pleasant Street home on June 13.
- Assisted a Seymour Street resident who had been approached by an online scammer on June 13.
- Assisted a person experiencing a mental health crisis on Seminary Street on June 14.
- Responded to a mental healthrelated call in the Forbes Circle area on June 14.
- Participated in Porter Hospital's centennial birthday party on June 14.
- · Helped a parent who was trying to find their runaway child in another community on June 14.
- Helped a man get a restraining order on June 14.
- Responded to a burglary report at a Jayne Court residence on June
- Responded to a report of two people fighting on Main Street on
- Conducted a foot patrol in the downtown area on June 15.

Fair - Time Coloring and Decorating Contest

DRB Coordinator, AZA

Residential-12 Zoning district.

Summer's in full swing! Bring your brightest colors and help Sappy Bucket® celebrate the sights, sounds, and flavors of Addison County Fair & Field Days (7/29 - 8/2)!



Name: Parent/Guardian's Name: Address:__ _____State:_____Zip: _____ Email: _ ■ Age Group: under 5 5-6

Thank you to the Little Pressroom for providing this sweet custom image to color! For Sappy Bucket® products, visit sappybucket.com

Feel free to tear out this coloring page or go to the Addy Indy website for a printable version.

All entries must be submitted by Friday, **July 18th.** Winners will be notified by July 22nd and officially announced in the July 24th edition of the Addison Independent.

Two winners from each age group will get two passes to Addison County Fair & Field Days and a gift certificate to the fairgrounds sugarhouse, which can be picked up from the Addy Indy office July 22nd-25th.

All submissions will be displayed in the sugarhouse during the fair.

Submit your entries:

Online at

addisonindependent.com/contests

By Mail or In Person

to Addison Independent, 58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753

Sponsored by:





ADDISON COUNTY **INDEPENDENT**

ADDISON COUNTY

School News

Patricia McNerney of New Haven was named the recipient of The Curran Prize Scholarship at Hamilton College's annual Class & Charter Day, held on May 13.

The Curran Prize Scholarship provides a scholarship for a student enrolled in courses in the Classical Languages Department and who has achieved a distinguished record in those courses. McNerney, sophomore majoring in archaeology, is a graduate of Mount Abraham Union High School.

John Woodbury of Brandon has been named to the Plymouth State University dean's list for the spring 2025 semester. To be named to the list, a student must achieve a grade-point average between 3.50 and 3.69 during the semester. Woodbury is majoring in Elementary Education and Youth Development.

FULL PASSPORT SERVICE

The Addison County Clerk located in the Frank Mahady Courthouse in Middlebury is available to accept passport applications and provide passport photos.

REGULAR HOURS Monday - 8:30am to 4:00pm Tuesday - 9:00am to 12:30pm Wednesday - Closed Thursday - 12:30pm to 4:00pm Friday - 9:00am to 12:30pm

APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED For appointment, go to www.addisoncountyclerkvt.com or call 802-388-1966.

NOTICE OF SELF-STORAGE **LIEN SALE**

116 SELF STORAGE, BRISTOL, VT Notice is hereby given that the contents of the self-storage unit listed below will be sold at public auction by sealed bid at the 116 Self Storage facility. This sale is being held to collect unpaid storage unit occupancy fees, charges and expenses of the sale.

The entire contents of the self-storage unit listed below will be sold, with the proceeds to be distributed to 116 Self Storage for all accrued occupancy fees (rent charges), attorney's fees, sale expenses in relation to the unit and its sale. Any proceeds beyond the foregoing shall be returned to the unit holder.

Contents of the unit may be viewed on 7/3/2025 commencing at 10 a.m. Sealed bids are to be submitted on the entire contents of the self-storage unit. Bids will be opened one-quarter of an hour after the unit has been viewed on 7/3/2025. The highest bidder on the storage unit must remove the entire contents within 48 hours after notification of their successfull bid. Purchase must be made in cash and paid in advance of the removal of the contents of the unit. A \$50.00 cash deposit shall be made and will be refunded if the unit is broom cleaned. 116 Self Storage reserves the right to accept or reject bids.

Unit #32 - P. Washburn



Chris Nathan, of Ferrisburgh, paints with oils at Riverfront Park in the Marble Works on Saturday during Sparrow Art Supply's Plein Air Festival. Over 90 participants came out for this inaugural event.

h w p N CO w to

here was a lot going on this past weekend. Between the No Kings protests, the swearing in of Dog Mayor Tela and Porter Hospital's Centennial Birthday Party — folks were out and about "painting the town"... oh, wait... That's right, they actually were painting the town!

LYNN PARINI

Literally.

Middlebury's Sparrow Art Supply hosted its first Plein Air Festival over the weekend that drew just over 90 participants from all across Vermont and four states. Of those participants, 29 were Young Artists (age 15 and under).

"The number of Young Artists who participated is a really wonderful indication that parents are supporting their kids in the arts," Beth Bluestein shared in an interview on Monday after the paint had dried from the weekend's events. "Truly, I was completely blown away by the turnout and creativity on display this weekend. Between the community support and watching

"I WAS REALLY TOUCHED BY HOW OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS RESPONDED TO US PUTTING THIS ON...IT'S REALLY HEARTWARMING."

— Beth Bluestein

artists connect with one another, it was an unforgettable weekend."

Bluestein teamed up with fellow Middlebury artist Courtney Vengrin to plan this inaugural event, along with the support of an incredible number of business partners and sponsors, including: Better Middlebury Partnership, Buy Again Alley, Discovery Map, Golden Rule Mead, Haymaker Bun Co., Henry Sheldon Museum, Maple Landmark, Marble Works Partnership, Middlebury Area Land Trust, Middlebury College, Middlebury Inn, Middlebury Studio School, Middleton, Otter

Creek Used Books, Shiretown Marketplace, Sweet Cecily, Swift House Inn, The Addison Independent, The Stone Mill, Town Hall Theater, Town of Middlebury, Two Brothers Tavern, and Vermont's Own.

From the 14 different site locations, to the goodies in the Welcome Bags, to stores opening up their private bathrooms for artists to utilize... This was a strong community endeavor.

"I was really touched by how our community partners responded to us putting this on," Bluestein said. "They were just as excited as I was.... Their contributions made this event so special. It's really heartwarming, and we are very grateful!"

The event began on Friday afternoon with a three-hour workshop with visiting Colorado artist Patti Vincent. The class was held in the Swift House Inn's gorgeous gardens. The nine participants created 2-inch by 2-inch mini gouache landscapes.

SEE PLEIN AIR ON PAGE 2

Dirty Laundry' aired on stage

MIDDLEBURY ACTING COMPANY'S CUTTING-EDGE STAGED READING SERIES IS BACK, SATURDAY, JUNE 22 IN MIDDLEBURY

townhalltheater.org. After the woman who unites them dies, three people grapple with love, loss, desire... and household chores. Meanwhile, a spin cycle of voices dings with questions: are you still a daughter when your mother dies? Are you still the other woman when the first woman is gone? In "Dirty Laundry," Mathilde Dratwa explores the absurdity and messiness of life and death.

irty Laundry," by Mathilde Dratwa will be performed Sunday, June 22,

back with light refreshments will follow. Tickets (\$15) are available at

at 4 p.m., at Town Hall Theater in the new Anderson Studio. A talk-

Directed by Rebecca Strum, the cast includes Gary Smith, Margo Whitcomb, Ramona Beskin, Andrew Cassel, Suzanna Miller and Christina Wadsworth.



RAMONA BESKIN



CHRISTINA WADSWORTH



ANDREW CASSEL



SUZANNA MILLER



MARGO WHITCOMB

PLEIN AIR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Then on Saturday morning, artists were welcomed to Sparrow Art Supply on Main Street in Middlebury to fuel up with a breakfast spread, pick up any supplies and head out to their preferred site

to work en plein air for the day.

The sites were all over Middlebury: Swift House Inn, Town Hall Theater, Triangle Park, The Middlebury Inn. The Stone Mill, Cannon Park, College Park, Henry Sheldon, Town Hall Plaza, Behind Sweet Cecily, Otter

View Park, The Knoll, Main Quad, and Riverfront Park/ Marble Works.

Kati Christoffel was set up on Sunday at Riverfront Park in Marble Works, where she was stationed as one of four Plein Air Ambassadors.

"I'm here to give live demos and chat with artists or anyone really about plein air art," said Christoffel, who otherwise works in the events center at

WHAT A **BEAUTIFUL EXCUSE TO COME TO MIDDLEBURY** TO PAINT.

— Julia Costes

Champlain College in addition to selling her art work professionally. "I first connected with Sparrow Art Supply when they had their first holiday market; then I started showing and buying supplies here... When Beth asked me to be an ambassador, I said 'Yes! Absolutely, yes!'"

Christoffel chose Riverfront Park as her location.

"I love the moment of the water," she said, looking out at Middlebury Falls over her partially finished watercolor painting. "I typically paint landscapes, so this was a good challenge for me; plus it's beautiful and this scene is so specific to Middlebury.

Christoffel's neighbor to the left (closer to Toad Hall Flowers) echoed the draw of the water:

"For me, I can't get away from the water," said professional oil painter Nancy Nadel of Burlington, who shows at the Bryant Memorial Gallery in Jeffersonville. "I have to be by the water... it's just so inspirational."

Nadel's work on Sunday was a close examination of CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

DESIGN THE OFFICIAL SNUGFEST POSTE

Hey, local artists!

We're inviting YOU to submit your vision for this year's Snugfest poster. The winning design will be printed, posted, and proudly displayed across Vermont (and beyond).



SCAN THE OR CODE OR VISIT SNUGFEST.COM/POSTER-CONTEST

DEADLINE: JULY 5TH





Many artists found inspiration by Middlebury Falls for this weekend's Plein Air Festival hosted by Sparrow Art Supply.

INDEPENDENT PHOTOS / STEVE JAMES

rapids. She worked alongside her friend Dinah Smith of Middlebury.

"We are so fortunate to have Sparrow and Beth in town," Smith said.

"This festival is extraordinarily well-organized," Nadel added. "The shopkeepers have been so accommodating and the fellow painters so congenial."

To the right of Ambassador Christoffel (toward the footbridge), Julia Costes set up an easel to paint the bridge scene.

"What a beautiful excuse to come to Middlebury to paint," said the St. Albans resident, who teaches elementary art in Shelburne. "And to talk to other artists... I've had great tips come from other artists about blending my background, and how they like the playfulness of the foreground — everyone has ben so nice and reassuring. Even the passersby have been so sweet."

On cue, a man walked by with his bike and stopped to admire Costes' work.

"It takes a lot of courage to make art," Bluestein said, especially when you're working in a public space. "You're observing the world around you and putting it out there for people to respond to in real time... That's a cool experience."

Participants told Bluestein that the "comradely was electric."

"Art can be really solitary," Bluestein said, adding that she wished she had an opportunity to paint alongside artists over the weekend. "You can't make art in a vacuum; so getting the



KATI CHRISTOFFEL — BURLINGTON



NANCY NADEL — BURLINGTON

opportunity to have people respond to your work is so valuable."

Bluestein hoped the festival would also be valuable to other local businesses in the area.

"For us historically June has been a slow time," she said. "We can't be the only ones seeing a dip... I hope that the event might benefit other businesses, too."

The festivities concluded each day with a social hour and giveaways (thanks sponsors!) and an optional Wet Paint Sale if artists were interested in selling their work.

Bluestein chose to purchase an original work by "prolific" young artist Hendrix Sylvia.

The piece encapsulated the joy and spirit of the whole event for Bluestein.



ADAM GLAZER — MIDDLEBURY



ANDREA KERIN — VERGENNES



ANDREA KVASNAK — MIDDLEBURY



JOANNA PASK — RIPTON

"In general, plein air festivals are typically more juried settings; you have to apply, there are prizes... it's more competitive... and that has a place for sure; but that was something I didn't want to do," Bluestein explained. "Our mission is about recognizing that art is for everyone; and outdoors is for everyone, too."

