



Student style

Photographers from Middlebury College and MUHS are boosting a re-sale shop. See Arts+Leisure.



A look back

Many high school teams and individuals shone during the fall sports season. See a story, Page 1B.



Ski down

Mikaela Shiffrin was chasing a Slovakian skier in a World Cup race in Killington. See Page 10A.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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Towns taking a pass on mask mandate

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The communities of Vergennes, Bristol and Brandon have decided not to take advantage of a new law giving communities the option of imposing COVID-related face mask mandates for public places, while Middlebury officials are slated to consider the matter at their Dec. 14 gathering.

On Nov. 23, Gov. Phil Scott signed into law S.1, which authorizes Vermont municipalities

to establish their own masking requirements. A local legislative body can adopt the masking requirement for up to 45 days and then renew it for ensuing 30-day periods, through April 30, 2022, if it finds the need to do so. The rule — which doesn't apply to schools — would take effect immediately upon adoption at a warned meeting of the local selectboard/city council.

Scott, who didn't want to order a statewide

mandate, took the lead on S.1, which earned majority support in both the House (90-41) and Senate (17-10) during a Nov. 22 special legislative session. It received nearly unanimous Republican opposition and lost some support on the left as well, according to *VTDigger*. Some lawmakers criticized Scott's proposal, saying it simply transfers the oft-contentious mask-mandate decision to the local

(See *Masks*, Page 12A)



LUCIEN PAQUETTE, STILL active in his garden at age 100 when this photo was taken, was a farm educator and icon of agriculture in Addison County, and he was devoted to his family and faith. He always said he just loved people. He died last week. Independent file photo/Trent Campbell

Farm educator, Field Days founder dies

Paquette, 105, 'simply loved people'

By JOHN S. McCRIGHT

ADDISON COUNTY — Lucien Paquette died last week at the age of 105. An icon of the agricultural community, he was widely known as the Father of Addison County Fair and Field Days.

But those who knew him — and it seems like most people around here did — will remember Paquette as a smart

man with a calm and reassuring manner, who liked to help out because he simply loved people.

"In Addison County it's hard to find someone who didn't know him," said Diane Norris, president of the Field Days board of directors and an associate of Paquette's for many decades. "If you didn't know him you really missed out on a" (See *Paquette*, Page 13A)



Makin' music

DONNY RAY QUENNEVILLE, left, of South Burlington and Dan Wyman of Shoreham play like the devil on Sunday, Nov. 23, as the Champlain Valley Fiddlers cut loose at the Middlebury VFW Hall on Exchange Street during one of the group's regular jam sessions. See more photos of the fiddlers on Page 9A.

Independent photo/Steve James

MUMS institutes ban on flag-related attire

Rule part of student discipline effort

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury Union Middle School on Monday implemented a ban on all flag-related attire, one of several new strategies aimed at addressing student behavior issues that have made for turbulent

times at MUMS since the beginning of this academic year.

Michael Dudek, principal of MUMS, announced the new policy as part of an email communiqué sent to the school community during the evening of Sunday, Nov. 28.

"Flags of any kind will not be allowed as attire within the MUMS building," reads the email, also signed by Addison Central School District Superintendent Peter Burrows. "Students have important free speech rights that are protected within the school environment ... however the use of flags has

disrupted learning and has no useful place as attire."

During an email exchange with the *Independent*, Dudek explained the reasoning behind the flag-attire ban.

"After consideration of the recent disruptions caused by students" (See *MUMS*, Page 13A)

No record, but hunters enjoy rifle season

By ANDY KIRKALDY

ADDISON COUNTY — The county's rifle deer season fell short of setting a third straight record for number of bucks taken to local reporting stations, but plenty of venison was served or packed into freezers between Nov. 13 and 28.

In all, hunters brought 590 bucks to be weighed at Addison County's seven wildlife reporting stations after taking them during the 16-day rifle season. The total includes 203 from the opening weekend, and 387 more in the final 14 days.

That number is 57 short of the 2020 total of 647, which remains the high-water mark since 2005, when the Department of Fish and Wildlife changed regulations to ban shooting spikehorn bucks.

It is also just four behind the next best mark, the 594 deer taken in the 2019 rifle season.

The 2021 number stands 17 ahead of the fourth-best rifle season: In 2016 hunters had 573 bucks weighed at a county reporting station.

F&W regulations did allow hunters to take down spikehorns this season, but only in some" (See *Deer season*, Page 14A)



THIS 196-POUND, 12-point buck that Chris Gordon shot in Bridport had the most anchor points of any deer weighed in Addison County during the recently concluded rifle season.

Photo courtesy Chris Gordon

20 planned Bristol units to ease housing crunch

Work on Firehouse Apartments set for March

By CHRISTOPHER ROSS

BRISTOL — A pair of nonprofit housing organizations are nearing the financing and regulatory finish lines on a project that would add 20 units of affordable housing in a place they're badly needed: Bristol.

Firehouse Apartments will consist of 14 one-bedroom, 5 two-bedroom and 1 three-bedroom units in a complex just east of the Bristol Firehouse, according to Elise Shanbacher, executive director of the Addison County Community Trust (ACCT).

Shanbacher shared a project update during a Nov. 11 virtual community meeting on Bristol housing issues organized by Bristol Democrats.

The ACCT, which manages more than 300 units of affordable housing in Addison County, teamed up with nonprofit developer Evernorth (formerly Housing Vermont) to purchase 2.5 acres from Bristol developer Kevin Harper's 12-acre Stoney Hill project, which includes a 9.6-acre business park.

(See *Apartments*, Page 16A)



By the way

Thanks to the incredible generosity of the members of the American Legion Post 27, fireworks will again grace the skies above Middlebury this New Year's Eve. And Post 27 is absorbing quite a price increase for the show; it's pegged to jump from last year's \$2,750 to \$5,000. Post 27 Adjutant Tom Scanlon (See *By the way*, Page 7A)

Index

Obituaries.....6A-7A
Classifieds.....9B-10B
Service Directory.....7B-8B
Entertainment.....Arts + Leisure
Community Calendar.....5B
Arts Calendar.....Arts + Leisure
Sports.....1B-4B



What's up with Fort Ti Ferry? Ask the courts

By JOHN FLOWERS

SHOREHAM — A part-time Cornwall resident is hoping to acquire and resurrect the historic Fort Ticonderoga Ferry, which has remained dormant this year due to a legal dispute that was recently transferred to U.S. District Court.

The Fort Ti Ferry crosses between Ticonderoga, N.Y., and Larrabee's Point in Shoreham, Vt. It's a power-cabled vessel that's been transporting travelers between the two points on Lake Champlain since 1759. It's a seasonal operation that generally runs from the beginning of May until the end of October, with seven-minute" (See *Ferry*, Page 11A)

City eyes rate hike for sewer fix; aid could help

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The minimum bond needed to solve some of the most pressing problems of the Vergennes sewer collection and treatment system might trigger payments that could triple the city's user rates, the city council heard — not happily — at its Nov. 23 meeting.

That could add more than \$1,000 a year to some city sewer users.

But the lead engineer on the project said state and federal agencies would probably be awarding the city more grants that would lower that increase.

Hoyle, Tanner & Associates Senior Project Manager Jennie Auster said there is a highly favorable climate for sewer project grants right now, especially those that would help control the sanitary sewer overflows such as those Vergennes experiences.

"There's more reason to believe you'll bring that (number) down than in decades," she said.

City Manager Ron Redmond and Public Works Director Jim Larrow supported Auster's position.

"Right now it's a good time to have this problem," Larrow said.

Councilors heard from Auster after their pre-meeting tour of the city's barely functioning sewage/stormwater treatment plant. She outlined the possible rate hikes needed to pay for a \$6.6 million bond — the council is eyeing a March city-wide vote on a bond question of some size — that would:

- Add stormwater storage and pumping capacity to the troubled Macdonough Drive pump station.
 - Upgrade the existing 60-year-old cast-iron main that runs under Otter Creek and links that Macdonough Drive pump station with the treatment plant, and add a second sewer main under the river.
 - Upgrade the treatment plant's intake capacity enough to handle increased flow from the pump station. At \$5 million that would be the biggest single-ticket item in the projected bond vote, but Auster and plant operator Rick Chaput said it would be necessary to handle larger flows.
 - Replace two leaky sewer mains under city streets that contribute to the stormwater infiltration problem causing the city's persistent sanitary sewer overflows into Otter Creek.
- The \$6.6 million bond the council reviewed and discussed already assumes using an additional \$6 million of federal

funds that has been pledged to the Vergennes sewer system fix, bringing the estimated total of the initial project phase to about \$12.6 million.

That phase does not include other system needs, such as the \$11.2 million Hoyle Tanner estimates necessary for a full upgrade of the treatment plant, work to replace the remaining decaying clay or cast iron sewer mains, and efforts to work with residents whose illegal sump pumps have been identified as a major cause of the city's sanitary sewer overflows.

FINANCES

Auster pointed out that current Vergennes sewer rates are lower than typical in Vermont.

She also said the increase in rates needed to pay for the entire \$6.6 million would be within the range suggested by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Agency and the Vermont Department of Environmental Quality, two major sources of future grant funding.

Most Vergennes sewer users are not metered. The city now charges \$500 a year per unit, whether it is a home, apartment or business. About two dozen larger users, such as Northlands Job Corps, Collins Aerospace and city schools, are metered through the Vergennes-Panton Water District and pay based on water use.

The upper end of the suggested USDA and DEQ rates, based on percentages of median household incomes in Vergennes, would suggest the city could support a rate increase to about \$1,600 per unit, enough to pay for the \$6.6 million bond, according to Auster's figures.

Councilors generally did not disagree the upgrades are necessary, but were not pleased with the potential rate hike.

Mel Hawley said he wouldn't support it, suggesting residents "would laugh us out of town" if such an increase were proposed.

Others had mixed feelings. "There's no debate the system needs updating," said Sue Rakowski.

Auster repeatedly told the council that it is likely Vergennes would receive further state and federal grants for the work to the treatment plant and especially other needed upgrades to the collection system, including before payments to a bond approved in March were calculated.

Thus, she said, it was probable, (See City sewer, Page 3A)



IN A MATTER of weeks, the New Haven Junction Train Depot will be on the move and headed toward its new home next to the town office on North Street. In the meantime, windows, flooring, wainscoting and other interior elements have been removed, and steel supports are being put in place to keep the building stable.

Independent photo/Christopher Ross

Historic depot to travel across farm fields

Movers look for freeze to set in

By CHRISTOPHER ROSS

NEW HAVEN — Plans for relocating the historic New Haven Junction Train Depot have taken an adventurous turn in recent weeks.

The project had called for transporting the depot a mile and a half east along Route 17, from its current location at 5450 Ethan Allen Highway (Route 7) to a town-owned parcel on North Street. But complications — including higher than expected costs for temporarily moving powerlines out of the way — have forced town officials to consider alternative routes, including one of their own making.

As it stands now, New Haven intends to plow its own road across private property in order to bypass a number of powerlines. The road would begin at the top of the first hill on Route 17, as you're driving east from Route 7, cut through a cornfield and come out on North Street, not far from the depot's new home.

"We're currently working with the landowners to get their permission," said selectboard member and Historic Train Depot Committee chair Steve Dupoise the day before Thanksgiving. "And we're working feverishly to get this thing moved ASAP."

Officials had originally hoped to move the building starting Dec. 16, but the new route will require a Vermont deep freeze to make the ground hard enough to support the operation, so the new plan is to try in mid-January.

MOVE IT OR LOSE IT

Built in the second half of the 19th century, the depot was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

The Vermont Division of Historic Preservation (VDHP) owns the building, but the lot it sits on is owned by the Vermont Department



A FABRICATOR WORKS on a steel structural support at the site of the New Haven Junction Train Depot last Wednesday. Such supports will ensure the building remains stable while it's being moved next month. After a "skeleton" of steel beams, verticals and trusses is installed to protect the building from the inside, and exterior steel supports are attached, the brick building will be wrapped with heavy cable to further prevent strain.

Independent photo/Christopher Ross

of Transportation (VTrans).

This past winter, as plans to extend passenger train service from Rutland to Burlington started taking shape, VTrans informed VDHP and its (now former) tenant, Roundtree Construction, that the depot would have to be moved offsite or demolished. It was too close to the tracks and it would dangerously impede visibility for passenger trains approaching Route 7 from the east — at 59 miles per hour.

Within weeks town officials and residents had formed the Historic Train Depot Committee, and by spring they had identified a new home for the building.

Since then, New Haven has received two significant grants toward the moving project:

\$350,000 from the Northern Border Regional Commission, a federal-state partnership for economic and community development in northern New England and New York; and \$400,000 from VTrans.

That \$750,000 will be enough to get the building moved to a temporary site, until a new foundation can be poured in the spring, but it won't be enough to cover the cost of the entire project, which Dupoise estimated to be \$1.1 million.

"We're about \$300,000 short right now," he said last week, "but there are other grants we're looking into."

Once the building has been permanently relocated, VDHP plans to chip in \$25,000 toward roof repairs.

BUILDING PREP

The two-story brick depot is 44 feet long and 25 feet wide.

Messier House Moving & Construction of East Montpelier has been onsite since the beginning of November, preparing the building for next month's move.

"There will be 40 tons of iron under this building," co-owner Norm Messier told the *Independent*, referring to the steel support beams, some of which will be 60 feet long. He estimated the building itself weighs 80 tons.

Messier's son Jason said the crew would likely work right up until Christmas, with the hope of getting the building off the ground in early January.

After the support beams are in (See Depot, Page 3A)



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HOLE WERE CUT out of the brick exterior of the New Haven Junction Train Depot to make way for steel support beams (bottom left). Messier House Moving & Construction, which will transport the depot a mile and a half east to a town-owned lot on North Street, estimated there will be “40 tons of iron” under the building by the time it’s prepped and ready to go.

Independent photo/Christopher Ross

Depot

(Continued from Page 2A)

place, Norm Messier explained, jacks will be used to lift the depot off the ground and a number of dollies designed for moving buildings will be positioned underneath. A hydraulic pump that will supply power to the dollies.

VTrans will likely ask them to get started very early in the morning, to minimize traffic disruptions, Jason Messier said. They’ll begin by crossing the Jiffy Mart parking lot, in order to avoid tying up traffic on Route 7, and then they’ll turn east, up Route 17, before going off-road at the top of the hill.

The Messiers have a four-day window to move the building once they get started, in case they encounter unforeseen obstacles or the weather stops cooperating. It’s likely they’ll have to take the trip in segments, parking the building

overnight before proceeding the next morning.

Along the way they’ll encounter a couple of overhead powerlines, which will need to be shut down as they pass underneath, Norm Messier said.

As for the terrain, much will depend on Mother Nature, he added. But he’s used to it. He’s been doing this work for more than 50 years.

Messier expects the move will cause quite the spectacle, drawing crowds from all over.

The *Independent* will be there too, with iPhone cameras set to “video.”

In the meantime, keep on eye these pages for further updates as moving day approaches.

Reach Christopher Ross at christopher@addisonindependent.com.

City sewer

(Continued from Page 2A)

but not guaranteed, rates would not have to be increased as much as projected.

Essentially, Auster said, the current grant climate, especially for money to combat sanitary sewer overflows, looks as favorable as experts have ever seen.

“YELLOW LIGHT” BOND

She recommended the council use what has worked in other communities, what Auster called a “yellow light” bond vote.

In such a proposal, voters could authorize a higher amount than the city expects to spend unless it receives grants, and the council would only go ahead and spend that amount if grants were awarded.

Critically, Auster said, Vergennes would be denied many of those grants, including millions of dollars from the USDA, unless it approved a larger bond.

“You have to commit to a project without knowing how much money you’re going to get,” Auster said. “But you’re not committed to move forward with any project.”

Critically, those future grants would be vital. Chaput said the

improvements proposed for the first phase would not fix the treatment plant’s issues, which include a filtration system that simply doesn’t work.

The plant is so ineffective that Chaput has to use post-treatment holding tanks as an extra step in settling out the solids the plant fails to remove from the waste stream, and its two lagoons still fill up with sludge.

“It’s not the solution. It buys us a little bit of time,” he said. “We’re still going to generate solids... The filters aren’t going to magically start working.”

Redmond said in advance of any bond vote Vergennes officials would have to work hard to make residents understand the need.

“We have to be accountable as a city. There’s a way to craft the message,” Redmond said.

City Clerk Britney Aube also reminded councilors the clock was ticking to make a decision and warn a vote in time for March Town Meeting Day.

“We really need to think about it in the next two meetings,” Aube said.

CVOEO food program going online

Increased access is the objective

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) will soon launch a new food-access program that will allow qualifying low-income residents to order their provisions — and arrange

for delivery or pickup — with a few strokes on their computers or smartphones. It’s called the Champlain Valley Food Network, a partnership of CVOEO’s food-access centers in Middlebury (Addison Community Action at 54 Creek Road), Burlington and Franklin/Grand Isle. CVOEO in a few weeks will pilot the network here in Middlebury, initially limiting service to the roughly 50 Addison County families currently enrolled in the federal Head Start Program. Head Start promotes school readiness for infants, toddlers, and preschool children from low-income families.

CVOEO is using federal CARES Act funding to hire a handful of additional staff and to rent 2,500 square feet of the former Vermont Soap headquarters at 616 Exchange St. as a food warehouse, at which network food orders will be received and packaged. After packing a food order, network staff will arrange, with the client, the most convenient pickup location for their food — that could be their physician’s office, local school, or even their home if they have transportation issues.

Organizers stressed the new service is intended to complement — and not supplant — the 54 Creek Road food shelf and other food resources in the county.

Paul Dragon, executive director of CVOEO, explained it’s all about making it as easy as possible for low-income families to get the nourishment they need. The program will also recognize the evolving dietary needs for a diversifying Vermont population. “This mobility, along with on-demand ordering through our Pantry Soft technology, will

allow people to order the food they want and need,” he said. “This will eliminate food waste and allow people to order food that is culturally appropriate.”

Emmet Moseley is CVOEO’s food access coordinator for Addison County and will be playing a lead role in getting the new Champlain Valley Food Network up and running. He acknowledged food assistance has

long been available in Addison County, becoming more organized during President Lyndon Johnson’s war on poverty during the mid-1960s. Moseley added the ensuing 50 years have brought new technology that can improve the reach and effectiveness of nutrition programs for those in need.

Qualifying families will be logged into a secure computer network, and they will be able to place orders when they’re running low on food. Their order will be received by network staff at the Exchange Street warehouse, who

pack it up and load it into a van for drop-off at the client’s preferred spot.

Think Amazon, on a grassroots scale.

Using the network’s Pantry Soft computer system, clients will be able to click on the image of a food product they’d like to receive, and it will be added to their order.

“It’ll be like ordering food through any other curbside grocery programs,” Moseley said. “In some ways it sounds very basic, but for charitable food, this is a pretty leading-edge type of practice, and I’m excited we’re trying it here in Addison County.”

Moseley said CVOEO has already begun moving food and equipment into its Exchange Street warehouse.

Officials plan to launch the new service later this month for Head

Start families, with the intent of expanding its reach to all low-income families in Addison, Chittenden and Franklin/Grand Isle counties within a few months, after having ironed out any

wrinkles in the system.

CVOEO officials hope the network is wrinkle-free and popular within two years — because that’s when its CARES Act funding will run out.

Future funding and possible expansion will depend on the success of the network and its success in attracting donations,

said Moseley, who’s confident there’s a market. He noted CVOEO recently performed a needs assessment in Addison County, which revealed, among other things, that Addison Community Action’s Creek Road food pantry “isn’t able to serve everybody who might need help. There are barriers for people accessing those programs, which usually include transportation, hours of operation, and a sense of stigma about approaching people in their own community for assistance.”

The Champlain Valley Food Network, Moseley said, is seeking to break down such food-access barriers. It’s doing so by not asking “how do we change an individual food pantry to serve people better?” but rather, “why not try to do something that doesn’t include the food pantry at all, that just takes as a priority how to reach these people who aren’t able to get (to a pantry)?” according to Moseley.

It remains to be seen if the food-insecure will take their grocery errands online. The Middlebury nonprofit Helping Overcome Poverty’s Effects (HOPE) runs one of the largest food shelves in the region, serving more than 3,000 people annually. In addition to non-perishable foods, HOPE often carries meat, milk, bread and eggs, thanks to the generosity of local bakers and farmers.

In addition, HOPE created its own food access coordinator position almost a decade ago, which has led to what Executive Director Jeanne Montross called

“a large and thriving partnership with local farms, and the ability to annually offer tens of thousands of pounds of fresh, locally grown produce to folks who do not have the means to purchase it.”

This food is donated by farms and sometimes gleaned from the fields by volunteers. HOPE delivers gleaned produce to dozens of sites around the county and beyond, where people can get it in their own communities. The organization has also been holding workshops on how to make the healthy produce tastier.

MORE ONLINE FOOD And HOPE has been getting into the online food arena. Since early in the pandemic, it’s been offering online and phone options for food orders. HOPE has created a system of eight food delivery routes, using volunteer drivers, which are very popular.

“Considering the recent rise in COVID cases, our elderly and frail clients have greatly appreciated the ability to get food, including food shelf offerings, government commodity food boxes, and our holiday food boxes complete with turkeys and local produce, without having to venture in.”

— Jeanne Montross, HOPE

“It’ll be like ordering food through any other curbside grocery programs. In some ways it sounds very basic, but for charitable food, this is a pretty leading-edge type of practice, and I’m excited we’re trying it here in Addison County.”

— food access coordinator Emmet Moseley

“There are barriers for people accessing those (food assistance) programs, which usually include transportation, hours of operation, and a sense of stigma about approaching people in their own community for assistance.”

— Emmet Moseley

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Editorial

Mask mandates: Putting the responsibility where it belongs

When Gov. Phil Scott proposed S.1, the law that authorizes Vermont cities and towns to establish their own masking requirements to protect citizens from a localized outbreak of the COVID-19 virus and its variants, the idea was to give local communities the option to take action when needed, rather than force all of Vermont's 251 communities to do so in a statewide mandate.

Theoretically, it makes sense. If Brattleboro experiences an outbreak and wants to exercise local control, but other parts of the state are unaffected, there is no reason to impose measures that would do little good 200 miles away and could present statewide economic harm — as well as political resentment.

In practice, however, the measure is less than ideal. Vermont currently has one of the highest rates per capita of COVID-19 in the country; it's as bad as it's ever been here and some of the state's hospitals are nearing their reasonable capacity to handle such cases and still provide services for the rest of the population.

The Vermont Legislature went along with Scott's proposal, passing it 90-41 in the House and 17-10 in the Senate, because they knew Scott would reject any statewide mandate and something was better than nothing. S.1 would at least allow communities to be proactive, said Democratic leaders, even if it was unlikely all communities would act in unison to replicate a statewide approach.

The early response, at least locally, is disappointing. Armed with an ability to take action, Bristol and Vergennes opted not to bring the issue to a vote because they maintained there would be no ability to enforce any local measure put in place. (See story on Page 1A.)

"Any non-compliance with private masking requirements is not enforceable by the Bristol Police Department; it is a civil matter," Bristol Town Administrator Valerie Capels said. "If a mandate is to be in place, (board) members felt it should be statewide."

While true, it underestimates what communities can do when working together for a common cause.

If, for example, a sudden outbreak of the virus inundated a specific town, it would be common sense for residents to hunker down, wear masks, wash hands and avoid large groups. Mandate or not, one would expect the majority of residents to act wisely and to respect the health of their friends and neighbors.

But not everyone will. There are holdouts to scientific facts; there are those who reject common sense measures. But if community pressure helps reduce the number of holdouts from being disrespectful of others, then that's a successful community outcome.

A masking mandate simply encourages everyone to work together.

Part of the struggle boards face is the concept of imposing "a mandate" and what "enforcement" means.

A better word for "mandates" might be "encouragements." Consider this: If and when it might be needed, the town of Middlebury could issue a statement that "encourages all residents to wear masks for the next 30 days when shopping in community stores or engaging in places of business, or attending public gatherings of any sort in which non-family members, or people not close to you, are present. The town will keep this cautionary measure in place until the rate of incidence in the community-at-large falls under 4%."

For the most part, the enforcement of such a statement, or mandate, has always been on each resident's willingness to serve the common good. What the state mandate did was provide an excuse for local communities and local businesses to act responsibly. That is, each community and business could say: "we're imposing these rules because the state told us to and therefore you should comply."

Today, communities are being asked to take on that responsibility and say: "We, the town and local businesses, are imposing these common sense measures to protect the community and we ask you (our customers and residents) to comply and help keep all of us safer."

Does that mean most towns in the state should adopt measures that would encourage wearing masks when shopping and congregating indoors in businesses or public places? With the state's current high case count averaging over 3%, probably so.

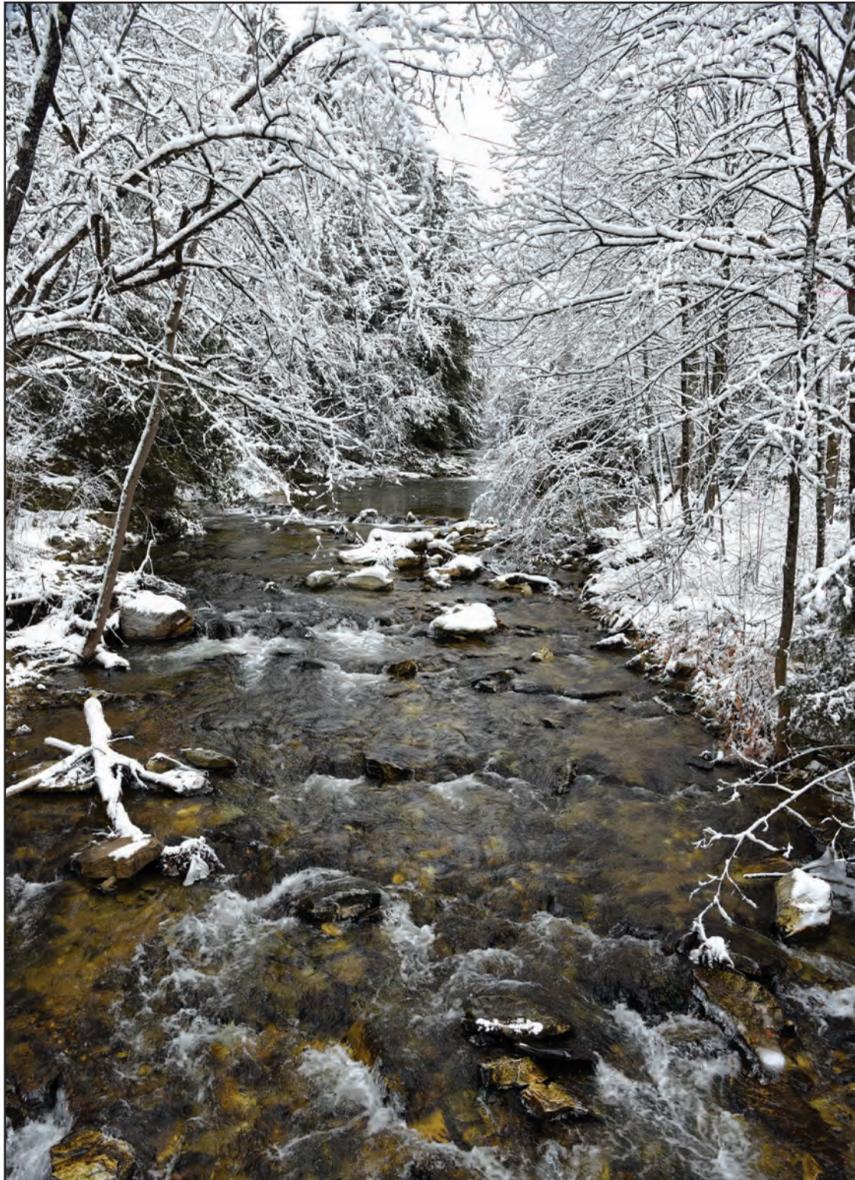
That doesn't mean we shutter restaurants, fitness centers or lodging establishments; it doesn't mean we can't hold outdoor gatherings or go skiing. It just means to wear a mask when needed. It means to take smart precautions, like getting vaccinated and getting a booster.

That said, we agree with Gov. Scott's approach. While the town-by-town option may not be the best way to contain spread of the virus, imposing a statewide mandate would likely cause more political strife and spark a sense of anti-government sentiment that would not easily dissipate — and it shirks our individual responsibility off on the state.

It's also obvious that if communities and counties work together, they could have a similar impact. What towns need are benchmarks to heed. That could be pegged to the incident rate on a per 10,000 person basis — a common measure currently used to gauge the severity of the pandemic in various areas of the country and world. If 3% or 4% or 5% is pegged as the number that triggers stricter measures, perhaps the Vermont League of Cities and Towns could suggest that its members follow established protocols.

Acceptance of personal responsibility, after all, should lead to the ideal outcome: individuals, businesses, schools and community groups working together to keep the virus controlled. S.1 allows that to happen, if towns willingly take the lead.

Angelo Lynn



What a winter-ful world

THE FIRST SNOW of winter coated the trees overhanging the Neshobe River in Forest Dale earlier this week after a Friday night storm dumped 4-8 inches of the white stuff across the region, and more than a foot in the mountains.

Independent photo/Angelo Lynn

We can do more than we think

Last Easter morning, early, we were sitting in bed, making our usual to-do list. Our granddaughter was making her own list, as she usually does after a sleep-over. She helped me to decipher it: color easter eggs, hide jellybeans, make a treasure hunt, meditate under the willow tree, fix a fancy meal. She explained the treasure hunt more fully: there would be 12 clues, each one written in rhyme, hidden all around the farm. It would be the first thing we did when the rest of the family arrived for brunch at 9:30. It was already 7:30. I launched into my litany of why we didn't have time to do all these things, why we should just choose one or two realistic projects, why the weather might not cooperate, why everyone would be happy if we just hid jellybeans and had a nice meal.

Undeterred she said to me: "Gaga, let's do this thing." She jumped up and started writing the clues on little scraps of paper while I had boiled the eggs and made pancakes. She recruited her younger cousin to hide jellybeans. The three of us put the clues in empty plastic eggs, figured out how each could lead to the next without backtracking, ran around the farm hiding them and came back in time to decorate the eggs. Fortunately, the other guests brought some fancy fixings and an actual chocolate treasure box. We had time for the period of quiet meditation and giving thanks. It was a good lesson to me that we can do far more than our old habits permit when we are excited and work together.

Vermont is on the verge of an amazing opportunity to realize dreams that have long been deferred. We

all share the concerns: growing inequity and crises in childcare, broadband, housing, health and mental health care, environmental and climate degradation, lost viability of villages and towns, and school districts strained to the breaking point. Like me, a litany of voices has argued that we can't do it all: we don't have enough money, we don't know how, we can't risk changing the way things are, we need more bureaucracies to keep things accountable, we don't have the political will or leadership needed to change. I concur that we may not be able to do it all immediately yet believe we can undertake targeted projects that will create a groundswell of positive change across our state.

A simple example is pre-school parity. It equalizes salaries and benefits for the early care and learning workforce, going a long way toward solving the current personnel crisis. It reduces out-of-pocket tuition cost for all parents by 60%. It reduces pressure on the childcare financial assistance program (CCFAP) making eminently attainable the goal of H171 that no family pay more than 10% of their income on childcare. It offers families a choice of setting, which helps employers with recruitment and retention. It encourages towns and villages to utilize buildings such as elementary schools, churches or grange halls more fully, thus contributing to economic vibrancy. It might even attract young families to Vermont!

We already have the funding mechanism and (See *Ways of Seeing*, Page 5A)

Ways of Seeing

By Cheryl Mitchell



Welch has a clear path to Senate

Last week, Rep. Peter Welch announced his candidacy for the U.S. Senate seat from which Sen. Patrick Leahy will be retiring.

Since 1958, every time there has been a vacancy in Vermont's Senate delegation, the state's House member has been a candidate for the Senate. Winston Prouty in 1958, Robert Stafford in 1972, James Jeffords in 1988, and Bernie Sanders in 2006 were all House members elected to the Senate. In 1974, Rep. Richard Mallary ran for the open seat resulting from Sen. George Aiken's retirement, but he was defeated by Patrick Leahy, then serving as Chittenden County State's Attorney.

Welch will take advantage of the same resources of incumbency that benefited Prouty, Stafford, Jeffords and Sanders in their first Senate campaigns. Welch has been in the House since 2006, so has nearly universal name recognition in the state. For similar reasons, at least one of the current senators from other small states such as Delaware, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming also served as their state's at-large House member before being elected to the Senate.

Like most congressional incumbents, Welch has been a prodigious fundraiser, having received more than \$9 million in contributions over the course of his career. As of the last reporting date, Sept. 30, Welch

had more than \$2 million cash on hand in his campaign account.

Running for an open House seat in 2006, Welch received 53% of the vote against Martha Rainville's 44%. Rainville was the last Republican candidate in Vermont for any federal office — president, U.S. Senate or U.S. House — to receive more than 40% of the vote.

Within a few hours of Welch's announcement that he would be a candidate for the Senate, Sanders issued a statement endorsing Welch, saying that he would look forward to working with him in the Senate. The substance and timing of Sanders's announcement were important, for they clearly indicated that Welch and Sanders want to clear the field for the August 2022 Democratic U.S. Senate primary. With Sanders endorsing Welch on his first day as a candidate, no serious progressive challenger would be able to gain traction against Welch in a primary.

There will likely be at least one other name on the Democratic primary ballot along with Welch. Vermont's low signature requirements for ballot access mean that both perennial candidates and people who want to get some recognition for themselves will be able to get on the ballot rather easily. Still, Welch should win the primary by a very large margin.

(See *Davis*, Page 5A)

Politically Thinking

By Eric L. Davis



Letters to the Editor

Why not VUHS as merger hub?

I want to make it perfectly clear that I am writing this letter as a tax paying citizen of Ferrisburgh and in no way as a member of the school board. The proposed merger of the Addison Northwest School District and the Mount Abraham Unified School District could be a benefit to both districts regarding the state of Vermont funding, declining student numbers and the new weighing study that will hurt our district. However, some of the items addressed in the recent articles published by your paper are overlooking significant items.

The condition of the Mount Abe school building is not in a condition that any of the families of the ANWSD students would want their students to attend. The Vergennes Union High School building is in much better shape and has the capacity to house all the students from both ANWSD and MAUSD middle and high school. I understand the transportation difficulties that would impose on the students from MAUSD. However, in response to the discussion regarding the travel times and expenses of busing, there is no mandate from the state for school buses. A district can eliminate buses at any time to save the expense, which is considerable and much greater in a unified district.

The school district merger study committee has a monumental task that I do not envy, but they have several options that do not appear to be on the table. Eliminating busing (there is a large group of students that do not ride the bus but the capacity for them is provided by the districts; this wastes valuable district funds), and not planning to have the added expense of running Mount Abe when all the students can be accommodated in the VUHS facility, which is in much better condition.

I do understand the position of the parents in the MAUSD regarding all their students traveling out of the district to attend school. The reality of this is that the MAUSD has not seen fit to provide support for repairing its school building, but the ANWSD has upgraded its facility to the current standards.

There has been mentioned the possibility of building a new school in New Haven Junction to house both the middle and high schools from both districts. If there was a problem in both districts' middle and high schools, then that might be an option; however with both the capacity and condition of VUHS I believe that to be a nonstarter.

Please make the entire situation information available to the voters so that they can have an informed opinion when they vote on this issue.

Thank you.