ART ON EXHIBIT



WHAT: Above Vermont: Photographs by

Caleb Kenna on exhibit

WHEN: June 27-Aug. 31

WHERE: Jackson Gallery at Town Hall

Theater, Middlebury

ABOVE VERMONT: Photographs by Caleb Kenna

Don't we all wish we could fly like a bird and see our beautiful landscapes from above? Caleb Kenna can share that perspective. The Jackson Gallery at Town Hall Theater will present an exhibit of Kenna's bird's-eye view drone photographs capturing breathtaking views of Vermont in all its glorious seasons. With his exceptional eye for composition, Kenna zooms in to create artful pictures like a kayaker surrounded by the reflections of clouds on the water, the multi-colored foliage on an island, and a meandering river snaking its way through the trees. Pattern, light and shadow are his visual language. Other images like his portrait of Silver Lake show a broader expanse, as if soaring over the mountain tops.

Kenna grew up on a hill overlooking Brandon, and has been inspired by Vermont's topography, seasons and light. He started his career as a photojournalist in Vermont (including with The Addy Indy!), the U.S. Virgin Islands and New Mexico and then began freelancing for The New York Times, Boston Globe and The Vermont Land Trust. Caleb started using a drone to capture Vermont's varied landscapes in 2017. In 2020, The New York Times published his photo essay, "Behold Vermont, From Above," featuring seventeen of his bird's-eye view drone photos. This led to the publication of his book "Art From Above Vermont," published by



PHOTO / CALEB KENNA

Schiffer Publishing in 2022.

Bill McKibben in his forward to "Art From Above Vermont" states that "Vermont from up top turns out to be magical. The window of a jet is too high to really appreciate the play of shadow, depth, and dimension that Kenna captures so powerfully here. Suddenly you realize what a shadow is, in a way you haven't before."

The exhibit runs from June 27 through Aug. 31 in the Jackson Gallery on the lower level of Town Hall Theater on Merchants Row in downtown Middlebury. All are invited to a reception for the artist on Friday, July 11, from 5-7 p.m. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday 12-5 p.m., and when performances are taking place.



SUNDAY SUPPER

A comforting three-course prix fixe dinner at a special price! Regular menu also available.

Follow @swifthouseinn on Instagram to get the latest menu.



25 Stewart Ln. Middlebury, VT 802-388-9925 swifthouseinn.com







EDGEWATER AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury

For more info visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-458-0098 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. On view June 7-July 27.

EDGEWATER ON THE GREEN

6 Merchants Row, Middlebury For more info visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-989-7419 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com.

"Pools of Reverence," a solo exhibition featuring work by Rory Jackson. This exhibit traces the artist's journey back to the woods and waterways of his home in Lincoln, where he finds his roots, his inspiration, and his sense of awe for the landscape of this region. The collection of paintings that have evolved from this place of sanctuary emanate with the emotion that the artist feels for the landscape. On view May 16-June 29.

JACKSON GALLERY

68 S Pleasant Street, Middlebury Visit townhalltheater.org/jackson-gallery or call 802-382-9222 for more info.

"Above Vermont: Photographs by Caleb Kenna."

Come see Kenna's bird's-eye view drone photographs capturing breathtaking views of Vermont in all its glorious seasons. A reception for the artist will be held on Friday, July 11, from 5-7 p.m. On view June 27-Aug. 31.

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.



Idagio Chocolates

ARIES: March 21/April 20. Nothing is too much for you to handle right now, Aries. But don't take on even more as a way to prove something to

someone. That could be a recipe for trouble.

TAURUS: April 21/ May 21. Your physical energy is strong right now, Taurus. This may work to your advantage regarding your relationship. Your desire for love and passion is intense right now, so explore it.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. Matters of the heart may need a little work right now, Gemini. If things haven't been going too smoothly, you might have to examine the dynamics of the relationship and make changes.

CANCER: June 22/ July 22. You have an incredible passion for life, Cancer. It's attracting friends and family members into your circle. Partner with someone who shares your energy.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Leo, if things aren't going smoothly at work, be careful about blaming yourself. You need to look at the bigger picture and figure out who all the players are in this situation. LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Libra, even though you may like to plan ahead and take things slowly, sometimes you need to throw caution

Largest

Selection

of Chocolates

in New England

to the wind. When an opportunity all but falls in your lap, run with it.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/

Nov. 22. Scorpio, recent conflicts may ignite some mixed feelings, which could prove confusing. Think about solutions that potentially benefit all around you, including yourself.



Tue-Sat 11-6 52 Main Street Middlebury, VT

www.adagiochocolates.com 802-382-4000





23/Dec. 21. You might not be having the best luck right now, Sagittarius, but things can change quickly. Keep your chin up and your eyes set on your goal. Networking may

help you move forward.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Capricorn, if you have any health questions, make an appointment to talk to someone right away. It is important to stay ahead of things.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/ Feb. 18. Something that has been taking up a bulk of your time is finally coming to a close, Aquarius. This will be a big relief and a lot of stress will be

lifted in the process.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. Virgo, even when others may count you out, you can be full of surprises. Do not let a recent success go entirely to your head, however. You still have a lot of work to do.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. People keep coming up to you expecting all of the answers, Pisces. Don't feel pressured to please everyone. Right now you may be content to enjoy some alone time.

JUNE 20 — Chet Atkins, musician (d) JUNE 21 — Jean-Paul Sartre, novelist, playwright & philosopher (d)

JUNE 22 — Octavia Butler, novelist (d)

JUNE 23 — Anna Akhmatova, poet (d) JUNE 24 — Lionel Messi, soccer player (38)

JUNE 25 — Eric Carle, childrens' book author (d)

JUNE 26 — Pearl Buck, novelist (d)

JUNE 19-30 2025



THURSDAY, JUNE 19

VA-ET-VIENT IN

STARKSBORO. Thursday, June 19, 6 p.m., Starksboro Pavilion, Starksboro Public Library, Route 116. Va-etvient 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 Québecois 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, TX 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 price of \$20 for the whole series.

FRIDAY, JUNE 20

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE/WALK IN CORNWALL.

Friday, June 20, Lemon Fair Sculpture Park. Easy walk of under 2 miles to

eniov 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 genreblurring blend of pop, indie-folk, rock and jazz to the stage. More info at bristolcollaborativecampus. com/gathering#freshie-

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, Lawrence Memorial Library will host local author and journalist Kieran Mulvaney for a lecture and presentation on Mulvaney's latest publication, "Arctic Passages." This program is free and open to the public. Doors will open at 5:45 p.m.

"VOICES" IN MIDDLEBURY.

Friday, June 20, 7 p.m., Seeler Studio Theatre, Mahaney Arts Center. Voices 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 price of \$20 for the whole series.

SUMMER SOLSTICE AND **INSECT BLACKLIGHTING IN**

RIPTON. Friday, June 20, 7:30 p.m., Spirit In Nature. Share stories, poetry, music, and tea around the fire. Starting at 8:30 p.m., visit the insect blacklighting area further down the path to see some of the diverse insects that share this land with us. Wear long pants, long sleeves, etc. IMPORTANT NOTE: if you wish to visit the insect blacklighting area, please do not use insect spray. Event closes with the singing bowl at 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21

HOPE FOR TOMORROW IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday,

June 21, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. This annual row-athon is an all-inclusive rowing and community event committed to raising awareness about teen suicide and an opportunity for us to come together in memory, hope and support. Bring your positive attitude, your willingness to make a difference in someone's life, and your spirit for an adventure on the water. T-shirts, lunch and a fantastic raffle courtesy of our generous sponsors. Free. No prior rowing experience needed. More info at lcmm.org.

LET'S GO BIRDING! with

Otter Creek Audubon in Middlebury. Saturday, June 21, 9-11 a.m., Wright Park, Seymour St. Ext. A delightful morning bird walk exploring the rich avian biodiversity of Wright Park. Perfect for both beginners and seasoned birdwatchers. Our expert guides will help you identify various bird species by song and sight. Family friendly. Light snacks provided. Tabling activities with bird nests and bird skulls. Free. More info and registration at maltvt.org/events.

"THE STANDARD" IN

MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, June 21, 11 a.m., Seeler Studio Theatre, Mahaney Arts Center. It's 1924, and under the steaming Southern sun, secrets simmer. A husband vanishes, and five women must decide what silence truly costs. The third of four productions of "Trailblazing," a benefit showcase of new work presented by the Dogteam Theatre Project. Suggested donation price of \$20 for the whole series.

TOM VAN SANT IN

BRANDON. Saturday, June 21, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Kennedy Park, off Center St. Van Sant plays rock covers. Free. Part of Bandon's Live at Kennedy Park series.

THE GRIFT IN GOSHEN.

Saturday, June 21, 3-6 p.m., Blueberry Hill Outdoor Center, Ripton-Goshen Rd. Local legends The Grift play a concert to benefit the Blueberry Hill Outdoor Center. Come for an afternoon of dancing and celebration. More info at blueberryhilltrails.com. Music, Red Clover Brewing, food truck, cookies and ice cream.

CEDAR IN BRANDON.

Saturday, June 21, 4-6 p.m., Red Clover Ale, 43 Center St.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY TELEVISION: MCTV SCHEDULE Channels 1071 & 1091

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 20

Press Conferences 5 a.m. 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs Memorial Baptist Church 4 p.m. 5:30 p.m. Energy Week 6:30 p.m. The Talk

Vermont Media Exchange 8 n.m. Saturday, June 21 Selectboard, Public Affairs 10 a.m.

4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service 5:30 p.m. Eckankar 6 p.m. Memorial Day Ceremony 7 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Catholic Mass

The Talk Press Conferences 9 p.m. 11 p.m. **Energy Week** Sunday, June 22 6 a.m. **Energy Week** The Talk 7 a.m

9 a.m

Catholic Mass

11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Selectboard Congregational Service 4 p.m. 6:30 p.m. Eckankar Catholic Mass 7 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Public Affairs June 23 Monday,

4:30 a.m. **Energy Week** 5:30 a.m. **Fckankar** Press Conferences 6 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 10 a.m. 3:30 p.m. The Talk Press Conferences 5 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Public Affairs

Tuesday, June 24 Press Conferences 7 a.m. 9:30 a.m. Eckankar

10 a.m. Selectboard Congregational Service 4 p.m. 5:30 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Selectboard The Talk

Wednesday, June 25 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass Selectboard, Public Affairs 10 a.m. 4 p.m.

Energy Week 7 p.m. Selectboard **Energy Week** 10 p.m. Thursday, June 26 Press Conferences 8 a.m. Congregational Service 12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 6:30 p.m. The Talk Energy Week 8 p.m.

Eckankar

Selectboard

Channel 1091 Friday, June 20 Tai Chi 4 a.m.

9:30 p.m.

10 p.m.

9 p.m.

6 a.m. Yoga Gardens & Conservation 7:30 a.m. MUMS Graduation 10 a.m. 12 p.m. **Book Talk** 5 p.m. Audio Book- The Belonger HCC Board Meeting 7 p.m.

Book Talk

Saturday, June 21 4:30 a.m. Tai Chi Chair Yoga 5 a.m. Gardening 6 a.m. HCC Board Meeting 8 a.m. Mary Hogan Graduation 10 a.m.

Book Talk 12 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 5 p.m. 6 p.m. Audio Book- The Belonger 7:30 p.m. BookTalks

Sunday, June 22 5 a.m. Yoga Book Talk 6 a.m. 7:30 a.m. Tai Chi

Gardens & Conservation 8 a.m. Our Schools: Meetings, Events 12 p.m.

10 p.m. All Things LGBTQ Monday, June 23 All Things LGBTQ 5 a.m. 6 a.m.

Chair Yoga Authors & Poets 7:30 a.m. 12 p.m. Tai Chi 12:30 p.m. Chair Yoga ACSD Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Chat with an Artist: Kelly Hickey 10 p.m.