George Gardner Ferrisburgh

Federal review was wasteful

We recently learned that the federal government has notified the state of Vermont that the enrollment targets for all-payer model (and thus the Accountable Care Organization, OneCare) are both "unattainable" and "unnecessary."

This is an entirely new way to set standards. Imagine if a professor or teacher tells her students they need to write three papers, then decides it is unattainable after they fail to turn in the work, and then gives everyone an "A" anyway! We could also tell prospective lawyers they have to pass the bar exam, and then decide passing the bar is unattainable and certify them to practice the legal profession despite this. Should we apply this framework as well to pilots, surgeons, accountants, electricians? We could just keep changing the goalposts when people don't meet them and declare them competent. Why should we stop with the all-payer

(See *Oxford letter*, Page 5A)

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Letters to the Editor

Lower the temperature by using nuclear power

When I was a kid, the nuclear age had just begun. Nuclear-powered ships were being developed, as was nuclear-power electricity generation, and of course there was the school air raid drills that had us diving under our desks for protection. Diving under desks, and nuclear power's destructive potential, has created a fear of using this technology in many people's minds. Yet, nuclear power's safety record, versus fossil fuels, and the many positive new attributes of the new nuclear power generating technology warrant its further development as a tool in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

How safe are nuclear power plants? There have been two nuclear power plant accidents that are classified as major disasters, Fukushima in 2011 and Chernobyl in 1986. The Fukushima accident was the direct result of an earthquake and the resulting tsunami. Despite the devastation caused by these events the Fukushima facilities safety protocol limited radiation exposure. The circumstances at Chernobyl were quite different, as facility safety measures were sub-par, and as a result, radiation exposure was significant. Hannah Richie's work in "Our World Data" will give you mortality statistics from these accidents. The data is variable, especially on the indirect human damages

caused by these events, and depends on the organization that developed the statistics, but overall, fatalities, injury, and illnesses from nuclear accidents have been far fewer than those caused by fossil fuels facilities.

Wikipedia reported that a 2012 study by The World Health Organization indicated that burning fossil fuels and biomass causes approximately 3 million deaths in urban areas annually. Plus, with fossil fuels you have environment damages that have plagued much of the globe. A photo of Beijing enveloped in a carbon fog speaks volumes about burning fossil fuels.

What about nuclear waste? While the waste from nuclear power facilities can cause problems and needs special handling, I could not find any reported incidents in this area that has caused substantive harm.

Today's nuclear power generating facilities are far different from those first constructed in the 1960s. They use less nuclear fuel to generate the same amount of power. They have much less nuclear waste, and there are advancements in facility waste storage. Today nuclear facilities are smaller and require fewer people to operate and less human intervention in the case of any emergencies. The costs associated with building new facilities are also dropping.

Today, 56 nuclear power plants around the country supply approximately 20% of our nation's electric needs. These facilities are low carbon and provide a constant source of power, something wind and solar cannot. Many of our nation's nuclear power plants are scheduled for license renewal. Considering these nuclear facilities can provide reliable power and cut greenhouse gas emissions, let's renew their licenses. We also should plan for new nuclear capacity. Doubling our nuclear-power generation to provide 40% of our nation's needs will go a long way toward reaching our zero carbon goals.

Siting new facilities can be problematic. Recently Terra Power, a company founded by Bill Gates, announced they would build a nuclear facility at the site of a closing coal plant. Replicating this idea around the nation, closing fossil fuel plants with nuclear facilities, can help solve the siting issue.

Make no mistake there are risks associated with nuclear power generation. All forms of electricity generation come with issues. However, it is unwise to dismiss a technology that can add to our nation's, and the world's, ability to scrap dirty fossil fuel energy.

Fred Baser
Bristol

Unknown 'angel' at restaurant made women's day

My sisters and I had lunch at the Olive Garden Saturday. We were joking with other ladies in the room — first day of hunting — the men were away; the ladies will "shop" and eat.

The ladies in the booth before us were told by their server their meal was paid for already. When we finished, he told us the same thing!

We all "teared up" and felt so

special and fulfilled.

There truly was an "Angel at Olive Garden" that day!

Rosalie Brown
Bristol

Oxford letter

(Continued from Page 4A)
model and OneCare?

Or maybe instead, we might conclude that this entire all-payer model, hinging on OneCare and an endlessly

changing set of evaluative standards should be disbanded before we waste more time and money. There is no reason that we needed another middleman in our health care system, when we

could have pooled our funds on health care for all instead.

Ellen Oxfeld
Middlebury

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)
accountability systems in place: New bureaucracies are not needed. This shift could complement changes in the way higher education prepares new teachers, providing earn-as-you-learn options that could keep our young

people in state. It could happen without any new legislation simply by adding permissive language to the budget bill this year.

Come on People. Let's do this thing.

Cheryl Mitchell is president of Treleven, a retreat and learning

program located on her family's sheep farm in Addison County. She does freelance consulting on issues related to children, families, social policy and farm to community work. She can be reached at cheryl.w.mitchell@gmail.com.

Davis

(Continued from Page 4A)

Welch will also be a strong favorite to win the general election in November. Indeed, Welch's campaign launch video made it clear he wants to nationalize the election. He said he was running for the Senate "for Vermonters," and against "Mitch McConnell's Republicans," who "filibuster everything." A party whose federal candidates have not been able to get out of the 30-percent range for 15 years faces major headwinds in Vermont, even before the takeover of the national Republican Party by

Donald Trump, for whom Vermont was one of his worst states in both 2016 and 2020.

Gov. Phil Scott, who on paper would be the strongest potential Republican candidate for either the House or Senate, has made it very clear he has absolutely no interest in running for, or serving in, Congress. Scott is likely to run for re-election to a fourth term in 2022.

Another reason Welch may have decided to run for the Senate is that, as a result of both the trend of the president's party not doing

well in midterm elections, and the newly-gerrymandered House district maps that will be used in many states, a Republican majority in the House looks more likely as of January 2023. Welch would have more influence as a first-term senator, whether of the majority or the minority party, than he would as a member of the House minority with 16 years' seniority.

Eric L. Davis is professor emeritus of political science at Middlebury College.

Slate Valley grateful to many

The overriding mission of the school board since the onset of the pandemic has been to keep

procedures, and communicating with anxious staff and families to assure them that their concerns are heard.

Community Forum

This week's writer is Slate Valley School Board Chair Tim Smith, who submitted it on behalf of the entire board. The Slate Valley School District includes the Orwell Village School.

our kids safe and to keep them in school. Only from the extraordinary efforts of so many individuals, we have been successful in achieving these goals. We recognize all of our staff have taken on numerous responsibilities and time commitments that are outside normal expectations. Teachers. We appreciate the extra time spent planning for both in-person education and remote learning, and the creativity and compassion used in the classroom to overcome the challenges of mask wearing.

Support staff. We appreciate you taking on additional students due to staffing shortages, volunteering your time as bus monitors, filling in for teachers, and assisting with the test-to-stay program.

Administrators. We appreciate you giving up your personal time to work nights and weekends, implementing new programs and

Nurses. We appreciate the time spent contact tracing, assessing student symptoms, and making sure students are healthy and able to return to class promptly.

Custodians. We appreciate the overtime hours worked due to staffing shortages and added time required to complete enhanced cleaning protocols.

Bus drivers. We appreciate you taking on extra shifts and recognize the extra-long routes that have resulted from the consolidation of bus routes.

Cafeteria workers. We appreciate you adjusting normal food practices to overcome supply chain shortages and ensure our kids are provided nutritious meals, oftentimes outside the cafeteria setting.

Coaches. We appreciate you adhering to the COVID protocols and for displaying great patience during player quarantine. Getting

exercise and being part of a team is absolutely essential in student development.

Police. We appreciate community police and school resource officers providing extra layers of protection and realize external threats still exist, even during a pandemic. Thank you for reinforcing those bridges of trust between police and students.

Parents. Thank you for setting your frustrations with COVID requirements aside and doing what is asked for kids to attend school safely. Thank you for timely picking up your child and for playing the role of teacher during times of extended student absence. We recognize the financial implications of missing work and appreciate our community employers for granting such flexibility.

Taxpayers. Thank you for your continued support. We recognize the many societal and financial challenges confronting our schools today and welcome you as equal partners to ensure a safe and enriching environment for our children to learn and become good citizens.

We are grateful. We are proud. We are Slate Valley. Have a happy and healthy holiday season.

Lake program readies round of grants

GRAND ISLE – The Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) seeks project proposals for 2023 that will inform the public or provide community engagement activities designed to learn more about improving water quality and ecosystems in the Lake Champlain watershed. The request for each project may range from \$15,000 to \$50,000. Since 1992, LCBP has awarded more than \$17 million to support more than 1,500 projects in New York, Québec, and Vermont.

"Lake Champlain's watershed offers many opportunities for residents and visitors to explore and enjoy high-quality waterways, recreational access, and special habitats," said Colleen Hickey, LCBP Education and Outreach Coordinator. "These education and outreach awards will provide funding to municipalities, watershed organizations, and schools to complete boots-on-the-ground

projects, helping hundreds of children and adults improve their knowledge and understanding of Lake issues. These grants can help people commit to making both backyard and community improvements which will benefit water quality downstream."

Projects located in the New York, Québec, and Vermont portions of the Lake Champlain basin will be eligible for consideration in this grant opportunity. Grant guidelines and applications can be found on the Lake Champlain Basin Program's website at lcbp.org/grants.

Volunteer peer reviewers will evaluate the proposals and develop the funding recommendations for the Lake Champlain Steering Committee to consider. Only

Microsoft Word-compatible submissions will be accepted and must be submitted no later than 12pm (noon) EST on Jan. 21 via the online form at form.jotform.com/213186501198153.

Applicants will be notified in May 2022 and successful projects may begin after Oct. 1, 2022. Late or incomplete will not be considered. Applicants should note that LCBP also recently issued a similar grant competition for smaller projects to be initiated in spring 2022. That grant opportunity closes Jan. 14.

The LCBP anticipates that these projects will be supported with funds awarded to NEIWPCC by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Great Lakes Fishery Commission in support of the Lake Champlain Basin Program.

For further information about this proposal process, contact Colleen Hickey at the Lake Champlain Basin Program, 54 West Shore Road, Grand Isle, Vermont 05458 or call (802) 372-3213 or (800) 468-5227.

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

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

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

Right-to-vote act seen as vital

Sen. Leahy and Sen. Sanders must do everything they can to pass the Freedom to Vote Act, including fixing the filibuster, to realize the fair maps for all.

Here in Vermont the proposed legislative district map split my community in two — and prevents us from having our voices heard.

We need federal reform to ensure we have fair maps nationwide. The Freedom to Vote Act and John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act will end partisan gerrymandering and ensure more fair, transparent and nonpartisan maps.

Sally Roth
Bristol

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Bridport, VT Homeowner Recommends Bristol Electronics

The solar system that Bristol Electronics installed in 2016 has paid entirely for the power at my home and my tenants' home since they installed it. In addition to our general electricity needs, we have also used heat pumps extensively in the summer for air conditioning and in the fall and spring for heating. I haven't paid a "light" bill since we put the solar panels up.

I made it clear that I like even rows. Since I only needed (32) panels they centered the bottom row. It came out beautiful. I look at it and I am proud of how it looks.

Bristol Electronics was nice to work with and very thoughtful of my wishes throughout the project.

Art Provencher – Bridport, VT

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Obituaries

Lucien D. Paquette, 105, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Dad, Papa, Lucien left our world peacefully at Shard Villa, Salisbury, Vt., on Nov. 23, 2021, to join his beloved wife, Loretta, and son, Dennis.

Lucien was born August 14, 1916, in Craftsbury, Vt., the third child of Adelard and Mary (Demers) Paquette, where he grew up working on the family dairy farm. Lucien attended Craftsbury Branch Elementary School, a one-room schoolhouse; Craftsbury Academy High School; and the University of Vermont, graduating magna cum laude in 1940. Following graduation, Lucien began his long career with the UVM Extension Service, serving as UVM County Agricultural Extension Agent in Grand Isle County, Vt. In 1946, he moved to Middlebury, Vt., filling the same role in Addison County. In addition, he served as the first superintendent of the UVM Morgan Horse Farm in Weybridge, Vt., 1951-1959, after UVM acquired the farm from the U.S. Government.

Lucien received his master's degree from UVM in 1965 and attained the status of Professor. Following his retirement in 1982, Lucien and Loretta organized, recruited, and travelled on 11 annual agricultural tours through Rural Route Tours. During his working career in Addison County, many local residents were familiar with his daily early morning reports on radio stations WIPS and WFAD and weekly columns in the *Addison Independent*.

Lucien married the love of his life, Loretta Paquette (same last name), on Feb. 6, 1945, in South Hero, Vt. Together they raised 12 children, eight boys and four girls. Lucien's life, personal and professional, focused on his family and his love of people. Many people have heard him say, "I love people." His life and actions proved that true.

Lucien loved his time in his large garden, needed in order to



LUCIEN D. PAQUETTE

feed 12 children, and on the ski slopes, skiing well into his 90s. His favorite food was tomatoes, breakfast, lunch, and dinner. On his annual Florida spring trips his first activity was to find the closest tomato farm. Following a large meal, regardless of how full he was, he would say, "there is always room for ice cream," his favorite sweet food.

Lucien was a proud and devout parishioner of St. Mary's Church in Middlebury, serving on many committees as well as being a lector and altar server until he was 100 years old. He was extremely proud that all 12 children had attended St. Mary's elementary school. He was a charter member of Addison County Right to Life, receiving Vermont Right to Life Pro-Lifer award in 2003. He was a member of the Fr. Daley Council 642 Knights of Columbus, serving as treasurer and recorder for several years.

He was instrumental in the formation of the Addison County Maple Sugar Makers Association in the early 1970s. He was inducted into the Vermont Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2014. Lucien was also a charter member of the Middlebury Union High School Booster Club. In 2007, Lucien received the Middlebury College Citizens Medal in recognition of

his distinguished contributions to the Middlebury community.

One of his proudest achievements beyond his family was initiating the Addison County Farm and Field Days, now known as the Addison County Fair and Field Days, in 1948. He held several positions within the Field Days Committees. In 1978, he organized and started the hand mowing contest at Field Days, which is still an annual event. He was a contestant in that event beyond his 100th birthday.

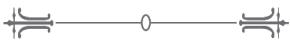
Besides his parents, Lucien was predeceased by his wife, Loretta, and eldest child, L. Dennis, and his siblings, Nelda, Leonel, Ernest, Hilda, Wilfred, and Lida. He is survived by his children, Judy and Bill Mercier, Nancy and Don Bordner, Steve and Liz, Fran and Lorraine, Gary and Sandy, Tom and Terry, Mike and Sherry, David, Barb and Scott Logan, Rene and Selena, and Jan Beayon Phelps. Also, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

We would like to give special thanks to the exceptional staffs of Shard Villa and Addison County Home Health and Hospice.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Mary's Church in Middlebury on Saturday, Dec. 4, at 11 a.m., masks are encouraged, followed by a celebration of Lucien's life at the American Legion Post 27, Boardman St, Middlebury. There will be a private family burial service at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Lucien's memory may be made to Shard Villa, 1177 Shard Villa Rd, Salisbury, VT 05769; Addison County Home Health & Hospice, Rt 7N, Middlebury, VT 05753; Addison County Right to Life, 2012 Carlstrom Rd, Bristol, VT 05443; and St. Mary's Church, 73 Weybridge St, Middlebury, VT 05753.

Condolences to the family can be made at www.sandersonfuneralservice.com.



Lori Parks, 63, formerly of Orwell

RUTLAND CITY — Lori Ruth Parks, age 63, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, Nov. 28, 2021, at her home in Rutland.

Lori was born in Middlebury on Jan. 24, 1958. She was the daughter of Robert and Joan (Cook) Parks. She grew up in Orwell. She resided in Daytona Beach, Fla., from 1989 until returning to Vermont in 2015. She has been a resident of Rutland since returning home.

She liked doing latch hook rugs and enjoyed her iced coffee and shopping. She loved flowers and animals. Lori touched so many lives with her humor, sass, tall tales and undeniably unique personality, leaving us all with many wonderful and happy memories.

She is survived by two sisters,



LORI PARKS

Julie Anne Lonergan of Brandon and Tracie Lynn Hauck of Rutland;

and two brothers, Robert J. Parks of Orwell and James C. Parks of Leicester. Several nieces, nephews and cousins also survive her. She was predeceased by her parents; two brothers, Ronald J. Parks and Stephen L. Parks; and a niece, Brenna Parks.

The graveside committal service and burial will take place at a later date in the family lot at Mountain View Cemetery in Orwell.

Memorial gifts in lieu of flowers may be made in her memory to Royce Street Group Home, c/o Rutland Mental Health Services, 7 Court Square, Rutland, VT 05701.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home in Brandon.

Irene G. Brinkman, 85, of Vergennes

VERGENNES — Irene G. Brinkman, 85, of Vergennes, passed away Thursday, Nov. 25, 2021, peacefully in her birth home surrounded by her family.

She was born, March 2, 1936, in Vergennes, the daughter of Arthur and Gertrude (Collom) Rose. She attended Vergennes Union High School, graduating in the class of 1954. The following year she would wed her husband, James H. Brinkman Sr.

She was a member of the Vergennes Eagles Club, the Vergennes Legion, and St. Peter's church before joining Victory Baptist Church of Vergennes.

She worked for years at Clark's Nursing home. Later she worked at Beeman Elementary School, where her love of "her kids" never stopped. After retiring from Beeman she spent her time volunteering in such places as Vergennes Area Rescue Squad, Helen Porter Nursing and Rehabilitation, Project Independence and the Vergennes Legion as a cook.

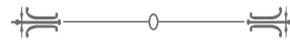
Her hobbies were vast. She loved spending time with her family and many grandkids, cooking, baking



IRENE G. BRINKMAN

and of course shopping. She loved long rides on back roads. She was a master of her beloved word search puzzles, often having the whole puzzle solved before anyone else had found a single word. You could often find her at the kitchen table playing cards to pass her time.

She is survived by her children Lori Brinkman, James (Jamie) H. Brinkman Jr., Dennis Brinkman and Kelly Brinkman; her brother, Newton (Johnny) Rose; and sisters Marjorie Stup, Florence (Thomas) Gude, and Martha (Stephen) Thackeray. She is also survived by 10 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.



Ursula Carney Langfeldt, 74, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Ursula Carney Langfeldt passed away in the early morning hours of Thursday, Nov. 18, 2021, from complications related to Alzheimer's disease. She was under the loving care of Addison County Home Health & Hospice and of the nursing staff of the Gardensong memory care unit at the Eastview at Middlebury retirement community.

Born on Jan. 28, 1947, to Thomas Joseph Carney and Genevieve Donelan Carney in Boston, she spent her formative years in her family home at 22 Edgemont Street, Rosindale, Mass., surrounded by the love of her parents, two brothers, three sisters, grandparents and countless aunts, uncles, cousins and close family friends who circulated in and out of the house.

Raised in a proud Irish Catholic family, Ursula attended Holy Name School and Notre Dame Academy before graduating from Catherine Labouré School of Nursing in 1967, where she met a group of women who became lifelong friends. After graduation, Ursula began her career as an R.N., first at Carney Hospital in Boston and then at Brigham and Women's Hospital, rising to Head Nurse positions at both.

In 1971, Ursula met the love of her life, Dr. John C. Langfeldt on a blind date, while he was stationed with the Navy in Rhode Island. The city girl from Boston and the hayseed Nebraskan hit it off immediately and began a romance that lasted the rest of her life and just shy of fifty years of marriage. They were married at Holy Name Church in West Roxbury, Mass., on June 10, 1972, and moved to Middlebury, Vt., later that year.

In Middlebury, Ursula and John purchased a 100-plus year old Victorian home on Court Street, promptly renovating it into John's dental office and their first home together. Ursula continued her career, this time at Porter Medical Center, until the birth of their first child, Carl in 1976. Like nursing, being a mother was second nature to Ursula and she had two more

URSULA CARNEY
LANGFELDT

children, Evan and Gretchen in 1978 and 1982, respectively. In 1978 the growing family moved to Halladay Road, where they raised their three children in a household full of love and laughter.

Ursula was a wonderful wife and mother who instilled in her children a love of reading and education, encouraging — and sometimes demanding — that they create and achieve lofty summer reading goals at the Ilsley Library. Throughout their childhood (and into adulthood) Ursula was forever correcting her children's grammar, quizzing them on spelling, and ensuring that they drank lots of water, were well fed and always wearing enough sunscreen. She insisted that they always give a firm handshake, use proper manners, write thoughtful — and prompt — thank you notes, and to be grateful for the many blessings they enjoyed. Ursula gave everything to her family, and they loved her unconditionally in return.

When her youngest went off to school, Ursula returned to work, first at Middlebury Pediatrics and then as a school nurse at Mary Hogan Elementary. It was in the latter position that she made the greatest impact of her professional career through her fierce advocacy for children. She worked at Mary Hogan for close to two decades,

She was predeceased by her husband of 58 years, James H. Brinkman Sr.; their son Craig T. Brinkman Sr.; her parents Arthur and Gertrude Rose; and brothers William (Billy) Rose and Arthur (Tony) Rose. She was also predeceased by her sister-in-law Mary Alice and brother-in-law Russell, in addition to lifelong friends Olive Douglas and Audrey Porter.

Visiting hours will be held on Friday, Dec. 3, from 9 to 11 a.m. at Victory Baptist Church in Vergennes, with a funeral service following at 11 a.m. at the church. Interment will be in Prospect Cemetery in Vergennes. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Addison County Home Health and Hospice, PO Box 754, Middlebury, VT 05753.

To send online condolences to her family please visit brownmcclyfuneralhomes.com. A video of the service will be located on the Brown McClay website for those who can't attend the funeral service. The video of the service will be located at the bottom of the obit. ◊

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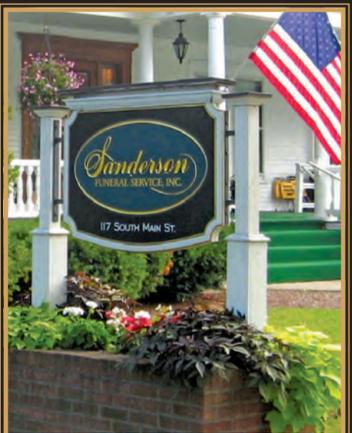
But her greatest passion was always family: her beloved siblings and their families, and husband John and their three children and two daughters-in-law. And more recently her grandchildren Harper, Louisa and Rowan, whom she loved with every fiber of her being. Ursula was totally committed to her grandkids' happiness and healthy development, and she loved them with her heart and soul.

Despite knowing no one when they moved to Vermont in 1972, Ursula and John quickly amassed a group of friends that became like family. Those decades-long friendships made Vermont similar in many respects to Ursula's childhood in Rosindale, where there was a never-ending rotation of friends and family cycling through their home. She helped raise her friends' children, the same way they helped raise hers. And those friends were there when Ursula needed them through her battle with Alzheimer's the same way she had — and would have — been there in their time of need. That has meant so much to her family and we are eternally grateful for the support.

We are also thankful for the Eastview at Middlebury retirement community as well as Addison County Home Health & Hospice for the care and dignity they provided her towards the end. Ursula gave so much to her community over the years, and the community gave back to her by being there when she needed them.

Ursula was predeceased by her parents, Thomas and Genevieve Carney. She is survived by her husband of 49 years, Dr. John C. Langfeldt; sons Carl (Amanda) and Evan (Elizabeth); and daughter Gretchen; as well as her three grandchildren, Harper and Rowan Langfeldt of Laguna Niguel, Calif., and Louisa Langfeldt of Charlotte, Vt. She is also survived by her siblings Thomas Carney Jr. (Diane), Jane Conaway (Pat), Miriam Hopkins (Mark), Martin Carney (Betty) and Elizabeth O'Neill (Billy); her sixteen nieces and nephews; as well as in-laws, cousins, and countless friends. She will be missed by so many.

In lieu of flowers we would ask that donations be directed in Ursula Langfeldt's honor to the "Friends of Ilsley Public Library" in Middlebury, Vt., (www.ilsleypubliclibrary.org/). A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 15, 2022, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Middlebury, Vermont with a reception to follow at Tourterelle Restaurant & Inn in New Haven. ◊



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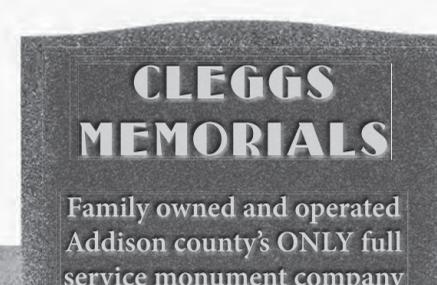
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ADDISON COUNTY

Obituaries

Rita Chartrand, 97, former Whiting resident

RUTLAND TOWN — About a woman who lived beautifully ... Rita Laura (Ethier) Chartrand passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family, on Wednesday, Nov. 24, 2021, at her home in Rutland Town. She was born in St. Valentine, Quebec, Canada, on Jan. 3, 1924.



RITA CHARTRAND

She is the daughter of Woilley and Rose (Beaudin) Ethier. As a child, Rita travelled from Canada to Vermont with her family. She grew up in Orwell, Vt., where she received her early education. Math was her favorite subject. At school, she earned the nickname, "The 9:00 Dash," getting through the school doors just in time each day.

On May 17, 1943, she married Herve Ludger Chartrand. They purchased the Chartrand family farm in Whiting, Vt., where they made their home for the next 59 years. Both Rita and Herve were active in their parish, St. Agnes Catholic Church in Leicester.

Rita was a woman of faith and quiet strength through her final day. Her family and friends were the center of her life. She would gladly add more water to the soup for anyone who stopped by. Rita was a farm girl at heart. She loved her flower and vegetable gardens and was an avid berry-picker — oftentimes going for the day with her sisters and friends. She knew the importance of community service — hosting fundraising dinners and volunteering at the Church.

Rita loved and was loved. The women that visited and took special care of her in the latter part of her life — Judy, Joanne, Pat, and Jackie

— were so important to her. She thanks them from the bottom of her heart. Rita will be missed for many reasons and for all the good and kindness that she brought into this world.

Rita is pre-deceased by her husband, Herve (2002) and daughter Jane DeLong of Rutland Town (2019). She is survived by four children: son Robert Chartrand and his wife Patti of North Clarendon, Vt.; daughters Rachel Chartrand of Forest Dale, Vt.; Connie Chartrand of New York City, N.Y.; and Ann Chartrand of Leicester, Vt.; and son-in-law Arnie DeLong of Rutland Town, Vt. She is also survived by her sister, Laura Ethier of Orwell, Vt.; brother Rene Ethier of Connecticut; and sisters-in-law Doris Chartrand of Brandon, Vt., and Cora Ethier of Bridport, Vt.

Rita is blessed with 10 grandchildren who lovingly call her Memere, Mems, or Grandma: Brent Chartrand and wife Vicki of Folsom, Calif.; Brian Chartrand and wife Suzanne of Irvine, Calif.;

Kevin Chartrand and wife Diana of El Macero, Calif.; Michelle Rawls and husband Pat of Pittsford, Vt.; Tracey DeLong and husband Paxton of Powder Springs, Ga.; Teri Parry and husband Mike of San Mateo, Calif.; Trisha Najjar and husband Tyler of Powder Springs, Ga.; Joshua Quenneville of Leicester, Vt.; Matt Quenneville and wife Erica of Leicester, Vt.; and Cory Quenneville and wife Jessica of Chester, Vt. She is also blessed with 12 great-grandchildren: Emma, Brayden, Olivia, Nico, Jackson, Rocco, Maren, Addison, Ryan, Tannen, Tinslee, Tupper, Maverick and Charleigh. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Rita is predeceased by five brothers, Paul, Amie, Emile, Emery and Roland; and five sisters, Flora, Annette, Anna, Bertha and Noella.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, Dec. 3, 2021, at 11 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Brandon, Vt. Msgr. Bernard Bourgeois, Pastor of Christ The King Catholic Church in Rutland, will be the celebrant. For those wishing to pay their respects, please wear a face covering. The graveside committal service and burial will immediately follow in the family lot at St. Mary's Cemetery in Brandon.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made in Rita's memory to the Vermont Alzheimer's Association, 75 Talcott Road, Suite 40, Williston, VT 05495.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home in Brandon. ◊

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)
theorized the bump has been caused by greater transportation costs to get the fireworks stateside from Asia. "We are proud to support (our) local community, particularly with a family event such as this," Scanlon said of the show. Showtime has traditionally been from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m., with the Middlebury Recreation Park near Mary Hogan a popular viewing spot.

The Shoreham Congregational Church will again sponsor the "Shoreham Memory Tree" in the town gazebo in memory or in honor of loved ones. To remember or honor the special people in your life, please print their names on a paper and send it with a \$5 donation (cash or check) for each name to Shoreham Congregational Church, P.O. Box 177, Shoreham, VT 05770, before Dec. 17.

Here's a chance to support a wonderful, non-profit cultural institution and get a festive gift in return. Middlebury's Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History is sponsoring its annual Christmas Tree raffle, which features nine fabulous, one-of-a-kind miniature trees decorated by talented local artists: Suzanne Douglas, Kelly Hickey, Robin Huestis (Round Robin), Sandy Jackson, Lauren LaBerge Taddeo (Sweet Charity), Sarah Pope, Sarah Stahl, Pat Zelfiff, and a "Secret Santa Artist." Tickets are \$5 each, or \$20 for five. The drawing will be held on Dec. 21. For more information visit the museum at 1 Park St., or log on to hhenrysheldonmuseum.org.

Do you have a sewing machine that's collecting dust? Would you like to put it to work helping a woman earn a dignified living? "Pedals for Progress" collects used

sewing machines and sends them to community organizations in Africa, South and Central America, Asia, and Eastern Europe. The sewing machine that's sitting idle in a closet could become a valuable tool that helps someone provide food and shelter for a family. A \$15 donation with each machine, as a start toward the \$50 in shipping costs that need to be raised. Pedals for Progress supporter Joanne Heidkamp will be coming to Middlebury on Dec. 10, and could pick up your sewing machine then. Contact Heidkamp at 802-238-5414, or jheidkamp@gmail.com.

Mark your calendars for three Mid Night Stroll evenings in downtown Middlebury, from 5-8 p.m. on Dec. 2, 9 and 16. Look for specials, promotions and pop-ups around the downtown. Also, come get your photos taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus on Saturday, Dec. 4, from 9-11 a.m. at Triangle Park's new plaza space. Children can fill out a letter to Santa (available while you wait) to share their wish lists and then get their photos snapped by parents or caregivers. The Better Middlebury Partnership will also be hosting free horse and wagon rides around town on Saturday morning and the new hot cocoa cart will serve up cocoa with all the fixings. And don't forget to listen to the carolers at the Congregational Church steps, or stop by the Ilsley Library Children's Room for a take-and-make wreath. The Middlebury Fire Department will help hang Christmas wreaths this weekend. There are still a few volunteer slots available for Very Merry Middlebury events; email Karen@bettermiddleburypartnership.org if you're interested in volunteering. For more information about these

events and more, visit experiencemiddlebury.com.

Want to see a feel-good holiday movie that will support homeless animals in Addison County? "A Christmas Gift From Bob" will be shown at the Marquis Theatre in Middlebury on Dec. 15 — with showings at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. — to benefit Homeward Bound, Addison County's Humane Society. Admission by donation. The movie is rated PG. Here's the plot line for the film: "Christmas gifts come in all shapes and sizes. For James (Luke Treadway), a struggling street musician, a very special one arrives in the form of Bob, a strong-willed stray cat who wanders into James's tiny flat. Bob enriches James's life, giving him companionship, purpose and a large, new audience. When Animal Welfare officers threaten to take Bob, the local community rallies to help James and Bob — sparking a journey that takes the pair to places they never imagined in this heartwarming, spirit-lifting movie for the whole family."

Change a child's life in just one hour a week by become a reading mentor. "Everybody Wins! Vermont" is a school-based mentoring program with a focus on literacy. Reading mentors are matched with a child for the school year and pairs meet for one hour, once a week, during lunch and recess to share books, conversation and games. Mentors are not tutors, so no teaching knowledge is necessary. There are currently more than 30 students at Mary Hogan waiting for mentors. Apply today at tinyurl.com/2deyyaf, or email middlebury@everybodywinsvermont.org for more information.

Anita Vorsteveldt, former Addison County resident

Our loving daughter and sister Anita has died by suicide after a long and brave battle with schizoaffective disorder. Born in Middlebury, Vt., to Andre and Lydia Vorsteveldt, Anita graduated from the Sun Valley Community School in Idaho. She continued her studies in fashion design, art, and early childhood education. Anita was a lifelong entrepreneur, most recently being the proud co-owner of a Burlington, Vt. cleaning business.



ANITA VORSTEVELDT

Anita was a kind, giving young woman, a gifted artist and seamstress, a creative and spiritual free spirit who effortlessly conjured fun adventure for those lucky enough to know her. She somehow was able to hold us up even when she was falling herself. She was a beautiful dancer, singer, runner, swimmer, and Junior Olympian freestyle skier. Anita was a unique and inspirational leader with a

mischievous and vital sense of humor. She had a special affinity for young children and the elderly. We will remember the light and love she shared with us all.

Anita is survived by her parents, Andre and Lydia Vorsteveldt of

Bridport; her fiancé, Travis Horton of Colchester; her sister Natalie of San Diego, Calif.; her brother Adam of Bridport, Vt.; her sister Julia of Durango, Colo.; her sister Sylvia of Bridport, Vt.; her dearly loved Vorsteveldt uncles, aunts, and cousins in Pantown, Vt., and New Hampshire, and many other dear relatives and friends in the Burlington area, and throughout the world.

She was predeceased by her brother Lucas Vorsteveldt.

A private graveside service for Anita was held on Monday, Nov. 29, 2021, through arrangement with Sanderson Funeral Home, Middlebury, Vt.

Donations may be made in Anita's name to the Counseling Service of Addison County at www.csac-vt.org.

Online condolences at www.sandersonfuneralservice.com. ◊

Ferrisburgh

Have a news tip? Call Sally Kerschner at 802-377-1794 or smwkersch@comcast.net

NEWS

FERRISBURGH — The Friends of the Union Meeting Hall will be hosting their second annual Thankful Tree this holiday season. The tree will be filled with messages of thanks from the Ferrisburgh Central School and our community members. To have your message of thanks included on the tree please submit your name and message via email at unionmeetinghall@gmail.com. You may also submit your message by mail to PO Box 115 Ferrisburgh, Vt. 05456. The tree will be on display through New Years on the green at the Union Meeting Hall. Also, be sure to check out the recently placed videos on the Union Meeting Hall website under the "In the News" and "History" sections (www.unionmeetinghall.org). There is a video of the newly repaired steeple being lifted to its original site atop the roof, as well as a video of Ferrisburgh historian Silas Towler's talk on the history of the Hall. You can read about the UMH's successes in receiving grants from the Walter Cerf Foundation and the Vermont Arts Council that will support further renovation for projects, such as the installation of an ADA compliant entrance and exit to the building.

For a second year, Rokeby Museum will open its doors for holiday shopping. Special sale prices in the museum store, hand-made door swags for sale, and the exhibit "Free & Safe" will be open to explore. Also, it is fun to note that there will be a pop-up shop sponsored by the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. This is a great opportunity to do your holiday shopping for all the family while also supporting both these great museums that hold an important place in our community. This event will be held on Saturday, Dec. 4 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.. For more information, visit: www.rokeby.org.

Join Rokeby Museum and author David R. Holmes for a discussion entitled "100 Years of the Holmes Farm, 1822-1923: A Quaker Presence in the Champlain Valley." Holmes will discuss his recently published book, "On Being a Vermonter and the Rise and Fall of the Holmes Farm, 1822-1923." The multi-generation Holmes farm was located on Lake Champlain just south of the Holmes covered bridge in Charlotte. The farm was one of New England's largest apple orchards and pioneered advanced orchard management methods. The farm also was a leader in the breeding and racing of Morgan horses. Unfortunately, in 1923, the farm and its business ended with foreclosure after 101 years of existence. Holmes is a direct descendant of the family who operated the farm and will reflect on this case study of a Vermont farm over this span of time. This will be a virtual event on Tuesday, Dec. 7, 7-8 p.m. Advance registration is required and the link can be accessed via www.rokeby.org.

Our area schools are preparing for this busy season of holiday events, concerts, and scholastic related projects prior to the school holiday vacation. Please visit the schools' websites (www.anwsd.org) and other social media to be informed of these events and how we can support our local students. Also, as the weather gets colder, keep checking the Facebook site of the Ferrisburgh Skating Rink and Recreation Facility for updates on ice conditions and when the rink is open for use.

NOTE: Look for part two of the Ferrisburgh News next week. We are always interested in including a variety of Ferrisburgh-related news in this column, so if you have events that would be of interest, contact Sally Kerschner at smwkersch@comcast.net. You are also able to access these columns and other information about Ferrisburgh news and events by viewing the Ferrisburgh Town Website at www.ferrisburghvt.org.

Anne F. Masse, 89, Starksboro native

NEW MILFORD, Conn. — Anne F. Masse of Connecticut passed away Wednesday, Nov. 24, 2021, in New Milford at the age of 89.



ANNE F. MASSE

She was born Oct. 5, 1932, in Starksboro, Vt., daughter of the late Kevin and Zita (Lafayette) Heffernan. Annie worked at Kimberly Clark in New Milford for many years before retiring in 1998. She was a member of St. Francis Xavier Church in New Milford, and she enjoyed playing cards, watching TV, baking, and enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren. Annie was very family-oriented.

Anne was predeceased by her husband, Hartland. She is

survived by a daughter, Charlene Michalek and her husband Ron;

two granddaughters, Rhonda Michalek and her wife Jennifer, and Stella Vochis and her husband Michael; two great-grandchildren, Alex and Nicholas Vochis; her brothers Gerald, Francis and Tim Heffernan; Dolores Duprey and Carol Kaufman, who were like second daughters; and several nieces and nephews.

She was also predeceased by her brothers John, Kevin and Vincent Heffernan; and Joseph Lafayette and Mary Ellen Duprey.

A Mass of Christian burial will take place on Saturday, Dec. 4, 2021, at St. Ambrose Church in Bristol, Vt., followed by interment in Greenwood Cemetery in Bristol. ◊

Obituary Guidelines

The Independent will publish paid obituaries and free notices of passing. Paid obituaries cost 25 cents per word and will be published, as submitted, on the date of the family's choosing. For those who do not wish to purchase an obituary, the Independent offers a free notice of passing up to 100 words, subject to editing by our news department. Photos (optional) with either paid obituaries or free notices cost \$10 per photo. Obituaries may be emailed to obits@addisonindependent.com.

Submissions must be received by 11 a.m. on Wednesday for publication in the Thursday paper and 11 a.m. on Friday for Monday's paper. Email obits@addisonindependent.com or call 802-388-4944 for more information.

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Forever in our hearts.

Mom and Chris

Middlebury Police Log

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police on Nov. 26 responded to report of a vehicle crashing into the side of a house on Lower Plains Road. Police believe the driver suffered a medical event and lost control of the vehicle, but was not injured in the crash.

Nobody was in the residence at the time of the crash, police said, though they added both the vehicle and house sustained "significant damage." Police said the driver was taken to Porter Hospital.

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Searched in vain for a patient who had prematurely driven away from Porter Hospital on Nov. 23.
- Helped Porter Hospital staff locate a patient who had walked away on Nov. 24.
- Responded to a report of a broken window at the former St. Mary's School building on Shannon Street on Nov. 24.
- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS with a patient who was experiencing mental health issues at the Residence at Otter Creek on Nov. 24.
- Received a report that someone had stolen a UPS-delivered package from in front of a Court Street residence on Nov. 24.
- Helped reunite a lost dog with its owner on Nov. 25.
- Assisted Vermont State Police at the scene of a one-car crash near the intersection of Lincoln Road and Route 125 in Ripton on Nov. 25.
- Received a report on Nov. 27 that a woman had entered the Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op in violation of a no-trespass order.
- Cited Troy S. Turner, 54, of St.

Albans on an outstanding warrant out of St. Albans on Nov. 27. Police said they issued the citation after running his information following a traffic stop on South Main Street.

• Notified Green Mountain Power that a tree had fallen on power lines in the Chipman Heights area on Nov. 27.

• Checked on the welfare of a despondent man who had allegedly threatened to overdose on drugs at a Jayne Court residence on Nov. 27. Police said they made the check following a call from the man's ex-girlfriend. Police contacted the man's family, who said he was OK.

• Told a truck driver to turn down the loud music he was playing in his vehicle parked off Court Street at around 1 a.m. on Nov. 27.

• Arrested Roger L. Towle, Jr., 35, of Bridport and Ariel C. Farley, 29, of Middlebury on outstanding warrants on Nov. 27. Police said they arrested the pair after investigating a report of a domestic disturbance in a pull-off on Route 125 East. Police said Towle and Farley were both lodged at the Marble Valley Regional Correctional Facility for lack of bail.

• Responded to a car-deer collision on Seminary Street on Nov. 28. Police said the deer ran into the woods after being hit.

• Responded to a domestic disturbance at a South Village Green residence on Nov. 28. Police said it turned out to be a family argument.

• Checked on the welfare of a local man who had reportedly been having a mental health episode on Nov. 29.

College lauded for 2020 voter turnout

By CHRISTOPHER ROSS

MIDDLEBURY — It was about two weeks before the 2020 election when Middlebury College student Isabelle Hartnett realized the work she and her classmates were doing to boost voting engagement on campus was paying off.

A member of the college's Student Athletic Advisory Council (SAAC), Hartnett was working with Middlebury's sports teams to develop and execute voting action plans for the upcoming election, and by late October Middlebury was winning its friendly competition with fellow NESCAC schools to get out the vote.

"I think seeing Middlebury at the top of those charts, it was like, 'Wow, we really are getting people out there,'" Hartnett told the *Independent* last week. "And it was such a high percentage compared to previous years."

Middlebury stayed on top of those charts through Election Day 2020.

A year later the college received recognition for its efforts, winning three categories of the NESCAC Votes Challenge (part of the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge):

- Highest voter registration (97.6%).
- Highest voter turnout (85.7%).
- Most improved voter turnout in the 2020 presidential election, compared with 2016 (23.4 percentage points).

Looking back on the election season, Hartnett said she was "very moved by people's commitment to the cause, and kind of bringing them along on that journey was really awesome."

ALL IN
The voting data was collected from colleges and universities nationwide by the Institute for Democracy & Higher Education (IDHE) at Tufts University.

According to IDHE's 2020 National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE), Middlebury College voter turnout was already better than the national average in 2016 — 62.3% here compared with 53%



ISABELLE HARTNETT

nationwide. In last year's election the college solidified its place as a national leader in higher ed voter engagement, improving turnout to 85.7%, compared with 66% on other U.S. campuses.

The achievement was the result of a collaboration between SAAC, MiddVotes and the office of Jason Duquette-Hoffman, assistant director of Privilege and Poverty at the Center for Community Engagement.

As the liaison to SAAC, Hartnett worked closely with Duquette-Hoffman and Zeke Hodkin of MiddVotes to create a campaign based on leadership and accountability among students.

"We thought it would work best in defined groups, like athletic teams, to really hold their teammates accountable and get the highest voter turnout we could," Hartnett said.

SAAC is made up of 70-80 representatives from the varsity sports teams on campus, which form various subcommittees around shared interests. Last year Hartnett worked with 10 students "who were really passionate about democratic engagement," and together they made sure each team had a liaison to the Middlebury Does Democracy initiative.

But it wasn't always easy. "Because it was such a politically charged election we did have some pushback about being a partisan group, even though we were only trying to get people involved in democratic engagement," Hartnett said. "It wasn't about getting people to vote for a certain candidate, it was about getting people to use their voice."

As Election Day approached Hartnett helped recruit student

athletes to drive vans back and forth between campus and the polls in Middlebury. The alpine ski team was heavily recruited for these jobs because they have the special driver's licenses required to operate college passenger vans, which they use during the winter to transport themselves up and down the mountain.

NSLVE does not provide complete data how many students voted in person, by absentee ballot or locally by mail, but Hartnett said she suspects the pandemic, Vermont's same-day voter registration, and the universal vote-by-mail system instituted for the 2020 election by Vermont Secretary of State Jim Condos (which was made permanent by an act of the Legislature this past spring) had significant impacts on student voter behavior last year.

In addition to Hodkin, who was "amazing" and "a main driver behind all these results," Hartnett credited Duquette-Hoffman as a major factor in last year's engagement campaigns.

"Having that CCE influence around us as a student body — how it's about so much more than what goes on within our campus — I think it was inspiring to a lot of individuals," she said.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
"The work was a point of connection during a disconnected time," Duquette-Hoffman said, pointing out that NESCAC had canceled fall sports competitions, and the voting challenge gave student-athletes something they could do together.

Duquette-Hoffman is pleased by the NSLVE data and the accolades, but he's also looking ahead to 2022.

And he's taking cues from the 2020 data. Of particular concern is the fact that, despite increases across all demographic categories, the gap in voter participation between students who identify as white and those who identify as Black or Asian actually widened. It's only one percentage point in both cases, but it suggests to Duquette-Hoffman that more work needs to be done.

"What are the barriers to access?" he said. "What other issues are there? How are we missing certain students?"

One way Duquette-Hoffman



EIGHTEEN-YEAR-OLD YOUNESS CHEBOUNI, a Middlebury College freshman from New Jersey voting in his first election, was happy to have cast his ballot at the Middlebury town gym on Election Day 2020.
Independent file photo/John S. McCright

hopes to reach more students is by taking the small-peer-group approach piloted by CCE, MiddVotes and SAAC and duplicating it with other affinity groups on campus.

He's also keenly interested in how many students have been, or will be, voting as Middlebury residents, which provides an interesting context for such things as the current redistricting process and local ballot questions, "which are affected by who's showing up at the polls."

Taken together, campus voter engagement work and the NSLVE report show that "students are increasingly thinking about civic engagement not only on a personal level but also as something that connects them to their communities," he said. "Local issues feel more salient to them, and they're saying they want to learn how to advocate and be a part of the policy process."

And they're in luck, because "Vermont is an incredible laboratory for that kind of policy engagement," he said. "Leaders are accessible, the Statehouse is accessible, you can connect with any of them, and you can sit in on any legislative committee meeting."

2022 ELECTION
Hartnett, who's majoring in Political Science with a minor in Psychology, will graduate this coming February and plans to move to Washington, D.C., to work as a public sector consultant.

"It feels weird to say that I have plans," she said, laughing, "but I'm rolling with it."

Hartnett will no longer be a Midd Kid when voters head to the polls in 2022, but she has already helped launch another SAAC voting initiative — this time to get people involved in their local and state elections.

"Seeing the work students were doing (last year) to help people get the tools they needed to vote, whether it was information on candidates or how to register, I think that really made some people realize how important their vote is," she said. "And it set a standard on campus that we're hoping to carry into next year: that you should use your voice because there are so many people who live in our communities who aren't able to."

For more information about democracy initiatives at Middlebury College, visit tinyurl.com/MidGoVote.

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Middlebury Town and Gown remembers with sadness and camaraderie, one of our founders, Dick Catlin, and his wife, Barbara.



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photo by Bruce Catlin

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THE CHAMPLAIN VALLEY Fiddlers hold regular jam sessions where those interested in good music hang out and play for a while. These photos were taken Sunday, Nov. 23, when the musicians gathered at the Middlebury VFW Hall. Pictured, clockwise from top right, are Maurice Bourgeois (who fiddles and announces the show) and his wife Lynn of Addison as they enjoy a breather between sets; Shoreham's Dan Wyman takes the lead for a few bars; Dick Cook of Rutland warms up for a fiddle fest; Francis Corey Jr. of Orwell gives a big smile in front of the flag; Dick Cook serenades the brunch-time crowd; and Lynn Bourgeois plays keyboard for the boys with bows.

Independent photos/Steve James



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Two U.S. women smoke Killington World Cup slalom

By POLLY MIKULA

KILLINGTON — The rivalry between Vermont-schooled Olympic gold medalist Mikaela Shiffrin and Slovakia's Petra Vhlova continues to be strong with the two superstar ski racers vying for the top spot on the Slalom podium. While Vhlova had secured the top spot the first two FIS Slalom races of the season in Finland, it was Shiffrin on top at Killington — her fifth consecutive win at the Killington World Cup event.

It was a thrilling finish to an unpredictable weekend.

Nearly a foot of snow fell just in time to welcome World Cup ski racers to Killington on Friday, Nov. 26. Unfortunately it came with high winds causing poor visibility and internet outages throughout town. Despite heroic efforts by FIS and Killington Resort staff and volunteers, the blustery conditions ultimately caused officials to cancel Saturday's Giant Slalom race after just nine racers.

While it's not uncommon for races to be delayed or canceled due to weather on the FIS World Cup circuit, it was a first for Killington, which has hosted the event five times, and it was a disappointment to a U.S. team, which rarely gets a "home-town" advantage as most races are held in Europe or the West Coast or Rocky Mountains in the U.S. Killington is the only venue to host a World Cup event in the East Coast.

Vermont's Burke Mountain Academy turned out U.S. racers Mikaela Shiffrin, Nina O'Brien and Zoe Zimmerman. While Paula Moltzan, a University of Vermont ski racer during her hiatus from the U.S. Team, has been training at Stowe. O'Brien, Zimmerman and newcomer Allie Resnick have

been attending Dartmouth College in New Hampshire.

Saturday's cancellation was particularly disappointing to the U.S. women's tech team who, for the first time in decades, found themselves at the top of the World Cup rankings after the Soelden, Austria, races. It was a "bit of a bummer," as Moltzan put it, as the U.S. team fares well on their home mountains.

SUNDAY'S FIRST RUN

On Sunday morning, however, the sun shone and the women were ready for the slalom. Petra Vhlova, starting first, set the pace. Shiffrin who started 5th, turned on the speed and finished just two-tenths of a second behind. Wendy Holdener, the veteran racer from Switzerland finished in 3rd.

Paula Moltzan, who was ranked 11th in slalom on the World Cup last season started 15th. She skied strong coming in at just 1.40 back to move into 6th place, one of her strongest slalom finishes. Moltzan was cheered on by her entire extended family, as well as that of her fiancé, former UVM ski racer Ryan Mooney.

"Our family rented a house here and everyone's here to cheer," Moltzan had said before the races. That cheering appeared to have had an impact as she skied a solid, fast run. "I was bummed after yesterday because I love GS, but I wanted to put out my best skiing on the hill today for all my fans," said Moltzan. "I love coming back to Killington — the crowd's awesome, the hill's awesome and I maybe had a bit of an advantage having skied here at UVM. It feels like home for us to race here."

Nina O'Brien started in 30th, putting her on a more rutted course than Shiffrin or Moltzan had to deal

with. After making a few mistakes that she managed to recover from, she finished more than 4 seconds back, leaving her in 48th and putting her chances of a second run out of the question. O'Brien's words after the race: "Thanks to all the Burkies for coming out and cheering. When I was there I had no idea I'd be here at the World Cup."

The four other U.S. women were starting in the last third of the 63-racer roster, making their odds of breaking into the top 30 and earning a second run even harder. Their finishes were: Katie Hensien, 42nd; AJ Hurt, 46th; Allie Resnick, 55th; and Zoe Zimmerman, DNF.

Despite the odds, Sweden's Hanna Aronsson Elfman, skied from a starting position of 60th place to finish in 28th, earning a second run. Five racers did not finish the course, including Zimmerman.

2ND RUN SHOWDOWN

On the second run, Aronsson Elfman astounded everyone by putting in the second-fastest time of all the skiers on that run, putting the 18-year-old Swede in 15th overall. Paula Moltzan skied a solid second run to end up in 7th place.

The nail-biter came as the last three skiers all made strong descents, each with a minor mistake they recovered from. Wendy Holdener flashed through the course looking like it might be her turn to stand at the top of the podium. But then came Mikaela Shiffrin. Looking nervous at the start, she quickly found her groove, but got a bit back on her skis for a split second, one arm flailing behind her, but recovered with catlike reflections and ran a flawless, aggressive run down the steps to jump into first place by a wide

margin of 0.83 seconds over Holdener.

All that remained was to see how Petra Vhlova, who has been neck and neck with Shiffrin and who had won the past three slalom races on the world cup tour, would fare. But the Slovakian made a costly bobble on one gate in the upper half of the course, adding a split second in a race that needed to be flawless. The mistake cost her the top of the podium. She finished 0.75 behind Shiffrin and in second.

It was Shiffrin's 46th slalom win, tying Ingemar Stenmark's record for the most wins in a single discipline.

"I honestly didn't know about that record," Shiffrin said after the race. "That was a fight. I am not sure if I could have gone any faster. I was skiing aggressively out there and when you do so, you can make



AMERICAN SKI RACER Mikaela Shiffrin, center, is flanked by runner-up Petra Vhlova of Slovakia, left, and third-place finisher Wendy Holdener of Switzerland atop the podium at Killington after Shiffrin won the World Cup slalom race on Sunday.

Photo by Paul Holmes

mistakes."

Saturday's weather did nothing to dampen the crowd, with the limited capacity spectator spots selling out at 10,000. O.A.R. played to a crowd that was ready to dance in the vendor village. And Sunday they were back again in record numbers, lining up to see G Love perform in the break between the two runs and to cheer for Shiffrin

like never before.

As Shiffrin skied into the finish area a roar went up from the crowd. Shiffrin looked at the packed grandstands and cupped her hand to her ear, as if to say "louder, louder."

Everyone in Killington complied. Editor's note: Lisa Gosselin of Vermont Ski+Ride contributed to this report.



ABOUT 10,000 FANS showed up at Killington's World Cup ski racing event this weekend to cheer on U.S. favorite Mikaela Shiffrin, who won the slalom race on Sunday, while Saturday's giant slalom was canceled due to high winds and more than a foot of snow on the course. Left, Shiffrin races in top form in her second run to take the lead, while, above, the crowd roars their support for the Burke Mountain Academy graduate and Olympic gold medalist.

Photos by Paul Holmes



Memory Tree

The Middlebury Lions Club informs those who wish to memorialize the names of their deceased relatives and friends on this year's "Christmas Memory Tree" that they may do so by the donation of a dollar for each name and forwarding the names to the:

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Coming Up: Holiday Stroll this Saturday (12/4)
and Magic on Main, Thursday evening (12/9).

Ferry

(Continued from Page 1A)
daytime crossings.

In addition to charming tourists, the ferry has served as an important and convenient travel link for commuters and shoppers on both sides of the lake. During a typical year, it's part of the economic engine that powers both the Addison County and Ticonderoga economies.

But 2021 has been far from a typical year for the ferry — and for the world, in general.

COVID-19 has affected many people's commuting habits. But it's not the ongoing pandemic that has temporarily scuttled the Fort Ti Ferry; rather, it's a legal dispute over the business's assets, the fallout from the recent, ill-fated sale

of the property by longtime owner Michael Matot to an entity known as "1759, Ltd.," aka Neil Jensen of Clifton Park, N.Y.

According to a complaint filed by aspiring Fort Ti Ferry owner Jack Doyle — who divides his time between Florida and Cornwall — 1759 Ltd. finalized a deal to buy the business from Matot this past April 14 for \$600,000. The assets include the tugboat, barge, cable, ferry equipment and two related, small pieces of non-contiguous land in Shoreham, according to the complaint.

The transaction calls for an interest rate of 5% with monthly payments of \$3,959.73, according to the lawsuit. The note provides that if any payment is in default and continues for more than 30 days the balance "shall become immediate due and payable without notice," the complaint states.

But other than making an initial payment of \$1,000 this past May, 1759 Ltd. hasn't followed through with the payment schedule, according to the lawsuit.

"Defendants 1759 and Jensen have failed, and continue to fail,

to make payments on the note," reads the complaint. "Defendants have also failed to take any steps to operate the ferry."

On June 25, Matot gave written notice to 1759 Ltd. and Jensen that the entire purchase price was due immediately, as provided by the agreement. That action has failed to yield results, according to the complaint.

If successful in acquiring the property — which would likely have to occur through an auction once the case winds its way through court — he vowed to assemble a ferry crew in an effort to restart the operation next spring.

"Defendants have not made payments or taken any further steps to cure the default since June 25, 2021," the lawsuit alleges.

Enter Doyle, a Middlebury College graduate (class of 1978), retired Wall Street investor and owner of Hibernia Farm in Cornwall. Doyle — aka JVD Property Enterprises Inc. — has had a keen interest in the

Fort Ti Ferry.

Doyle grew up in Boston, one of eight children. He became a history buff at an early age, devouring literature about the birth of the U.S. — including the role played by Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys, who rowed from just north of Larrabee's Point across Lake Champlain to capture Fort Ticonderoga in the American Revolution.

"That story always resonated with me," he said during a recent interview.

He developed a strong connection with Vermont during his years at Middlebury College, which is proximate to Lake Champlain and other sites that played a pivotal role during the Revolutionary War and War of 1812.

He embarked on a career on Wall Street following his graduation from Middlebury. Doyle enjoyed business success, but lost a brother-in-law during the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. He began yearning again for Vermont and a more simple, rural way of life.

He and his wife bought Hibernia Farm in 2003. Doyle crossed paths

with Matot, and later became interested in the Fort Ti Ferry.

"Given my background, my initial fascination with the history of Vermont, and given this operation has been running continuously since before we were a nation — all of that appealed to me," Doyle said. Though retired, Doyle said he remains an "active investor," and saw the Fort Ti Ferry as a "terrific business opportunity" with a historic pedigree.

But by this time, Matot had already entered into an agreement with 1759 Ltd. — though the deal had entered choppy waters.

"I had a conversation with (Matot), I went through all the documents, and was satisfied — so I bought the note (on Sept. 10)," Doyle said. "Now I'm pursuing ownership of the operation."

In taking on the note, Doyle is arguing for the right to take possession of the ferry assets and any other collateral defined in the agreement signed by Jensen.

If successful in acquiring the property — which would likely have to occur through an auction once the case winds its way through court — he vowed to assemble a ferry crew in an effort to restart the operation next spring.

Doyle's complaint alleges 1759 Ltd. has "failed to operate the Fort Ticonderoga Ferry in any manner," raising concerns that the business's assets "have been put at physical risk of damage as the Tug and Barge were left in the water."

He's requesting the court, among other things:

- Determine the exact amount due by 1759 Ltd.
- Grant his foreclosure request.
- Grant him authority to take possession of the property.
- Grant him "reasonable attorney's fees" and reimbursement for "all funds advanced for taxes, insurance premiums, municipal assessments and all other costs and expenses, incident to the preservation of the premises..."

The *Independent* on Monday reached out by email to Jensen's attorneys, listed as Andrew Manitsky, Elliot Hallak and Daniel LeCours. None had responded

to the request for comment at the *Independent* went to press on Wednesday.

But Jensen, in court papers responding to the JVD complaint, has denied the principle claims set forth by the plaintiffs. And he's filed a counter-claim of his own against Matot and his attorney James C. Foley of Middlebury, alleging, among other things, that Matot didn't follow through with a promise to "provide assistance and knowledge to 1759 and Neil Jensen, including to captain the ferry multiple days per week, as well as to provide assistance to Neil Jensen to allow him to captain the ferry on the other days."

As a result, Jensen claims, "1759 was rendered completely unable to operate the business or generate any income during the 2021 season and suffered substantial monetary damages."

"1759 and the Matot Parties knew that, without Michael Matot's assistance, 1759 would be unable to operate the business at all, much less profitably," the Jensen complaint states. "Since the parties' agreements were entered, the Matot Parties withheld all assistance from 1759 in connection with the operation of the business despite numerous requests that such assistance be provided."

Attorney Eben Punderson, who along with attorney Fritz Langrock represents Doyle, disputed Jensen's claim.

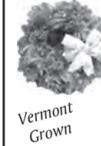
"That is not true," Punderson said. "The only facts that are not in dispute are: Jensen bought the business, signed a note to Matot, and promptly defaulted. Everything else in the answer (to the Jensen complaint) is very much disputed by Matot and (his attorney, Jim Foley Jr.), who are now being dragged into this in an effort by 1759 to muddy the waters."

Jensen further alleges 1759, "as a consideration for the conveyance (of the ferry business)," made a \$400,000 "investment" payment to Matot, in addition to signing the promissory note for \$600,000.

Matot and his attorneys will soon be filing an answer to 1959 Ltd.'s counter-claim allegations.

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Masks

(Continued from Page 1A)

level and gives communities a law they'd find difficult to enforce.

This past August Scott denied a petition from the town of Brattleboro to re-establish a masking requirement there.

"My opinion is that this is not the best approach, to have it a town-by-town approach," said state Sen. Ruth Hardy, D-Middlebury. "If COVID is so bad that we should have an indoor mask mandate, then it should be statewide, or at the very least a county-wide approach based on case counts at the county level."

But Hardy and many of her colleagues tepidly supported S.I., seeing it as at least something proactive to tamp down the spread of COVID during what has been a surge in positive cases, owing to

the delta variant.

ALREADY SAID NO

Vergennes and Bristol officials explained their reasons for taking a pass on local mask mandates.

"An informal polling of some members of the (City) Council and some downtown businesses has led us to believe that a mask mandate at the municipal level is largely unenforceable," Vergennes City Manager Ron Redmond said. "This leaves individual businesses to do the enforcement themselves,

"This is not the best approach, to have it a town-by-town approach. If COVID is so bad that we should have an indoor mask mandate, then it should be statewide, or at the very least a county-wide approach."

— Sen. Ruth Hardy

which by and large they have been doing already on a case-by-case basis."

Consequently, he said the council won't field the mask-mandate topic at its Dec. 14 gathering — the council's only meeting this month.

Meanwhile, the Bristol selectboard discussed the new mask legislation at its most recent meeting (Nov. 22). The panel received

one related email from the public — and it was against a mask mandate, Town Administrator Valerie Capels noted.

"As before, (the selectboard) did not opt to enact a mask mandate for a number of reasons," she said.

"If a mandate is to be in place, members felt it should be statewide."

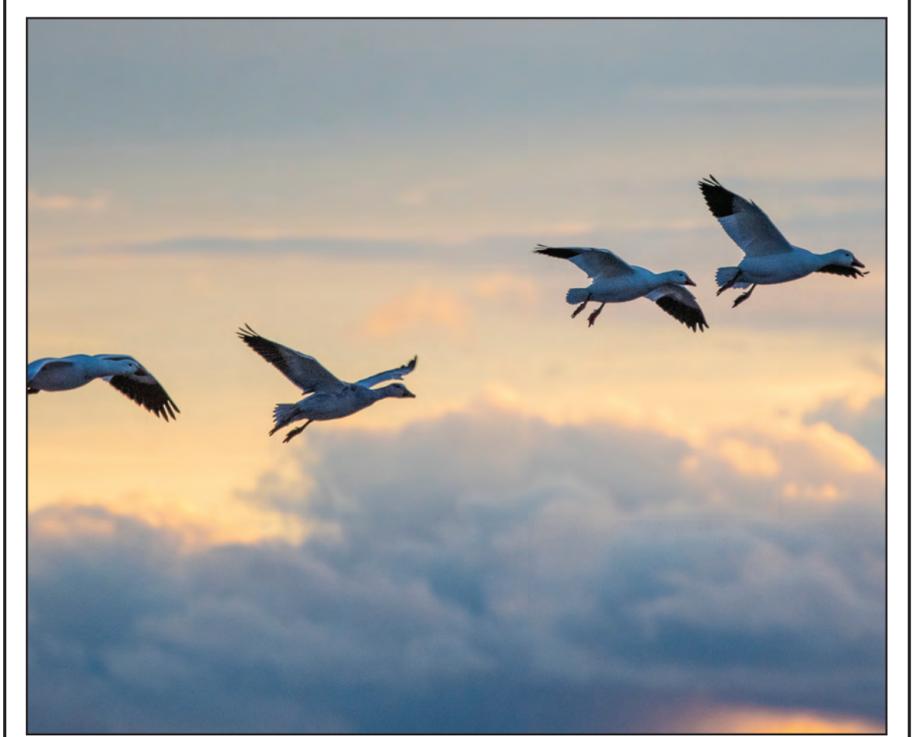
Capels said board members believe they shouldn't dictate whether citizens should wear masks, but they "expressed support for businesses and others who wish to require masks on their premises."

As with their Vergennes counterparts, Bristol officials are concerned about how the community could enforce compliance.

"Any non-compliance with private masking requirements is not enforceable by the Bristol Police Department; it is a civil matter," Capels said. "If a mandate is to be in place, members felt it should be statewide."

Selectboard Vice Chair Ian Albinson reasoned people are more prepared for, and knowledgeable about, COVID than they were a year ago. He and others hope that knowledge will lead to an instinctual use of masks in public places.

"We have vaccinations for



Sunset fowl

A QUARTET OF SNOW GEESSE flies to catch up with the rest of their flock against a sunset background at Dead Creek recently.

Photo by Dottie Nelson



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5-year olds," Albinson said. "We're in a much better place than we were a year ago."

Like Hardy, Albinson believes the mask mandate should have come from the state level.

"There's disappointment, especially from me, of putting the onus on towns to make these individual decisions, and there's so little support for towns to be able to do this," he said. "We felt with our size, this was something we couldn't enforce, so we weren't able to enact it."

The selectboard doesn't require masking indoors in Bristol's public facilities, but strongly encourages it, according to Capels. She said most visitors and researchers choose to wear masks and that all town office employees are vaccinated "and most, if not all, are boosted."

There's Plexiglas barrier at the office service counter, "ample supplies of sanitizer, and social distancing is observed," Capels added.

In Brandon the selectboard voted, 4-1, to not enact a mask mandate after a brief discussion on Nov. 22.

"Individual businesses are choosing if they have customers wear masks and many will have a sign up," said selectboard Chair Seth Hopkins. He added that many businesses had developed their own policies and ways to communicate them to customers.

"My view is that people are adults, people are aware of the risks," he continued. "Just because something is a good thing, it doesn't mean it should be mandated."

IN MIDDLEBURY
Middlebury Town Manager

Kathleen Ramsay has thus far received four emails encouraging the selectboard to adopt a local mask mandate under S.I.

One of the pro-mandate emails was sent by former Middlebury Planning Commission Chair Victoria DeWind.

"As the economic hub to our county, we see people daily from all over the county for both work and shopping," DeWind wrote.

"The holidays will attract even more people with seasonal shopping, events and gatherings. Breakthrough cases come along as well as for those who are not vaccinated.

"Please take the step of an indoor mask mandate to protect all in our community," she concluded. "Until more children are vaccinated, and at least through the holidays and until we see numbers come down, please give us the protection we all need. Masks make a difference."

Longtime local pediatrician Dr. Jack Mayer is also exhorting the Middlebury board to endorse a local mandate.

"We must now consider the simple and very effective strategy of mandating masking indoors, to counter the COVID threat," he wrote. "Please act expeditiously, especially during this holiday season when so many people are traveling, visiting, and exchanging germs. On the CDC's map of COVID incidence, Addison

County — like all of Vermont — is bright red."

Vermont saw nearly 4,800 new cases of COVID-19 during the last two weeks of November; Addison County saw 223. State Health Department officials are

on the lookout for the appearance of the newest variant of COVID-19, Omicron, in Vermont; they fear it may be more transmissible than other strains of the disease.

Hardy noted the state Senate passed a resolution last week calling for a statewide mask mandate, based on COVID case numbers, new deaths, and increasing stress on health care institutions, schools and families. But supporters ultimately realized Scott wasn't in favor of such a move.

"I would have preferred that the governor show leadership like he had previously, and said, 'We're in another crisis time, and we need to take more definitive measures to protect our citizens from COVID,'" Hardy said.

Still, Hardy won't fault any towns that don't opt for local mask mandates. "I think it's an unfair position to put them in," she said. "I think the governor should have done it; I don't think our towns should be put in the position where they have to do it."

"A statewide mandate has more force behind it," she concluded.

Neil Allen of The Brandon Reporter contributed to this story. Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



"There's disappointment, especially from me, of putting the onus on towns to make these individual decisions and there's so little support for towns to be able to do this. We felt with our size, this was something we couldn't enforce."

— Bristol selectboard Vice Chair Ian Albinson

WELLNESS Directory

Practitioner of the Week

Georgia Dune is the owner and sole practitioner of DuneSpa in Middlebury. She has been a dedicated bodyworker since 2005 and she opened DuneSpa in 2020. Her peaceful space is located in between Otter Creek Used Books and Otter Creek Yoga in Marble Works and all sessions and services are by appointment only. Her passion is to help people have less pain, not only the day of and after their sessions, but every day. The bodywork she offers; cupping and foot massage is deeply relaxing and makes lasting changes in the whole body.



Georgia Dune, Licensed Esthetician, Massage Therapist, Reflexologist

Georgia has been a Licensed Esthetician since 2018. Body waxing and brow design are her current specialties and she may resume facials once the pandemic is over. View her DuneSpa Google Listing to see her brow work and read customer reviews.

Visit Dunespavt.com to see her full menu of services and client testimonials. Follow DuneSpa at: [Facebook.com/dunespavt](https://www.facebook.com/dunespavt) [Instagram.com/dunespavt](https://www.instagram.com/dunespavt)

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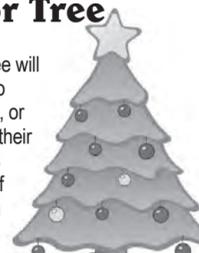


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The lights from the Shoreham Memory Tree will be a **Beacon of Hope** in our Town Gazebo this year. You may remember a loved one, or honor an individual or a group, by printing their names on the form below. The deadline is Friday, **December 17, 2021**. The names of honorees will be published. Send this form or separate paper with the names and \$5 (cash or check) for each name to:

Shoreham Congregational Church
PO Box 177, Shoreham, VT 05770

Please PRINT the names and circle the correct word for each entry:

Memory / Honor _____
Memory / Honor _____

AN EVENT?

Email it to: news@addisonindependent.com

Paquette

(Continued from Page 1A)
lovely human being.”

During Paquette’s long life he dedicated himself to his family, his Catholic faith, and Vermont agriculture. He also cherished his French Canadian heritage.

Lucien Paquette was born in a farmhouse in Craftsbury, Vt., Aug. 14, 1916, to parents who had immigrated from Quebec. Just about everybody reading this will have no memory of the kind of world Lucien grew up in. They didn’t have electricity, they slaughtered their own animals and kept the meat cold on ice they cut from a pond each winter. They cut grass along the roadsides by hand with a scythe. Lucien walked to a one-room schoolhouse, except when he skied there on homemade skis fashioned from barrel staves. They prayed together as a family.

The Paquettes tapped maples and would carry galvanized buckets of sap to the sugarhouse on a yoke hung ‘round their necks. Lucien and the other Paquette children liked to spend time with his father while he boiled the sap down to syrup and maple sugar.

“Very little white sugar purchased during that time,” Lucien recalled in an interview conducted by Jane Vincent just before his 100th birthday.