Tuesday, June 24 5:30 a.m. Tai Chi 6 a.m. Yoga Chat with an Artist: Bob 8 a.m. Greene

12 p.m. Our Schools: Meetings, Events 5:30 p.m. Tai Chi Audio Book - The Belonger 6 p.m. 8 p.m. Book Talk

Wednesday, June 25 5 a.m. Tai Chi Chair Yoga 6 a.m.

7 a.m. Our Schools: Meetings, Events The Garden 2 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 4 p.m.

5 p.m. 9 p.m. The Belonger Authors & Poets Thursday, June 26 6 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:30 a.m.

8 a.m. Gardens & Conservation 12 p.m. Our Schools: Meetings, Events 8 p.m.

Book Talk

Free live music with beer and goodies for purchase.

KING PEDE CARD PARTY IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, June 21, 6:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center, 3279 Route 7. Evening begins with a sandwich supper and then on to an evening of fun and games.

"THE JOURNEY OF THE SAINT" IN MIDDLEBURY.

Saturday, June 21, 7 p.m., Seeler Studio Theatre, Mahaney Arts Center. A rollicking adventure filled with deception and mystery, told by a late 18th century Latin American traveling theatre troupe. The final production of "Trailblazing," a benefit showcase of new work presented by the Dogteam Theatre Project. Suggested donation price of \$20 for the whole series.

SUNDAY, JUNE 22,

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN LINCOLN. Sunday,

June 22 (Rescheduled from June 7), Mount Abraham. Hike the Battell Trail to Long Trail North to Mt. Abe. Strenuous hike with 2,500 feet elevation gain over 5.5 miles. Leashed dog friendly. Limited to 6. Contact Samara Anderson at anderson_samara@yahoo. com for more information. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

GREEN MOUNTAIN BICYCLE CLUB KINGSLAND BAY RIDE.

Sunday, June 22, 8:45 a.m., Shelburne Shopping Park. The 35-mile ride rolls from Shelburne through Charlotte to Kingsland Bay State Park and back. The 51-mile ride heads towards Vergennes and climbs to Monkton Ridge, returning through Hinesburg and a 65-mile option heads into Huntington but will not have a leader. More info Contact Donna Leban at donna.leban@gmail.com.

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY FIDDLERS JAM IN BRANDON.

Sunday, June 22, 11 a.m., Brandon Legion, 550 Franklin St. Bring your dancing shoes or boots and come join us for square dancing, 50/50 raffle, door prize, refreshments and a bake sale. \$3 cover charge.

"DIRTY LAUNDRY" STAGED READING IN MIDDLEBURY.

Sunday, June 22, 4 p.m., Anderson Studio, Town Hall Theater, 72 Merchants Row. When the woman who connected them passes away, three people confront their feelings of love, loss and desire, all while facing the daily grind of household chores. In "Dirty Laundry," Mathilde Dratwa explores the absurdity and messiness of life and death. A Middlebury Acting Company's Cutting Edge Staged Reading Series show

MONDAY, JUNE 23

FIBER ARTS CIRCLE IN STARKSBORO. Monday,

June 23, 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 1-3

VERGENNES CITY BAND CONCERT IN VERGENNES.

Monday, June 23, 7 p.m., City Green. A staple of Vergennes summer. Relax on the green and listen to live band music. Free.

TUESDAY, JUNE 24

ROOT CHAKRA DRUM CIRCLE IN MIDDLEBURY.

Tuesday, June 24, 6:30 p.m., 54 Main St., Unit B. Brought to you by Breanna Elaine music and Love Play Grow Wellness. \$10 suggested donation.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB ADIRONDACK HIKE IN NEW

RUSSIA, N.Y. Wednesday, June 25, Bald Peak. A beautiful and strenuous hike toward Rocky Peak ridge, a prominent high peak visible from many places in Vermont. Six miles and 2,700+ feet of elevation gain. Group limit of 8. Exposed for a long stretch. Sunscreen required. Contact Ken Corey at 802-349-3733 or kencorey53@ gmail.com to register. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

SCARLET ANNIE & THE INDIVIDUALS IN BRISTOL.

Wednesday, June 25, 5-8 p.m., The Tillerman, 1868 North 116 Rd. Fronted by the one and only Scarlet Annie Nessen, the Individuals bring to life a delicious and eclectic mix of soul, rock and funk covers as well as original songs by Nate Gusakov (electric banjo) and Jim Carroll (electric guitar). Also featuring David Gusakov on violin, Will Gusakov on drums and Colin Gunn on bass. The music is free, food and beverages available for purchase.

BRISTOL TOWN BAND IN BRISTOL. Wednesday, June 25, 7-8:30 p.m., town green. Bristol Town Band will be holding their 155th season of weekly summer band concerts. Free and open to all. Rain location will be Holley Hall. All are welcome to join the band. More info at 802-281-2315 for further information.

THURSDAY, JUNE 26

BREAD AND BONES IN GOSHEN. Thursday, June 26, 5-8 p.m. Blueberry Hill Inn, Ripton Goshen Rd. Free music with pizza by the pond. Cost \$34 per person (age 13 and older), includes all-you-can-eat pizza, lemonade, live music, taxes, and fees. Kids 7-12: \$20. Kids 6 and under: Free when accompanied by their parent or guardian. More info at blueberryhillinn.com/pizza.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

TOWN HALL THEATER NEW WING CELEBRATION FEATURING MIHALI IN

MIDDLEBURY. Friday, June 27, 5-8 p.m., Maloney Public Performance Plaza, Town Hall Theater, 72-76 Merchants Row. Come to The official launch of the THT's new wing and outdoor performance space. Mihali is a Vermontbased singer, songwriter, quitarist and co-founder of rock outfit Twiddle. Mihali draws on a rich mix of influences, with reggae and upbeat lyrics shaping the architecture of his original music. Free. More info at townhalltheater.org. Also, Rock 'n' Roll Strong Quartet, Cirque de Fuego, Samulnori Drums, food trucks, magic, pop-up costume photo booth, and more. Free. More info at townhalltheater.org.

NATE & DAVID GUSAKOV

IN BRISTOL. Saturday, June 27, 5-8 p.m., BCC Botanicals, 140 North St. This father-son duo weaves together threads of classical, bluegrass and old-time traditions into something wholly their own. Their collaborative sound bridges generations and genres, blending Appalachian rhythms with lyrical depth

and melodic interplay that feels both timeless and freshly innovative. More info at bristolcollaborativecampus. com/gathering#freshie-Friday.

POINT COUNTERPOINT FACULTY CONCERT IN

SALISBURY. Friday, June 27, 5-8 p.m., Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. Admission is free, and goodwill donations are gratefully accepted.

TOURNESOL IN NEW

HAVEN. Friday, June 27, 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 Shady J's BBQ and wine available for purchase.

BENEFIT CONCERT IN

LINCOLN. Friday, June 27, 7-1- p.m., Burnham Hall, 52 E. River Rd. Four live bands take the stage to help raise funds for the Lincon Cooperative Preschool. Two local bands, one from Ripton (Hissss) and one from Bristol (Damp), a great Rock 'n' Roll band from Providence, R.I., Ravi Shavi, and a NYC band, Pets. \$20-\$40 suggested donation or pay what you can. Cash bar. All are welcome.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28

VERMONT GRAN FONDO IN BRISTOL. Saturday, June 28, Bristol Rec Park. The Vermont Gran Fondo was born from a famous bucket-list epic 4-gap ride known by the locals as the LAMB ride. LAMB comes from the names of Lincoln Gap, Appalachian Gap, Middlebury Gap and Brandon Gap. When combined into a single ride, can easily top 100 miles and over 10,000 feet of climbing — on a bike! The après ride party will get underway at the Start-Finish under the big tent. Enjoy live music, a variety of food choices, locally produced beverages, and farm-tospoon ice cream. More info at vermontgranfondo.com.

BANJO JIM SHAW IN BRANDON. Saturday, June 28, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Kennedy Park, off Center St.

TOWN HALL THEATER NEW WING CELEBRATION IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, June 28, 1-4 p.m., Maloney Public Performance Plaza, Town Hall Theater, 72-76 Merchants Row. Come celebrate the official opening of the Town Hall Theater's new wing, and the launch of the new outdoor Maloney Public Performance Plaza and Tilly Stage with a ribbon cutting, The Real McCoy Stunt Show, Bill Vitek Jazz Trio, Tom Verner Magic Show, plus Crazy Cotton Candy Lady and Lulu Ice Cream throughout. More info at townhalltheater.org.

RODNEY MARSALIS BRASS BAND IN MIDDLEBURY.

Saturday, June 28, 7:30-9 p.m., Rothrock Main Stage, Town Hall Theater, 72-76 Merchants Row. The electrifying grand finale of our Grand Opening Weekend will be the virtuosic and boundary-breaking Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass Ensemble. Prosecco toast and small dessert bites following the show. Tickets \$75 generous/\$40 standard. Sliding scale option. Tickets and more info at townhalltheater.org.

SUNDAY, JUNE 29

GREEN MOUNTAIN BICYCLE CLUB WAY TO WEYBRIDGE

RIDE. Sunday, June 29, meet at 8:45 a.m., Shelburne Village Shopping Center. 64 miles of rolling hills from Shelburne through Vergennes and on to Weybridge. There are several food options in Vergennes for either the way out, the way back, or both. More info contact Allan Kunigis at 802-324-9958 / akunigis@ gmail.com; or co-leader Chip Krakoff at 603-943-3701 or ckrakoff@koiosllc.com.

MONDAY, JUNE 30

FIBER ARTS CIRCLE IN STARKSBORO. Monday, June 30, 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.

VERGENNES CITY BAND CONCERT IN VERGENNES.

Monday, June 30, 7 p.m., City Green. A staple of Vergennes summer. Relax on the green and listen to live band music. Free

UPCOMING

Music streams up and down the Otter Creek

46TH SEASON OF THE OTTER CREEK MUSIC FESTIVAL BEGINS JUNE 27

Otter Creek Music Festival (OCMF) announces its 46th season for the summer of 2025 — showcasing a rich array of performances that celebrate global influences, homegrown masters of their craft, and even a Grammy-winner. The festival includes free faculty concerts from Point CounterPoint, beginning next Friday, June 27 at the Salisbury Congregational Church.

Running July 19-27, OCMF presents an eclectic mix of ticketed concerts throughout a host of venues up and down Otter Creek. Check out the performances below and come celebrate live, local music!

POINT COUNTERPOINT CONCERTS

All concerts start at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free, and goodwill donations are gratefully accepted. Each faculty concert differs in repertoire, instrumentation, and performers.

Friday, June 27

Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St., Salisbury

Friday, July 11

Constance Holden Memorial Concert, Town Hall Theater, Middlebury

Friday, July 25

Salisbury Congregational Church





The Toomai String Quintet will perform for the Otter Creek Music Festival on Monday, July 21, at the Mahaney
Arts Center in Middlebury.

Friday, Aug. 8

Salisbury Congregational Church

Thursday, Aug. 21

Salisbury Congregational Church

Saturday, Aug. 30

Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Court, Middlebury

OCMF 2025

Saturday, July 19

Salisbury Congregational Church
Baritone Nicholas Tocci and Pianist Claire
Black present a collection of heartfelt art
songs written by Ralph Vaughan Williams,
Aaron Copland, and others!

Sunday, July 20

Town Hall Theater, Middlebury
Internationally renowned folk quartet
Windborne will lead a community sing
in the morning before presenting their
own concert later that afternoon. This
performance is presented in partnership
with the Middlebury Town Hall Theater.

Monday, July 21

Mahaney Arts Center, Middlebury
The Toomai String Quintet presents a
program celebrating Latin American
composers from the 18th Century through
today. This performance is presented in
partnership with the School of Spanish.

Saturday, July 26

Chaffee Art Center, Rutland

GRAMMY Award-winning mezzo-soprano Maren Montalbano and guitarist Thomas Schuttenhelm perform works by Frank Wallace, Tom Johnson, and others that explore stories of memory, love, and human connection.

Sunday, July 27

Red Clover Ale Co., Brandon

Vermont's own SKYLARK makes their OCMF debut in a warm, inviting venue celebrating all things local from craft beer to Celtic-inspired tunes.