His father encouraged Lucien and his six siblings to speak French around the house. Knowing French helped Lucien when he came to work with farmers in Addison County, many of whom were immigrants from French-speaking Canada in the late 1940s. He told Vincent that he said prayers every night before bed — in French.

He graduated from the University of Vermont Magna Cum Laude in 1940 and worked as the UVM Extension agent in Grand Isle County for a number of years. While there he met and married Loretta, who happened to have the same last name — Paquette. Together they raised 12 children.

In 1946 he moved to Middlebury to work with the UVM Extension and the much larger number of farms in Addison County. He had found his niche at the nexus of agriculture and education.

“He was the first guy from Extension who went out to all of the farms and did hands-on education with all of the farmers,” Norris said. “Any farmer would tell you he was a great man. He had a lot of compassion and was always willing to listen and give advice, but never judging people.”

As an Extension agent, Lucien reached out to farmers in many ways. He had morning radio programs on WFAD in Middlebury and WIPS in Ticonderoga, N.Y., wrote a monthly newsletter and visited many farms in person. His son Mike remembers that his dad had a lot of night meetings. He started an income tax school to teach farmers how to keep better records of income and expenses, as well as how to do their taxes.

“I would talk to people and they would say, ‘I remember doing chores in the barn and hear your dad on the radio,’” Mike Paquette said.

After UVM took over the Morgan Horse Farm in Weybridge, Lucien took over as superintendent through much of the 1950s. He said the deal was he would work 50/50 — half of his time managing the horse farm and half of it as an Extension agent. He told Vincent, “It turned out to be more like 75/75.”

He and Loretta and the kids lived at the farm during those years. Lucien acknowledged to a grandson who interviewed him years later that looking back he felt uneasy about how much of the load of parenting Loretta had to take on when he was so busy.

FOUNDING FIELD DAYS

When Lucien was the UVM Extension agent in Grand Isle he started a kind of a field days for



LUCIEN PAQUETTE takes a turn in the handmowing competition at Addison County Fair and Field Days in 2014, a few days before his 98th birthday. Paquette, who founded the mowing event in 1978 and the fair in 1948, died Nov. 23 at age 105.

Independent file photo/Trent Campbell

young people interested in farming. When he moved to Addison County and observed so many new things come onto the scene after World War II, he saw the need for a field days for all people involved in agriculture.

“I just thought this seems like kind of an ideal thing, education wise, to be able to show things to the public,” he told Jane Vincent.

So he found a farm that would host the event, set up a single tent and arranged for exhibits and demonstrations of all the innovations in farming. Over two days attendance was about 2,000. And he kept organizing these Field Days year after year, never holding them in the same place two years in a row. After two decades Field Days found a permanent home at the Addison County fairgrounds in New Haven, where it is still held today.

He served on the Field Days board into his mid-80s, and Field Days honored him by naming a building after him. Not resting on his laurels, Lucien helped get the Addison County Maple Sugar Makers Association of the ground in the early 1970s. He was inducted into the Vermont Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2014.

Through it all he kept himself grounded in his family, his faith and his work. And there was a lot of work, and not just with the farmers. Mike Paquette recalls his dad taking on odd jobs to earn a little extra money. Lucien worked Saturday mornings at the Beckwith and Smith car dealership on Route 7 South doing oil changes and detailing cars.

“Dad was thrifty — not cheap, thrifty,” Mike Paquette said. “He had to be with 12 children.

“His best story advising us was on wants and needs,” Mike recalled. “Do you want it or need it? If you want it you can do without. He would preach that.”

Maybe Lucien could get his message across to his children because he was a man of simple needs. Take his faith, for instance. In addition to nightly prayers, Lucien went to 7 a.m. Mass at St. Mary’s every day. He assisted as a server (we used to call them altar boys) at Masses until he was 100 years old.

He was very active in the Right to Life movement, marching in the Rally for Life in Montpelier well into his 90s, and regularly getting out the word about monthly Right to Life meetings in Addison County. The Vermont Right to Life organization honored Lucien with the Pro-Lifer Award in 2003.

“He was very proud of that,” son Mike said.

“A lot of people have asked him what his secret is,” Mike added. “He would point to the sky and say it comes from God.”

MOWING BY HAND

Always keeping some of the country lad inside him, Lucien

found simple pleasure in swinging a scythe to cut down grass and weeds. When asked what made his dad happy, Mike answered quickly: “Handmowing.

“He’d go down the road on Weybridge Street to a piece of Middlebury College property — he got permission — and he cut down the grass, pull out the weeds and bring home the hay to put on his garden.”

He liked handmowing so much that in 1978 he started a handmowing competition at Field Days. Every year it attracts a few score participants, and many more curious observers.

“He was participating in handmowing at 100, maybe at 101,” Mike remembers. Lucien hurt his back and had to stop competing a few years ago. But he really loved swinging that scythe. “He loved teaching that.”

Lucien himself liked to tell the story of how he taught his youngest daughter how to handmow and then she competed in the Field Days competition and got a higher score than her old man.

“You know, that’s OK, I am pleased,” he would say, probably with a twinkle in his eye. “Because that’s a sign I am a pretty good teacher.”

Mike said Lucien Paquette would want to be remembered as a man who loved people.

“He trusted people so much, and people loved him,” Mike said.

Did he ever get angry with people?

Mike didn’t think there was a lot that got Lucien angry, though sometimes people did disappoint

him.

“I don’t remember him coming home from work and being in a bad mood,” Mike said. “He never held a grudge. He’d talk through the issue.”

Norris thought of Lucien as more of a mediator when it came to solving problems at Field Days.

“He always found the common ground,” she said. “He did it without a lot of adversity. He had a way of asking the question, but he had in his mind how something should turn out. It’s a great way to make people feel connected; people felt important and part of the solution.

“He saw the good in people.” Lucien himself summed it up when he talked with Jane Vincent.

“I love people,” he said. “I think I can take some things that maybe some other people don’t. I don’t react too quickly. If someone says or does something that maybe could be irritating to me, I don’t look at it that way. I try to look at the positive answer.”

“My wife used to say to me sometimes, ‘Dad, why do you always say yes when somebody asks you for something or to do something?’ ‘Well,’ I said, ‘my work has been with people ... It’s to help people with things that maybe they would like to get help with or need help or whatever it is. And so I feel if they have asked me they have a little confidence that I might be able to help them. And if I can, I feel I should.’

A memorial service for Lucien Paquette will take place this Saturday, 11 a.m., at St. Mary’s. See a full obituary on Page 6A.

MUMS

(Continued from Page 1A)
wearing flags on their clothing while at school, we have concluded that the best approach is to eliminate flag wearing. From today forward, we will prohibit all students from wearing or displaying any flags at school or during school events. This rule comes in response to a number of significant disruptions arising from flag wearing. Although we support free speech and the right of students to reasonably express themselves, we also have a duty to limit the disruption to the learning environment. The new rule applies to all flags, no matter the political or other position supported.”

He stressed students will still be allowed express themselves

“We continue to value and support free speech for our students,” he said. “We believe that the exchange of ideas, even when we strongly disagree, is an important part of education in a democracy. Our teachers and staff will continue to encourage students to engage in thoughtful, respectful and ordered debate on issues of public concern.”

Flags have been a hot-button topic with the ACSD this year.

The ACSD board on Oct. 11 endorsed a new policy that allows the flying — for a limited time — of banners other than just the U.S. and Vermont flags on the primary flagpole at the entrance of any ACSD school. This new policy then allowed the ACSD board, at the same meeting, to unanimously approve a longstanding student request for the Black Lives Matter flag to fly in front of Middlebury Union High School for the balance of this academic year.

MUMS — which in August expanded to include sixth-graders — has been in the spotlight of late for unruly student behavior that has tested educators’ patience and has on a few occasions required visits from Middlebury police.

In mid-October substitute teacher Fawnda Buttolph presented the ACSD board with a graphic account of unruly students posing a major challenge to a shorthanded, shell-shocked staff at MUMS. She painted a picture of hallways filled with yelling and foul language, students refusing to do what they’re told, and instances of school administrators having to help remove the most

problematic children from classrooms.

Dudek, in concert with ACSD officials, has been crafting a comprehensive plan to get MUMS students more compliant and reacquainted to the school setting after months of remote learning due to COVID-19. It’s an effort that has resulted in, among other things,

the hiring of additional staff — including paraprofessionals, two behavior interventionists, a special educator, and a “general education” teacher to help implement new programming for students with behavioral issues.

MUMS has also created a task force to review how the school currently addresses student behavior cases, and recommend potential changes.

In his latest email, Dudek said Burrows, Assistant Superintendent Caitlin Steele and Director of Equity and Student Services Nicole Carter have begun “important work to assess and address the culture and structural challenges at MUMS.” The trio, he said, recently spent an

entire day meeting with all MUMS teachers to “fully understand the scope of the challenges within the building and to listen to their ideas for solutions.” Officials have spent the past week identifying what Dudek said was a range of solutions to implement during the coming weeks.

Looking ahead, plans call for Dudek and Burrows to host weekly Friday Zoom meetings (7:30-8:10 a.m.) in December for parents and caregivers, allowing constituents to ask questions and connect with school administrators.

Dudek issued a reminder that hate speech won’t be tolerated at MUMS, and that any reported incident will trigger an investigation. Students who feel emotionally or physically unsafe at any time, or who witnesses an incident where others are unsafe, can tell a teacher or building administrator immediately, according to Dudek. They can do this within the school day or after, by calling 802-382-1201 or emailing the principal.

“It is our top priority to rebuild our MUMS culture to ensure that all students feel valued,” Dudek said.

He invited community members to offer their ideas about school cohesion at tinyurl.com/2tewaxzd.

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LYLE WEBB SHOT this 196-pound, 10-point trophy buck in Ripton and brought it to be weighed at Rack 'N Reel in New Haven. Photo courtesy of Rack 'N Reel



DOROTHY MUZZY IS pleased to show off the 157-pound, 9-pointer she brought down in Ferrisburgh and checked in at Rack 'N Reel. Photo courtesy of Rack 'N Reel

Deer Season

(Continued from Page 1A)
Addison County areas, notably in Lincoln and parts of Bristol. Only 10 bucks identified by weigh station operators as spikehorns were weighed locally during this rifle season.

F&W Deer Project Leader, Nick Fortin, said Addison County and southern Chittenden County outpaced the rest of the state during rifle season, with results approaching the record harvest of 2020.

"Not to say everywhere else is down," Fortin added. "Everywhere else is pretty normal."

He did not expect this year to approach 2020, even locally, because many hunters had more free time due to the pandemic this past year, and conditions were also favorable.

"Nothing's going to equal last year," Fortin said. "There were a lot of people out."

HISTORICAL RECORD

The final rifle total brings the overall number of deer weighed so far this year in the county to 980.

That number includes the 590 bucks taken during the state's 16-day rifle season; 121 brought down during Youth and Novice Hunting Weekend on Oct. 23 and 24, the second-highest local total on record; 202 deer killed in the first portion of the bow season (Oct. 1 to Nov. 12); and 67 taken on the first portion of the muzzleloader season (Oct. 28 to 31).

Still remaining to add to the county total are the muzzleloader season that will run from Dec. 4 to 12, and the remainder of the archery season, which runs from Nov. 29 to Dec. 15.

Given continued good hunting in those seasons, 2021 could land on the middle to upper end of the following numbers the *Independent* has compiled over the past five years:

- In 2020: 1,745 deer (647 rifle, 105 youth/novice, 528 archery, 464 muzzleloader).
- In 2019: 1,324 deer (594 rifle, 142 youth, 258 archery, 330

- muzzleloader).
- In 2018: 1,345 deer (571 rifle, 110 youth, 274 bow, 390 muzzleloader).
- In 2017: 1,089 deer (554 rifle, 110 youth, 161 bow, 264 muzzleloader).
- In 2016: 1,064 deer (573 rifle, 94 youth, 206 bow, 191 muzzleloader).

TROPHY BUCKS

New Haven's Rack 'N Reel weighed the most deer taken during rifle season, and also proved to be a magnet for trophy bucks. The most impressive combination of size and antler rack weighed there might have been the 196-pounder with a 12-point rack that Chris Gordon shot in Bridport. It was the only deer weighed locally during rifle season with 12 antler points.

Over the final 13 days, Rack 'N Reel also handled three bucks weighing 200 pounds or more: John Chamberlain took down a 204-pounder with a 6-point rack in Hew Haven, Anthony Porter killed a 200-pounder with an 8-point rack in Hancock, and Daniel Crossman shot a 200-pounder, 7-pointer in New Haven.

Double-digit racks were also plentiful at Rack 'N Reel. Ashlie Gevry (179 pounder) and Timothy Godard (170) both brought in 11-pointers they killed in Addison, and Michael Winslow shot a 172-pound, 11-pointer in Weybridge.

Three more had 10-pointers weighed at Rack 'N Reel: Lyle Webb's 196-pounder shot in Ripton, Christopher Melendy's 189-pounder killed in New Haven, and Shawn Roscoe's 142-pounder taken in Bristol.

Buxton's Store in Orwell handled three trophy bucks over the final 14 days, all shot in Orwell: Zachary Hopkins' 208-pound, 8-pointer; Alan Christian's 200-pound, 8-pointer; and Chip Maynard's 192-pound, 10-pointer.

Also joining the 10-point club was Edward Duval, who shot a 150-pounder in Starksboro and took it to the Lincoln General



ASHLIE GEVRY IS all smiles after having this 179-pound buck with a beautiful 11-point rack weighed at Rack 'N Reel in New Haven. Gevry shot the deer in Addison. Photo courtesy of Rack 'N Reel

Store to be weighed.

Steve Ploof at C&S Hunting Supplies in East Middlebury also handled a buck that impressed him, a 197-pounder with a 9-point rack that Ploof described as "the most beautiful I've seen" on a Vermont deer.

Four bucks taken during the opening weekend of rifle season and weighed in the county also topped 200 pounds. Kyleigh Dubois shot the largest of the season in Addison and took it to the West Addison General Store, a six-pointer that tipped the scales at 240 pounds.

Rack 'N Reel handled the next two largest bucks, both with impressive racks and both shot in Waltham, a 235-pound, 10-pointer that Dylan Barrows brought down, and a 220-pound, 8-pointer that Kelly Kayhart killed.

Aaron Paquette took down a 201-pound, 7-pointer in Ripton that was weighed at Vermont Field Sports in Middlebury.

The final weigh station is Green Mountain Trails End in Bristol.

The following hunters were successful in the final two weeks of deer rifle season, listed by town of kill, pounds and points (note: shooting spikehorn bucks was legal this year in some areas):

LINCOLN GENERAL STORE

Nick Curtis, Lincoln, 121 pounds-spikehorn; Mark LaBerge, Ripton, 121 pounds-4 points; Robert Patterson, Lincoln, 122-4; Patrick Albertini, Ripton, 103-spikehorn; David Whitcomb, Bristol, 114-spikehorn; Francis Jennings, Starksboro, 131-6; Brian Donnelly, Lincoln, 107-4; David Brown, Lincoln, 106-3; and Edward Duval, Starksboro, 150-10.

Also, Nathaniel Weaver, Huntington, 153-4; Jeffrey Booth, Lincoln, 100-spikehorn; Justin Haselton, Huntington, 147-4; Jameson Huizenga, Monkton, 114-4; Roy McQuin, Hinesburg, 137-8; Roy Catella, Warren, 165-8; Peter Ryan, Lincoln, 114-5; Robert Bordeaux, Buel's Gore, 180-9; and Bobbi Holbrook, Lincoln, 110-4.

Also, John Bennett, Starksboro, 110-spikehorn; Robert Jimmo, Lincoln, 180-8; Bryan Peck, Ripton, 99-spikehorn; Alan Clark, Lincoln, 175-7; Hunter O'Connor, Lincoln, 113-3; Ben Smith, Starksboro, 155-8; Samuel Rathbun, Lincoln, 145-7; Shawn Laurie, Monkton, 150-4; Matthew Brown, Lincoln, 110-4; and Donnie Sargent, Lincoln, 120-spikehorn.

WEST ADDISON GENERAL STORE

James Hatch, Pantton, 160-5; Harry Duffany, Shoreham, 145-5; Matthew Lawton, Bridport, 138-4; Bryan Nolan, Pantton, 160-8; Jamison Bannister, Bridport, 155-6; Ethan Lawrence, Shoreham, 145-3; Ross Armell, Addison, 125-4; Kevin Payne, Shoreham, 175-8; Nathan Fleming, Addison, 123-4; Shawn Richards, Addison, 142-4; and Steven Giard, Shoreham, 175-9.

(See Hunters, Page 15A)

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Hunters

(Continued from Page 14A)

Also, Nicholas Madison, Shoreham, 170-2; Brendin Roberts, Addison, 128-4; Jessica Laughlin, Ferrisburgh, 120-4; Francis Lalumiere, Bridport, 130-5; John Dugan, Ferrisburgh, 130-5; Joseph Mackey, Bridport, 105-4; Victor Lavoie, Ferrisburgh, 125-5; Zachary Lavoie, Ferrisburgh, 110-3; Steven Roorda, Ripton, 120-2; Ben Paquin, Pantan, 135-3; and Russell Bishop, Shoreham, 165-3.

C&S HUNTING

Wendy Garrow, Ripton, 124-2; Ronald DeVoid, Middlebury, 165-6; Saddle Roy, Middlebury, 130-7; Lee Terrier, Cornwall, 146-8; Michael Palmer, Salisbury, 105-4; John Prince, Bethel, 197-9; Raymond Germain, Monkton, 183-6; and Colin Foster, Middlebury, 146-8.

RACK 'N REEL

Lyle Webb, Ripton, 196-10; Harold Atkins, New Haven, 133-8; Sten Bowen, Bolton, 160-8; Paul Jerome, New Haven, 121-6; Michael Audy, New Haven, 147-9; Erin Dalley, Monkton, 166-8; Craig Cheever, Bristol, 127-5; Dorothy Muzzy, Ferrisburgh, 157-9; Leon Demers, New Haven, 106-5; and Michael Shannon, Addison, 101-3.

Also, James Bennett, Waltham, 148-4; Aaron Labell, New Haven, 191-9; Alexandria Brace, Lincoln, 121-6; William Pelland, Monkton, 176-8; Cody Spiegel, Charlotte, 129-4; Michael Coyle, Ferrisburgh, 127-4; Jerry Butler, Bristol, 145-8; Kristin Butler, Bristol, 145-8; Todd Jennings, New Haven, 125-3; and Tyler Vincelle, Bristol, 186-8.

Also, Roland Stetson, Waltham, 138-7; Matthew Shepard, Lincoln, 171-9; Chad Perlee, New Haven, 163-8; Klancy Dunbar, Addison, 140-5; Dylan Preston, Pantan, 176-8; Logan Ambrose, Lincoln, 123-2; Ernest Cousineau, Charlotte, 176-7; Briena Flynn, New Haven, 123-3; Eugene Charlebois, Goshen, 121-2; and Sarah Hutchins, Monkton, 119-7.

Also, Christen Paquin, Addison, 117-5; Shawn Roscoe, Bristol, 143-10; Aaron Clark, New Haven, 120-4; Michael Danyow, New Haven, 156-7; Carter Paquette, Shoreham, 113-7; Coleton Pizzagalli, Huntington, 120-2; Seth Clifford, Starksboro, 115-4; Perry Kilbourn, Ferrisburgh, 187-9; Martin Jerger, Ferrisburgh, 131-7; and Adam Thompson, Starksboro, 140-8.

Also, Randall Potter, Bristol, 155-8; Benjamin Emmons, Starksboro, 169-8; David Hurlburt, Monkton, 153-8; Devin Belisle, Starksboro, 153-5; Michael Winslow, Weybridge, 172-11; Larry Gebo, Ferrisburgh, 196-7; David De Vries, Addison, 140-8; Ashley Brace, Ferrisburgh, 109-4; Louis Brown, Lincoln, 103-2; and Timothy Paquette, Waltham, 102-3.

Also, Eben Clifford, Shoreham, 125-4; Ernest Malzac, Middlebury, 115-8; Dyllinger Hygbee, Monkton, 127-5; Dylan St. George, Charlotte, 125-4; Stan Pratt, New Haven, 120-3; Frank Raymond, Middlebury, 132-5; Alan Bessette, Ferrisburgh, 188-6; Dewey Barrows, Ferrisburgh, 148-5; Kyle Charron, Pantan, 131-6; and John Palmer, New Haven, 131-6.

Also, Jordan Grant, Addison, 117-4; Duncan Tilford, Ripton, 101-4; Adam Paquin, Pantan, 134-4; Jason Markwell, Cornwall, 159-7; Lemman Bronson, Monkton, 149-6; Richard Brunet, Waltham, 104-5; Gregory Cousino, New Haven, 149-4; Lee Fortin, Bolton, 134-7; Todd Hunter, Hinesburg, 133-8; and Richard Tracey, New Haven, 118-4.

Also, Thomas Saltus, Pantan, 136-6; James Ball, New Haven, 133-7; David Livingston, Bristol, 124-4; Rusty Conant, New Haven, 138-7; Raymond Stearns, Ferrisburgh, 135-4; William Lyons, Charlotte, 101-4; Angela Heath, Starksboro, 140-6; Rogan Jackman, Ferrisburgh, 142-7; Ethan Hallock, Salisbury, 101-2; and Stanley Bigelow, New Haven, 183-8.

Also, Brent Jocelyn, Bristol, 171-8; Ryan West, Addison, 124-4; Nolan Whitcomb, Starksboro, 160-8; Nicholas Cook, Ferrisburgh, 96-4; Tabitha Vincent, New Haven, 143-4; Jeff Chace, Charlotte, 117-3; David Bowers, Bristol, 143-8; Jody Conant, Weybridge, 129-4; Christopher Melendy, New Haven, 189-10; and Alan Whittemore, Ferrisburgh, 128-6.

Also, Travis Bachand, Lincoln, 127-5; Chris Coffey, Monkton, 146-4; Michael Safford, Pantan, 117-3; Dale Boisvert, Monkton, 128-4; Colin Jennings, New Haven, 128-3; Harold Masterson, Ripton, 128-4; Juan De La Cruz, Pantan, 156-4; Daniel Crossman, New Haven, 200-7; Case Roorda, New Haven, 125-6; and Bradford McKirryher, Waltham, 122-4.

Also, Adam Mackey, Pittsford, 131-4; Chelsea Thomann, Pantan, 171-8; Eric Highter, Middlebury, 176-8; John Chamberlain, Hew Haven, 204-6; Zachary Cook, Ferrisburgh, 135-4; Victor Chaput, Ferrisburgh, 135-4; Andre Rheume, New Haven, 136-5; Phil Livingston, New Haven, 149-5; Scott Stearns, Ferrisburgh, 151-6; and Carl Gile, Bristol, 120-3.

Also, Mitchell Jackman, Waltham, 116-4; Douglas Coburn, Bristol, 154-8; Lance Perlee, New Haven, 128-3; Daniel Heath, Bristol, 164-6; Brad Sprague, New Haven, 151-8; Brian Cota, Monkton, 146-4; C. Michael Lefebvre, Ripton, 164-8; Ashlie Gevry, Addison, 179-11; Donald Sisters, Ferrisburgh, 135-3; and Ray Barrows, Middlebury, 109-4.

Also, Timothy Godard, Addison, 170-11; Cooper Harvey, Charlotte, 167-7; Stephen Gutowski, Ferrisburgh, 120-3; Colby Little, Starksboro, 124-6; Sally Torrey, Ferrisburgh, 132-3; Eric Dalley, New Haven, 169-8; Dean Gilmore, New Haven, 130-6; Grant Lewis, Huntington, 131-3; Anthony Porter, Hancock, 200-8; and Kevin Kayhart, Waltham, 179-8.

Also, Caleb Tucker, Salisbury, 154-8; Michael Bingham, Middlebury, 132-6; Kiley Sorrell, Charlotte, 149-6; Paul Kenney, Waltham, 121-4; Eric Sansone, Ferrisburgh, 118-4; Steven Moulton, Starksboro, 197-5; Michael Daniels, Ferrisburgh, 131-6; Lucius Cousino, Bristol, 167-8; Timothy Curtis, Monkton, 119-4; and Christopher Darling, New Haven, 146-7.

Also, Cody Barnum, Lincoln, 111-2; William Heffernan, New Haven, 165-4; Scott Heath, Charlotte, 128-4; Bruce Smith, Monkton, 140-4; Peter Norris, Monkton, 169-8; Logan Bessette, New Haven, 136-3; Cary Tracy, Monkton, 193-8; Tim Butler, Bristol, 180-9; Brandon Curtis, Monkton, 152-5; and Sarah Hill, New Haven, 169-8.

Also, Jody Brown, Lincoln, 193-8; Collin Blier, New Haven, 155-5; Joseph Fortune, Ferrisburgh, 132-6; Wyatt Gracie, Lincoln, 107-3; Randy Cameron, Ferrisburgh, 148-6; Joshua Steadman, New Haven, 144-4; Scott Dobrowski, Charlotte, 111-8; Katelyn Patenaude, Ferrisburgh, 170-5; Peter Viau, Addison, 161-6; and Chris Gordon, Bridport, 196-12.

Also, Wyatt Lossman, Bristol, 112-3; Mathew Norris, New Haven, 145-7; Sean Hamel, Bristol, 170-8; Jeffrey Jerger, Ferrisburgh, 149-8; Frank Stanley, Monkton, 151-4; Daniel Gaiotti, Salisbury, 136-4; Thomas Torrey, Salisbury, 151-4; Michael Keeler, Middlebury, 145-5; Lewis Lalumiere, South Hero, 162-8; and Richard Gevry, New Haven, 162-6.

VERMONT FIELD SPORTS

Michael Pyle, Bridport, 193-7; Anthony Andrews, Warren, 178-7; Donald Keeler, Middlebury, 177-8; John Fitzpatrick, Cornwall, 175-8; McGregor Butler, Shoreham, 173-8; Todd Seguin, Weybridge, 170-8; Casey Butler, Middlebury, 165-5; Robert James, Weybridge, 155-3; Christopher Leno, Leicester, 150-4; Nick Madison, Shoreham, 150-6; and Matthew Dickerson, Bristol, 150-7.

Also, Jack Bodington, Monkton, 149-7; Thomas Fitzpatrick, Cornwall, 148-8; Richard Giard, Addison, 145-8; Charles Sargent, Middlebury, 143-6; Richard Letourneau, Ripton, 142-7; Colten Butler, Middlebury, 140-8; Michael Taylor, New Haven, 140-8; Mark Torrey, Addison, 139-6; Ian Ploof, Middlebury, 138-6; Steve Hutchinson, Bristol, 138-8;

and Rodney Bourdeau, Salisbury, 138-8.

Also, Stephen Pratt, Bridport, 137-5; Samuel Smith, Middlebury, 135-5; Andrew Hutchinson, Leicester, 135-7; Sara Kelley, Weybridge, 135-6; Robert Cole, Leicester, 135-9; Kelly Torrey, Salisbury, 128-5; Tristan Stearns, Shoreham, 127-3; Timothy Laframboise, Cornwall, 127-3; Justin Stone, Pittsford, 127-7; Paris Rinder-Goddard, Middlebury, 125-6; and Mark Smith, Salisbury, 125-8.

New Haven's Rack 'N Reel weighed the most deer taken during rifle season, and also proved to be a magnet for trophy bucks. The most impressive combination of size and antler rack weighed there might have been the 196-pounder with a 12-point rack that Chris Gordon shot in Bridport.

Also, Mark Deering, Bridport, 122-4; Justin Seguin, Weybridge, 120-4; Anthony Rochon, Cornwall, 120-6; William Alexander, Cornwall, 120-6; Sierra Dessureault, New Haven, 120-4; Justin Donnelly, Middlebury, 116-4; Patrick Deering, Cornwall, 115-4; Gene Torrey, Salisbury, 113-4; Kip Kimball, Salisbury, 111-4; and Travis Cram, Weybridge, 108-3.

Also, Paul Deering, Weybridge, 105-4; Devin Dwire, Salisbury, 105-4; Michael Betourney, Bridport, 105-4; Steve Leicester, 104-4; Greg Whitney, West Rutland, 100-6; Johnathan Thresher, Ripton, 100-2; Christopher Pike, Ripton, 97-2; Gregory Gearwar, Brandon, 95-3; and Ronald Berthiaume, Salisbury, 90-6.

BUXTON'S STORE

Nolan Quenneville, Cornwall, 195-8; Chip Maynard, Orwell, 192-10; Justin Quenneville, Orwell, 120-4; Tim Booska, Orwell, 125-6; Kevin Van De Weert, Orwell, 125-4; Tanner Burns, Shoreham, 165-9; Ben Alger, Orwell, 160-8; Delbert Frazer Jr., West Haven, 128-3;

Hannah Gendreau, Orwell, 138-3; and James McCray, Shoreham, 170-8.

Also, Steve Bruyneel, Orwell, 147-6; Sawyer Pierpont, Salisbury, 164-6; Kira Kemp, Sudbury, 144-8; Hunter Birchmore, Whiting, 155-7; Paul Manley, Goshen, 105-2; Ryan Fraser, Shoreham, 121-3; Bruce Bishop, Orwell, 132-3; Augustus Lucas, Orwell, 157-8; Alexander Barrows, Bridport, 120-6; and Clinton Snyder, Orwell, 129-6.

Also, John Lynch, Castleton, 145-4; Kenneth Lenz, Castleton, 129-7; Jacob Kemp, Sudbury, 178-6; Jesse Wilbur, Orwell, 148-3; Joe Russell, Orwell, 177-6; Jeff Hornbeck, Whiting, 145-7; Lyndon Martin, Sudbury, 105-4; Kevin Stocker, Bridport, 122-3; Alan Christian, Orwell, 200-8; Zakk Williams, Whiting, 142-9; and Larry Vladyka, Benson, 140-3.

Also, Chris Ross, West Haven, 160-8; David Hanson, Cornwall, 140-4; Eric Hall, Brandon, 137-8; John Lynch, Castleton, 165-5; Steve Myrick, Bridport, 131-5; Allen Alger Jr., Orwell, 145-5; Gregory Raymond, Cornwall, 157-8; James Dragon, Sudbury, 165-8; Aaron King, Orwell, 172-5; Darren Ouellette, Shoreham, 134-7; and Chris Nicholson, Clarendon, 129-6.

Also, John Williams, Whiting, 117-6; Tyler Barber, Shoreham, 164-7; Zachary Hopkins, Orwell, 208-8; Armond Gevry, West Haven, 120-6; James Vladyka, Benson, 141-4; Randall Strong, Shoreham, 180-6; Larry Bishop III, Shoreham, 192-8; Brandon Eastman, Orwell, 138-4; Brandon Parker, Fair Haven, 178-7; and Stephen Ostes, Benson, 165-3.

Also, Matt Mulcahy, Sudbury, 176-5; Kyle Ellis, West Haven, 126-6; Dan Redondo, Orwell, 104-4; James Carmichael, Shoreham, 122-5; Terry Norris, Shoreham, 157-8; Cooper Laroche, Middlebury, 136-4; Bob Douglas, Shoreham, 162-5; Stephen Blaise,

Leicester, 145-5; Carter Audet, Orwell, 184-9; Thomas Lloyd, Orwell, 165-7; and Paul Parent, Orwell, 165-7.

Also, Nathaniel Young, Orwell, 187-8; 130-4; Riley Keith, Sudbury, 124-6; Jim Werbinski, Hubbardton, 167-9; Bob Almeida, Orwell, 186-7; Bret Williams, Sudbury, 115-5; Brady New, Sudbury, 130-6; Levi Booska, Orwell, 145-3; Andre Fletcher, Orwell, 170-8; Cory Steady, Cornwall, 142-4; and Steve Senesac, Orwell, 176-7.

Also, Dominic Cillo, Hubbardton, 115-7; Chris Groman, Whiting, 146-4; Jonathan Lucas, Orwell, 163-5; Peter Young, Orwell, 159-7; Therran Leggett, Orwell, 150-5; Brett Wood, Shoreham, 135-4; Kristin Nolan, Shoreham, 125-4; Pam Bedard, Cornwall, 164-9; Dylan Racine, Starksboro, 110-2; Gabe LaBerge, Shoreham, 171-7; James Payne, Cornwall, 115-6; and Ava Wood,

Shoreham, 135-5.

GREEN MOUNTAIN TRAILS END

Jason Hartnett, Starksboro, 101-5; Michael Betourney, Salisbury, 155-8; James Waite, Starksboro, 109-4; Will Forbes, New Haven, 135-4; Derek Whitcomb, Bristol, 125-4; Austin Lafayette, Lincoln, 129-6; Dhyann Nirnegh, Huntington, 143-4; Alice Johnson, Charlotte, 115-4; Pernell Bedell, Bristol, 113-4; and Sarah Briggs, New Haven, 119-3.

Also, Larry Butler, New Haven, 160-7; Thomas Lathrop, Starksboro, 136-5; George Cardy, Stowe, 98-spikehorn; Matthew Myers, Bristol, 144-8; Harvey Farr, Starksboro, 193-8; Brian Fox, Bristol, 180-9; Mark Bedell, Bristol, 153-8; David Patterson, Lincoln, 118-spikehorn; Thaddeus Sorrell, Charlotte, 144-7; and Ambrose Cousino, Weybridge, 110-3.

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<p>Beautyrest HARMONY LUX™</p> <p>Twin Set \$1299 Full Set \$1499</p> <p>HARMONY LUX™ Queen Set \$1999 King Set \$2499</p>	<p>Beautyrest BLACK™</p> <p>Twin XL Set ... \$2419 Full Set \$2749</p> <p>C-CLASS™ Queen Set \$2999 King Set \$3839</p>	<p>Beautyrest BLACK™</p> <p>Twin XL Set ... \$1919 Full Set \$2249</p> <p>L-CLASS™ Queen Set \$2399 King Set \$3039</p>	<p>Beautyrest BLACK™</p> <p>Twin XL Set ... \$2149 Full Set \$2459</p> <p>L-CLASS™ Queen Set \$2599 MEDIUM PILLOW TOP King Set \$3199</p>
<p>Beautyrest BLACK™</p> <p>Twin XL Set ... \$1619 Full Set \$1949</p> <p>L-CLASS™ Queen Set \$2099 EXTRA FIRM King Set \$2739</p>			

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Apartments

(Continued from Page 1A)

Over the summer, the town of Bristol transferred a small parcel of adjacent, undevelopable land to the developers so they could achieve the housing density needed to qualify for federal funding.

Of Firehouse Apartments' 20 total units, five will serve moderate-income households making 80-120% of area median income, and 15 will serve households making 60% or less, thanks to federal low-income tax credits, Shanbacher explained.

Four units will serve formerly homeless households, who will receive services from John Graham Housing & Services.

Estimated rents will range from \$700 to \$1,200 a month — about 25% below the area's current market rates, Shanbacher said — and they will include heat.

Evernorth and ACCT are hoping to break ground on the complex this March and begin leasing units by March 2023, according to Shanbacher.

The project is estimated to cost \$6.57 million, but more than 90% of that will be covered by federal, state and other grants — including more than \$4 million in equity from the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and a \$1.1 million grant from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board.

"We only have to borrow \$300,000 and we don't have to provide a return to an investor, so that's how we're able to do this," Shanbacher said.

DIRE NEED

The project couldn't have come at a better time, according to organizers. Despite the fact that Bristol's population has declined slightly during the last 20 years, housing availability has only gotten tighter.

The vacancy rate for the Bristol-area rental market is "literally 0%," Shanbacher said. And home prices have soared beyond the reach of

moderate-income households.

"In 2021, the median purchase price of a home in Addison County has shot up to \$280,000," Shanbacher said, "and if you're buying a home for \$280,000, you're probably getting something that needs work."