Visit OtterCreekMusicFestival.com for more programming info and tickets.

GET THE TOP STORIES IN YOUR INBOX!

TRUSTED NEWS, TRUSTED ADVERTISING

READ

SIGN UP FOR OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTERS

THE ADDY INDY

ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM/NEWSLETTER-SIGNUP

12

28

65

24

SPARROW ponsored by ART SUPPLY

14

31

32

49

58

18

22

26

35

38

41

48

53

57

36



25

34

ACROSS

- 1. Type of bread
- 5. Range of mountains
- 10. Ended
- **12.** Musical forms with a recurring theme
- 14. On the nature of being
- 16. Law enforcement agency
- 18. Australian flightless bird
- 19. Subway rodent
- 20. More dried-up
- 22. A beaver might build one
- 23. Suggestive of the supernatural
- **25.** Art __, around 1920
- 26. American rocker Snider
- **27.** Not or

8

7

5

9

3

4

6

4

2

6

5

9

2

6

- 28. Earliest human:
- __-Magnon Man
- **30.** Firearm
- 31. Tough outer skin of fruit
- 33. Alternative form of a gene
- **35.** Low shrub some call "fat pork"
- 37. Plants in the chamomile tribe
- 38. Revolutionary War era spy
- **40.** Portion of a book
- 41. Hoover's office
- 42. Title of respect
- 44. Tax collector
- 45. Cool!
- 48. Real estate
- 50. Boy's name
- 52. Airborne (abbr.)
- 53. Strongly

2

6

3

9

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 12.

5

4

- recommends
- 55. Hit lightly
- 56. Bar bill
- **57.** Atomic #54
- 58. Devotes again
- 63. Fish sauce
- 65. French stock market
- **66.** Things that consist of two elements or parts
- 67. Tense

DOWN

- 1. Retired game show
- 2. Equal (prefix)
- 3. Israeli city __ Aviv
- 4. Loved
- **5.** A type of analyst
 - 6. Ad __

- host Sajak

Sudoku

Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3x3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium and difficult.

Level: Medium

7. Gasteyer and de Armas are two

63

8. Ran without moving

64

66

- g. Opposite of yes
- 10. Diffuse clouds of gas
- **11.** Mentioning one by
- 13. Instruments used to dilate
- 15. Freshwater fish
- 17. Remotely-manned flying objects
- 18. Doctor of Education
- 21. Renews

- 23. Not the start
- 24. Pitching stat 27. Small water

43

55

buffaloes

23

27

42

54

50

- 29. Ceramic jars
- 32. I (German)
- **34.** Something to toss on a fire
- 35. The process of flowing in
- 36. A series of acts at a night club
- 39. Egg of a louse
- 40. Inquire too closely
- 43. Travelers

- 44. Drink
- 46. Behave in a way that degrades

45

52

56

46

47

- 47. Electronic music style
- 49. Northern Ireland city
- **51.** Upset
- 54. Stiff structure resembling a hair
- 59. Father
- 60. North Atlantic fish
- 61. 8th month (abbr.)
- 62. Make an effort
- 64. Commercial



44 Main St Middlebury, VT 05753 (802) 989-7225

Now open 7 days a week! 10:30 AM - 5:30 PM

info@sparrowartsupply.com sparrowartsupply.com @sparrowartsupply





THANK YOU, MIDDLEBURY!

You made our first-ever Sparrow Plein Air Festival a weekend to remember.

To our artists, partners, sponsors, and community, we are so grateful.

> With love, Sparrow Art Supply



BY DEBORAH J.

the fruit.

BENOIT

https://go.uvm.edu/soiltest.

of direct sun daily. A soil test can provide

recommendations for fertilizing. You can find

more information on obtaining a soil test here:

Be sure to have sufficient space for the variety

you choose. Smaller watermelons could be

grown vertically, training the vines to climb a

sturdy trellis with support such as slings for

ASK A MASTER

HOW TO GROW WATERMELLON

here are few things as refreshing on a hot summer day as a slice of watermelon (Citrullus Lanatus). At over 90 percent water, watermelons are a tasty way to keep hydrated with an added bonus of vitamins and minerals.

If you'd like to try your hand at growing your own the days to harvest for the variety you're watermelon, you'll need considering. Be sure there are enough days a location with rich, wellin your growing season for the watermelon to draining soil that receives at least six hours mature and be ready to harvest.

> To do so, determine your anticipated last and first frost dates. The number of days between those dates is the length of your growing season. You can find the average last and first frost dates for your location here: garden.org/

Since watermelons require warm temperatures, you may be sowing seeds or

Your biggest decision will be choosing which variety to grow. Do you prefer an heirloom or a hybrid variety? Full-size melons or one just big enough for a person or two? There are seeded and seedless varieties. Choices include the familiar, red-fleshed watermelon as well as orange, pink, yellow or white varieties.

Before you make a final decision, check

apps/frost-dates.



Deborah J. Benoit is a **UVM Extension Master** Gardener from North Adams, Mass., who is part of the Bennington County Chapter.

transplanting seedlings two weeks after the last frost date. The variety you choose should be ready to harvest within that number of days or you may be disappointed in the fall when a killing frost puts an end to your plants before you've had a chance to harvest.

Prepare the watermelon bed by removing weeds and adding any needed soil amendments. A layer of mulch can help prevent weeds and keep moisture levels in the soil more consistent.

To direct sow watermelon seeds, plant several seeds, each an inch deep, in groups 4 to 5 feet apart. Once seedlings have emerged, choose the strongest, healthiest plant and thin seedlings to one per group. See the seed packet for variety-specific information.

If you started seeds indoors or plan to purchase starter plants, be sure to harden them off before transplanting. Once the soil temperature is above 60 F, you can safely move plants to the garden. For best results, try to disturb the roots as little as possible. See go.uvm.edu/starter-plants for more information on preparing plants for transplanting.

The soil should receive a deep soaking of water, 1 to 2 inches a week, either from rain or supplemental watering. When watering, avoid getting the foliage wet as this could lead to disease issues. Overwatering close to harvest could result in the fruit splitting.

There are several ways to determine when a watermelon is ready to harvest. The skin color becomes dull. Tendrils near the watermelon dry out and become brown. The area on the bottom of the watermelon where it touches the soil yellows.

Watermelons are related to cucumbers, pumpkins and squash, so keep an eye out for pests such as cucumber beetles and squash vine borers.

If you would like more information about growing watermelons or have home gardening questions, the University of Vermont Extension Master Gardener Helpline is available to help at go.uvm.edu/gardeninghelp.



Ideal growing conditions for watermelons are nutrient-rich, well-draining soil and a location that receives at least six hours of direct sun daily.

Tips for successful dog training

fter providing a safe home. veterinary care and nutritious food, the best thing a pet owner can do for a dog is provide adequate behavioral training. Some of the issues that result in pet surrenders can be traced to behaviors that might have been guashed had the dog undergone thorough obedience training.

There are many things one might want to teach a pet and a variety of strategies to pursue that training. These tips can help anyone successfully train their dog, leading to a an even stronger relationship between owner and pet.

PRAISE SMALL THINGS

It is easy to get caught up in the end goal of training, but experts note little victories are equally important. Praising the pet when he or she does something right, even if it is a small thing, will keep the motivation going.

FINISH POSITIVELY

End all training sessions with something the dog knows so that the session will end on a high note.

If training does not come easily after many weeks of going it alone, pet owners may want to seek the help of a professional dog trainer.

-MetroCreative

USE POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

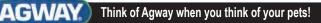
This type of training rewards good behavior rather than punishing bad behavior. The American Kennel Club says training is more successful when owners identify what the dog finds rewarding. Some dogs are very food-motivated, while others might be willing to work for play sessions or just verbal praise.

BE CONSISTENT

Always use the same word and intonation when asking a dog to do something. Everyone in the home also needs to be on the same page with rules, which means that if one person says "no" to the dog on the furniture and another says "yes," the dog will end up confused.

START SMALL AND **BUILD UP**

Teach a dog commands incrementally and reward each step of the learning process. For example, reward the "stay" command even if the puppy only stays for a second or two. Later on, build up to longer durations of staying still.



Proud to help you provide quality care for all of your pets, we know your animal companions are a central part of your life!

































Everything you need for pet support!

TOYS & **TREATS**

for preferred



Accessories & Grooming **Supplies**

Leashes • Harnesses Collars • Clothing Food Dishes Storage Bins Beds & Baskets



Brushes, shampoos, skin treatment, ointments to keep your pets' coats healthy and problem free!

Kennels, Dog Houses & Carrying Cases 🎚 Come in and check the variety we have in stock!



Large & Small Animal Products

Feed • Supplements • Training & Grooming Supplies Cages, Foods, Treats & Bedding Bird food, toys and cages Basics for fish, too!



Wild Bird **Supplies** Feeders. Seed & Suet, Houses & **Accessories**

MIDDLEBURY AGWA

338 Exchange Street, Middlebury Toin our email list 388-4937 • www.MiddleburyAgway.com Mon - Fri 8-6 • Sat 8-5 • Sundays 9-4



YOUR YARD, GARDEN AND PET PLACE™ • www.middleburyagway.com

Pets In Need

HOMEWARD BOUND

Addison County's Humane Society



Midnight is a super affectionate, middle-aged boy. He is an expert biscuit maker and has huge mittens to knead with. Midnight loves to purr, eat wet food, and meow to beg for love. He gets along with cats and doesn't seem to mind dogs. Midnight is FIV+ and would need to be an indoor-only cat. Positive cats typically have the same life expectancy as those who are negative.

Mitzy



Mitzy is a gentle and sweet old soul. She is both friendly and shy. Mitzy would prefer a quiet home and can live with other cats. She has no experience with dogs. Mitzy is diagnosed with hyperthyroidism and is on a low-cost medication that she takes 2 times a day.

💝 Caleigh & Kashi

Caleigh and Kashi are part of our 3rd party adoption program, still residing at home. They are bonded 17-year-old sisters. Their family shares, "They are very cuddly, love to be brushed, and sleep most of the day. They are both very food motivated and love a sunny window, comfy couch,

lap or a warm fireplace. Kashi struggles with arthritis and takes gabapentin daily to manage her symptoms along with a ketamine injection once every 6-7 weeks. We have also been giving her eye drops every other day to ward off an infection she had. Caleigh has a clean bill of health! We would provide a generous one-time financial contribution to offset their food and vet bills along with all equipment needed including



Hi! I'm Roxy! A 7-month-old mixed breed trying to figure out this big, scary world. With my long legs and long tail, I'm a kangaroo in disguise. I'm also very agile and faster than lightning. I follow people and enjoy the treats they give me, but my true, playful personality comes out when another dog

is around. I need that canine friend for comfort. Toys are so much fun, and I love to bring them outside in the yard with me. But I must say, food is my main motivator! Whether it's biscuits, peanut butter, or chicken, I will be right there to gobble it all down! Staff have little history about me, so they're unsure about previous interactions with kids and cats. I'm looking for a family that can give me the patience and time I need to truly trust and feel safe. Since I'm not used to anything leash-related - a fenced-in yard would be ideal!



Want to learn more?

Call or check our website. We may have a pet for you! 802-388-1100 | HomewardBoundAnimals.org 236 Boardman Street | Middlebury, VT





ROCHESTER NEW LISTING! 1074 NORTH HOLLOW ROAD

MLS #5045899 | \$1,275,000 3 BD | 2 BA | 2315 SF | 233.50 ACRES

Post and beam with complete privacy and long range views of the Green Mountains. A superb mountain retreat with an attached 3-bay garage, 2-story shed, greenhouse, and extensive gardens.



RIPTON NEW LISTING! 808 PEDDLERS BRIDGE ROAD

MLS #5046306 | \$795,000 3 BD | 2 BA | 2922 SF | 14.00 ACRES

Plenty of open land for gardens and play, with woods to explore and trails for walking, skiing, or snowshoeing. Recent upgrades include standing seam roof, all new siding, a stand-by generator, and mini splits to keep you cool in the summer. Two wood burning fireplaces and a woodstove keep you cozy in the wintertime. Fantastic floor plan with a kitchen open to the living and dining areas, and providing granite countertops, island, and stainless appliances. Attached two-car garage, back patio. Live just minutes to the Snow Bowl and Rikert for nordic and cross-country skiing, as well as plenty of hiking in the Green Mountain National Forest!



MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING! 45 OSSIE ROAD

MLS #5046403 | \$389,000 3 BD | 2 BA | 2185 SF | 0.55 ACRES

Lovely ranch in East Middlebury with a sunny kitchen, large mud room and an attached two-car garage. Fireplace in living room. Greenhouse with heat and hot water and a fully-fenced inground pool!



BRISTOL NEW LISTING! 82 NORTH STREET

MLS #5045985 | \$265,000 3 BD | 2 BA | 1040 SF | 0.37 ACRES

One-level living with a large back deck, flat yard, and a ramp for easy access. Shed to store your mower and gardening tools. Easy living with just a short walk or ride into charming Bristol Village!



34 Main Street, downtown Middlebury info@ipjrealestate.com | 802.388.4242



the REAL ESTATE COMPANY of VERMONT

Whether you're looking to sell or ready to buy, let one of our professional and knowledgeable agents get to work for YOU!



Jill Fraga Broker/Realtor ®



Danelle Birong Broker/Realtor ®



Tammy Peterson
Salesperson/Realtor ®

Mis 🖹

www.theRealEstateCompanyVT.com

THREE MAIN STREET | BRISTOL, VERMONT 05443 802.452.6161



creating real estate solutions IRENE POOLE, REALTOR®



802-989-5563 | IreneVTRE.com

EQUAL HOUSING

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-669-9777.



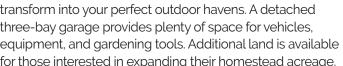


A LOOK AT ADDISON COUNTY PROPERTIES FOR SALE

Revived 1880s home close to town

A handsome home situated on three lovely acres of land, while being just over a mile from vibrant downtown Middlebury. A renovated kitchen with quartz countertops, stainless steel appliances, and a walk-in pantry greets you through the side entrance, accompanied by a casual dining area and a back deck perfect for grilling, just adjacent. You'll love making use of the formal dining room, living room, and sunny study located off the home's primary entrance. French doors, hardwood floors, handsome built-ins, and an abundance of natural light bring the historic details of this 1880 home to the forefront. You're bound to spend time on the two generous porches: one a large screened-in porch facing the east, one a glassed-in sunroom facing the west. Upstairs, you will find a primary suite with an updated 3/4 bath featuring a custom tile shower. Another renovated bath is available for the three additional bedrooms, rounding out the second floor. There is space for everyone, inside and out, on this property. Discover beautiful old-growth evergreen and deciduous trees, stone walkways, small raised beds, and numerous spots to

transform into your perfect outdoor havens. A detached three-bay garage provides plenty of space for vehicles, equipment, and gardening tools. Additional land is available for those interested in expanding their homestead acreage.







This week's property is managed by IPJ Real Estate. More info at middvermontrealestate.com.

EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

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, Middleburv 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.

ROKEBY MUSEUM

4334 Route 7, Ferrisburgh For more info visit 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-inthe-house-fundraiser. On view May 21-Sept. 6.



This unique inkwell is part of the "Material Narratives: Ornament & Identity" exhibit on view now at the Henry Sheldon Museum in Middlebury.

"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.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday June 21, 1:00-3:00 PM



8 Pearl Street, Brandon \$387,000

Come and see this unique brick and wood frame home in a convenient Brandon village location. This 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home has cork, bamboo, ceramic tiles and softwood flooring. Updated windows are Marvin insulated glass. A woodstove in the living room, owned solar panels and a very private enclosed back yard are some of the many features that you need to see to believe.

> Come see it at the Open House this Saturday!



1465 West Street., Cornwall MLS #5032049 \$599,900

Unique and classic Vermont! Fairview Farm is a converted dairy barn that is a real treasure. This property is located on West Street in beautiful Cornwall, just a few miles from Middlebury College. The westerly Adirondack views are amazing and the sunsets are spectacular. The property is currently used as two separate units with two bedrooms each but can easily transition to a single unit with ample living space. There are many bonus rooms and storage areas that make the house live large. The smaller barn has two garage bays and is partially insulated upstairs. You could finish the second floor for additional living space or continue to use as storage. There are many options for this property. We invite you to come and take a look.



Whiting MLS #5002820 \$229,000

Imagine building your dream home on a sprawling 56 acre property on a tranquil country road. This expansive piece of land is a picturesque blend of diverse landscapes. Gently rolling pastures and stretches of woodland, a haven for wildlife, perfect for quiet nature walks. The mix of woods and open pastures creates a versatile environment, promising both beauty and utility. The site has been permitted with the state for construction of a three bedroom septic system. 20 minutes to Middlebury.



I MLS

70 Court Street, Middlebury, VT 802-989-7522 | ChamplainValleyProperty.net

"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 treasurers 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 sslllllloooooowwwww doooowwwwwnnnnnnnn 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.







SOLUTIONS JUNE 19, 2025

			Р	ı	Т	Α		С	Н	Α	1	N		
	С	Е	Α	s	Е	D		R	0	N	D	0	s	
	0	Ν	Т	0	L	0	G	ı	С	Α	L		Ρ	D
Е	М	כ				R	Α	Т		S	Е	R	Е	R
D	Α	М			Ε	Е	R	1	Ε		D	Е	С	0
D	Е	Е		Α	N	D		С	R	0		G	U	N
		R	ı	N	D				Α	L	L	Е	L	Е
ı	С	Α	С	0						L	0	Ν	Α	s
N	Α	Т	Н	Α	N				Р	Α	G	Е		
F	В	ı		S	ı	R		1	R	S		R	Α	D
L	Α	Ζ	D		Т	1	М	М	Υ			Α	В	N
U	R	G	Е	s		D	Α	В				Т	Α	В
Х	Е		R	Е	D	Е	D	ı	С	Α	Т	Е	S	
	Т	Α	R	Т	Α	R		В	0	U	R	S	Е	
		D	Υ	Α	D	s		Ε	D	G	Υ			

		2						
4	5	6	3	8	7	2	1	9
8	1	7	2	4	9	6	3	5
6	3	1	7	2	4	9	5	8
7	4	9	8	5	1	3	6	2
2	8	5	6	9	3	4	7	1
5	7	8	4	3	2	1	9	6
1	6	4	9	7	8	5	2	3
9	2	3	5	1	6	7	8	4

ADD YOUR PIECE!

BE THE NEXT SPONSOR OF THE PUZZLE PAGE.

EMAIL CHRISTY@ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM TO FIND OUT HOW.

PRICE REDUCTIONS!



915 Lower Foote Street, Middlebury

This well-maintained, L-shaped ranch offers spectacular long-range mountain views. Recent updates include new siding and a sliding door to the deck. The open, light-filled floor plan is ideal for entertaining, with a kitchen peninsula connecting the dining and living areas.

MLS# 5037886 \$449,900



54 Forest Ridge Drive, Bristol

Built in 2022, this spacious home sits on 3.4 wooded acres on picturesque Lower Notch Road with the mountains as its backdrop. Features two levels of living space with 4 spacious bedrooms, 3 baths and includes an owners suite.

MLS# 5039281 \$595,000



909 East Street, New Haven

This impeccably maintained ranch-style home offers two large bedrooms with ensuite baths on the main level. Enjoy a spacious living room with a gas fireplace and mountain views, as well as a kitchen with ample cabinets and a breakfast nook. A formal dining room can also serve as a library or office. The home also features a three-season sunroom and a large deck.

MLS# 5039979 \$649,000

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES

GROUP

We are a designated agency brokerage.

802-877-2134 • WWW.REVT4U.COM
YOUR FOREVER REALTORS,
BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS ONE HOME AT A TIME!



We take enormous pride in consistently outperforming the market averages - but even more importantly, our clients' expectations with a 99% satisfaction rating.

Contact us today to experience it for yourself.







268 Main St, Vergennes | HickokandBoardman.com | 802-863-1500



POCOCK ROCKS

MUSIC FESTIVAL & STREET FAIR

AUGUST 16 | 2-7 PM MAIN ST. BRISTOL, VT

Visit our website for more information on vendors, music lineup, and more!

discoverbristolvt.com

powered by Bristol CORE









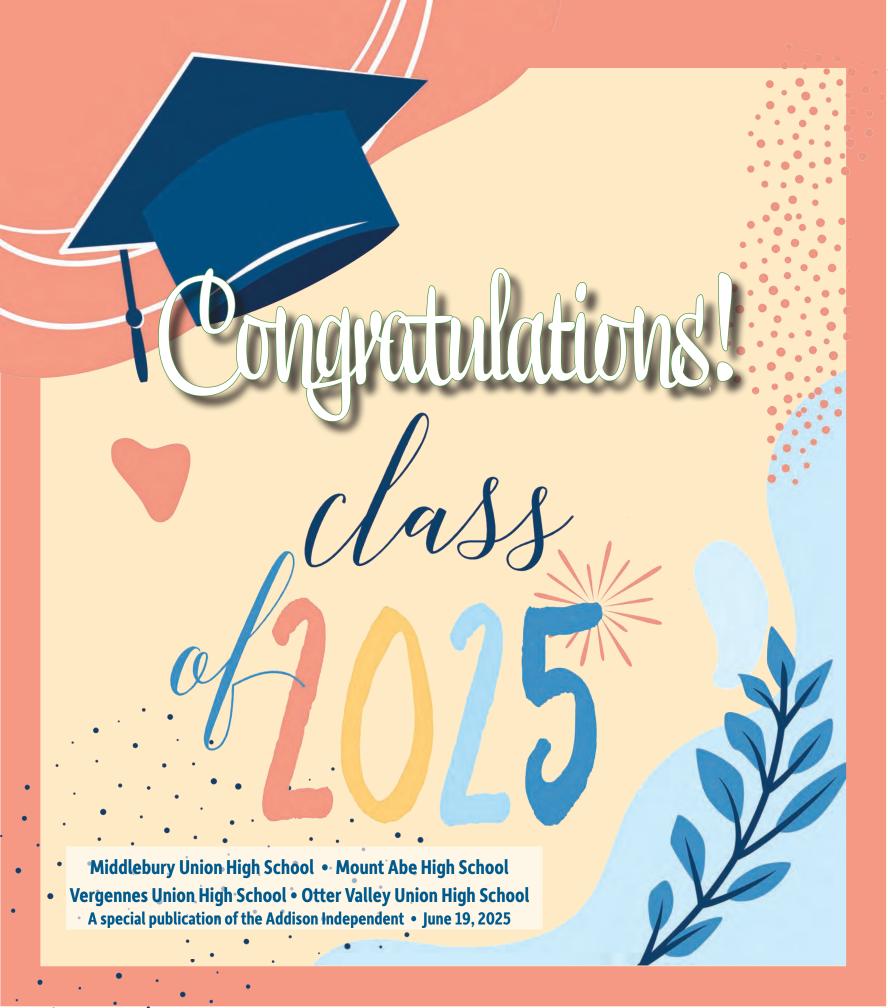












YOUR FUTURE IS BRIGHT

YOU CAN BANK ON IT.

Congratulations to the Class of 2025 from our family to yours. We wish you success in all your future endeavors.



MUHS grad creates, perseveres and gives back

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY

Middlebury's Gabe Schmitt is everything you'd want to see in a young man who has just earned his high school diploma.

Smart and confidently introspective. Content to work or recreate on his own, but joyful among others.

Polite. To. A. Fault.

During a recent interview at Middlebury Union High School, from which Schmitt was preparing to graduate this month, Gabe said "hello" and smiled at multiple educators and classmates. He held open the school library door for some folks after we'd exited.

A preoccupied classmate's stoic face quickly melted into a smile as she passed Schmitt on route to her next class.

It's clear Schmitt genuinely likes people, and they like him. He holds his fellow students and teachers in high regard.

"It's impossible to overstate how much (help my teachers) have been throughout the years, and also a shout-out to my peers," he said, beaming.

And Gabe has known some of his MUHS peers since kindergarten at Mary Hogan Elementary School. He said he's had a great experience in Middlebury schools, citing English, biology, history and science as his favorite subjects.

But for him, one program has stood above all others: Addison Repertory Theater, known as ART, which he attends at the Patricia Hannaford Career Center.

He's rounding out his second year in ART and has loved performing on stage with other students. He and his fellow teen thespians recently co-wrote and starred in a play called "I'll Tell You're a Secret," which blended thrills, chills and humor amid a 1970s backdrop to impart a cautionary message.

"I can learn lines pretty



GABE SCHMITT HAS had a rewarding career at Middlebury Union High School, thanks to hard work and a little help from his friends — and teachers.

Independent photo/John Flowers

quickly," he said, matter-of-factly.

Yes, there are plenty of things Gabe Schmitt can do easily, but he's needed help with other things.

"T've had disabilities that can hinder everything, academically and physically," he offered. "I've persevered through that, and that's given me a deeper appreciation for people who are also struggling with disabilities."

His own situation prompted him

wanted to help everyone in the community find a place where they felt valued, that they were good at something. I wanted to give something back to my community."

Gabe Schmitt

to take a lead role in the MUHS chapter of Best Buddies, which describes itself as "the world's largest organization dedicated to ending the social, physical and economic isolation of the 200 million people with intellectual and developmental disabilities."

Schmitt offered his own definition, and Best Buddies should consider adopting it:

"It's a club that seeks to create connections and friendships between students who are neurologically typical and neurologically atypical."

The MUHS group counts around 30 members, and Schmitt serves on its leadership board. The group meets regularly and holds special events at which Best Buddies socialize.

Schmitt was a key member in the planning of Neurodiversity Week 2024 at MUHS.

"I wanted to help everyone in the community find a place where they felt valued, that they were good at something," Gabe said.

"I wanted to give something back to my community."

It's a spirit of helping others that extends beyond the MUHS campus.

During the past year, Schmitt spent around four hours each week as a "community life assistant" at the EastView at Middlebury retirement community, leading its senior residents through such activities as bingo games and light exercise.

He's found the job so fulfilling that he's going to take on more hours at EastView during his upcoming gap year between MUHS and college.

A year of service to others and more time to invest in two major hobbies: Lego brick building and soaking up literature — through both reading and audiobooks.

"It's always been my escape after school," he said. "I'll listen to audio books and build Legos as a brain-break."

Gabe doesn't compete in Lego competitions, but let's just

(See Gabe Schmitt, Page 4)

Gabe Schmitt

(Continued from Page 3) say he's darned good at it. The Lego Dune "Ornithopter" that the young man assembled was remarkable.

When I offered that I was 13 years old when the first Star Wars movie came out in "1975," he was quick to point out that the movie in fact premiered in 1977. While my error *must* have been age-related, don't challenge Gabe on Star Wars trivia or anything having to do with the Millennium Falcon. He's plugged into that universe, along with all things Dune and Lord of the Rings, to mention a few.

You might also want to think twice before challenging him to anything requiring stamina. Schmitt spent four seasons as a member of three Tiger sports teams: cross country running, Nordic skiing, and track & field.

"I joined (those sports) mainly because that's what my older siblings had done," he confessed, alluding to his brother Julian and sister Catherine. He also has a younger brother, Henry, who's 13. All are sons and daughters of Samantha Farrell Schmitt and John Schmitt of Middlebury.

Gabe is very happy with the athletic choices he made.

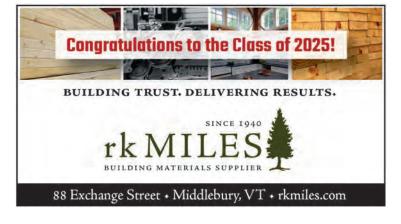
"I started running and I never looked back," he said.

Skiing, running, block building (See Schmitt, Page 5)



THE CAREER CENTER'S Addison Repertory Theater program was an important part of Gabe Schmitt's education while a student at Middlebury Union High School. Here he is rehearsing this past spring in the student written ART play "I'll Tell You a Secret."

Independent photo/John Flowers





running and

connect with

Gabe Schmitt

just about

anything,

about it."

vou can

Schmitt

(Continued from Page 4) and reading are often solitary pursuits. But Schmitt doesn't look at them that way.

"With running and just about anything, you can connect with someone about it," he said.

And everyone needs an assist sometimes, no matter what the endeavor.

Case in point: Gabe described positioning himself in the starting someone line of a recent Nordic skiing race, when he suddenly realized he was wearing the

wrong skis. He didn't dare leave the course, yet using the wrong skis might produce an epic fail.

Fortunately, two of his friends — Mathias and Baxter — were at the venue and quickly read their pal's discomfort.

"Everyone sprints, I put on my skis 20 second before (race

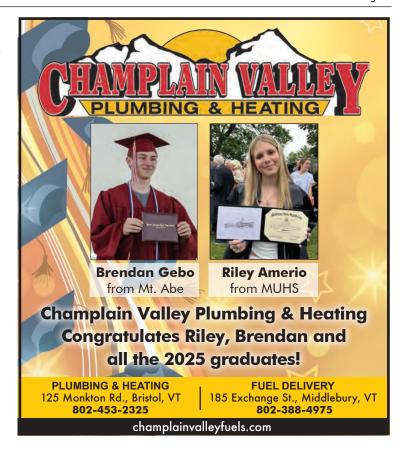
time)," he recalled. "It was the best race of the season for me. I've enjoyed all the help my peers have given me."

And let's not forget his educators.

"All my teachers from kindergarten through high school have been a huge help in assisting me with all my academic and physical struggles," Schmitt said, adding, "My coaches

my peers are kind of the reason I'm here and the reason you're interviewing me now."

John Flowers is at johnf@ addisonindependent.com.



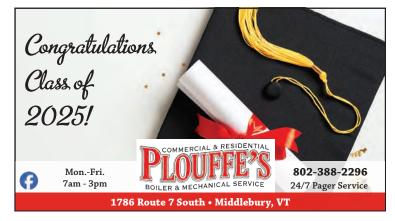




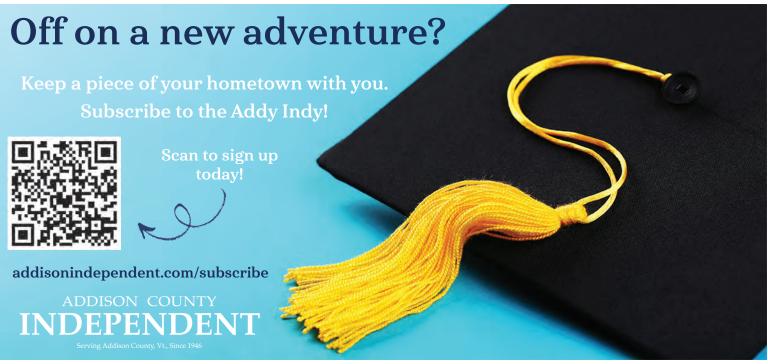
Pure imagination

Audiences got a treat with the Class of 2025's senior play at Middlebury Union High School. In addition to all the singular characters portrayed on stage in "Willy Wonka Jr.," the senior class portrayed scores of Oompa-Loompas to everyone's delight.

Photo by Jason Duquette-Hoffman



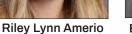














Eva Rose Andrews



Alina Arias



Nicholas Bakerian



Nickolas Baldwin-Hutchins



Kylie A. Bean



Kayleigh Louise Beane



Sarah Gilbert Benz



Matthew Berg



Merisa Bergeron



Joseph Roger Bergevin



Beck Besser-Jones



Michael Betourney



Thomas Bishop



Angus Blackwell



Jessie Bodette



Sophia Boise



CJ Bonner



Chase Michael Boudreau



Cal Boulanger



Keil Broderson



Kassidy Brown



Tanner Burns



Elsa Burrows



Meredith Marie Cameron



Avery Carl



Aaron Mansfield Carr-Perlow



Clara Marie Chant



Grace Michelle Charbonneau



Michaela Charbonneau





Congradulations!

W

2



Congradulations Class of 2025!!

Addison Wellness Physical Therapy would like to wish all Addison County High School Graduates the best of luck in your future endeavors!



Addison Wellness, Inc

231 Court Street, Middlebury, VT 05753 www.addisonwellnesspt.com

802-388-3533

Congratulations, Graduates!



Porter Medical Center is always looking for student volunteers - we'll work around your schedule!

Complete a Volunteer Application at www.portermedical.org

Send an email to PMC-Volunteers@portermedical.org

Or call Kelly Walters at 802-382-3444

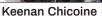
University of Vermont

Porter Medical Center











Peter Walton Chiles



Tucker Choiniere



Ollie Choudhury



Quinn Frederick Collins



Lila Cook Yoder



Jordan Kai Couture



Joey Cross



Lily Elizabeth Lee
Dame



India M. Danyow



Ethan Delorme



Greyson Landon
Polo Dennison



George Forrest Devlin



Mai Thùy Hong Doan



Jillian Dragon



Addison Rye Dunakin



Piper J. Farnsworth



Independence Ethan
Allen Fetterolf



Analise Jane Fleming



Lucas Flinner



Aven Frankovic



Xavier Ruben Fuentes-George



Austin Gendron



Christopher Gile



Natalie Jean Gillett



Avery Hamilton



Ruby Faye Harrison-Irwin



Anika B. Heppell



Zackery Ho



Helen Beatrice Hooper











Ruby Hubbell



Juliette A. Hunsdorfer



Jazmyn Skye Hurley



Dominic E. Jones



Gavin Jones



Joshua Kakomo Kafumbe



Landon Timothy Kean



Dylan Kearns



Sara Kent



Subia Khan



Georgie E. Kiel



Maggie Klingensmith



Dylan James Kolesnik



Ella Arlene Kozak



Vance Griffen Larocque



Sophia C. Lawton



Ezra F. Louer



Autumn Marie Lilly Lowell



Tassilo Luksch



William Maheu



Jayden Mahoney



Mirabelle Markowski



Naomi Elise McConville



Thomas McGarry



Aislynne McGill



Elizabeth Frances McIntosh



Jelde Meyer



Jake Mitchell



Emma Morrissey











Elijah Munson



Jackson Murray



Finn Myers



Baker J. Nelson



Maggie Noble



Luke A. Nuceder



Stephen Nuciolo Jr.



Heath Odell



Haakon Olsen



Lexi Orleans



Margaret Orten



Aiden James Pellerin



Emily Pierro



Cecilia Poduschnick



Cooper Robert Quinn



Silas Quinn



Mckenna Raymond



Teddy Roark



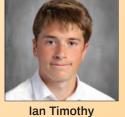
Amelia Joann Roussell



Gabriel T. Schmitt



Addison Schnoor



Sinclair



Pelagia Slater



Logan Smith



Jacques B. Snell



Alex Sperry



Ethan Spritzer



Kyle R. Stearns



Nel Stein











Kegan James Stone



Grace Thomas



Mackenzie Thompson



Jackson Robert Trump



Avery Celeste Vant



Ada Eren Weaber



Erin Whipple



MyKayla Brook White



Camden Whitlock



Alexis Whitney



Holly Ruth Whitney



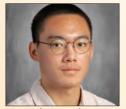
Samuel Perry Wootten



Ronan Young



Alexxis Zeno



Nachuan Zhang







VUHS SENIOR CONNOR Brogan competes in a recent 400-meter race at the Middlebury College track in a meet hosted by the MUHS team.

Independent photo/Steve James

Brogan's VUHS career was transformative

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — As recent Vergennes Union High School grad Connor Brogan tells it, his career at the school did not get off to the best of starts.

Brogan said when he looks back he sees an 8th- and 9thgrader who was not physically fit, lacked social skills, and tended to sit on the sidelines.

"I guess I found the transition from elementary to middle school a little rough. I was a little less socially adept," Brogan said. But few would make those observations about Brogan now, something he acknowledges.