Earlier that day, Shanbacher had surveyed the local housing market, looking for homes in Bristol, Middlebury and Vergennes that had at least three bedrooms and two baths, and cost less than \$400,000.

"I got eight search results," she said. "And they're all under contract."

There are several reasons for the current housing problem in Bristol, which is mirrored throughout Vermont and much of the rest of the country, according to Katie Raycroft-Meyer, community planner at the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) and former chair of the Bristol Planning Commission, who also gave a Zoom presentation.

Most significantly, household demographics have changed as larger nuclear families have evolved into smaller young families (millennials) and smaller older families (baby boomers).

Over the past 20 years in Bristol this has translated to:

- a gain of 153 households (from 1,460 to 1,613).
- an 11% decrease in average household size (from 2.58 to 2.3).
- a tiny loss in population (from 3,788 to 3,782).

These two emerging demographics, millennials and baby boomers, are competing for the same types of housing, Raycroft-Meyer said: small, low maintenance, energy efficient, walkable and affordable.

What Bristol has a lot of, however, are larger homes typical of New England a century or more ago, built to accommodate larger, extended families.

This has led to a supply problem, which has driven up the cost of existing housing stock. A sharp

rise in construction costs has only exacerbated the problem, officials said.

Bristol has felt these changes more acutely than Addison County or Vermont, Raycroft-Meyer pointed out.

Between 2009 and 2018, median housing costs increased from:

- \$190,000 to \$215,000 in Vermont (13%).
- \$212,000 to \$240,000 in Addison County (13%).
- \$209,000 to \$267,000 in Bristol (28%).

Looked over a longer period, the picture is even more dire. Between 2000 and 2019, U.S. median rent increased by 83% and median home prices doubled, while median household income went up by only 60%.

In short, people are now paying a higher percentage of their income toward housing, and many are paying more than what's advisable. The "rule of thumb" is that households should not spend more than 30% of their gross monthly income on housing.

But nearly a third of Vermonters, including Addison County residents, are paying more than that, and 12% are paying more than half of their income on housing, according to Raycroft-Meyer's research.

It's even worse in Bristol, where nearly two in five households are paying more than the recommended maximum, and 16% are paying more than half their income on housing.

SOLUTIONS

There is no single fix for Bristol's current housing problem, but Shanbacher suggested converting some of those less sought-after, larger old homes could have a big impact.

"Tell your planning commission to make four-unit multi-family fourplexes a by-right use in your village district," she told the Zoom audience. "Right now your zoning doesn't allow for that. There seems to be a fear that Burlington slumlords are going to come in and



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Local, free range, and antibiotic-free

1. Of luck and skill (or lack thereof)

“Any luck?”
It’s a common question one hears when fishing. I’m sure I’ve



MATTHEW DICKERSON

asked it as often as I’ve heard it. Usually, a way of getting information without explicitly asking for it. Over the past few years I’ve taken to answering the question a little differently. If I’ve not been catching fish, I answer, “Yes, plenty of luck, but it’s all been bad.” And if I have been successful, I reply, “No luck, but plenty of skill to make up for it.”

When I give the latter answer, it’s only partly an attempt at humor — a bit of smack talking among anglers. It’s also a serious answer. Although I have plenty more to learn as an angler, in most situations I’m pretty confident in my ability to catch fish if there are fish to be caught. Or perhaps it’s more accurate to say that if I’ve been catching fish, I figure it’s because I’m doing something well. I’ve heard it said that it’s better to be lucky than good. But I take far more enjoyment out of fishing if I think I’m being good, than if I’m just lucky.

Hunting is an altogether different story for me. I have little confidence in my hunting abilities. I’m a decent shot, but beyond being able to hit a target, I can’t really claim to know what I’m doing in my pursuit of wild game. I’m not practiced at pre-season scouting, and unless there are three inches of snow on the ground I’m

(See Dickerson, Page 4B)



NORTH BRANCH SCHOOL 9th-grader Estella Laird was the D-III individual champion at the state cross-country meet in Thetford. She and Tiger senior Ella Landis were the only local runners to qualify to run at the New England meet.

Photo by Joe McVeigh



VERSATILE VUHS SENIOR Jonah Mahé shows both winning form and a winning smile as he follows through on a shot that found the net during the Commodore boys’ first-round playoff win. Mahé excelled at both ends of the pitch as VUHS won 10 times and reached the D-II semis.

Independent photo/Steve James



OV JUNIOR FORWARD Ryleigh LaPorte flew high against the Tigers this season, in this shot defended by MUHS freshman Lila Cook-Yoder. LaPorte and a strong senior class helped the OV field hockey team win the SVL B Division and earn the No. 4 seed in what was a competitive D-II this fall.

Independent photo/Steve James

Fall success took many forms

Titles, unity, strong competition, fun — and no masks

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**

ADDISON COUNTY — There’s no question one high school team and its story stood out this past fall.

When a program — Coach Mary Stetson’s Mount Abraham field hockey team — wins its fourth straight Division II championship and 11th in 21 years, well, as the saying goes, that’s No. 1 with a bullet.

But there were other teams that made their marks or had their moments, too.

Just to start with a full season of unmasked fall sports was a plus after 2020’s pandemic-shortened fall season. Teams had more of a chance to grow and improve, runners had more time to improve their stamina, and football players could block and tackle and line up with 11 a side again.

The roster of sports and teams also expanded. Varsity golf returned to Middlebury and

Vergennes. The Tigers fared OK with a limited schedule, while the Commodores lacked the numbers to compete as a team, but have middle school golfers on the way.

And the biggest golf news came from Otter Valley, where the boys’ team romped to the D-II title with Lucas Politano, who fired a four-over-par 76, and Thomas Politano (85) leading the way.

Also added was bass fishing at VUHS, an offering that a small group of anglers enjoyed. A volleyball club team sprang up at MUHS, and could become a varsity program down the road.

TIGERS

Among the established programs at MUHS, the football program got off to a decent start. The Tigers’ season highlight came when they improved to 3-1 with a dominant defensive performance as they knocked off previously undefeated Hartford in late September. The

Tigers kept playing hard, but ended up at .500 after a first-round playoff loss to eventual finalist CVU.

Both Tiger soccer teams fared well, although late-season COVID-related issues took the girls’ squad out of contention for a top-four seed under new Coach Reeves Livesay, who moved over from the boys’ program. Still, a group led by a strong cadre of seniors finished with a winning record and prevailed in a first-round playoff game.

Coach Chris George’s Tiger boys played with a little edge, particularly in what proved to be a three-game series with Mount Abe. Each team won by one goal on the others’ turf in hotly contested and at-times testy battles. The Tigers won the rubber match, which came in the first round of the D-II playoffs in a muddy, physical battle.

(See Fall sports, Page 2B)

Score BOARD

COLLEGE SPORTS

Women’s Basketball

11/23 Castleton vs Midd55-54
11/30 Midd vs Lyndon86-38
12/1 E. Nazarene at MiddLate

Men’s Basketball

11/23 Midd vs Johnson79-54
11/28 Midd vs Endicott86-81
11/30 Midd vs SUNY Canton79-60

Men’s Hockey

Northern Shootout at Kenyon
11/26 Midd vs Babson (at Williams) 8 PM
12/4 Conn at Midd3 PM
11/27 Midd vs Platts/NorwichCanceled

Women’s Hockey

11/23 Midd vs Castleton2-0
11/27 Midd vs Elmira2-1
11/28 Midd vs Endicott2-1

Schedule

COLLEGE SPORTS

Women’s Basketball

12/3 Midd vs Babson (at Williams) 8 PM
12/4 Midd vs Cabrini (at Williams) 1 PM
12/8 Midd at Plattsburgh5:30 PM

Men’s Basketball

12/2 Midd at Albertus Magnus5 PM
12/4 Midd at NE College4 PM
12/8 Midd at Midd7:30 PM
12/10 Skidmore at Midd7 PM
12/12 Stevens at Midd1 PM

Men’s Hockey

12/3 Tufts at Midd7 PM
12/4 Conn at Midd3 PM
12/10 Amherst at Midd7 PM
12/11 Hamilton at Midd3 PM

Women’s Hockey

12/3 Midd at Amherst7 PM
12/4 Midd at Amherst4 PM
12/10 UMass-Boston at Midd3 PM

Boys’ soccer stars named

ADDISON COUNTY — Twenty-five Middlebury, Mount Abraham, Vergennes and Otter Valley boys’ soccer players earned postseason honors from the Lake Division or Southern Vermont League B Division Coaches, and eight — at least one from each school — were named either a Division II or D-III All-State Player.

Three players were named to the D-II All-State Team. Two were Tigers, senior midfielder Henry Carpenter and junior goalie Owen Lawton, and the third was Eagle striker Eli Burgess.

Three Commodores made the D-III All-State Team: versatile senior Jonah Mahé, senior striker Shamus Rooney and junior midfielder Jack Wyman. Joining them as D-III All-Stars are two Otter seniors, goalie Hayden Bernhardt and midfielder Kieran Williams.

Four Tigers were named to the Lake Division First Team: Lawton, Carpenter, defender Trey Bosworth and striker Zack Wilkerson. Mahé, Rooney and Wyman joined them,

as did Burgess and senior defender/midfielder Neil Guy from Mount Abe.

Bernhardt and Williams from OV were SVL B Division First Team All Stars.

Named to the Lake Division Second Team were two Eagle seniors, goalie Creed Stilwell and defender Henry Cogswell; two Commodore senior defenders, Mike Serpico and Hayden Bowen; and three Tiger juniors, defender Henry Hunsdorfer and midfielder/defenders Ben Seaton and Toby Wells-Spackman.

Earning Honorable Mention from the Lake Division were Oliver Anderson, Greg Wilhelm and Eddie Hodde from MUHS; Mount Abe’s Carter Monks and Chance Denecker; and Commodores Ethan Gebro, Oakley Francis and Jade Edwards.

Earning Honorable Mention from the SVL B Division were Otters Evan Thomas, Fraser Pierpont and Luca Cifone.

Panther women’s hockey wins weekend tourney, moves to No. 1

PLATTSBURGH, N.Y. — The Middlebury College women’s ice hockey team won the Panther/ Cardinal Classic in Plattsburgh, N.Y., this past weekend, with victories over Endicott in the final and Elmira in the first round. In the process, the Panthers improved their record to 5-0 and took over as the top-ranked team in NCAA Division III.

Previously undefeated host Plattsburgh had been the No. 1 team, but Endicott knocked off the Cardinals on Saturday, 4-3, in overtime, and the Cardinals also lost to Elmira, 4-3, in overtime on Sunday.

Middlebury forward Madie Leidt was named the tournament’s most valuable player. Jenna Letterie, Eva Hendrikson and Claudia Vira also earned spots on the all-tournament team for the Panthers, who return to NESCAC play this weekend with two games at Amherst.

In Sunday’s tournament final, the Panthers scored twice in the third period to erase a 1-0 deficit and defeat Endicott, 2-1. Middlebury dominated play, outshooting the

Gulls, 36-6.

Endicott scored 17 seconds into the second period. Quin Healy scored from the slot after Courtney Sullivan knocked down a Middlebury clearing attempt and centered the puck.

Despite the Panthers’ continued control of the play, they didn’t break through until 1:09 was gone in the third period, when Cat Appleyard’s shot from the left circle hit off a defender and slipped



behind Endicott goalie Micaela O’Brien.

Middlebury’s game-winner came only seconds after the Gulls had taken a timeout to relieve constant pressure. With 9:59 to go, Leidt won the faceoff in the Endicott zone, went to the slot and deflected in a Vira shot for her 50th career

tally.

Panther goalie Sophia Merageas made her only two stops in the final period in the closing 20 seconds, denying Meaghan Francis on a pair of bids to preserve the win. Merageas finished with five saves, while O’Brien had 34 stops for the Gulls.

In Saturday’s first-round game, the Panthers scored a pair of goals 43 seconds apart late in the second period to erase a one-goal deficit in a 2-1 victory over No. 5 Elmira. Elmira dropped to 7-1 heading into its Sunday matchup with Plattsburgh.

Merageas made 29 saves for Middlebury, including key stops early in the game on Soaring Eagles Eliza Beaudin and Emma Crocker.

Elmira took the lead on a power play at 9:32 of the second period, when Mary McCafferty’s shot from the left circle deflected in off a defender’s stick. That play ended Middlebury’s season-opening streak of not allowing a goal at 209:32.

Kylie Quinlan tied the game with (See No. 1, Page 2B)

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EAGLE FORWARD OLIVIA Campbell jumps for joy after scoring a crucial postseason goal for the eventual Division II champion Mount Abe field hockey team, which won its fourth straight title.

Independent photo/Steve James

Fall sports

(Continued from Page 1B)

They went on to reach a semi against nemesis Milton, who the Tigers played as well this season as anybody, but still came up short. A fine campaign nonetheless.

The field hockey team again failed to win a game, but showed more offensive spark under another first-year program head, Brandi Whittemore, a Tiger alum who also coaches girls' lacrosse for MUHS.

The Tiger boys' and girls' cross-country teams shone, finishing second and third in D-II, respectively, with seniors Nat McVeigh and Ella Landis as their top runners. Landis qualified for the New England meet, as did North Branch School 9th-grader Estella Laird, who trains with Mount Abe and won the D-III individual title.

COMMODORES

Coach Kevin Hayes's Commodore boys provided the lion's share of the highlights for VUHS this fall. Despite graduation losses from the team that earned the No. 1 seed in D-III in 2020, the Commodores were arguably a better side this season, with more creative spark offensively and a rock-solid back line.

They couldn't hold a late lead against eventual D-III champion Green Mountain in a semifinal, but they had a number of great results in a 10-win season, none more satisfying than their 3-2, double-overtime quarterfinal victory over Peoples, the team that had knocked

them off in a 2020 semifinal.

Jonah Mahé finished off the game-winner in that quarterfinal on a feed from Jack Wyman after a Jade Edwards defensive play, all that after the Commodores had rallied from a 2-0 deficit. Good stuff.

In recent years, Co-Coaches Dwight Irish and Peter Maneen's Commodore girls have made more headlines than the boys, but it was not to be this past fall. A talented senior class had graduated in the spring, and the Commodores' remarkable streak of reaching four straight D-III finals came to an end.

Substitute teacher and middle school track coach Mary Neffinger took over the VUHS cross-country program, which fielded a young boys' team and a shorthanded girls' team at the varsity level. The boys had some competitive results, but the better news is there were two dozen middle-school runners who trained together with the varsity, giving hope for Neffinger's plans to build the program.

Coach Jack McGuire, an avid fisherman and Vergennes resident, was charged with building the school's bass-fishing program. There were only a couple competitions for the dozen anglers who signed up, including six middle-schoolers and three freshmen, to give the program building blocks.

OTTERS

Coach Jodie Field's OV field hockey team provided plenty of

on-field highlights for the school, with speedy attackers like Riley Keith and Ryleigh LaPorte, solid midfielder Alice Keith and defender Marissa Connors anchoring an 11-win team that won the Southern Vermont League B Division.

Coach Kipp Denis's Otter football team won the race for third place in D-III behind powerhouses Windsor and Fairfax. OV's biggest win came on Oct. 16, a 41-35 overtime victory over visiting Woodstock that allowed them to leapfrog the Wasps in the D-III standings into third.

The Otters forced a fourth-down incompleteness in OT, and when QB Caleb Whitney scored on a 2-yard keeper. Whitney rushed for 86 yards and three scores and tossed two TD passes to Brady Diaz. Diaz amassed 98 receiving yards and 98 rushing yards in the key victory.

Coach Dick Williams's OV boys' soccer team won four times, finishing the regular season on a high note with two straight wins. Two Otter seniors, goalie Hayden Bernhardt and midfielder Kieran Williams, were named All-State players.

Soccer Coach Tammi Blanchard's OV girls won just once, but goalie Linnea Faulkner excelled — she was named an SVL B Division All-Star as a sophomore.

For Coach Cam Perta's cross-country team, the highlights included top-10 finishes by Sarah



THE GRITTY BATTLES between the Mount Abe and Middlebury boys' soccer teams is symbolized by mud-splattered Eagle Chance Denecker taking on equally muddy Tiger striker Zack Wilkerson during the host Tigers' first-round Division II playoff win over the Eagles. Each team had earlier won games in the hard-fought series.

Independent photo/Steve James

Loyzelle and Luke Calvin at the SVL B Division Championship meet.

EAGLES

First-year Coach Eva Friend's Eagle cross-country program saw solid numbers. A former middle school and assistant track coach there, Friend brought along many of her former middle school runners to provide a foundation for the future, even though top runners Noah Engvall and Abigail Johnson will graduate. And Friend said North Branch's Laird plans to run for the Eagles.

Coach Jeff Stein's Mt. Abe-VUHS cooperative football team won just once in D-II, but could easily have won three more times. The Eagles thumped a good OV team for their win with a big second half. Four-year standouts like Carmelo Miceli will be missed, but there is promise in the program.

And if senior QB/kicker Adam Mansfield wants to kick in college, many programs would no doubt be interested.

Another first-year coach took over the boys' soccer team, former Eagle player Rider MacCrellish. The Eagles won just five times, but were competitive in most outings, showed unity and chemistry, tried to play the game right and often succeeded, and played hard. A fine season from this vantage point.

Coach Dustin Corrigan's girls' soccer team's fall was a tale of two seasons. A squad with only a handful of seniors opened with

five straight losses against tough competition.

But the Eagles treated those games as learning experiences. Once they started playing more foes in their own weight class, they started winning. They finished the regular season at 5-8-1 and earned the No. 11 seed in D-II. They bested No. 6 Stratton, 2-0, in the first round of the playoffs, as senior Illia Dennison scored twice.

They won again in a quarterfinal against No. 14 Milton, 2-1 in double overtime, when Maia Jensen knocked home a Piper Guillemette feed in the final minute. The group lost in the semis, but what a run.

Speaking of runs, that brings us back to the Eagle field hockey dynasty. Year after year this team makes big saves, converts shootout attempts, blocks shots on the goal line, scores clutch goals in fourth quarters and overtimes, thwarts breakaway bids, and takes over games when it matters most.

This year's edition went 15-1-1, losing only to D-I champion South Burlington and tying the Wolves in a rematch at SB. It was the best record in Stetson's career.

Junior midfielder Madison Gile was arguably the state's best player; senior goalie Maddie Donaldson and senior midfielder Carly Rougier have started for two and three years, respectively; and seniors Molly Laurent, Txuxa (it's pronounced choo-cha, btw) Konczal and Abby Reen have contributed to all four titles.

After the final, Gile described what it was like to play with the team:

"It's like nothing else. I've been dreaming of this since my freshman year, and to keep going and doing it with people I love and know, it's just the best feeling ever."



WHEN YOU SCORE the game-winner in the final minute of a double-overtime girls' soccer quarterfinal, like Mount Abe's Maia Jensen did against Milton, you smile broadly, and teammate Piper Guillemette, who assisted the goal, is the first to run and hug you.

Independent photo/Steve James

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Women's basketball splits pair of games

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury College women's basketball team split two recent games vs. in-state competition

and stood at 3-2 heading into a Wednesday home game vs. Eastern Nazarene. The Panthers next play Babson and Cabrini this weekend at a tournament hosted by Williams College.

Back on Nov. 23, the Panthers scored just 13 points in the second half in a 55-54 loss at Castleton. Middlebury outrebounded the 4-2 Spartans, 46-35, but were hurt by

19 turnovers in losing a 21-point second-quarter lead.

Panther Reagan McDonald scored all of her team-high 17 points in the first-half, including two three-pointers in a 10-0 run that pushed Middlebury's lead to 41-20 on the way to a 41-24 lead at the break.

Castleton outscored the Panthers, 16-4, in the third quarter as Elise Magro (23 points) and Ryleigh Coloutti (14) heated up, and that surge set up a back-and-forth fourth quarter.

Middlebury trailed by 55-52 with just over a minute remaining when Emily Downer scored and then rebounded a Spartan miss to give Middlebury a final chance. The Panthers inbounded to Gianna Palli with 4.4 seconds left, but her layup rolled around the rim and off as time expired.

Panther Bethany Lucey had a game-high 13 rebounds with five points, while Palli had seven points and six assists.

On Tuesday, the Panthers cruised past visiting Lyndon, 86-38,

dealing the 3-1 Hornets their first setback. Middlebury used a 16-2 first-quarter run to lead by 26-9 after one period and led by 46-19 at halftime.

Mustafaj scored a game-high 27 points by hitting 12 of 14 from the floor. Claire Miller had 12 points and four steals, Downer recorded 13 points during the victory, and Gianna Palli led all players with 11 rebounds. Lea Crompton paced NVU-Lyndon with 13 points and four rebounds.

No. 1

(Continued from Page 1B)

a shot from the left side at 15:56 of the period. Shortly afterward, Leidt netted her own rebound from the slot after taking a feed from Jenna Letterie, who won the puck from behind the net.

In the third period, Leidt hit the post, and Merageas stopped Beaudin on a two-on-one. With 14 seconds left, Merageas denied Beaudin one last time to preserve the win. The Panthers outshot Elmira, 34-30. Elmira goalie Leonie Kuehberger made 32 saves.

Back on Nov. 23, the Panthers blanked host Castleton, 2-0. Middlebury outshot the 5-3 Spartans by 47-7, but Spartan goalie Kirsten DiCicco made 45 saves.

Middlebury broke through at 12:14 of the second period, when Hendrikson scored from the right wing, beating DiCicco on the stick side. Appleyard made it 2-0 with a power-play goal at 7:34 in the third period, and goalie Caroline Silk made seven saves.

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MUHS SENIOR NIKOLAI Luksch (No. 10) and a host of other Tigers gang-tackle a Hartford ball-carrier on Sept. 24. The Tigers defeated then unbeaten Hartford, 15-7, with a sterling defensive effort in what was probably their best effort of the season. But they couldn't sustain that level of success and lost a first-round playoff game to finalist Champlain Valley.

Independent photo/Steve James

Football players named all-stars

ADDISON COUNTY — Many members of the Middlebury, Mount Abraham-Vergennes cooperative and Otter Valley football teams were named high school all-stars for their efforts this fall in Vermont Divisions I, II and III, respectively.

In Division I, Tiger tight end Penn Riney was named a First-Team All-Star.

Earning Second Team D-I honors were Nick Austin-Neil, both as a running back and linebacker; kicker Nikolai Luksch; defensive lineman Sawyer Cadoret; and Riney as a linebacker.

Receiving Honorable Mention in D-I were offensive linemen

Cadoret, Cooper Laroche, and Matt Kiernan; receiver Jordan Martin; running back Gavin McNulty; Luksch as a punter; linebackers Ryan Thomas-Danyow and Sam Warren; and defensive backs Brian Whitley and Cole Schnoor.

In D-II, Adam Mansfield from the Mount Abe-VUHS cooperative squad made the First Team as both a kicker and punter.

D-II didn't choose a second team. Earning Honorable Mention were Mansfield as a quarterback, Carmelo Miceli as a receiver and defensive back, Ryan Stoddard as an offensive and defensive lineman, Beau Carpenter as a

receiver and linebacker, Caleb Russell as a defensive lineman, and Collin Dupoise as a defensive back.

In D-III, OV had six Second Team All-Stars: tight end Dylan Stevens-Clark, offensive linemen Tanner Brutowski and Wyatt Fitzgerald, linebacker Keegan Parks, and defensive linemen Brady Diaz and John Coleman.

Receiving D-III honorable mention were Diaz as a running back, quarterback Caleb Whitney, defensive backs Cody Anderson and Tucker Babcock, and defensive lineman Dylan Anderson.

Panther men net Brown's 400th

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury College men's basketball team won three recent games, including a dramatic victory on Sunday that was Coach Jeff Brown's 400th at Middlebury. His career record at Middlebury is now 401-212, including 5-2 this season, and his teams at Bates also won 30 games prior to his taking the Panther position.

The Panthers will visit Albertus Magnus on Thursday and New England College on Saturday.

In that Sunday game, the Panthers outlasted visiting Endicott, 86-80, for Brown's 400th victory.

The Panthers led by as many as 10 in the first half before settling for a 43-35 lead at the break. The Gulls rallied behind Billy Arseneault to take a 63-61 edge with 10:58 to go, and the teams exchanged the lead the rest of the way. The Panthers went on a 9-0 run, but Endicott came back to knot the score at 73-73 with 5:12 remaining.

An Alex Sobel bucket and two Sam Stevens free throws put Middlebury back in front, but the Gulls responded with a three and a layup to lead, 78-77, at 1:02. A

shot from Noah Osher gave the Panthers a one-point lead, and the Panthers hit five of six from the line to take an 84-78 lead with 12 ticks seconds left. Another trey gave the Gulls a chance, but Osher hit two free throws to seal the win.

Osher and Stevens scored a game-high 22 points apiece, and David Brennan added 13 points and a game-high 11 rebounds. Sobel chipped in 12 points and seven boards.

Billy Arseneault paced Endicott with 21 points, and Dillon Grant contributed 18 points and seven boards.

On Tuesday, Sobel and Brennan each recorded double-doubles as the Panthers rode a strong interior presence to a 79-60 win over visiting SUNY Canton (1-2).

Middlebury shot 49.3 percent and limited Canton to 32.9 percent; outscored Canton in the paint, 52-22; and outrebounded Canton, 46-37.

The Panthers closed the first half on a 7-0 run, with Stevens and Osher doing the damage, to lead at the break, 37-26. They maintained a double-digit lead throughout the second half.

Sobel led all players with 19 points and 10 rebounds for his fourth double-double of the season, while Brennan put up 12 points and 11 boards for his third double-double. Osher had 16 points and nine rebounds, and Jaden Bobbett chipped in nine points and a game-high eight assists.

Justin Chambers-Phillips and Danny Santana each scored 11 points for Canton, and Santana added nine boards.

On Nov. 23, the Panthers pulled away from visiting NVU-Johnson in the second half for a 79-54 victory. The Panthers led at the break, 40-34, but opened the second half with a 9-2 run, and the Badgers came no closer than 10 points the rest of the way.

Sobel led all players with 25 points by shooting 11 of 12, and also blocked six shots and grabbed nine boards. Osher had 15 points with five rebounds, and Brennan chipped in with 12 points, eight rebounds and four blocks.

Malik Moore led the Badgers with 18 points and pulled down five boards.

Panther men's hockey games nixed

Northern Shootout held without Midd. due to COVID-19

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury College men's hockey team didn't participate in this past weekend's annual FirstLight Great Northern Shootout Tournament, which the Panthers were due to host.

The decision for the Panthers was made in "in alignment with Middlebury's COVID-19 protocols for team play," according to an email from the college's Sports Information Department.

The team had also postponed its first two games of the season the previous weekend in Maine, vs.

Colby and Bowdoin.

Like the rest of Addison County, Middlebury College saw an uptick in COVID-19 cases in the week leading up to Thanksgiving. On Wednesday, Nov. 24, the college reported two new cases of COVID-19, for a total of 10 active cases within the college community. Seven of those afflicted were students; the other three were employees. From testing it does on campus, the institution reported nine new positive cases between Nov. 16 and 24.

In Middlebury's absence

this past weekend Plattsburgh, Norwich and the Milwaukee School of Engineering played a round robin format on Friday, Saturday and Sunday in Kenyon Arena. Norwich and Plattsburgh both defeated Milwaukee in in the Friday and Saturday games, (Norwich by 7-0 and Plattsburgh by 4-3 in overtime). Norwich defeated Plattsburgh on Sunday, 5-2, for the tournament title.

The Panthers are scheduled to host Tufts on Friday at 7 p.m. and Connecticut on Saturday at 3 p.m.

Field hockey players earn honors

ADDISON COUNTY — Fourteen field hockey players from Mount Abraham, Otter Valley and Middlebury union high schools were awarded postseason recognition by their leagues' coaches, while three members of the Division II champion Eagles were singled out for extra honors.

Topping the list was junior midfielder Madison Gile, who was named the Metro Division B Division First Team: senior midfielder Alice Keith, senior

Two Eagle seniors, midfielder Molly Laurent and goalie Maddie Donaldson, were chosen for the Twin State Field Hockey team roster after successfully trying out.

Joining Gile and Laurent on the Metro First Team was senior forward Txuxa Konczal.

Three Otters were named to the Southern Vermont League B Division First Team: senior midfielder Alice Keith, senior

forward Riley Keith, and junior forward Ryleigh LaPorte. Their teammate Marissa Connors earned SVL B Division Honorable Mention.

Tiger Cassie Bettis and Eagles Abby Reen and Donaldson made the Metro second team.

Three Eagles made Metro honorable mention: Carly Rougier, Natalie Chase and Payton Vincent, as did Tiger Kenene Otis.

Girls' soccer all-star teams chosen

ADDISON COUNTY — Two members of the Middlebury Union High School girls' soccer team and one Mount Abraham player were named to the Division II All-State Team, and they and another 15 local girls' soccer players received postseason recognition from either the Lake Division or the Southern Vermont League B Division.

Two Tiger seniors were honored as All-State players, defender Ivy Doran and forward/midfielder Hannah Turner. Eagle sophomore goalie Joanna Toy joined them on

the All-State squad.

All three were also named First-Team Lake Division All-Stars. In addition, Doran was named the Lake Defensive Player of the Year, and Toy earned the Golden Glove Award as the league's top goalie.

Joining them on the Lake First Team were Tiger Lia Robinson and Eagle Illia Dennison.

Otter Valley sophomore goalie Linnea Faulkner received First Team SVL B Division recognition.

Four Tigers made the Lake

Second team: Lily Lapiner, Sophie Larocque, Zoe Noble and Cady Pitner. Joining them were three Eagles, Natalie Atkins, Annie Dufault and Cassandra Guillemette, and three Vergennes athletes, Allison Croke, Elle Hameline and Felicia Poirier.



Upcoming Events

Thursday, December 2, 2021
Public Skating 9:00 - 11:00 am

Friday, December 3, 2021
Stick & Puck 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Saturday, December 4, 2021
Public Skating 1:30 - 3:00 pm

Tuesday, December 7, 2021
Public Skating 9:00 - 10:45 am
Stick & Puck 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Wednesday, December 8, 2021
Public Skating 3:30 - 5:00 pm

Thursday, December 9, 2021
Public Skating 9:00 - 11:00 am

Friday, December 10, 2021
Stick & Puck 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Saturday, December 11, 2021
Public Skating 3:00 - 4:30 pm

Monday, December 13, 2021
Stick & Puck 3:30-5:00pm

Tuesday, December 14, 2021
Public Skating 9:00 - 10:45 am

Thursday, December 16, 2021
Public Skating 9:00 - 11:00 am

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City police again advising vehicle owners of theft risk

VERGENNES — Vergennes police are again advising owners to lock up their vehicles and remove valuables when leaving them on streets or in their driveways. That follows problems earlier this year with items being stolen from vehicles parked throughout the city.

This latest advisory comes after a man was seen trying to enter parked cars on Short Street on Nov. 26. Police said he was gone when they responded and nothing was taken, but they want residents to be aware that precautions are advisable.

Also between Nov. 22 and 28, Vergennes police conducted nine motorized patrols, responded to an unfounded 911 call and a false alarm, helped a motorist get into a locked vehicle, and:

- On Nov. 22:
 - Checked in on a Walker Avenue resident who had not picked up a Meals-on-Wheels order left at her apartment over the weekend. Police learned she had not been feeling well, but was OK.
 - Twice went to New Haven Road to calm two parties involved in an ongoing dispute over property lines.
- On Nov. 24:

Vergennes Police Log

- Began investigating a First Street resident on allegations of violating conditions of release and domestic abuse.

- Took a report from a Union Street resident that Amazon packages had twice been stolen off a porch; police advised the complainant to contact Amazon.

- Heard from a Walker Avenue resident that her furnace was not working; police helped her get it running, but told her it needed more work and said to contact the property manager.

- On Nov. 25, heard from an Addison resident that his car was missing from a church parking lot. Police said the individual was dealing with mental health issues, and they contacted his family, who picked up the car from the lot.

- On Nov. 26:
 - Checked the welfare of a caller's two stepsons on Hillside Drive, and determined they were OK.

- Dealt with a minor two-car accident in the 1 Alden Place parking lot.

- Stood by while a Champlain Farms employee was fired.

Dickerson

(Continued from Page 1B)

not much good at tracking. With the assistance of a call purchased down at Vermont Field Sports, I might be able to produce a reasonable-sounding imitation of a turkey or whittail, but that doesn't mean I know how often or when to make that call.

When it comes to hunting — especially for deer — all I really hope for is to be in the woods in the right place at the right time. I'm really just hoping to get lucky. Not so much because being lucky is better than being good, but because I know I'm not good.

2. Conversation with a brother
A couple weeks ago I told my brother Ted that while I enjoy hunting, I don't like shooting things.

I recognize that's an odd statement from a hunter, since many folk associate hunting with shooting things. But shooting whatever I'm hunting always makes me a little sad. Ted acknowledged the same sentiment. Although he's an avid angler and has harvested many salmon in Alaska, and has eaten caribou harvested by his sons, he hasn't hunted large game in years.

I don't hunt to shoot. I hunt for two reasons. The first is the delight and peace I experience just sitting (or walking) quietly in (or through) the woods. It's a delight I experience in ways other than hunting, though I find that the particular type of attentiveness

that hunting requires and teaches is especially deep. Still, I could get at that quiet attentiveness without ever hunting again.

The second reason I hunt is the same reason I garden: I like to know where at least some of my food comes from, and to take a part in getting it to the table. What author J.R.R. Tolkien referred to in the 1950s as "militarized industrialized agriculture" is not only environmentally harmful in most cases, but its products are often less healthy to consume. I want to grow as much of my fruit and vegetables as I can, and what I can't grow I want to buy from sustainable, healthy and ideally local options. (It's why my wife and I are regulars at the Middlebury Farmer's Market.)

The same is true of the meat we consume. Most industrial meat production has a track record of what I consider unethical treatment of animals, while having a large environmental footprint and producing meat that is less healthy. I could be a vegetarian; I consider that a very reasonable option. The other option — the one we've selected — is to purchase meat that is raised in a healthy, more ethical, and more sustainable way. Or to harvest my own.

3. Judging youth writing
As an active member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America, I've been called upon several times to judge a youth outdoor writing competition. This

entails reading numerous outdoor stories written by high school or middle school students, and assigning a score that will be used to give awards.

Every year, a significant number of those entries are tales told by a teenager of shooting their first deer. And most of them sound identical — unoriginal and full of clichés.

Or maybe that's just an unfair bias I bring to my reading. Because, in fact, I get no glee from shooting an animal. Did I mention that? I know that in order for me to eat meat, an animal must die. So I either become a vegetarian, or I get meat that has been harvested as humanely as possible — from an animal that has been treated as ethically as possible.

The youth hunting stories? Most of them are all about the excitement of pulling the trigger. Please. Just give me a story about a canoe trip or some wilderness camping.

4. Reprise: of luck and skill
Thanksgiving week. I'd been looking forward much of the fall to getting in several days of hunting. But the reality is, I'm swamped at work — behind and getting farther behind each passing hour. Three days go by without a minute in the woods.

Have you ever felt the strange conflict when you are too busy to do something and at the same time too busy not to? Friday comes along. It's a little after 3 p.m. with a chill rain falling. I haven't made it outside. I decide I need to, even if

just for that last hour until dusk. By the time I'm dressed, the rain has turned to a heavy wet snow and it's starting to accumulate.

I walk to my stand slowly, pausing every few steps to look and listen. Two does appear to my right. I lean against a tree and hold still. They approach to within 25 yards. I enjoy watching their chocolate brown forms float silently onward until they catch my scent. They aren't spooked into bolting, but you can see the nervousness as they turn and move quickly away.