"My whole transformation physically and confidence-wise was really big for me, going from an unathletic ... little kid, and a little kind of closed off, to now I'd say I'm pretty confident," he said. "I'm fairly well liked around the school, I hope, and I'm pretty physically fit. I'm happy with that."

So how did he change over (See Connor Brogan, Page 14)



CONNOR BROGAN

Connor Brogan

(Continued from Page 13) the years?

He took to the stage and has worked his way into a significant role in the most recent spring musical. He sings in the school's student-run social justice club, Full Send, and served as the master of ceremonies for the recent VUHS day honoring social justice causes.

He joined the school's track team and now runs 400 meters in under a minute. He got into weightlifting and has deadlifted 315 pounds, and has taken up boxing.

Brogan points to late in the ninth grade as pivotal in his maturation — he had rebuilt his social connections after the COVID quarantine years and had begun to get into shape.

"Right around the end of

9th grade was when I got into working out," Brogan said. "Then I felt I started hitting my stride. I finally formed a really solid group of friends as well."

Also, in 9th grade he signed up for the school's annual spring musical, working on the crew that moved stage props between scenes of "Bye, Bye, Birdie." He was hooked and started acting and singing.

"I was way too scared to go up on the stage and do anything (at first). I was too unpopular. So I hid back and moved stuff around," Brogan said. "It was a super incredible experience. Such an amazing group of people ... Every year I started progressively getting bigger and bigger roles."

Did theater help his confidence after starting out not wanting to be seen on stage?

"Oh, absolutely," Brogan said.

"It's nice feeling you can hit your stride doing something."

Encouragement from VUHS teachers also helped him grow. Karl Steen's 9th-grade Theater Arts class stands out for Brogan; he credits Steen for encouraging him to pursue his stage career.

"He really helped me get out of my shell and performing," Brogan said. "I've always admired him as a teacher."

As a 10th-grader Brogan had two small performing roles in "Newsies" after which VUHS chorus teacher Cailin O'Hara recruited him, and he signed on the next year.

"That was really awesome, feeling like not only was I decent in singing, but that I had a real talent for it, and having that be recognized," he said.

Brogan also singled out as supportive his Spanish and

morning meeting teacher Kristine Kirkaldy, PE teacher Karyn Choromanski, Social Studies teacher David Grabin and English teacher Chris Wyckoff.

He added a verbal bouquet to all the school's faculty.

"All the teachers are really awesome and super involved with their students," Brogan said.

TRACK AND BEYOND

Friends also steered him in the right direction. Brody McGuire talked him into joining the track & field team as an 11th-grader. Brogan flirted with the shot put, but turned to running. During his first season he struggled with injuries and rarely competed. He stuck with it anyway. He enjoys the coach, his friends on the team, and the group ethic of cheering for others.

"I loved the team, and Brad (See Brogan, Page 15)



really

want

professionally,"

"I really, really

— Connor Brogan

Brogan said.

love boxing,

everything

about it."

to box

Brogan

(Continued from Page 14) (Castillo), the coach, is an amazing guy," Brogan said.

This season he started running the 400, partly because another friend on the team, Isabelle van Voorst, suggested it. Now his time in the event has caught the attention of the track & field coach at New Hampshire's Colby-Sawyer College — his next academic stop.

Before Brogan took up track, another friend, James Buskey, introduced him to powerlifting.

Brogan had been working out in his basement and, "I was terrible at PE, terrible at everything."

They would drive up at 4 a.m. to Lift VT in Williston, and they worked hard and made friends.

Brogan described the lifting environment as similar to that of the track team.

"When someone

hits a PR, lifts a really heavy weight, everyone cheers," Brogan said.

But as much as he enjoyed powerlifting, he has turned instead to boxing. His friend Tyrelle Lavoie fought in the New England Golden Gloves in Lowell, Mass., and Brogan tagged along, calling it "an unreal experience."

Lavoie gave him boxing gloves and brought him to his gym to try it out in the summer before his junior year, and Brogan was hooked.

"I haven't competed yet. I've just started off. I'm still training," Brogan said. "But I really want to compete."

Along the way, Brogan also joined Full Send, which as well as working at VUHS has

presented around the state and at a conference in Rhode Island. A friend recruited him, but Brogan also believes in what Full Send is trying to accomplish — inclusivity, equality and acceptance for all regardless of differences.

"I think it's a really honorable cause, especially now," Brogan said. "I can't speak too much on social justice, obviously. I'm a straight white guy. I don't have too much experience being discriminated against. But I think

it's really valuable, and I think a lot of people don't realize that racism is real, and that those kinds of discrimination are actually out there ...

"Most people, if you ask them, don't think there's tons of that in Vermont, but you hear from these people, yeah, this stuff is happening. So that was a really eyeopening experience.

So I think it's really important to advocate."

LOOKING BACK, AHEAD

Brogan's parents split at about the time he was born in the St. Albans area, and he has lived with his mother since, mostly in the Addison Northwest School District. He is on good terms with both parents.

More recently, his mother moved up north to Sheldon. In order to spend the end of his high school years at VUHS, Brogan has been living with family friends in Vergennes to whom he is profoundly attached and grateful, Tom and Rachel Cosgrove.

"They're basically an aunt and uncle to me. We're incredibly close. I've known them since I was really, really young," he said.



CONNOR BROGAN, BOYS 400M

"They've always treated me like family."

Next, at Colby-Sawyer he plans to study exercise science and follow that up with a career in sports medicine, possibly as an athletic trainer.

But that could be Plan B. There are boxing clubs in and around New London, home to Colby-Sawyer.

"I really want to box professionally," Brogan said. "I really, really love boxing, everything about it."

That goal has created mixed feelings in his family.

"My mom is supportive, and my dad is iffy on it, but neither of them really like the idea," Brogan said.

When drawbacks were mentioned, such as possible brain

damage, Brogan was unfazed.

"I think I'm doing alright so far," he said.

For sure, Brogan is no longer someone who second-guesses himself. He was asked if he could, would he do anything differently at VUHS?

"Are there things that I regret? Absolutely," Brogan said. "But even if I had the opportunity, I don't think I would change any of that, because I don't think I would be me without any of that stuff. I've learned from it, and it's helped shape who I am and some of my core beliefs and values and all that cliché stuff. I think your experiences are what make you. So even the bad stuff I would take on. I'm pretty satisfied with who I am as a person."











Hayden Lewis Bassett



Gerrit Beenen



Emma Katherine Bergmans



Savanah J Blaise



Hannah Botala



Connor William Brogan



Evan Thomas Brooks



Tapanga Marie Burchard



Cheyenne Marie Carr



Blue Sunhwa Chouinard



Claire Watchida Clark



Owen Michael Collette



Mary Elizabeth Cosgrove



Rory Ann Couture



Ethan Croke



Luke Nelson Davis



Morgan McKenzie Davis



Axel Theodorus de Boer



Gunnar Alexander DeGraaf



Chase Delorme



Brayden Richard Duggento



Hailey M Dusablon



Kira L Emmons



Dylan Essex



Grey Fearon



Dylan Field



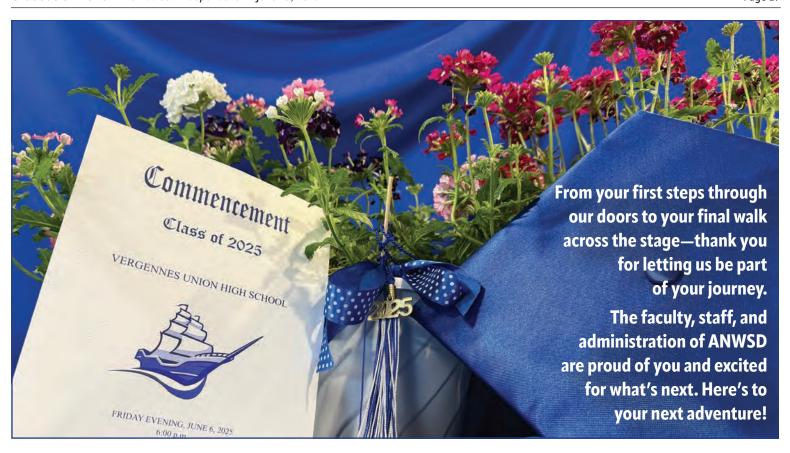
Rachel Emily Gebo



Spencer Ryan Gebo



Jackson James Gernander











Nina Morales-Giron



Reed McKinley Grant



Spencer Grimm



Ethan John Hallock



Austen Joseph Hamel



Torrey C Hanna



Rory Ellen Hendee



Kendra Alexis Jackson



Sophia Ann Johnson



Kay Alea Kenyon



Mia Beth Kutchukian



Katelyn Anne Laberge



Megan Haley LaFountaine



Hannah Lynn Larrow



Brody McGuire



Megan Laura Mentzer



Elsa Michaels



Tryphene Samuela Miguel



Ava Elizabeth Mullin



Zachary P Norris



Elizabeth Olenga



Charles Ouellette



Reese Ronald Paquette



Dakota Parker



Devon M Pierce



Isabella M Porter



Hailey Rose Preston



Isaac Preston



Kestin Puechi-Sproul



Xavier M Redmond







Corey Lee Ramon



Lily B Root



Felipe Sanchez-Gonzalez



Francisco Santiago-Loyola



Gabriel Lewis
Scribner



Zoey Elzabeth Waas



Garrett W. Stearns



Kaitlyn Lorraine Wagner



Tenley Whitehouse



Kiersten Charlotte Wigle



Jing Mae Williams









Art leads Roberts from Mount Abe to Montreal

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — Addison County may be a small community, but the opportunities offered at each of its local high schools can unlock doors to places and possibilities far beyond the Champlain Valley.

That's certainly been the case for Nola Roberts, a 2025 Mount Abraham Union High School graduate. The Monkton resident is headed to Montreal's Concordia University in the fall, a step she feels ready to take thanks in part to the experiences she's had at Mount Abe.

"The ceramics department and the language department have definitely guided that decision to go abroad," Roberts said during a recent interview. "The influence of my ceramics teacher (Ryan Strobel) has also guided what I've wanted to do. I've been very lucky to have taken the classes that I have and also have the opportunities to come into the ceramics department during lunch blocks or free blocks."

Now at the end of her time at the Bristol school, Roberts said she'd encourage current and incoming students to experiment with the different courses that high school affords.

"High school is so special in the way that it's a completely free education, and this year especially ... I've definitely been trying to take advantage of any classes that I've had any interest in," Roberts said.

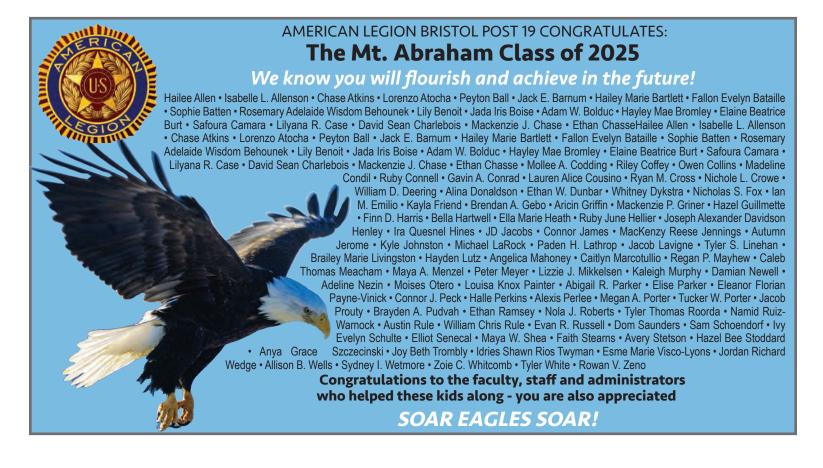
"Taking advantage of the career center and the virtual classes and the college virtual classes that are all offered by the school is such a great

(See Nola Roberts, Page 21)



OPPORTUNITIES IN AND outside of the arts at Mount Abraham Union High School have helped encourage recent grad Nola Roberts to continue pursuing her passions abroad at Montreal's Concordia University this fall. Roberts recommends other students experiment with the different activities and courses offered during their time in high school.