I climb into my tree stand. Twenty minutes later, a larger doe with a fawn wanders past, moving in the opposite direction. They pass within 12 yards, then this doe gets nervous. She stops browsing. Her head tilts. The ears start their radar rotation. Has she also caught my scent? It doesn't seem so. Her eyes are focused back into the thicker pines that she just came out of a few minutes earlier. She turns and moves quickly up the hill, followed by her fawn, then stops again peering nervously back toward the pines.

I hear a loud snap. The does moves off quickly, but I'm no longer watching her. I've now guessed at what she is moving away from, and it's not me. Another loud snap and then I spot the big rack moving out of the trees coming toward me. The near side has four clear points on it. An eight-point buck? Not quite. The far side is smaller. A seven-pointer that looks to be about 165 pounds. It's following hot on the doe's trail.

I raise my rifle and scope it. It's moving fast, with a lot of brush between us. Not what I consider an ethical shot. In the brief seconds as the deer covers 30 yards of ground at a fast clip, I think back on my conversation with Ted. Of how little I enjoy shooting. I wonder if this big buck (larger than any I have harvested in my life) will stop in the clearing ahead of me. I think that while it's almost certainly not organic meat — too many cornfields around! — with almost equal certainty it is local, free-range and antibiotic free. It's also a beautiful animal.

And it does stop. Straight in front of me, a dozen yards away and broadside, just where the doe and fawn had paused moments earlier. Slowly, and with no small regret, my fingers moves to the trigger. I'm thinking how sometimes it really is better to be lucky than good.

The Pandemic is Not Over

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- Get vaccinated – the CDC has approved the COVID-19 vaccine for most everyone age 5 and up
- Get your booster shot and encourage family and friends to do the same
- Stay home if you feel sick
- Get tested if you have any symptoms of COVID-19
- Wear a mask in indoor public settings
- Take care when getting together – stay outdoors when possible, avoid crowded spaces and keep groups small
- Wash your hands regularly
- Delay travel until you are fully vaccinated – travel increases your chance of getting and spreading COVID-19
- Get your flu shot

Thank you for your support and for all you are doing to keep yourself, your family and your neighbors and friends safe.

Sincerely,

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for info on testing and vaccines, visit
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community calendar

dec 2 THURSDAY

Virtual 2021 Legislative Briefing with the Addison County and Vermont Chambers. Thursday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-noon, Zoom. Join us for an informative discussion about the issues faced by Vermont businesses in the year to come. Free for members, \$15 for non-members. More info email Amy at events@addisoncounty.com. Register at tinyurl.com/Chamber-legislative-discussion.

Midd Night Stroll in Middlebury. Thursday, Dec. 2, downtown. Middlebury businesses will be open late until 8 p.m., so stroll around town and get some of your shopping done. Take a break on the new plaza around the fountain for free popcorn and relax around the fire table. Stroll across the footbridge to view the falls, which will be lit up again this year.

dec 3 FRIDAY

Green Mountain Club hike in Middlebury. Friday, Dec. 3, location TBA. Easy to moderate hike on the Trail Around Middlebury, 3-4 miles maximum, elevation gain under 500 feet. Depending on conditions snowshoes, microspikes and poles recommended. Contact leader David Andrews (vtrevda@yahoo.com, 802-388-4894) to get details and register.

Chocolate Walk in Bristol. Friday, Dec. 3, 2-8 p.m., Bristol downtown. Spend the afternoon and evening browsing stores, nibbling a delicious chocolate treat (or two or three!), and getting your holiday shopping on. Businesses will be offering their treats "to go" so you can enjoy all the chocolatey goodness out on the sidewalk, or bring it home. COVID policies vary by store. Keep a mask handy in your pocket, as needed.

Age Well grab-and-go meal in Starksboro. Friday, Dec. 3, 3:30 p.m., Starksboro Baptist Church, Route 116. Drive up, check-in, and stay in your car for contact-free pick up. Menu: chopped beefsteak with gravy, baked beans, Italian vegetables, dinner roll, oatmeal raisin cookie, and milk. Call Michelle to reserve by Sunday, Nov. 28, at 802-377-1419. Open to anyone age 60 and up and their spouse of any age. Free ride or pick-up and delivery may be provided. Call TVT at 802-388-2287 to inquire. TVT requires 48-hour notice.

Craft and Vendor Fair in Bristol. Friday, Dec. 3, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Eastern Star, 2 Elm St. A varied offering of baked goods, hand crafted items, skincare, essential oils plus more. All proceeds go to fund Eastern Star charitable works.

"A Christmas Carol" on stage in Middlebury. Friday, Dec. 3, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Join in a new holiday tradition as the Middlebury Acting Company presents the Charles Dickens classic in an original adaptation, true to the novella, which deftly integrates Dickens's witty, pointed and socially conscious narrative with the heartwarming and familiar journey Ebenezer Scrooge makes from profiteer to philanthropist. Tickets pay-as-you-can, general admission, can be purchased in advance on a pay-as-you-can basis at different price levels (make your price choices when ordering). Available at townhalltheater.org, 802-382-9222, or the THT Box Office Mon-Fri, 12-5 p.m. Masks and COVID vaccinations required. Unvaccinated youth under age 12 may attend wearing masks.

Broadway Direct in Vergennes. Friday, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Broadway Direct returns to the live stage. Bill Carmichael, (known to us as Bill Walsh) is pulling together the annual show, which is expected to sell out again. Doors and cash bar hosted by BarAntidote/Hired Hand opening at 6:30 for general seating. Tickets \$10. More info at vergennesoperahouse.org.

dec 4 SATURDAY

Henry Knox's cannons reenactment in Ticonderoga, N.Y. — Saturday, Dec. 4, Fort Ticonderoga. A one-day living history event to highlight Henry Knox's epic feat as he prepared to move massive cannon from Ticonderoga to Boston to force the British evacuation of 1776. Highlighted programming throughout the day will immerse visitors in the daily life of December 1775 at Ticonderoga. Watch as soldiers work as carpenters to build new bunks. See horsepower, ox-power, and manpower in action to move, test, and load cannon and learn how this process was vital for weapons destined for the siege of Boston.

Magic on Main in Vergennes. Saturday, Dec. 4, downtown. Bixby Memorial Free Library Book Sale, Letters to Santa mailbox outside Malabar. Pictures in the Park with Santa from 1-3 p.m., Marshmallow Melts and fire pits on the City Green from 4-6 p.m. Caroling at 4:30 p.m. on the city green. S.D. Ireland lighted truck at 5 p.m., and Honkin' Holiday Santa Sleigh Ride through the Little City at 5:15 p.m.

Very Merry Middlebury kick-off in Middlebury. Saturday, Dec. 4, beginning at 9 a.m., downtown. Take and Make kits from Ilsley Public Library at triangle park, fire pit, pictures with Santa on Triangle Park, horse rides, caroling at the Congo Church at 10 a.m., etc. etc.

Holiday shoppe and craft fair in Monkton. Saturday, Dec. 4, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Monkton Fire Dept., 3747 States Prison Hollow Rd. A pop-up holiday shop and craft fair. Shop locally from your friends and neighbors. A large selection of Christmas village pieces, Dept. 56, Currier & Ives, along with all the accessories; holiday greenery baskets, home decor, holiday houseplants, quilting, homemade socks, hats, crocheted & knitted wear, baby items, jewelry, notecards, maple products, baked goods, along with many other hand-crafted items. More info contact: cmcosino@gmail.com or 802-233-8334.

Holiday bazaar in Brandon. Saturday, Dec. 4, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Brandon Senior Center, 1592 Forest Dale Rd. Homemade soups, assorted muffins and breads, fudge, donuts, crafts, stained glass ornaments, handmade quilts, Christmas decorations and much more. Call 802-247-3121 for more information.

Holiday Book Sale in Vergennes. Saturday, Dec. 4, 9 a.m.-noon, Bixby Memorial Library. Shop for holiday books, new and used, at the Holiday Stroll Bixby Book Sale. You can find something for everyone — fiction, biography, sports, history, cookbooks, children's, and many surprises. Come at 9 a.m. so you have plenty of time to browse through the shelves and boxes. Access by the back parking lot.

Twinkle, Twinkle Christmas Bazaar in Bristol. Saturday, Dec. 4, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Bristol First Baptist Church, 10 Park St. Bake sale, to-go lunch, RADA knives, Tupperware rep, handmade chocolates, wooden toys, crafts, outdoor lighted stars, "attic treasures" and more. Kindly wear a mask please.

Christmas Pet Stocking and Bake sale in Orwell. Saturday, Dec. 4, 9 a.m.-noon, Buxton's Store, Main St. or until sold out. The GFWC Orwell Fortnightly



Standing strong

DANCER LIDA WINFIELD will perform her piece "In Search of Air: Growing Up Dyslexic," at the Counseling Service of Addison County's virtual annual meeting Thursday, Dec. 9. She will be joined by Sweet Transition, Mount Abraham Union High School's a capella group.

Photo courtesy of Lida Winfield

Club will be at Buxton's Store, rain or shine until noon or until they are sold out.

Craft and Vendor Fair in Bristol. Saturday, Dec. 4, 9:30-3 p.m., Eastern Star, 2 Elm St. A varied offering of baked goods, hand crafted items, skincare, essential oils plus more. Breakfast will be served 9:30 - 11:30. Lunch will be served from noon-3 p.m. Featuring Jim Burt's pulled pork. Come join us for a holiday experience. All proceeds go to fund Eastern Star charitable works.

Craft Fair in Panton. Saturday, Dec. 4, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Panton Community Baptist Church, 49 Adams Ferry Rd. Jewelry, candles, photography, paintings, knitting, flower art, aprons, candles, cat toys, bags, advent calendars, food, and much more.

Holiday Art Market in Orwell. Saturday, Dec. 4, 10-5 p.m., Stratford House Pottery, 294 Route 22A. Shop fine art and fine craft of 14 local Vermont artists. Organizers attempting to provide the largest selection of art for your holiday gift giving. Come meet the artists and see everything from jewelry to glass, pottery to painting, fiber for knitting and much more.

Rokeby Holiday shop in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, Dec. 4, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Rokeby Museum, 4334 Route 7. Special sale prices in the museum store, hand-made door swags for sale, and the exhibit "Free & Safe" will be open to explore. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum will also have a pop-up shop. Shop for the holidays and support both museums at the same time. Info at rokeby.org.

Used book sale in Middlebury. Saturday, Dec. 4, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St.

Santa Claus visit drive through in Shoreham. Saturday, Dec. 4, 2:30-4 p.m., Shoreham gazebo, School Rd. Bring your letter to Santa and drop it off in our special mailbox; free book for kids from babies to teenagers and a treat bag (Lots to give away until they run out). Open to all. Enter off Main St. and drive down School Rd. to see Mr. Claus.

Holiday tree-lighting celebration in Salisbury. Saturday, Dec. 4, 5 p.m., Veterans Memorial Park (across from Maple Meadow Farm). Festivities will include lighting of the beautiful Town Holiday Tree, a giant bonfire, hayrides, a visit from Santa, sing-along, hot cocoa and cookies from Santa's kitchen, stories, book dedication, and more. Dress warmly, because all activities will be held outdoors in order to promote COVID safety. Please do all you can to participate in this celebration in a way that is safe for your family. More info at 802-989-0873.

Menorah lighting in Middlebury. Saturday, Dec. 4, 6-6:45 p.m., College Park, College St., across from Shafer's Market & Deli. Gather outside and light the Middlebury town Menorah. Dreidels, gelt, and hot apple cider will be available to all who come. You'll be in the right place when you hear Chanukah music blasting.

"A Christmas Carol" on stage in Middlebury. Saturday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 3 entry.

Christmas drive-up Bazaar in Bristol. Saturday, Dec. 4, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Bristol Federated Church, Church St. Drive up along the side of the church and friendly elves will take and deliver your order to your car. Featuring the following homemade items: Soup with rolls, assorted Christmas cookies, carrot cake, Christmas pickles, pies, and fudge. All at reasonable prices. Also available are Janet's famous scrubbies (great for many cleaning tasks). An online auction will be running from Dec. 4 to Dec. 11. Visit bristolfederated.com for a link to the many wonderful items and baskets.

Adults \$10/children \$5. All proceeds benefit VFW veterans' programs.

Holiday Art Market in Orwell. Sunday, Dec. 5, 10-5 p.m., Stratford House Pottery, 294 Route 22A. See Dec. 4 entry.

"A Christmas Carol" on stage in Middlebury. Sunday, Dec. 5, 2 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 3 entry.

dec 6 MONDAY

Age Well sit down in-person Senior Luncheon in Middlebury. Monday, Dec. 6, 11 a.m., Middlebury Inn, Court Sq. Doors open at 11 a.m., meal served at

noon of tomato bisque, mixed green salad, lemon pepper chicken with rice, vegetable, roll and apple crisp. Advanced tickets only. Reserve before Monday, Nov. 29. Call Michelle ASAP as seats are limited 802-377-1419. \$5 suggested donation does not include gratuity. Open to anyone age 60 and up and their spouse of any age. Free ride may be provided. Call TVT at 802-388-2287 to inquire. Please stay home if you don't feel well or have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Masks are encouraged unless seated and eating.

Moonlight Madness in Brandon. Monday, Dec. 6-Friday Dec. 10, downtown. With COVID concerns still around, Moonlight Madness will be a week of savings and specials for shoppers looking for unique gifts, one-of-a-kind items, and exceptional customer service. Bargains, sales, specials and drawings throughout town. A chance to win \$100 in Brandon Bucks while you shop local! More details at info@brandon.org or 802-247-6401.

dec 7 TUESDAY

Friends of Brandon Library silent holiday auction in Brandon. Tuesday, Dec. 7, 1-7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, One Conant Sq. A wide selection of gifts by local artisans and our supporters. Many items will offer a buy-it-now option. Holiday books, CDs, cards also available from our book sale. \$ 1 donation accepted at the door, for a bidding number. Bidding will close at 4 p.m. Friday the 10th. Winners will be contacted to pick-up all items by 7 p.m. Friday night. Payment by cash or check is requested.

dec 8 WEDNESDAY

Age Well grab and go meal in Shoreham. Wednesday, Dec. 8, 11 a.m.-noon, Halfway House, Route 22A. Honk once at back door, meals will be brought out. Spaghetti and meatballs with vegetable, bread and dessert. Open to anyone age 60 and up and their spouse of any age. Free ride or pick-up and delivery may be provided. Call TVT at 388-2287 to inquire. TVT requires a 48-hour notice. Call the restaurant to reserve at least 24-hours in advance at 802-897-5160.

Friends of Brandon Library silent holiday auction in Brandon. Wednesday, Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, One Conant Sq. See Dec. 7 entry.

Annual Boxwood virtual fundraising event. Wednesday, Dec. 8, Zoom. Hollyhocks Flowers and Gifts hosts this event to raise funds for Vergennes Food Shelf.

dec 5 SUNDAY

Pancake breakfast in Middlebury. Sunday, Dec. 5, 8-10 a.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Let someone else cook breakfast and help support out veterans. Menu includes pancakes with Vermont maple syrup, sausage gravy and biscuits, bacon, hash browns, eggs and toast, coffee and orange juice.

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KIDS AND FAMILY

Book Club for youth in Vergennes. 2nd Saturdays, 11 a.m. Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. 802-877-2211.

Kids Cafe Free Movie in Middlebury. Saturdays, 12:30-2 p.m. Marquis Theater, 65 Main St., 802-388-4841.

La Leche League in Middlebury. First Wednesdays, 10 a.m., outside Junebug, 211 Maple St. Join this breast/feeding support group led by Breastfeeding Peer Counselor and Middlebury mom Angelo Scavo. Siblings and partners welcome.

New Moms Connection Group. Thursdays, noon, Zoom. Chat with other local moms who are in their first year postpartum. Hosted by Alison Underwood, counselor and social worker at Porter Women's Health. Call her for consent forms and the Zoom link. 802-388-5608. For parents only.

Lincoln

Have a news tip?
Call Dawn Mikkelsen at 453-7029

NEWS

LINCOLN — Stop by the library during regular business hours for their Holiday Sale, running through Wednesday, Dec. 15. There will be differently priced tables with items ranging from 50 cents to \$25. All proceeds from the sale benefit the library. Thank you to all the craftspeople who donated their goods.

The Burnham Music Series presents Dave Keller Band on Saturday, Dec. 11, at 7:30 p.m.

at Burnham Hall. Dave Keller is an award-winning, triple-threat: an outstanding singer, an intense guitarist, and a talented songwriter. Fueled by his love of deep Southern soul and blues music, his performances ring out with passion, integrity, and an ability to break down the barriers between performer and audience. Tickets are \$10 for adults, and teens and kids are free. Refreshments will be served. Masks are required for this

event. The library invites anyone to contribute a homemade holiday ornament to their locked glass display case for the month of December. There will be different shelves for the different holidays that people celebrate. Please include a sentence or two letting them know about your holiday and anything that is special about your ornament. Make sure to include your name so that they can return your ornament. Keep in mind that space is limited. Contact the library if you have any questions.

Help make the library's community room festive with your own homemade gingerbread houses or cookies. You can use your own recipes or grab a graham crackers Take and Make packet that will be available at the library by Friday, Dec. 3.

REMINDER
Wednesday, Dec. 8 is an early release day for MAUSD students.

Until next time ... It's The Little Things That Make Life Big. Believe In The Magic Of The Season. You Are Capable Of Amazing Things.



EAGLE SCOUTS INSTALLED this bench recently on the Bristol Trail Network.

Photo courtesy of Porter Knight

New benches installed by Eagle Scouts

BRISTOL — The Bristol Trail Network reports some changes and recommendations for using the trail system as winter approaches. The network was the beneficiary of Eagle Scout candidate William Moran, who built four benches for the trail as part of his Eagle Scout project. He finished installing them recently and they are, according to Bristol Trail Network's Porter Knight, "simply gorgeous." The benches add to the trail as lovely spots to rest, reflect, chat with a friend, or just enjoy the amazing views. Benches are located on the Basin Street trail, the Coffin Factory loop, the Business Park loop and the High School trail.

While many avid hikers stay out of the woods during hunting season, the network encourages spreading the word that the Bristol Trail Network is a safe place to walk during hunting season. It's a good excuse to invite non-Bristol friends to come check out the trail! Wear blaze orange for extra safety.

With improvements happening now, the Business Park loop is again

open for use. Wood chips are being laid to make the path more obvious. There is a rough portion in the southeast corner that the contractor

will be smoothing out in the next week or so, after which the trail will formally reopen. In the meantime, feel free to hike there.



THE COFFIN FACTORY loop of the Bristol Trail Network was one of four locations on the network to receive a new bench.

Photo courtesy of Porter Knight



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STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

Mt. Abraham Union High School

Noah Engvall



Noah Engvall
MAUHS

Mount Abraham Union High School has chosen Noah Engvall, son of Caroline and Carl Engvall of Bristol, as its Student of the Week. Noah's sister, Helen, is in grade 10 at Mt. Abe.

Noah is one of those students who has worked hard throughout high school, achieving honors and high honors while taking the most challenging classes available to him. He has taken multiple Advanced Placement classes and college courses through CCV. Some of his favorite classes include AP Language & Composition, AP Literature and AP Art.

Noah is an avid runner. Anyone who follows cross country running will find Noah's name familiar. He has run at the varsity level since 9th grade. He's also been a member of the varsity track team in grades 11 and 12. Wanting a running option between cross country and track, Noah co-founded the Mt. Abraham Running Club, a winter running club where younger students can build their skills as runners and as athletes in general. Noah is also making change for the better and has involved himself in both Mt. Abe's Eagle Student Activism club and Environmental Action group.

In 9th grade Noah donated a fish tank to Lawrence Memorial Library in Bristol and volunteered to maintain it. He's been doing so ever since. He says this and working with the younger students in the running club have been incredibly beneficial to understanding the reward of kindness in teaching or presenting skill and passion.

It is no surprise that for fun Noah likes to take long-distance runs. He also likes geography and writing poetry, and keeps himself involved in social matters within his community and at national levels. And he loves to travel.

Noah says that high school has taught him to prioritize his personal interests and intellectual pursuits in order to achieve his goals and to feel fulfilled. "Achieving or maintaining goals for other individuals or society's expectations will inevitably lead to a life unfulfilled," he says. "Be your own individual; no one else can be you."

Once he has completed his education at Mt. Abe, Noah plans to attend college in New York or Boston and pursue studies in Interior Design and Business Communication. Everyone at Mt. Abraham wishes Noah the absolute best in his future pursuits.

Otter Valley Union High School

Marissa Connors



Marissa Connors
OVUHS

Congratulations to Marissa Connors, Otter Valley Union High School's latest Student of the Week. Marissa is the daughter of Traci and Doug Connors of Florence. Her brother, Jaydon, is in 8th grade at OV and her sister, Chyenne, is pursuing a career in baking.

Marissa is very involved in all aspects of Otter Valley life. She is an excellent student and a regular on the school's honor roll. She is taking a very challenging course load, full of AP and advanced-level classes. She's already completed classes in AP Biology, Advanced American Studies, Trigonometry and Advanced Behavioral Science. This year classes on her docket include AP Literature, Pre-Calculus, Advanced Anatomy and Physiology, Calculus and Physics. She became a member of the National Honor Society in 11th grade and received the Student Sage Award as well.

Marissa has also been involved in student government. She is a member of the Student Council and has been her class vice president since 9th grade. This year she's taking it up a notch and running for class president. She was chosen as captain of the field hockey team both last year and this year. She also plays basketball and softball, and in 10th and 11th grade also played golf for OVUHS.

To focus more on her academics and sports, Marissa gave up jobs at both Hannaford in Brandon and the Village Snack Bar. She enjoyed working, as it helped her to learn more about her work habits while meeting new people. She values what free time she has, and spends it watching sports and hanging out with her friends.

She says high school has taught her that the experience is what you make of it — that if you look for the best in your experience and look for the good things then you are more likely to have a good time and enjoy your time there. There were some hard times for sure, but she says she wouldn't change much about her experience.

After high school, Marissa plans to pursue a major in Psychology, especially in Child Development. We will miss her here at Otter Valley, and wish her all the best.

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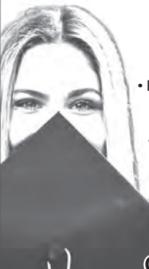
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CLASSIFIEDS

Public Meetings

AL-ANON OFFERS HELP and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking. Middlebury hosts online meetings, Sunday nights at 7:15 pm and Wednesdays at 1:30 pm. Visit vermontalananonlateen.org for the link and list of other meetings in the region. If you'd like to speak to an Al-Anon member, call our answering service (866-972-5266) and an Al-Anon member will call you back.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS in person meetings are suspended until further notice. 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 802-388-9284.

VERGENNES FREE THINKERS Founded in 1935 on the principle of one alcoholic helping another to achieve sobriety, A.A. is an effective and enduring program of recovery that has changed countless lives. A.A. has always been committed to making its program of recovery available to anyone, anywhere, who reaches out for help with an alcohol problem. The Vergennes Free Thinkers meeting was created in January of this year to maintain a tradition of free expression, conduct a meeting where alcoholics may feel free to express any beliefs, doubts or disbelief they may have, to share their own personal form of spiritual experience, their search for it, and/or their rejection of it, without having to accept anyone else's beliefs or having to deny their own. Meetings are held with a high regard for compassion and inclusion without judgment or exception. If you think we can help, please join us on Thursdays at 6pm by contacting Vergennes-freethinkers@gmail.com for Zoom and in-person meeting information.

Public Meetings

THE TURNING POINT CENTER of Addison County is temporarily closed. Due to COVID-19 we are now holding our meetings online. For up-to-date information on how to access recovery services remotely please visit <https://turningpointaddisonvt.org/covid-19-page-2/>.

VERMONT SUPPORT LINE Are you struggling with a challenging situation? Do you have feelings of sadness, loneliness, isolation, anger, or depression? You don't have to face it alone. Talk with a caring person who understands what you're going through today by calling or texting the free and confidential Pathways Vermont Support Line available 24/7 at (833) VT-TALKS.

Services

C+DRYWALL and plastering. Call Joe 802-234-5545.

CONSTRUCTION: ADDITIONS, RENOVATIONS new construction, drywall, carpentry, painting, flooring, roofing, pressure washing, driveway sealing. All aspects of construction, also property maintenance. Steven Fifield 802-989-0009.

WE BUY OLD STUFF Estates, collections, antiques etc. Also hunting and fishing items. Call Erik 802-345-0653.

Help Wanted

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!

FREE CAMP WOOD. You haul away. Monday - Wednesday pick up. 453-2897.

Garage Sales

CRAFT FAIR Saturday December 4th from 10am-3pm. PCBC

49 Adams Ferry Rd, Pantton, VT. Jewelry, Photography, Knitting, Flower Art, Aprons, Soy Candles, Advent Calendars and so much more!

Help Wanted

AMERICAN FLATBREAD MIDDLEBURY Hearth is hiring! Offering good compensation, respectful co-workers, and great food. We are hiring for multiple full time and part time positions including bar leadership, daytime prep and evening shifts. Ample opportunities for growth in a positive work environment. Please stop in for an application or email Joe at joe@americanflatbread.com. EOE.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

HERITAGE FAMILY CREDIT UNION is hiring for: Computer & Network Technician, Mortgage Closer, Teller, and more. HFCU has several openings in the Rutland area. These positions require a high attention to detail and strong member service, communication, and interpersonal skills. Please visit www.hfcuvt.com for more information. E.O.E.

Help Wanted

HIRING PER DIEM Alyssum is a peer-run alternative mental health respite program in Rochester. Hiring Per Diem, paid training, with room to grow. Seeking kind, nonjudgmental people who can use their lived experience with mental health to support others. Good listening and communication skills, ability to self-reflect and interact with a broad spectrum of worldviews/experiences/opinions are essential. Must be available to work evenings, awake overnights and weekends. More info: www.alyssum.org. To apply, send resume and cover letter (outlining your personal experience with mental health and why you want to work here) to information@alyssum.org.

Help Wanted

1987 CORSAIR CAMPER, 20' tagalong with awning. Very good condition. 802-453-3183, leave message.

For Sale

FOR SALE; 4 Firestone Winter Tires. Tire size: 215-70R16. Under 2000 miles. Price \$200. Please call 802-388-2631.

For Sale

FOR SALE; 4 Firestone Winter Tires. Tire size: 215-70R16. Under 2000 miles. Price \$200. Please call 802-388-2631.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted ads can be found on Pages 9B, and 10B.

Director of Nursing Services

Looking for a change? Are you a leader who is ready to take the next step? We want to talk with you!

Elderwood at Ticonderoga has a Director of Nursing Services position available! \$10,000 Sign-On Bonus!

The Director of Nursing Services team member at Elderwood assists with ensuring the health and well-being of our residents by being responsible for overall nurse staffing, staff training and development, and management of personnel in the Nursing Services Department of a residential health care facility; quality of nursing care assessment, planning, documentation and provision of services to residents; coordination of medical and pharmaceutical services in cooperation with the Medical Director, Pharmacy Consultant and Major Vendor Pharmacy; proper placement for care of residents, determined in cooperation with facility staff and Attending Physician; coordination of interdisciplinary health care services for residents that are provided by facility staff, other service providers, and consultants and participation and promotion of Quality Management activities and programs for ongoing improvement in nursing services to the facility.

DON Qualifications:

- Credentials of a Registered Professional Nurse with a current State license required.
- Bachelor's degree in nursing or administration preferred.
- At least two years of supervisory nursing experience and additional training and experience commensurate with the size of the facility and responsibilities of the position required.
- Geriatric nursing training preferred.
- Ability to communicate well verbally and in writing, utilize creative problem solving, and handle problems diplomatically required.
- Exhibits characteristics of effective managerial leadership skills. These characteristics should include: desire for improvement; builder of trust; creating an environment where staff can experience pride. Their efforts are directed at allowing each worker to perform his or her own work and performing in a manner consistent with the aims and standards of the organization.

Elderwood expects all current and new employees to be vaccinated against COVID-19. If hired, you will be required to provide proof of vaccination. Employees may request a medical exemption from vaccination.

Begin a career in 2022, don't start a job. Spend your time doing work that makes a real difference. We need great people who want to help great people.

Are you compassionate, kind, resilient, and adaptable? Specialized Community Care is seeking unique individuals who will act as mentors, coaches, and friends to provide support for adults in Addison, Rutland, Franklin and Chittenden Counties with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. This is a fun and rewarding career spent "Off the Couch." We provide extensive training, support, professional growth and advancement opportunities in a family work environment. We offer pay increases after a probationary period and further advancement and pay for self-paced skill building. We want to hire your values and train the skills that will help make you successful.

Let's talk!

Please contact us at 802-388-6388
Web: www.sccvt.org | Email: denise.smith@sccvt.org

Manager in Training - Full Time
Maplefields Addison County
Position Based in Middlebury

Position Description

The primary role of the Assistant Manager/Manager in Training is to develop and demonstrate the skills necessary to successfully oversee operation of a Maplefields Store in the absence of a manager. This individual is also to assist the Store Manager in the day-to-day activities associated with the store and the development and training of store sales associates, while ensuring that company standards are met at all times. The goal of this position is to be ready to step into a Store Manager role or another leadership role.

For additional benefits and further job description apply to: Maplefields.com/employment

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

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We offer medical, dental, paid vacation, personal time, sick time and 401K for full time positions.

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For openings and to apply, visit Maplefields.com

Our friends at Age Well - and the local older Vermonters they serve - need your help!

There is a critical shortage of Meals on Wheels volunteers in Middlebury, Vergennes, and Bridport. The time commitment is based on your availability -- it can vary from one day a week to two days a month (weekdays only). Delivery is typically from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. For more information, please contact the Volunteer Office: volunteer@agewellvt.org or 802-662-5249 or visit <https://www.agewellvt.org/giving-back>.



Addison Independent **CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM**

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- Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted
- | | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Card of Thanks | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personals | <input type="checkbox"/> For Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Cars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Meetings** | <input type="checkbox"/> Trucks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free** | <input type="checkbox"/> For Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> SUVs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lost 'N Found** | <input type="checkbox"/> Want to Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sales | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Heat | <input type="checkbox"/> Boats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn & Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate | <input type="checkbox"/> Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Animals | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Wanted |
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PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

Number of words: _____
Cost: _____
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Spotlight Charge: _____
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The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error occurred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.

Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted Help Wanted



Apprentice Soap Maker

Vermont Soap is looking for an attentive, reliable and responsible person with basic math skills to learn the art of crafting bar soap. Must be a team player and want long term employment. This is a full time position with paid vacation time, paid holidays, 401k with employer match, and more!

Please send cover letter and resume to nichole@vermontsoap.com.

Help Wanted ads can be found on Pages 9B, and 10B.



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Weekends 5:00am-1:00pm

We offer Paid vacation, Sick, medical, dental, 401k and supplemental insurance

Apply in person at:
Maplefields,
2 South Water St., Vergennes

Or fill out an online application at:
Maplefields.com/employment



Architect/Designer

Architect/Designer - Vermont Integrated Architecture, P.C. (VIA) of Middlebury, VT seeks a designer or newly-licensed architect with a minimum of 5 years of experience with design and construction documentation for sustainable residential, commercial, and institutional projects. Position requires excellent communication skills, strong proficiency producing technical drawings with Revit, detailed knowledge of construction documentation and related systems, and a willingness to collaborate. Commitment to and experience with energy efficiency and sustainability strategies in buildings required. Experience with Revit and Adobe Creative Suite programs required. Strong graphic design skills a plus. Ideally, candidates would already be located in Vermont. Send letter of interest and resume to:

gwen@vermontintegratedarchitecture.com

For Sale

KITCHEN AND LAUNDRY APPLIANCES. High-end G.E. gas range with center griddle and electric warming drawer with matching over the range Microwave and dishwasher all in black. Also have the S.S. double bowl sink with faucet and garbage disposal. Asking \$750. for all. We can separate for higher individual pricing. We have a matching pair G.E. high efficiency top loader washer with a propane gas dryer for \$475. in white. 3 complete sets of bathroom vanities with tops and faucets, 2 are 36 inch wide and one is a 6 ft wide medicine cabinet with lighted 3 sections of mirrors. \$150.00 each for the 3 foot and \$300. for the 6 foot with a medicine cabinet. Please call 802-349-7431 and leave your name and call back number please.

For Rent

12' X 24' STORAGE SPACES in Brandon. Call 802-349-4212.

BRANDON ROOM for rent. 802-417-4057.

DRY, WINTER/SUMMER STORAGE SPACE in Addison. Available storage space in my barn for summer/winter storage. The barn is structurally sound and weather-tight with electricity. No heat or running water. The barn is also available for lease. The entrance door measurements are 8' wide by 7' high. For more info: 802-363-3403 or rochon_m@yahoo.com.

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

Help Wanted

For Rent

EAST MIDDLEBURY furnished room. All included; fully equipped kitchen, wi-fi, w/d, parking, all utilities. Private entrance. Clean, quiet, safe. \$450 per month. Text Sue 802-989-8941.

MIDDLEBURY BRIARWOOD APARTMENTS is currently taking wait-list applications for 2- br apartments. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply- rent based on income- 2 person minimum occupancy. Equal Housing Opportunity. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www. SummitPMG.com.

For Rent

For Rent

VERGENNES VALLEY VIEW APARTMENTS is currently taking wait list applications. Occupants must be 62+ years of age. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply - Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www. SummitPMG.com.

Att. Farmers

FOR SALE: SAWDUST delivered. 85 cubic yard loads. Call Paul for pricing. 802-623-6731.

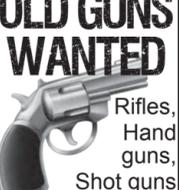
HORSE BLANKET WASH and repair. Accepting non-leather (for now) horsewear of all kinds for cleaning and repairing at my Weybridge location. Call or text Sue Miller at 802-377-5945 or email svdwmiller@icloud.com with "horse" in the subject line for more information.

Att. Farmers

SMALL SQUARE BALES \$3.50. Excellent round bales \$30.00. Call 802-377-5455.

WHITNEY'S CUSTOM FARM WORK Pond agitating, liquid manure hauling, drag line aerating. Call for price. 462-2755, John Whitney.

Wanted



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Rifles, Hand guns, Shot guns

Top prices paid.

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Let us help you sift through the complexities of the Fair Housing Law. Stay legal. Stay on the right side of the nation's Fair Housing Law.

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Talk to our sales professionals.



TRI-TOWN WATER DISTRICT NO. 1
P.O. BOX 85 BRIDPORT, VERMONT 05734-0085
802-758-2202
tritownwater@gmavt.net

The Legal Voters of Tri-Town Water District No. 1, a municipal corporation, are hereby warned and noticed to meet at the business office of Tri-Town Water District No. 1 at 14 Crown Point Road in Bridport, VT on December 7, 2021 at 7:00 PM to transact the following business:

Article 1. To elect the officers for the ensuing year

- Moderator
- Clerk
- Treasurer

Article 2. To hear and act upon reports of the District.

Article 3. To see if the District will authorize the Board of Water Commissioners to borrow money to pay debts and expenses in anticipation of revenue receipts, if necessary, for the ensuing year, said money to be paid to its Treasurer.

Article 4. To approve projected budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

Article 5. To transact any other business thought proper to be done at this time.

Tri-Town Water District No. 1
Mark Pumligia, Clerk-Treasurer

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

ADDISON COUNTY PRELIMINARY PROPOSED BUDGET MEETING INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

The Assistant Judges of Addison County invite the public to a meeting to discuss the proposed county budget for 2022-2023 (July 1, 2022 - June 20, 2023).

The meeting will be held virtually on Friday, December 10, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. If interested in attending this virtual meeting, please contact the Addison County Clerk at addisoncountyclerk@gmail.com or 802-388-1966.

You will be provided an email link to the meeting approximately 3 days prior to the meeting.

Patricia Ross, Assistant Judge
Jacqueline McLean, Assistant Judge

REACH THE COUNTY, PLACE YOUR AD HERE. CALL 388-4944

ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NOTICE OF ADOPTED CY2022 RATE CHANGES

The Addison County Solid Waste Management District Board of Supervisors adopted its 2022 Annual Budget, including the Rate Schedule for Calendar Year 2022 on November 18, 2021. The new rates will take effect on Jan. 1, 2022. The rate changes at the District Transfer Station in Middlebury are:

- (1) \$135/ton for Municipal Solid Waste & Construction/Demo Debris, and the Minimum Fee of \$9/load for 100 lbs. or less of mixed debris;
- (2) \$100/ton for Single Stream Recyclables from Commercial Haulers;
- (3) \$100/ton for greater than 1 cu.yd of Single Stream Recyclables from Self-Hauled Businesses;
- (4) \$15/load for Business Books;
- (5) \$0.09/lb. for Ag Tires, Earthmoving Tires and Oversized Tires;
- (6) \$1.00/gallon for Motor Oil - Businesses, any amount, uncontaminated only, drums by appt., and for Residential Motor Oil greater than 10 gallons;
- (7) Oil Filters: Businesses - \$75 per 55-gallon drum full (crushed or uncrushed), and \$0.30/each for individual filters;
- (8) Supplies: \$65/each for SoilSaver composters; \$55/case for liners for compost; and \$44/each for DOT Drums.

All other rates will remain the same in CY2022. For a copy of the 2021 Annual Report and/or Adopted CY2022 Rate Sheet, please call the District at 802-388-2333, or e-mail the office at acswwd@acswwd.org. Both documents are also available on the District's website at www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org.

Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found in this **ADDISON INDEPENDENT** on Pages 10B and 11B.

116 Self Storage (1)	Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union School District (1)
Addison County Courthouse (2)	Shoreham (1)
Addison County Solid Waste Management District (1)	Tri-Town Water District (1)
Bridport (1)	Vergennes (3)
Middlebury (1)	Vergennes Pantown Water District (1)
New Haven (1)	

Auctions



STATE OF VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION ADDISON UNIT DOCKET NO. 21-PR-05237 IN RE THE ESTATE OF JAMES E. WHITNEY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the creditors of the estate of James E. Whitney late of Pantown. 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: November 24, 2021

Bruce W. Meacham
1008 Town Hill Road
New Haven, Vermont 05472
(802) 989-0870

Publication: Addison Independent
Publication Date: 12/2/21
Address of Probate Court:
Addison Probate Court,
7 Mahady Court,
Middlebury VT 05753

MARKET REPORT ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
Sales for 11/24 & 11/29, 2021

BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$
A Brisson	1980	.62	1227.60
East Adirondack	1990	.62	1233.80
Pinello Farm	1695	.60	1017.00
Blue Spruce Farm	1765	.525	926.63
Nop Bros & Sons	1450	.52	754.00
Vorsteveld Farm	1670	.50	835.00
Monument Farm	1610	.50	805.00

CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$
Barnes Bros	85	2.175	184.88
A Brisson	85	2.15	182.75
R. Forbes	112	2.00	224.00
Conant's Riverside	102	1.95	198.90
H. Sunderland	97	1.80	174.60

Total # Beef: 138 • Total # Calves: 407

We value our faithful customers.
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.
call 1-802-388-2661

email us:

You can reach us at
news@addisonindependent.com

TOWN OF NEW HAVEN WARNING

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD NOTICE OF HEARING

A public hearing before the Development Review Board of the Town of New Haven will be held at the Town Clerk's Office on Monday, December 20, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. to consider the following:

To hear a request by Chris and Paula Roeloffs, 2425 Quaker Village Road, Weybridge, Vermont (DRB2021-16-SD) to subdivide a 44.9+-acre lot on Field Days Road located in New Haven into a 2-acre subdivision. This has been determined to be a minor subdivision in the RA-10 zoning district.

Participation in local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal. The above application is available for inspection at the Town Clerks office during normal business hours. Persons wishing to appear and be heard by the Board may do so in person or be represented by an agent or attorney. Communications about the above applications may also be made in writing to the board on or before the date of the hearing.

New Haven
Zoning Administrator

TOWN OF BRIDPORT PLANNING COMMISSION

Residents and non-resident property owners of the Town of Bridport are hereby warned to appear at the Bridport Town Office at 7:05 PM on **December 14 2021** to the application **Randy and Jean Quesnel** The applicant requests Subdivision.

Interested person(s) may forfeit the right to appeal the decision of the Town of Bridport Board of Zoning Adjustment if they fail to participate by attending and speaking, submitting a signed letter of concern or are represented by an authorized person.

Steven DeCarlo
Zoning Administrator

CITY OF VERGENNES NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 20, 2021, at 7:00 PM for the following purpose:

To consider Site Plan and Conditional Use Review of an application from Wisteria LLC to demolish the structure at 86 South Water Street. This application will be reviewed under Article VII, Article VIII, and section 1604 of the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations.

Please note that the hearing will be held as a "hybrid meeting", with participation either in person, by ZOOM, or by phone. The in-person meeting will be held in the conference room at City Hall.

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85906470948>, meeting password: 656417. Join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099; Meeting ID: 859 0647 0948; Meeting Passcode: 656417. For participants joining by phone To raise your hand during the meeting, press *9. To mute/unmute during the meeting, press *6.

If you experience any difficulty in accessing this meeting, contact Zoning Administrator Peter Garon at 802-377-9527.

You must participate in the public hearing either in person or in writing, in order to take any subsequent appeal. The City of Vergennes is an "on the record" appeal municipality with regard to appeals to Environmental Court from Development Review Board decisions. This means that the Environmental Court shall only consider testimony or information provided during public hearings on the application. Interested parties should therefore assure that their participation in the public hearing proceedings is complete and represents the totality of their desired considerations.

A copy of the application is available for public review by contacting Peter Garon at pgaron@vergennes.org.

November 23, 2021
Peter Garon, Administrative Officer



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addisonindependent.com

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT
VERMONT'S TWICE-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
59 Maple Street • Middlebury, Vermont 05753 • (802) 388-4944

Police look into possible assault

Bristol Police Log

BRISTOL — Bristol police were called to Mount Abraham Union High School on Nov. 1 to look into a report of an assault. After investigating the matter, police on Nov. 15 cited a 12-year-old to family court to answer the charge of aggravated assault.

Between Nov. 1 and 14, Bristol police completed 17 foot patrols, conducted five car patrols contracted by the town, and checked security 14 times at Mount Abraham Union High School, 14 times at Bristol Elementary School and 12 times at local businesses.

Police also processed 16 fingerprint requests, monitored traffic during school dismissal five times, and facilitated the return of a lost credit card and another piece of found property to their owners.

During this period the department assisted Vermont State Police once.

In other recent activity, Bristol police:

- Following a Nov. 1 traffic stop cited Lonny J. McCray Jr., 34, of Bristol for driving with a criminally suspended driver's license. Police said there were two warrants for his arrest for failure to appear for arraignment for two previous criminal suspension citations. After issuing the citation, police released McCray.
- On Nov. 4 served a notice against trespass to a person to stay away from a West Street property.
- On Nov. 4 assisted Mount Abe with a truancy concern.
- On Nov. 5 received a report of damage done to vehicle while it was parked on Prince Lane the previous night.
- On Nov. 5 checked the welfare of people in a vehicle on West Street. The officer saw no issues or concerns.
- On Nov. 6 went to a West Street business for a report of person trying to buy alcohol with

fake ID. They were gone upon the officer's arrival; an investigation is ongoing.

• On Nov. 6 helped an elderly couple to change a flat tire on their car on West Street.

• On Nov. 7 looked for a loose dog on Carlstrom Road, but didn't find it.

• On Nov. 8 verified a vehicle identification number for a Maple Ridge resident.

• On Nov. 8 checked out a report of a motorcycle operating erratically in the Mount Abe parking lot. Police found a driver who was practicing for state testing.

• On Nov. 9 logged a complaint of a dog running loose on Lower Notch Road. An officer contacted the dog's owner and explained the animal ordinance.

• On Nov. 9 responded to a two-car accident on South Street.

• On Nov. 9 responded to Airport Drive for a reported 911 open line. No emergency found.

• On Nov. 10 began investigating a theft complaint on West Street.

• On Nov. 11 issued paperwork to three juveniles for possession of

tobacco on Airport Drive.

• On Nov. 12 removed a low-hanging wire over North Street. The phone line had been pulled from a residence by a fallen tree.

• On Nov. 12 set up traffic cones and barrier tape on Airport Drive for a downed utility pole with wires until Green Mountain Power arrived.

• On Nov. 13 received a late report of a family fight on Liberty Street. Following an investigation police cited Chelsea Jones, 27, of Bristol for domestic assault.

• On Nov. 13 checked an alarm activation on Airport Drive and determined it was apparently an alarm malfunction.

• On Nov. 14 completed an investigation of an attempted traffic stop on Nov. 7 and cited Emil North, 20, of Starksboro for negligent driving and eluding a law enforcement officer.



Going strong

SUSAN YOUNG, LEFT, receives a pin representing 45 years as a member of the GFWC Orwell Fortnightly Club at a recent meeting from club treasurer Linda Martin. Right, Peg McGrath, received a membership pin from Martin as a welcome to the group at the same event. The Fortnightly Club was established in 1899 and joined the General Federation Of Women's Clubs in 1905.

Photos courtesy of Linda Oaks

Man cited for resisting arrest

ADDISON COUNTY — Vermont State Police operating out of the New Haven barracks reported only one criminal incident between Nov. 13 and 29.

When they were notified of a disorderly man at the Sugar House Motel in New Haven on Nov. 23, troopers went to check out the complaint at around a 5:45 p.m. At the scene, officers spoke to a man who identified himself as Tyler Mitchener, 27, of unknown address. As they spoke to Mitchener, police said he began to engage in loud and threatening

Vt. State Police Log

behavior toward multiple residents of the motel.

Police told Mitchener that if he did not leave the motel he would be arrested. He refused to leave and continued to be belligerent, police said.

When troopers attempted to place Mitchener under arrest, he resisted.

After a brief struggle, police completed Mitchener's arrested and transported him to the New Haven barracks for processing. State police release Mitchener after citing him into Addison County Superior Court, Criminal Division, to answer the charges of disorderly conduct, unlawful trespassing and resisting arrest.

During that two-week period troopers did not report any other arrests, citations, road closures, hazardous scenes, motor vehicle crashes, or other incidents of public interest.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Full Passport Service

Addison County Courthouse
The Addison County Clerk located in Frank Mahady Courthouse is available to accept passport applications and provide passport photos.

REGULAR HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
9am to 1pm
Wednesday 12:30pm to 4:30pm

APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED.
FACE MASKS REQUIRED.
(even if vaccinated)

802-388-1966

addisoncountyclerk@gmail.com

Public Notices

can be found in
this **ADDISON INDEPENDENT**
on Pages 10B and 11B.

STATE OF VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION ADDISON UNIT DOCKET NO. 21-PR-04191 IN RE THE ESTATE OF MELISSA NORRIS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the creditors of the estate of Melissa Norris 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: December 1, 2021
Matthew A. Norris
499 Lafayette Road
Starksboro, Vermont 05487
(802) 989-4447
manorris@gmavt.net

Publication: Addison Independent
Publication Date: 12/2/21
Address of Probate Court:
Addison Probate Court,
7 Mahady Court,
Middlebury VT 05753

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 12/20/2021 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 12/20/2021. The highest bidder on the storage unit must remove the entire contents within 48 hours after notification of their successful 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 53 - Sweet

RUTLAND NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION BOARD

The Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union Board is seeking proposals for Superintendent of Schools Search Services. Interested parties are asked to contact Human Resources Coordinator Brooke Dahlin via email at bdahlin@mesu.org for the complete request for proposal documents and superintendent job description.

Proposals to provide Superintendent Search Services shall be addressed to and sent electronically to Brenda Fleming, RNESU Director of Business & Finance, at bfleming@mesu.org. Deadline for proposals is **Monday December 6, 2021 by 3 PM EST.**

CITY OF VERGENNES NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 20, 2021, at 7:15 PM for the following purpose:

To consider site plan and conditional use application from Kiff, LLC for an additional use to rent equipment on his property at 30 New Haven Road. This application will be reviewed under Article VII, Article VIII, and section 1608 of the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations.

Please note that the hearing will be held as a "hybrid meeting", with participation either in person, by ZOOM, or by phone. The in-person meeting will be held in the conference room at City Hall.

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85906470948>, meeting password: 656417. Join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099; Meeting ID: 859 0647 0948; Meeting Passcode: 656417. For participants joining by phone: To raise your hand during the meeting, press *9. To mute/unmute during the meeting, press *6. If you experience any difficulty in accessing this meeting, contact Zoning Administrator Peter Garon at 802-377-9527.

You must participate in the public hearing either in person or in writing, in order to take any subsequent appeal. The City of Vergennes is an "on the record" appeal municipality with regard to appeals to Environmental Court from Development Review Board decisions. This means that the Environmental Court shall only consider testimony or information provided during public hearings on the application. Interested parties should therefore assure that their participation in the public hearing proceedings is complete and represents the totality of their desired considerations. A copy of the application is available for public review by contacting Peter Garon at pgaron@vergenes.org.

November 23, 2021
Peter Garon, Administrative Officer

TOWN OF SHOREHAM REQUEST FOR BIDS BUTTOLPH ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENT

Sealed bids from pre-qualified contractors shall be accepted until **December 16, 2021, at 1:00 pm** at the Shoreham Town Office, 297 Main Street, Shoreham, VT 05770 for the construction as follows:

Type of Construction: Replacement of an existing steel arch culvert with a new 14 foot span by 8 foot high precast concrete box culvert.

Location: Buttolph Road, Shoreham, Vermont

Contract Completion: Completion time for the project will be calculated as calendar days from the date specified in the "Notice to Proceed" as follows: 75 calendar days for substantial completion, 105 calendar days for contract completion. Note: This project has permit restrictions and work in the stream is only allowed between July 1 and October 1. The owner will clear large trees outside of any time of year restrictions.

Obtaining Plans: Non-returnable plans may be obtained from the Issuing Office, Reprographics, 450 Weaver Street, Suite 1, Winooski, VT 05404, (802)655-2800.

Engineer's Estimate: \$250,000-500,000.

Pre-Bid Conference: December 2, 2021 at 10:00 am at the Shoreham Town Office, 297 Main Street, Shoreham, VT 05770

Standard Specifications: This contract is governed by the Vermont Agency of Transportation 2018 Standard Specifications for Construction.

Questions: During the advertisement phase, all questions shall be addressed solely to Tim Knapp, PE, at Dufrense Group, tknapp@dufrensegroupp.com.

Plans, specifications and proposal may be seen at the Shoreham Town Offices.

Complete bid instructions will be posted on the town's website shorehamvt.org and the Vermont Bid Registry.



CONTACT GOV. PHIL SCOTT

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CITY OF VERGENNES NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 20, 2021, at 7:30 PM for the following purpose:

To consider a conditional use application from Mathias Cormier for a cross fit gym and exercise room at 14 Main Street. This will be reviewed under Article VIII, and section 1613 of the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations.

Please note that the hearing will be held as a "hybrid meeting", with participation either in person, by ZOOM, or by phone. The in-person meeting will be held in the conference room at City Hall.

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85906470948>, meeting password: 656417. Join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099; Meeting ID: 859 0647 0948; Meeting Passcode: 656417. For participants joining by phone: To raise your hand during the meeting, press *9. To mute/unmute during the meeting, press *6.

If you experience any difficulty in accessing this meeting, contact Zoning Administrator Peter Garon at 802-377-9527.

You must participate in the public hearing either in person or in writing, in order to take any subsequent appeal. The City of Vergennes is an "on the record" appeal municipality with regard to appeals to Environmental Court from Development Review Board decisions. This means that the Environmental Court shall only consider testimony or information provided during public hearings on the application. Interested parties should therefore assure that their participation in the public hearing proceedings is complete and represents the totality of their desired considerations.

A copy of the application is available for public review by contacting Peter Garon at pgaron@vergenes.org.
November 23, 2021
Peter Garon, Administrative Officer

WARNING ANNUAL MEETING OF THE VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. DECEMBER 14, 2021

The legal voters of VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. are hereby notified and warned to meet at the V.P.W.D. office building on Canal Street in the City of Vergennes in said District, on the 14th day of December, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. in person to transact the following business to wit:

ARTICLE I: To elect by ballot the following officers:

- a) a moderator
- (b) a clerk
- (c) a treasurer

ARTICLE II: To hear and act upon the reports from the officers of the VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC.

ARTICLE III: To have presented by the Board of Commissioners of the VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. their estimate of expenses for the ensuring year and to appropriate such sum as it, the VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. deems necessary for said expenses together with the amount required to pay the balance, if any, left unpaid expressing said sum in dollars in its vote.

ARTICLE IV: To establish salaries for the Commissioners and other elected officers of the Water District.

ARTICLE V: To see whether the voters of said Water District will authorize its Board to borrow money pending receipt of water rents, by issuance of its notes or orders payable not later than one(1) year to date.

ARTICLE VI: To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.

Dated at Vergennes, Vermont, this 11th day of November, 2021
Maria L. Brown, Clerk
VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Town of Middlebury
77 Main St., Middlebury, VT 05753

Separate sealed BIDS for the construction of:
Colonial Drive Improvements Project will be received by The Town of Middlebury, Public Works Department at: 77 Main Street, Middlebury, VT 05753 until 1:00 p.m. (prevailing local time) Thursday, December 23, 2021 if mailing, or to the Public Works Department at 1020 South Route 7 if hand delivering, and then at Middlebury Public Works Dept. publicly opened and read aloud.

Each BID must be accompanied by a certified check payable to the OWNER for five percent (5%) of the total amount of the BID. A BID bond may be used in lieu of a certified check.

The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the following locations:
Green Mountain Engineering, Inc.,
1438 South Brownell Road, Williston, VT 05495
Town of Middlebury, Public Works Offices,
1020 South Rt. 7, Middlebury, VT 05753
Works in Progress, 20 Farrell Street, Suite 103, South Burlington, VT 05403

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the office of Green Mountain Engineering, Inc., located at 1438 South Brownell Road, Williston, VT 05495 upon payment of \$120.00 for each set.

A Performance BOND and a Payment BOND each in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price, will be required.

Federal minimum wage rates and public work employment laws are applicable.

A pre-bid conference for prospective bidders will be held at the Middlebury Public Works Building, located at 1020 South Route 7 in Middlebury, at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 9, 2021.

Representatives of Green Mountain Engineering and the Town of Middlebury will be present to answer questions from bidders and discuss participation requirements.
Ms. Kathleen Ramsay
Town Manager



SALES FOR DECEMBER 2021

Items on sale Dec. 1 - 31, 2021.



 TITO'S HANDMADE VODKA 750ML SALE PRICE \$18.99 SAVE \$3.00	 BARR HILL GIN 750ML SALE PRICE \$29.99 SAVE \$6.00	 PLATINUM 7X VODKA 1.75L SALE PRICE \$16.99 SAVE \$3.00	 CAPTAIN MORGAN SPICED RUM GLASS 750ML SALE PRICE \$13.99 SAVE \$3.00	 JIM BEAM BOURBON 1.75L SALE PRICE \$29.99 SAVE \$7.00
 BACARDI SUPERIOR RUM 1.75L SALE PRICE \$19.99 SAVE \$8.00	 CANADIAN LTD 1.75L SALE PRICE \$11.99 SAVE \$3.00	 BLACK VELVET 1.75L SALE PRICE \$14.99 SAVE \$5.00	 JAMESON IRISH WHISKEY 750ML SALE PRICE \$27.99 SAVE \$4.00	 SMIRNOFF VODKA 750ML SALE PRICE \$10.99 SAVE \$3.00
 CANADIAN CLUB 1.75L SALE PRICE \$19.99 SAVE \$5.00	 MAKER'S MARK BOURBON WHISKEY 750ML SALE PRICE \$26.99 SAVE \$3.00	 TANQUERAY GIN 750ML SALE PRICE \$19.99 SAVE \$4.00	 BAILEY'S ORIGINAL IRISH CREAM 750ML SALE PRICE \$24.99 SAVE \$5.00	 GREY GOOSE ORIGINAL VODKA 750ML SALE PRICE \$24.99 SAVE \$5.00

Visit 802spirits.com for locations and details.

Not responsible for typographical errors.

This ad is paid for by Vt. Liquor Brokers or individual companies.

CSAC to hold annual meeting on Dec. 9

MIDDLEBURY —The Counseling Service of Addison County has invited the community to an event next week that promises dynamic performances, heartfelt tributes, and unity. CSAC's board of directors will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, Dec. 9, from 4:30-6 p.m. Go to www.csac-vt.org/events to complete the required registration for this virtual event.

There will also be a live performance by Mount Abraham Union High School's a cappella vocal ensemble, Sweet Transition.

In keeping with this year's theme of Ubuntu (a belief in a universal bond that connects all humanity), the meeting will feature performance artist Lida Winfield. Winfield's uplifting performance, "In Search of Air: Growing Up Dyslexic," is a mixture of funny, sad, and ironic vignettes that explores issues of disability, access, and the value of hands-on learning. She shares the gift and heartache that accompanied her struggle to read, which did not occur until her early 20s. It is a dynamic, personal interpretation of perseverance, which will surely inspire all attendees; a Q&A time will follow her presentation.

Winfield currently chairs the Dance Department at Middlebury College.

There will also be a live performance by Mount Abraham Union High School's a cappella vocal ensemble, Sweet Transition. This active, talented group, which performs at many local venues and events throughout the year, represents the five towns of the MAUSD.

There will also be the election of CSAC board officers as well as tributes to departing board members David Andrews, Louise Sandberg and Ted Tighe.

For more information, visit csacvt.org or contact CSAC Executive Coordinator Jenn Staats at 802-388-6751, x442.

CSAC is Addison County's designated agency for mental health, substance use, and developmental services.

Who's on your List?

for a holiday print & web subscription to Addison County's premier community newspaper, **The Addison Independent**

Regular Prices:
 1-yr. in state \$50; Senior \$45
 1 yr. out of state \$60; Senior \$55

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Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____ Send a gift card:

3rd subscription

Send to: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____ Send a gift card:

TOTAL: \$ _____

And mail it to:

The Addison Independent, 58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753,
 Or come see us in the Marble Works in Middlebury, or order online at addisonindependent.com

Method of Payment: Check Enclosed \$ _____ Email: _____

Visa MC Amex Discover Exp. Date _____ Credit Card # _____ CVV _____

Sign me up for Auto Renewal! (cc payments only)

Phone# _____ Offer ends Dec. 31, 2021



ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

AGWAY

Customer Appreciation

Sale ends this Saturday 12/4

Free Monument Farms Milk and Christmas Cookies while supplies last!

Plus EVERYTHING inside the store is 10-40% off!

Spend on Carhartt and get a Free Gift with purchase!

Visit our offers page and middleburyagway.com for a full listing of what's on sale!

MIDDLEBURY AGWAY

388 Exchange Street Open 7 days

802-388-4937

Mon. - Fri. 8-6, Sat. 8-5, Sun. 9-4

www.MiddleburyAgway.com

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ART & LEISURE

The Addison Independent

December 2, 2021



Middlebury College senior Ryan Kirby and Middlebury Union High School junior Ace Roark are the creative minds behind the glamorous photos popping up on Buy Again Alley's social media feeds. The duo styles and photograph models wearing pieces from the local thrift shop to promote sales.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RYAN KIRBY AND ACE ROARK

Middlebury boutique thrift store struts style

Picture this: A model pauses to pose at a corner on Main Street in downtown Middlebury. They shrug a fur-trimmed, beige, paisley coat to reveal a bright blue turtleneck tucked neatly into a pair of tight, red slacks. The ensemble is punctuated by a pair of white stilettos with a Louboutin

flare. A gold collar necklace and pair of rounded, cat-eye shades accessorize this glam figure.

BY **ELSIE**
LYNN PARINI

In a moment many of us would wonder, who wore it better? That sure seems like an outfit that trended back in the '80s-'90s. Yes, actually, that's exactly what it is. What some of us "wouldn't be caught dead in... again" are now fashion finds by the younger generations.

"My friends and I have been coming to Jutta's for clothes, shoes, volunteering and having fun for a long time," said Ace Roark, referring



Theseus Roark models a cityscape skirt sold at Buy Again Alley in Middlebury.

to Jutta Miska's gently used re-sale shop, Buy Again Alley.

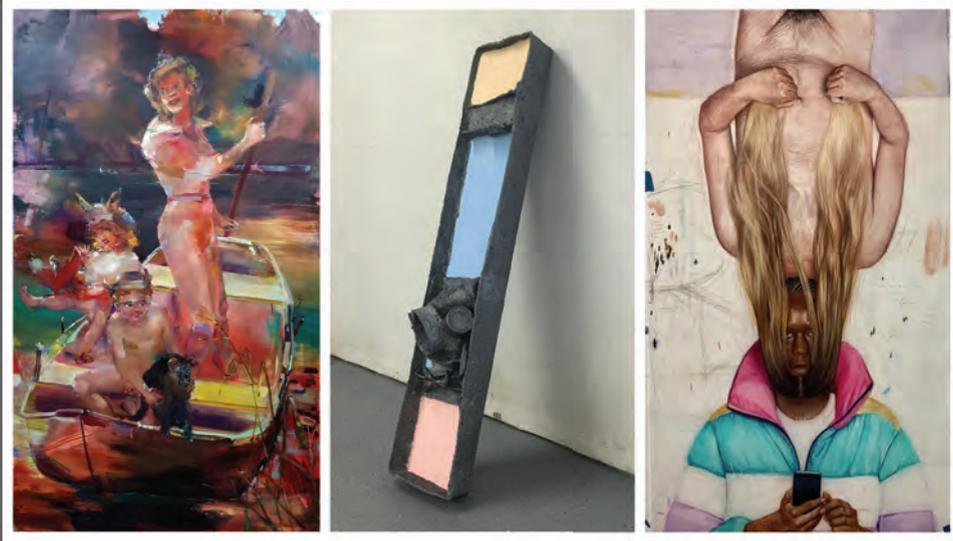
Roark, a junior at Middlebury Union High School, has been volunteering for three years and dabbles in the arts. His recent interest in photography, paired with an enthusiastic new employee at the shop has spurred an inspiring social media feed for Buy Again Alley.

"Early November was my first post," said Ryan Kirby, a senior at Middlebury College who's helping Miska with her social media for his work-study program. "I love this kind of stuff and fashion is definitely something I'm interested in... We needed to create a more intimate connection with our Instagram posts, so I started calling friends up and asking if they'd be interested in modeling."

Kirby, who comes from Waco, Texas, and is majoring in theater with a focus on directing, is anything but shy.

PHOTO / ACE ROARK

SEE STYLE ON PAGE 2



LET'S GO CONTEMPORARY!

Join us for the Friends of the Art Museum VIRTUAL PURCHASE PARTY.

CELEBRATE with the Friends of the Art Museum as we select a contemporary work of art for the museum at our 52nd Annual Purchase Party.

JOIN Jim Butler, Middlebury Professor of Studio Art, as he introduces us to three selected works of art and the artists who created them.

LEARN about their relevance in the world of contemporary art and importance to teaching art at Middlebury College.

FUND the acquisition. This year's gift will be 100% funded by your Friends of the Art Museum membership donations.

VOTE to help us determine which piece becomes our gift to the permanent collection.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5 • 5:00PM EST

BYO hors d'oeuvres and beverages (it's a party!)

Free to all Friends of the Art Museum

Not a member? Visit go.middlebury.edu/givefoa/ to join.

This is a Zoom event. You must pre-register. Visit bit.ly/PParty2021 or scan the QR code.

Image Credits:

Left: Angela Dufresne, *Mommie Dearest*, 2014. Center: Kianja Strobert, *TR38*, 2021. Right: Geoff Chadsey, *Puffer*, 2020.



NEW
Designer Sunglasses,
Retail \$140, Yours \$69

Blue Turtleneck
Size L, \$9.50

Vintage Coat, Size M
Online \$150, Yours \$95

Orange/Bright Salmon
Dress Pants, Size S, \$14

White and Red Heels,
W Size 10.5, \$18

Madison Middleton models an outfit from Buy Again Alley.

PHOTO / RYAN KIRBY

STYLE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I'm like all the Fab 5 rolled into one," he exclaimed. "On a photo shoot, I'm very fast paced. I like to give the models characters to play and have fun with."

Both Kirby and Roark are behind the camera adding their own creative lens. Then the images are edited to add in "price tags" — word overlays on the image — and posted to social platforms.

The result is a professional, fun and effortless post that resonates across boundaries.

"Our generation is much more open to trans and non-binary trends," Kirby said. "We're their friends, neighbors and allies. That's really exciting for me. We're doing this in a way that's not intentionally trying to draw

attention to all the charged dialogue out there. We just want to be happy and feel happy, and this is a great outlet."

"It's also always been our mission to connect college students and high school students," Miska explained. "That mentorship can be really important."

Miska, who helped found and direct the teen center Addison Central Teens, opened her thrift boutique in early 2017 down in Frog Hollow Alley. She moved her shop up to Main Street in October 2019.

And then, yes, you guessed it, the pandemic hit.

"I'm not a social media person," Miska admitted freely. "I'm just not. So when Covid happened I tried to take pictures, but there's a 45- or even 50-year age difference between me and some of the models. Now with Ryan and Ace, it's a whole different ball game;

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FROM PAGE 2

they're working with friends and everyone is loose and comfortable."

Miska reported that business through the pandemic has been very slow.

"If it weren't for all the free hours my volunteers and employees have given me, the shop would not have survived," she said, adding that the Main Street location does bring more traffic and more donations, but also more rent.

"Business has really picked up since May this year," Miska clarified. "We are very grateful to all our customers for supporting us."

Buy Again Alley has expanded its offerings to include gently used clothing for all genders and all ages, houseware, jewelry, accessories, shoes, holiday items, local artwork, and up-cycled clothes — where small rips or stains are covered with embroidery or paint.

"We're walking a fine line of having something in here for everyone," Miska said. "One thing I know for sure is that I don't dare give anything away before asking my students."

Kirby laughed, adding, "It's really fun to play with fashion and mix in some colors and styles that aren't seen as 'current' now. Fashion should be big and daring! Yeah, I'll say it, I just might be trendsetting in Middlebury."

Editor's Note: Follow @buyagainalley to see Ryan Kirby and Ace Roark's photo shoots with clothing and more from Buy Again Alley. For those interested in volunteering or modeling, connect with Jutta Miska on the Buy Again Alley Facebook page.



Installation shot of "Mrs. M—'s Cabinet" at the Milwaukee Art Museum.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HENRY SHELDON MUSEUM

Sheldon Museum hosts third virtual lecture

"MAKING HISTORY WITH MRS. M—'S CABINET: IMAGINING A FEMINIST PERIOD ROOM"

The Henry Sheldon Museum presents a lecture by Sarah Anne Carter, Executive Director of the Center for Design and Material Culture Studies at the University of

Wisconsin-Madison, on Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. via Zoom. This is the third talk in the "Elephant in the Room: Exploring the Future of Museums" series convened by the Stewart-Swift Research Center.

In this lecture, Carter explores the creation and use of the "Mrs. M—

—'s Cabinet" period room project at the Milwaukee Art Museum, which she collaboratively created during her time with the Chipstone Foundation. This experimental exhibition hacks into the idea of the museum period room to ask, what does a museum do and who is it for, through the collection and space of an imagined nineteenth-century collector.

Carter is the Executive Director of the Center for Design and Material Culture and an Associate Professor of Design Studies in the School of Human Ecology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She previously

served as Curator and Director of Research at the Chipstone Foundation in Milwaukee, Wisc., where she collaboratively curated many museum exhibitions and led Chipstone's Think Tank Program in support of progressive curatorial practice.

This talk, funded by Vermont Humanities, is free and open to all. To learn more about the "Elephant in the Room" series and to register for the talk, visit: henrysheldonmuseum.org/elephant-in-the-room.



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UPCOMING MUSIC

BURNHAM HALL WELCOMES CLOUDBELLY AND THE DAVE KELLER BAND, DEC. 4 AND 11

Burnham Hall in Lincoln is busy. This Saturday the Ripton Community Coffee House will bring Cloudbelly (see store on page 5) to the stage, and the following Saturday, Dec. 11, the Burnham Hall Music Series will welcome Dave Keller for a show at 7:30 p.m.

Keller is an award-winning, triple-threat: an outstanding singer, an intense guitarist, and a talented songwriter. Fueled by his love of deep Southern soul and blues music, his performances ring out with passion, integrity and

an ability to break down the barriers between performer and audience.

Ever since renowned guitarist Ronnie Earl chose Dave Keller to sing on his album "Living In The Light," Keller's star has been on the rise. He has been nominated for a Blues Music Award for Best Soul/Blues Album, won the International Blues Challenge Best Self-Released CD Award, and been chosen for Downbeat's Best Recordings of the Year.

SEE KELLER ON PAGE 11

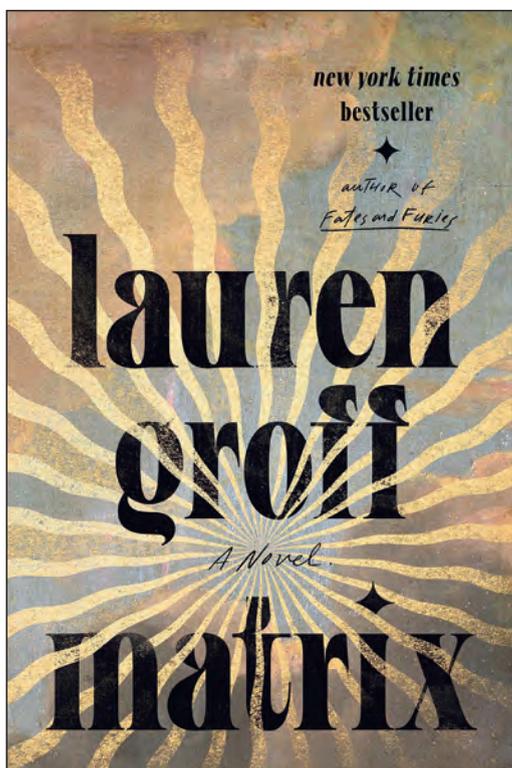


The Dave Keller Band will take the stage at Burnham Hall in Lincoln on Dec. 11. The show starts at 7:30 p.m.

REVIEW

BOOK

MATRIX — BY LAUREN GROFF
(Riverhead Books)



"Matrix," a National Book Award finalist this year, is a feat of storytelling by a master of fiction. It's a spiritual and emotional fictionalized biography of Marie de France, an outcast offspring from the royal court of Eleanor of Aquitaine, from her earliest memories of riding with her crusading female brood, to her short-lived but luxurious life at court, to her exile at a dark and destitute English abbey. Her noble birth affords her a position at the abbey, and her incredulous life unfolds, the rituals of the abbey and the seasons of the years that pass, mark the passage of time as Marie comes into her own. On the surface, it may sound almost droll, but this novel is anything but — it's wicked and fun, it's literary and adventurous, it's heartbreaking and romantic and filled with love of almost every kind. There's love for the abbey, the sisters, the earth and all that it provides. There's love for all the women, and there is a veritable feast of women in every shape and age and temperament. It was moving and humorous, and gives the reader a fascinating glimpse into a life imagined and a life lived to its fullest in the darkest recesses of medieval Europe.