Photo courtesy of Nola Roberts



Nola Roberts

(Continued from Page 20) way to try out different things," Roberts continued. "Through those opportunities at Mount Abe that have been offered to me, I've found interests, and they've really guided me toward what I've wanted to do in the future."

As an artist, Roberts has used the variety of art courses offered at Mount Abe to home in on her interests.

"I've taken metal design and art and technology, along with the drawing and painting courses at Mount Abe," she recalled. "I knew I really wanted to go into an artistic field, but it definitely took me a while to find something that I really loved."

Roberts noted that she's found a lot of joy in mixing different art disciplines she's studied at Mount Abe, such as painting and ceramics.

"It's been a very interesting thing to explore and has been very supported by Mount Abe's departments and teachers," she said.

Roberts has been particularly involved in the school's ceramics department.

"With the department and some of my friends we've run Mount Abe craft fair tables, selling pots and pieces from students to run events for the Clay Club," she said.

The Mount Abe Clay Club was established by fellow student Maya Menzel.

"It's an afterschool club where (Strobel) has allowed students to come in and do extra work on their pieces after school," Roberts explained.

The club has also done some fundraising, with the money allowing students on a field trip to use a special type of firing process known as "Raku firing."

Roberts has taken advantage of opportunities to pursue artistic



TEAPOT BY NOLA ROBERTS

endeavors outside of school, such as through classes offered at studios in Bristol and South Burlington. More recently, she's also been a part of Mount Abe's track and field team.

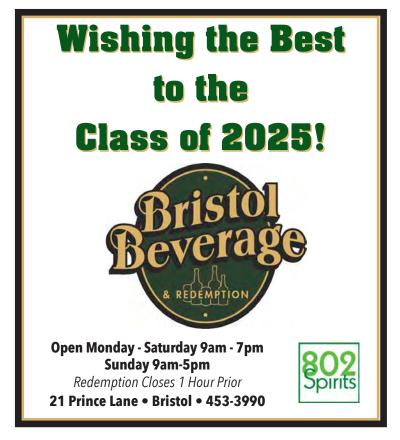
Looking back on her time in high school, Roberts said virtual courses like AP Art History are the ones that stick out to her. She's also enjoyed exploring languages through a virtual course on American Sign Language and French classes at Mount Abe.

"Before I had decided to take language, the idea of going abroad or to a different country had never crossed my mind as a possibility for college," she said. Roberts can remember the exact moment that changed. During her freshman year, she recalls hearing from an upperclassman at the school who'd just returned from a semester abroad in France.

"Her entire experience was so interesting to me and really opened my eyes to this whole world of possibilities of studying in different areas and learning about different cultures, which really ties into this interest in art history that I have," she said.

Roberts credits Strobel and other teachers as another impactful part of her time at Mount Abe, so much so that she and other students rallied

(See Roberts, Page 26)











Hailee Allen



Isabelle L. Allenson



Chase Atkins



Lorenzo Atocha



Peyton Ball



Jack E. Barnum



Hailey Marie Bartlett



Fallon Evelyn Bataille



Sophie Batten



Rosemary Adelaide Wisdom Behounek



Lily Benoit



Jada Iris Boise



Adam W. Bolduc



Hayley Mae Bromley



Elaine Beatrice Burt



Safoura Camara



Lilyana R. Case



David Sean Charlebois



Mackenzie J. Chase



Ethan Chasse



Mollee A. Codding



Riley Coffey



Owen Collins



Madeline Condil



Ruby Connell



Gavin A. Conrad



Lauren Alice Cousino



Ryan M. Cross



Nichole L. Crowe



William D. Deering



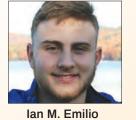








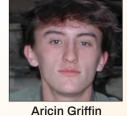
Whitney Dykstra















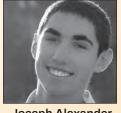






Brendan A. Gebo











Ella Marie Heath

Ruby June Hellier

Joseph Alexander **Davidson Henley**

Ira Quesnel Hines

JD Jacobs

Connor James























Brailey Marie Livingston



Hayden Lutz



Angelica Mahoney



Caitlyn Marcotullio

Regan P. Mayhew







Caleb Thomas Meacham



Maya A. Menzel



Peter Meyer



Lizzie J. Mikkelsen



Kaleigh Murphy



Damian Newell



Adeline Nezin



Moises Otero



Louisa Knox Painter



Abigail R. Parker



Elise Parker



Eleanor Florian Payne-Vinick



Connor J. Peck



Halle Perkins



Alexis Perlee



Megan A. Porter



Tucker W. Porter



Jacob Prouty



Brayden A. Pudvah



Ethan Ramsey



Nola J. Roberts



Tyler Thomas Roorda



Namid Ruiz-Warnock



Austin Rule



William Chris Rule



Evan R. Russell



Dom Saunders



Sam Schoendorf



Ivy Evelyn Schulte



Elliot Senecal

















Maya W. Shea

Faith Stearns

Avery Stetson

Hazel Bee Stoddard

Anya Grace Szczecinski

Joy Beth Trombly



Idries Shawn Rios Twyman



Esme Marie Visco-Lyons



Jordan Richard Wedge

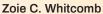


Allison B. Wells



Sydney I. Wetmore







Tyler White



Rowan V. Zeno







Elisha Bagley



Jordan Bertrand



Fletcher Crane



Wyatt Fallon

Roberts

(Continued from Page 21) around educators at the school when it appeared several positions were destined for the chopping block last spring.

At the time, the Mount Abraham Unified School District, and several others around the state, was struggling to get a budget for the upcoming fiscal year approved by voters.

MAUSD officials had at one point issued Reduction in Force (RIF) notices to 17 teachers, reflecting a "worst-case scenario" if the district wasn't able to pass a budget by July 1. They later identified additional savings that could be realized without acting on any RIFs.

"A lot of people in the school were very upset because a lot of these teachers were very much favorites," Roberts said of the RIFs.

She worked with other students to meet with administrators and

organize a school-wide walkout with over 150 participants.

Roberts said it was meaningful to her and other students that school officials ultimately found other areas to achieve savings in.

"It's such a small community, but the fact that we have such a thriving art department with our musical theater and our language (department) and the ceramics and jewelry opportunities that Mount Abe offers, it was just something that hit a lot of people really hard," she said.

Roberts said she believes the various opportunities offered at the school help form a sense of community at Mount Abe.

"There's so many places for kids to find communities that have just been so important to see form," she said. "As an art kid, I've definitely made a lot of friends through the art department, and it's just such a nice thing that the school has, to have





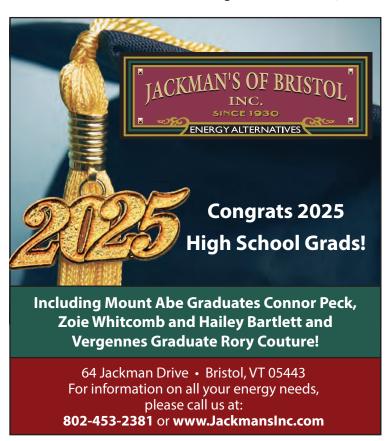
PLATE AND SCULPTURE BY NOLA ROBERTS

the opportunities in the arts that would usually not be considered vital in a high school."

Roberts acknowledges that leaving the Mount Abe community for a new one in Montreal will be a major shift, but she's looking forward to the opportunity.

"I really wanted to go to Montreal because of that different cultural experience I know it's going to offer, specifically with the language and also it being such a large city," she said. "I live on a dirt road in Monkton, and so the difference between that and a large city is definitely going to be a big change, but I'm very excited for that difference."

Roberts plans to study art history and studio art at Concordia, with the hope of going on to explore museum work, curation or another career path in the arts.























Jack Almeida

Carter Audet

Caleb Foster

Nick Gosselin

Vin Paquette









Clarabel Redondo

Allison Rogers

Logan Ryan

Asa Young

The Patricia A. Hannaford Career Center provides vocational and technical education to students and adults in the 17 Addison County towns served by the Addison Central, Addison Northwest and Mount Abraham Unified school districts. Students step away from their home high school to take part in hands-on and classroom instruction at the Career Center's main campus and satellite campus in Middlebury. On May 29, the Career Center held a Celebration of Learning at the Middlebury Union High School Auditorium where it recognized youngsters (and one adult) who had participated in nine of its professional training programs.

What follows are photos from most of the 12 programs and names of those who completed the programs.



Welding

Left to right: Namid Ruiz-Warnock, Isabella Porter and Vance Larocque.



Automotive Technology

Left to right: Adam Bolduc, Felipe Sanchez-Gonzalez, Austin Rule, Owen Collins, Gerrit Beenen, Brendan Gebo, Nicholas Bakerian and Ethan Ramsey. Other program grads are Tyler Linehan, Dylan Pennell and Jordan Wedge.





Design & Illustration

Left to right: Georgie Kiel, Lily Root, Chris Rule, Damian Newell, Maggie Noble, Sam Wootten, Silas Quinn, Maggie Kingensmith, Evva Dicovitsky and Hannah Botala. Other program grads are Peter Chiles, Conner Dempsey and Tim Ploegman.



Medical Professions

Left to right: Michaela Charbonneau, Subia Khan, Piper Farnsworth, Jada Boise, Megan Porter, Sydney Wetmore, Lily Case, Paden Lathrop and Ruby Hellier. Other program grads are Kylie Bean, Solstice Binder, Eliza Olenga, Lexy Perlee, Mckenna Raymond and Maya Shea.



Sustainable Agriculture

Left to right: Alex Henley, Megan LaFountaine, Ruby Hubbell and Hailee Allen. Other program grads are Hailey Bartlett, Mackenzie Chase, Madeline Condil, Michael LaRock, Brailey Livingston, Erin Whipple, Zoie Whitcomb and Alexxis Zeno.



Diesel Power Technology

Left to right: Chase Boudreau, Peyton Ball, Connor James, Joshua Malbon, Kegan Stone, Francisco Santiago-Loyola and Xavier Redmond. Also a program grad is Isaac Preston.

Natural Resource Management

Left to right: Jack Barnum, Tucker Porter, Zachary Norris, Riley Coffey and Gavin Conrad. The other program grad is Will Aranguiz Schroeder.





Education & Human Services

Left to right: Kassidy Brown, Riley Amerio, Zoie Whitcomb, Keenan Chicoine and Vanessa Brown. Other program grads are Hayley Bromley, Meredith Cameron, Sophia Lawton, Adeline Nezin, Elliot Senecal, Mackenzie Thompson and Alexis Whitney.

Other Hannaford Career Center programs and their 2025 grads are **Culinary Arts** (Asher Bent, Gunnar Boe, Jordan Couture, Nina Giron, Dominic Jones, John Lafountain, Finn Myers, Madison Selleck and Avigail Wheeler); **Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering** (Michael Sayre-Deering); **Addison Repertory Theatre** (Gabe Schmitt, Bea Hooper, Lucas Flinner, Nick Carpenter, MaryBeth Cosgrove, Torrey Hanna, Mirabelle Markowski and Penelope Stein; and **Construction Technology** (Jayden Mahoney, Aiden Pellerin, Will Maheu, Austin Gendron, Michael Betourney, Avery Carl and Levi Norris).



Besign your ream

Kitchen

- · KITCHEN & BATH DESIGN
 - PLUMBING FIXTURES
- · CABINETRY & COUNTERTOPS
 - HARDWARE & MORE!

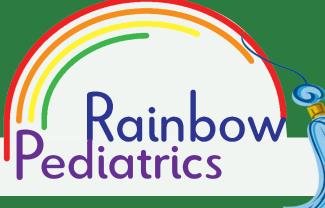
CALL US TODAY!

BRADFORD KITCHEN & BATH, LLC

BradfordKitchenAndBath.com



From all of us at Rainbow Pediatrics, Congratulations 2025 Graduates!



It has been our pleasure to watch you grow.

rainbowvt.com