— Reviewed by Jenny Lyons. Connect with her on Instagram @jennysbookshop to find more great book reviews and recommendations. Look for these titles and more at your local bookstore.

NOVELS OF THE MEDIEVAL ERA

Hild, by Nicola Griffith

The Fruit of Her Hands, by Michelle Cameron

Pope Joan, by Donna Woolfolk Cross

The Name of the Rose, by Umberto Eco

The Greenlanders, by Jane Smiley

Cathedral, by Ben Hopkins

The Lost Queen, by Signe Pike

The Rebel Nun, by Marj Charlier

The Pillars of the Earth, by Ken Follett

Cloudbelly performs at Burnham Hall

This Saturday, Dec. 4, Cloudbelly will perform a concert of neo-folk tunes for the Ripton Community Coffee House. The venue is still "on the road," and this performance is scheduled to take place at Burnham Hall in Lincoln, at 7:30 p.m.

Cloudbelly is a collaboration between singer-songwriter Corey Laitman and producer Anand Nayak.

Laitman's singer-songwriting talents led to being chosen an NPR Tiny Desk recipient and being awarded a formal showcase at the Northeast Regional Folk Alliance conference. Laitman cut their teeth as a songwriter in the Anti-Folk scene at the Sidewalk Cafe in the East Village, performing weekly in the early 2000s. They have self-released two albums, "Grimace and Grace" (2012) and "Seafoam" (2018), and was a 2018 Passim Iguana Fund artist grantee. A Western, Mass., denizen since 2013, Laitman lives in Turners Falls.

Nayak has earned a stellar reputation as a guitarist, producer and songwriter. For two decades he has been guitarist for the popular Americana-folk band Rani Arbo and daisy mayhem. He has performed and produced five award-winning CDs with the children's music act "Stevesongs," and was co-writer of more than 30 of their songs commissioned by PBS Kids.

SEE MUSIC ON PAGE 15

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Cosmic Forecast

ARIES: March 21-April 20. Aries, when life gives you lemons, you should make lemonade. Take that to heart and try to see the silver lining when an obstacle gets in your way.

LIBRA: Sept. 23-Oct. 23. Good times are ahead, Libra. Focus on the fun that is coming your way and make an effort to include more good times in the weeks ahead.

TAURUS: April 21-May 21. It's one thing to stand by your views, Taurus. It's another to stubbornly refuse to listen to others when they make good points. Be open-minded this week.

GEMINI: May 22-June 21. You may be juggling too much at one time, Gemini. If you're finding it difficult to manage your time, reach out to a friend or colleague for help. They're ready and willing.

CANCER: June 22-July 22. Cancer, lately you have been a person of few words, and others may be wondering what is going on. Confide in someone close to you if the need arises.

LEO: July 23-Aug. 23. Leo, if you are up for an adventure, look to those around you for inspiration. Maybe you'll overhear a coworker talking about a dream getaway.

VIRGO: Aug. 24-Sept. 22. Virgo, you may start to rethink a decision you made a while ago when an unexpected hiccup occurs. Reevaluate your decision-making process.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24-Nov. 22. Scorpio, a situation at work will require the utmost patience and perseverance. The outcome will be in your favor if you take a measured approach.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23-Dec. 21. You could use a night out with friends, Sagittarius. Make a concerted effort to get together and invite the people whose company you most enjoy.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22-Jan. 20. Capricorn, you may have to reexamine your priorities. Don't let something pull you in one direction when a friend or family member may need you more.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21-Feb. 18. Aquarius, you're not much of a fan of waiting games, but you will have to stick things out a little longer until your plan can come to fruition. Patience will pay off.

PISCES: Feb. 19-March 20. Avoid overzealous spending in the weeks ahead, Pisces. Find ways to be generous with your time rather than with your wallet.

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FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

DEC. 2 — Maria Callas, opera singer (d)
DEC. 3 — Jean Luc Godard, film director (90)
DEC. 4 — Rainer Maria Rilke, poet and novelist (d)
DEC. 5 — Christina Rossetti, poet and writer (d)

DEC. 5 — Larry Bourgeois, dancer (33)
DEC. 6 — Black Kettle, Cheyenne leader (d)
DEC. 7 — Camille Claudel, sculptor (d)

CALENDAR

DEC. 2-11
2021THURSDAY,
DEC. 2

"3D WOOD-CARVED MAPS:

CONNECTING TO PLACE IN A NEW WAY"

VIRTUAL TALK. Thursday, Dec. 2, noon, Zoom. Jacob Freedman of Treeline Terrains will discuss the group's business designing custom 3D landscapes combining the trio's unique craftsmanship backgrounds. All recent Middlebury College graduates, the group will discuss their entrepreneurship journey, their collaborations with Vermont organizations and nonprofits, and delve into their process to create "topography you can touch." Offered in conjunction with the Sheldon's current exhibit "Sightlines — Picturing the Battell Wilderness: Paintings by Jill Madden and Photographs by Caleb Kenna."

Free, register at henrysheldonmuseum.com/events. More info at henrysheldonmuseum.org or 802-388-2117.

WARREN MILLER'S
"WINTER STARTS
NOW" ON SCREEN
IN MIDDLEBURY.

Thursday, Dec. 2, 6 and 9 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. The 72nd annual ski and snowboard film from Warren Miller Entertainment will

chase winter from coast to coast with friends old and new in the places that keep our spirits high no matter what life throws at us. COVID vaccinations and masks required. Tickets \$21, available at townhalltheater.org, \$22 day of show.

"SHE KILLS MONSTERS" ON STAGE IN

MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m., Wright Memorial Theatre, Chateau Rd. Agnes Evans is an average young woman who wished her life in Athens, Ohio, was less boring. Then, the sudden death of her sister opened the door to a world of adventure. Turns out that her teenage sister Tilly, fascinated with the dark arts — magic, dragons, and silly costumes. Open to audiences from both on- and off-campus; vaccinations (or valid medical or religious exemptions) and masks required. Tickets \$15 public/\$10 Middlebury faculty/staff, alumni, and emeriti/\$8 youth/\$5 Middlebury College students, available at middlebury.universitytickets.com. Additional

health and safety information at middlebury.edu/college/arts/about/health-and-safety.

FRIDAY, DEC. 3

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" ON STAGE IN

MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Dec. 3, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Join in a new holiday tradition as the Middlebury Acting Company presents Charles Dickens' classic in an original adaptation, true to the novella, which deftly integrates Dickens' witty, pointed, and socially conscious narrative with the heartwarming and familiar journey Ebenezer Scrooge makes from profiteer to philanthropist. Tickets pay-as-you-can, general admission, can be purchased in advance on a pay-as-you-can basis at different price levels (make your price choices when ordering). Available at townhalltheater.org, 802-

382-9222, or the THT Box Office Mon-Fri, 12-5 p.m. Masks and Covid vaccinations required. Unvaccinated youth under age 12 may attend wearing masks.

KRAMPUSNACHT — STORIES OF LIGHT AND DARK FOR THE WINTER SOLSTICE IN ROCHESTER. Friday, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m., 185 Brandon Mountain Rd. Bald Mountain Theater's annual event will be held in a natural amphitheater

and is an eclectic mix of original material and seasonal traditions from around the world. The show doesn't gloss over the dual nature of the season: it represents both the long, dark night, full of tension and fear, as well as the glimmering hope of a new day. Tickets \$15, available at baldmountaintickets.ludus.com/index.php. Rain or shine. More info at baldmountaintheater.org.

BROADWAY DIRECT IN VERGENNES. Friday, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Broadway Direct returns to the live stage. Bill Carmichael, (known to us as Bill Walsh) is pulling together the annual show, which is expected to sell out yet again. Doors and cash bar hosted by Bar Antidote/Hired Hand opening at 6:30 for general seating. Tickets \$10. More info at vergennesoperahouse.org.

"SHE KILLS MONSTERS" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m., Wright

Memorial Theatre, Chateau Rd. See Dec. 2 entry.

SATURDAY, DEC. 4

HENRY KNOX'S CANNONS REENACTMENT

IN TICONDEROGA, N.Y. Saturday, Dec. 4, Fort Ticonderoga. A one-day living history event to highlight Henry Knox's epic feat as he prepared to move massive cannon from Ticonderoga to Boston to force the British evacuation of 1776. Highlighted programming throughout the day will immerse visitors in the daily life of December 1775 at Ticonderoga. Watch as soldiers work as carpenters to build new bunks. See horsepower, ox-power, and manpower in action to move, test, and load cannon and learn how this process was vital for weapons destined for the siege of Boston.

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" ON STAGE IN

MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 3 entry.

KRAMPUSNACHT IN ROCHESTER. Saturday, Dec. 4, TBA, Spice Studio, 482 South Main St. (See Dec. 3 entry).

CLOUDBELLY IN LINCOLN. Saturday, Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m., Burnahm Hall, 52 E. River Rd. The Ripton Community Coffee House presents Signature Sounds recording artists Cloudbelly, a collaboration of Anand Nayak and Corey Laitman. Admission at the door \$10-\$20. Details at www.rcch.org. The concert will also be live streamed.

KRAMPUSNACHT — STORIES OF LIGHT AND DARK FOR THE WINTER SOLSTICE IN ROCHESTER. Saturday, Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m., 185 Brandon Mountain Rd. See Dec. 3 entry.

"SHE KILLS MONSTERS" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m., Wright Memorial Theatre, Chateau Rd. See Dec. 2 entry.

SUNDAY, DEC. 5

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Dec. 5, 2 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 3 entry.

FRIENDS OF THE ART MUSEUM VIRTUAL PURCHASE PARTY. Sunday, Dec. 5, 5 p.m., Zoom. Celebrate with the Friends of Middlebury College's Art Museum as they select a contemporary work of art for the museum at their 52nd Annual Purchase Party. Join Jim Butler, Middlebury Professor of Studio Art, as he introduces three desired works of art and

top pick

DON'T MISS THE **MIDDLEBURY CLASSIC FILM CLUB'S FOURTH AND FINAL FILM IN THE FALL SERIES** ON DEC. 9. THE CLUB WILL SCREEN "THE HUNDRED FOOT JOURNEY" (2014) WITH A DISCUSSION TO FOLLOW ON ZOOM OR ILSLEY LIBRARY (DEPENDING ON COVID CONDITIONS) FROM 6:30-7:30 P.M.

the artists who created them. Vote to determine which piece becomes the Friends' gift to the permanent collection. Advance registration required at bit.ly/PParty2021.

MONDAY, DEC. 6

"TUCK EVERLASTING" AUDITIONS IN MIDDLEBURY. Monday, Dec. 6, 7-9:30 p.m. (registration at 6:30 p.m.), Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Audition for the Middlebury Community Players' April 2022 production of "Tuck Everlasting The Musical." Auditions repeat Saturday, Dec. 11. Please come to only one audition day. Auditioners must be at least 11 years old. For COVID protocols and other details, visit middleburycommunityplayers.org.

TUESDAY, DEC. 7

"100 YEARS OF THE HOLMES FARM, 1822-1923: A QUAKER PRESENCE IN THE CHAMPLAIN VALLEY" VIRTUAL PRESENTATION. Tuesday, Dec. 7, 7-8 p.m. Join Rokeby Museum and author David R. Holmes as he discusses his recently published book, "On Being a Vermonter and the Rise and Fall of the Holmes Farm, 1822-1923." Holmes is a direct descendant of the family who operated the farm and will reflect on this case study of a Vermont farm over this span of time. Advance registration is required and the link can be accessed via rokeby.org.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 8

"EURYDICE" LIVE IN HD IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, Dec. 8, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Come see the Met's production of "Eurydice, the ancient Greek myth of Orpheus, who attempts to harness the power of music to rescue his beloved Eurydice from the underworld. This version is told from Eurydice's point of view. Covid vaccinations

and masks required. Tickets \$24 adults/ \$10 students, plus applicable fees, available at townhalltheater.org.

"MAKING HISTORY WITH MRS. M.—'S CABINET: IMAGINING A FEMINIST PERIOD ROOM VIRTUAL LECTURE. Wednesday, Dec. 8, 7 p.m., Zoom. As part of the Sheldon Museum's "The Elephant in the Room" virtual lecture series, Professor Sarah Carter explores the creation and use of the "Mrs. M.—'s Cabinet" period room project at the Milwaukee Art Museum. This experimental exhibition hacks into the idea of the museum period room to ask, what does a museum do and who is it for, through the collection and space of an imagined 19th century collector.

THURSDAY, DEC. 9

"THE HUNDRED FOOT JOURNEY" FILM DISCUSSION IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Dec. 9, 6:30 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. When two rich culinary cultures meet face-to-face what will happen? Watch the film at your convenience on Kanopy (using your IPL membership) or borrow the DVD. Then join Steve Gross either virtually over Zoom or in person in the Library Lobby. Masks required for in-person attendees. We kindly ask patrons that are unvaccinated or not comfortable wearing a mask to participate via Zoom. Contact Chris Kirby for more info.

FRIDAY, DEC. 10

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Dec. 10, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 3 entry.

SATURDAY, DEC. 11

"TUCK EVERLASTING" AUDITIONS IN

MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Dec. 11, from 10:30am-1pm (registration at 10 a.m.) See Dec. 6 entry.

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Dec. 11, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 3 entry.

THE DAVE KELLER BAND IN LINCOLN. Saturday, Dec. 11, 7 p.m., Burnham Hall, 52 River Rd. Come hear soul and blues for the Burnham Music Series at Burnham Hall, Doors open at 7 p.m. and the show begins at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 for adults, teens and kids free. Refreshments are served. Masks are required. Please bring a vaccination card. For more information, call 802-388-6863.

BLOODROOT GAP IN BRANDON. Saturday, Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m., Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. Formed after a serendipitous jam session at a Vermont bluegrass festival, Bloodroot Gap is a musical collaboration between brothers Rob and Jim McCuen of Swing Noire and Freeman Corey of Catamount Crossing to provide a special evening of Vermont based bluegrass and traditional string music. Tickets \$25. Pre-concert dinner available for \$35. Reservations are required for dinners and recommended for the show and can be made on-line at brandonmusic.net. Venue is BYOB. Call (802) 247 4295 or e-mail info@brandonmusic.net for reservations or for more info.

VOCAL CONCERT IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Students of Carol Christensen and Susanne Peck share the culmination of their studies in a lively evening of songs and arias. Free. Open to audiences from both on- and off-campus; vaccinations (or valid medical or religious exemptions) and masks required. Additional health and safety information at middlebury.edu/college/arts/about/health-and-safety.

MCTV SCHEDULE Channels 1071 & 1091		MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY TELEVISION: P.O. Box 785, Middlebury, Vt. 05753		Please see the MCTV website, www.middleburycommunitytv.org , for changes in the schedule; MCTV events, classes and news; and to view many programs online. Submit listings to the above address, or call 388-3062.	
MCTV Channel 1071 Friday, Dec. 3 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church 9 a.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church 5:30 p.m. Energy Week 6:30 p.m. Middlebury Edition 7:30 p.m. Cannabis Control Board (CCB) Saturday, Dec. 4 7 a.m. Central Vermont Public Service Board 9 a.m. Energy Week 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service 5:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Energy Week 8:30 p.m. Las Promesas De Dios 9 p.m. Gov. Scott Weekly Update Sunday, Dec. 5 12 a.m. CCB 5 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 9 a.m. Catholic Mass 9:30 a.m. Las Promesas De Dios	10 a.m. Energy Week 11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Positively Speaking – Lake Champlain International 4 p.m. Congregational Service 5:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Racial Disparities Advisory Panel 10 p.m. Middlebury Edition Monday, Dec. 6 12 a.m. CCB 6 a.m. Middlebury Edition, Public Affairs 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 2 p.m. Rochester Area Climate Init. 3:30 p.m. Las Promesas De Dios 4 p.m. Gov. Scott Weekly Update 6 p.m. Green Mountain Care (GMC) Board Tuesday, Dec. 7 12 a.m. GMC Board 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 3 p.m. Energy Week 4 p.m. Congregational Service	5:30 p.m. Middlebury Edition 6 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs Wednesday, Dec. 8 12 a.m. GMC Board 6:40 a.m. Lifelines 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Selectboard, Gov. Scott 5 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Selectboard, Middlebury 10 p.m. Gov. Scott Thursday, Dec. 9 5 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 8 a.m. Congregational Service 10 a.m. Gov. Scott 12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. CCB 8 p.m. Energy Week 10:30 p.m. Eckankar 11 p.m. Racial Disparities Advisory Channel 1091 Friday, Dec. 3 5:30 a.m. EricStoryTime 5:45 a.m. ACSD & HCC School Boards	12 p.m. State Board of Education 3 p.m. Vermont Youth Orchestra 5:32 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6:30 p.m. MUHS Band and Choir Concerts 8 p.m. First Wednesdays Saturday, Dec. 4 5 a.m. All Things LGBQ 6 a.m. ACSD, HCC Boards 10:30 a.m. State Board of Education 2:45 p.m. Kids Yoga 3 p.m. Yoga with Nicole 3:45 p.m. EricStoryTime 5:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6:30 p.m. MUHS Band and Choir 7 p.m. First Wednesdays Sunday, Dec. 5 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 a.m. First Wednesdays 8 a.m. MUHS Band and Choir 9:32 a.m. Montpelier Fall Festival 4 p.m. The Sound of Music 6:30 p.m. ACSD, HCC Boards Monday, Dec. 6 5 a.m. Author Talks 11 a.m. Chair Yoga	12 p.m. The Sound of Music 3 p.m. Yestermorrow 4:30 p.m. MUHS Band and Choir 6 p.m. Sheldon Museum 8 p.m. State Board of Education Tuesday, Dec. 7 9:30 a.m. First Wednesdays 10:32 a.m. Yestermorrow 12 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 1 p.m. Sheldon Museum 4 p.m. MUHS Band and Choir 6 p.m. ACSD, HCC Boards Wednesday, Dec. 8 12 a.m. Programs on Architecture 7 a.m. Local School Boards 12 p.m. The Sound of Music 3:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 4:30 p.m. State Board of Education Thursday, Dec. 9 12 a.m. State Board of Education 6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 a.m. Yoga 10 a.m. First Wednesdays 12 p.m. Local School Boards 5:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 8 p.m. MUHS Band and Choir	

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DANFORTH PEWTER. Enter to win a \$100 Danforth Pewter Gift Card.

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ADDISON WEST MYSTERY DISCOUNT! Everyone wins! Get up to 30% off any single item.

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY. Open House at 32 Merchants Row, come see our new space! Hosting local artists Lindsey Wing (jewelry), Kaitlin Rheaume (cloth towels) and Natalie Krizo (body/facial products). Also products and samples from High Row Vineyards (highrowsvineyards.com). Special thank you to Berkshire Hathaway for underwriting this event and making this week's Midd Night Stroll possible!

BUY AGAIN ALLEY. Pop-Up by Vivace Vermont - Jean jackets with unique and bold designs by artist Sophia Manzi. Plus enter your name for a \$30 gift certificate.

HENRY SHELDON MUSEUM. The store is open until 8 pm. Miniature Christmas Trees Raffle -- trees decorated by local artists are on view; tickets for sale with the drawing on Dec 21st. Holiday music will be

YOUR HOME. 20% off all paint and transfer products. Check our new location at 56 College St.

FROG HOLLOW BIKES. Discounts 5% - 25% off and treats from Thistle and Honey Baking.

GREEN MOUNTAIN ADVENTURES. Enter to win a 1 person 1/2 day guided fly fishing trip for 2022 (\$225 value) plus Caroline's Dream pop up

HAYMAKER BUN COMPANY. Haymaker At Night: Handmade Pasta Night. Counter food service & beverages.

VERMONT BOOK SHOP. Enter to win a \$100 gift card to the Vermont Book Shop.

MAIN STREET STATIONERY. 10% off all art supplies

STONE MILL. Several makers and producers on hand! Check @ thestonemillvt on instagram for the latest lineup throughout the holiday

played by Ronnie Romano on the Sheldon's antique Chickering piano.

SPARROW ART SUPPLY. (52 Main St) Bundle and Buy! Receive a free Sparrow pencil case with a purchase of \$25 or more! Raffle to win an Easel; everyone who makes a purchase is entered to win. Additional tickets can be purchased. All money from extra tickets sales will go towards a scholarship at Middlebury Studio School. This promotion will run for the duration of Midd Night Strolls, and the winner will be announced at the end of the final night.

season. We have the gifts, cards, wine and coffee to delight everyone on your list.

TULIP AND TONIC. 10-25% off all retail items and Buy \$100 in gift card and get 5/\$20 vouchers to gift for free.

PARLOUR. Bottles of whiskey along with cocktail drinks, for sale by Whistle Pig plus Mr. and Mrs. Claus will be serving free Christmas cookies. Chair massages (\$1/min) by Kim Doane available first come, first serve. Free Tata Harper facials with the purchase of \$100 or more and a free gift. Sign up sheets to reserve your spot or call 989-4993. Sneak peak of our clothing line and everyone who makes a purchase has a chance to win up to 50% off all items. All purchases enter to win a year of free facials (one per month) and more!

TINKER AND SMITHY. Pop up by Good Vibes Tie Dye

AUTUMN GOLD. Store will be open.

EDGEWATER GALLERY. Gallery will be open at their Merchants Row location.

JUICE AMOUR. come check out our new location on Merchants

Row! Samples, retail items and gift certificates available.

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN. We'll be serving \$7 champagne and \$2 oysters (minimum of 6) as supplies last!

FIRE AND ICE. Receive a free \$20 gift card when you purchase \$100 gift card.

VERMONT'S OWN. Gifts and Goods Surprise discount at the register!

IPJ REAL ESTATE. Golden Hour Goods LLC with baby onesies, sweatshirts, ornaments, mugs, glassware and photo cards.

NATIONAL BANK OF MIDDLEBURY. Artisan Market by the Middlebury Studio School vendors plus free gift wrapping.

51 MAIN. Artisan Market by the Middlebury Studio School vendors

TRIANGLE PARK PLAZA. Enjoy heaters, a fire table, free popcorn and the hot cocoa cart with all the fixings!

PLUS MIDDLEBURY MONEY GIVEAWAYS ALL EVENING! And, be sure to check out the illuminated falls at the Marble Works.

We are excited to bring this event back and want everyone — customers, business owners and staff members — to be safe this holiday season. If a store is very crowded, please wait until people come out before going inside and wear a mask if the businesses has asked you to do so. Practice patience, kindness and good cheer!

Thank you for supporting our local businesses and mark your calendars for one final strolls on Thursday, Dec. 16, from 5-8 p.m.

Find updated info about the strolls and other Very Merry Middlebury happenings at **EXPERIENCEMIDDLEBURY.COM**

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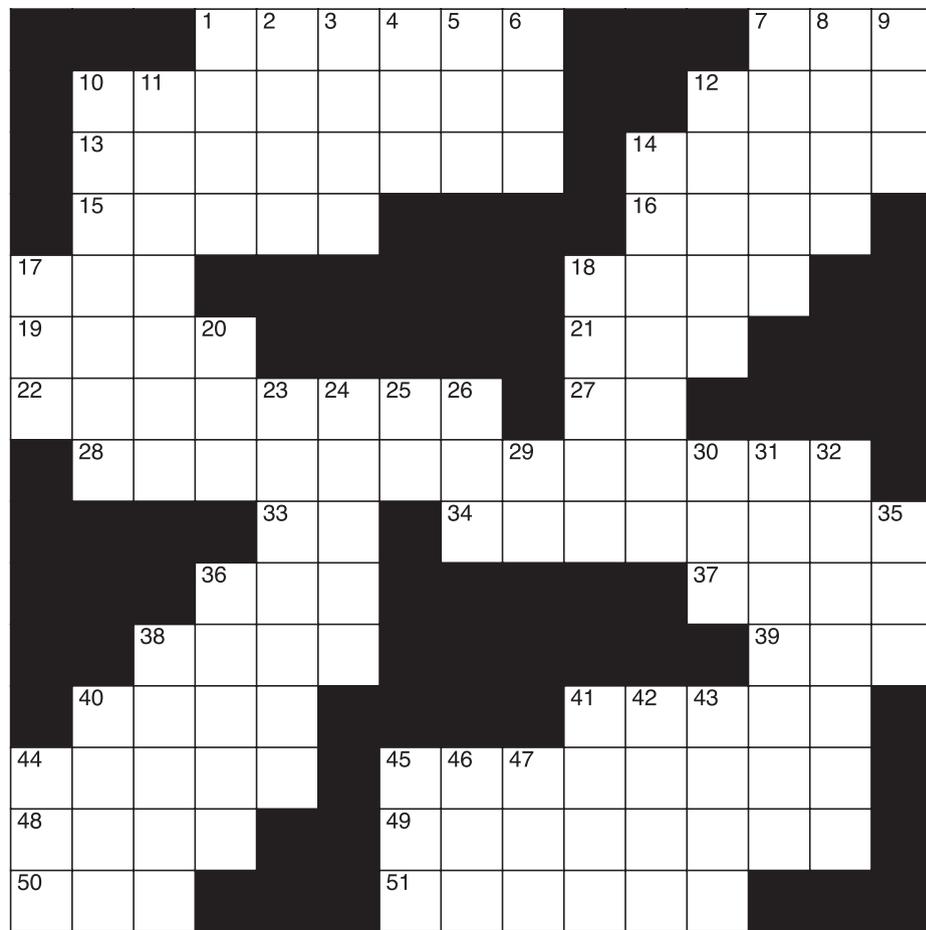
ACROSS

- 1. Topsides
- 7. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 10. A Sultan's court
- 12. Maine city
- 13. Largest living land animal
- 14. Appetizer
- 15. Encounters
- 16. Leader
- 17. The source of bacon
- 18. Nuclear near reach weapon (abbr.)
- 19. Celery (Spanish)
- 21. Pie _ _ _ mode
- 22. Eye disease
- 27. Hello (slang)
- 28. Those in their 80s
- 33. Law enforcement agency (abbr.)
- 34. Business organizations
- 36. Mimic
- 37. For indicating speed of rotation (abbr.)
- 38. Feeling
- 39. Visual way to interact with computers (abbr.)
- 40. "Let It Snow!" songwriter
- 41. Essential oil used as

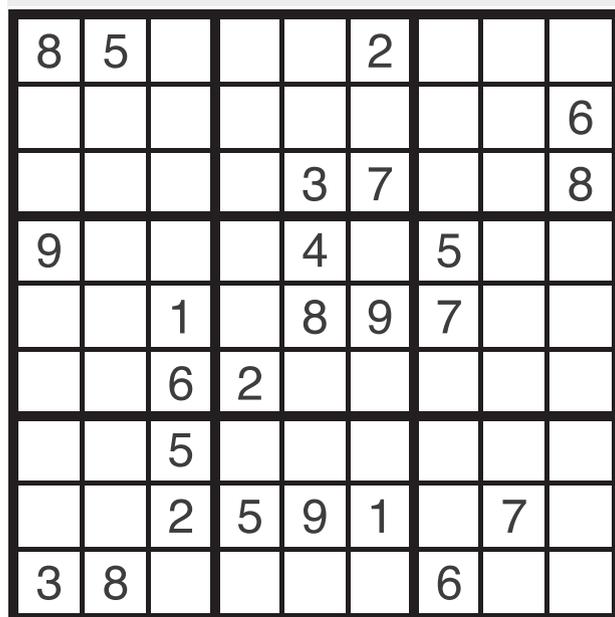
- perfume
- 44. Norwegian composer
- 45. Coast
- 48. _ _ lang syne, good old days
- 49. Gland behind the stomach
- 50. Tooth caregiver
- 51. King of Camelot

DOWN

- 1. N. American indigenous people
- 2. Fascinated by
- 3. Root of out
- 4. Patti Hearst's captors
- 5. Atomic #50
- 6. Habitual drunkard
- 7. Arabic for "peace"
- 8. Trickery
- 9. One's physique (slang)
- 10. Not quite there
- 11. Wistfully mournful
- 12. Popular dance
- 14. Cut of meat
- 17. A way to stand
- 18. "Gunga Din" screenwriter
- 20. 10th month of the year (abbr.)



- 23. A way of jumping
- 24. Utah town
- 25. Of I
- 26. Actress de Armas
- 29. Silver
- 30. Play a role
- 31. _ _ Falls
- 32. Attaches to
- 35. Japanese title
- 36. Expressed pleasure
- 38. Buckets
- 40. Dirt
- 41. Hypnotists' group (abbr.)
- 42. Restaurant drive- _ _
- 43. Digs up
- 44. He voices "Olaf"
- 45. Relaxing place
- 46. Body part
- 47. Pesky house critter

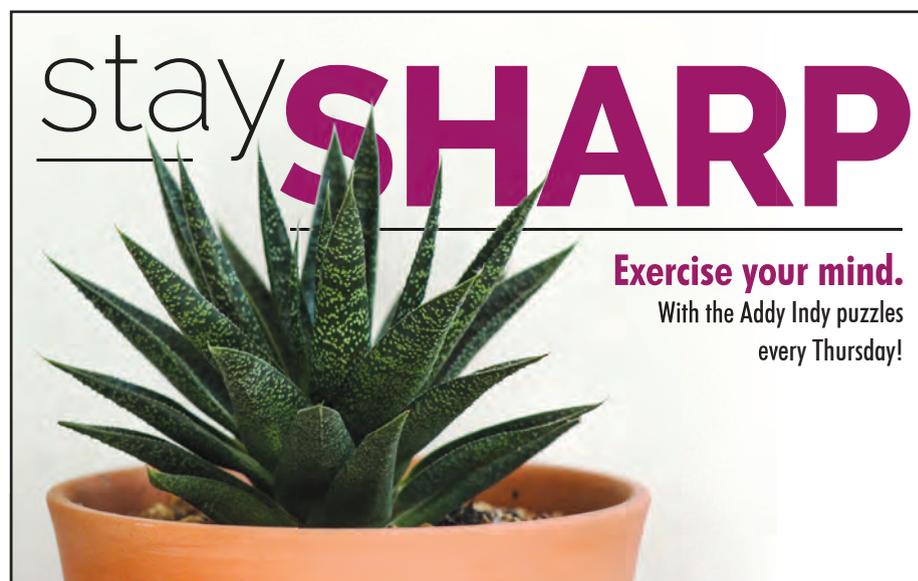


Sudoku

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

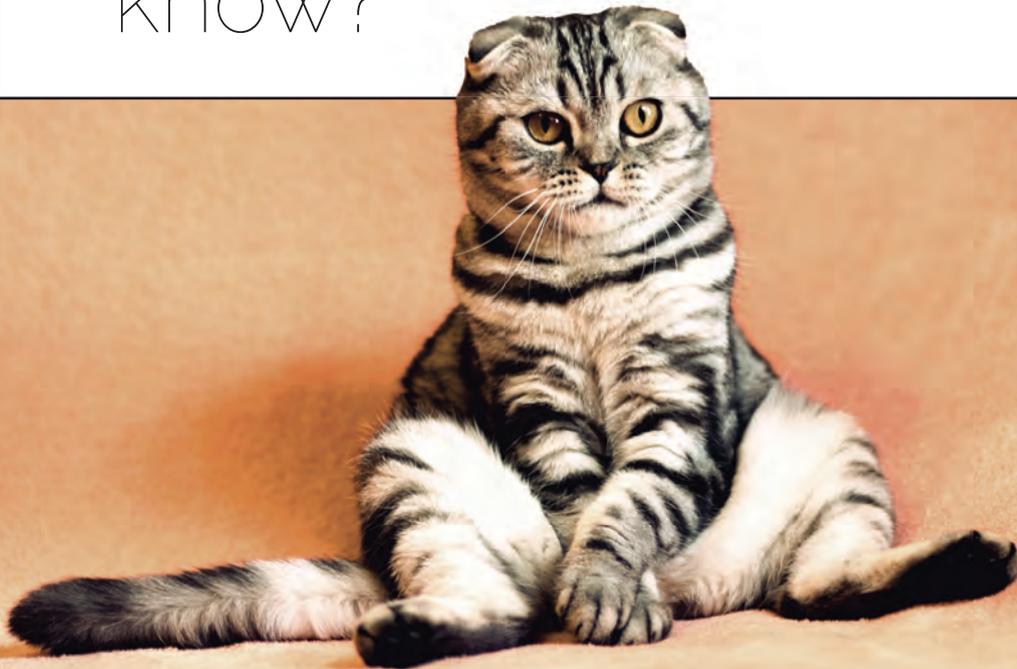
This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 14.



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KELLER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Keller released "Every Soul's a Star" in late 2018 on Catfood Records' label. On this album, Keller's vocals and guitar playing shine on 10 new originals, plus one tribute to Aretha Franklin.

"Dave is one of the best songwriters I've ever been around," said Catfood label head Bob Trenchard.

"I really hope this one helps people," said Keller of his 2018 album. "There are songs about love and heartbreak. And songs that address the troubles of the world. I hope these songs find a home in people's hearts."

A bit of a late bloomer, Keller grew up in Massachusetts, loving music, but not picking up guitar until age 16, and not singing in his first band until age 20. But blessed with mentors including deep

soul singer Mighty Sam McClain, mystical soul guitarist Robert Ward, acoustic blues master Paul Rishell, and soul/blues man Johnny Rawls, Keller made up for lost time.

Relocating to icy Vermont in 1993, Keller found fertile ground to grow his audience, and has become a household name there. Famous for his live-wire shows, Keller can often be found 50 feet out in the crowd, teasing fiery licks

from his trusty Stratocaster, singing off-mike as the audience sings along.

Catch the Dave Keller Band's performance, next Saturday, Dec. 11, at Burnham Hall in Lincoln. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the show begins at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 for adults, teens and kids free. Refreshments are served. Masks are required. Bring your Covid vaccination card. For more information, call 802-388-6863.



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Addison County's Humane Society



PETS IN NEED HOMeward BOUND

Addison County's Humane Society

Dunkin and Donut are two beautiful and sweet seniors who came to us out of a situation where they were severely medically neglected. Since coming to Homeward Bound, they have both received dental surgery and had to have many teeth extracted. Following about a month of full medical overhaul, they are feeling much better!

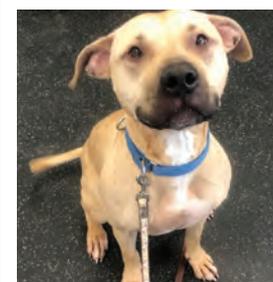
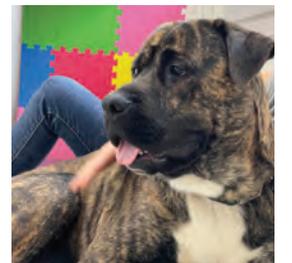


They are 9 and 12 years old respectively and are a bonded pair. Dunkin (female) and Donut (male) are straight up adorable together. They both are on a wet food only diet due to their semi-toothless mouths, but they love feeding time! This duo has been sampling all sorts of delicious flavors and loving every minute of it! They are both curious, relaxed and affectionate – a perfect pair for any home.



Carson is 13-years old and 16 pounds of pure love and affection! He was surrendered to the shelter when his owners could no longer keep him. He loves to eat! Food is this guy's best friend, whether it's wet food, dry, or just some treats - he is happy! He likes to lay in the cat tree or sprawl out on the floor for belly rubs! Yes, that's right...belly rubs just like a dog would like! He would do well in a home with other cats, dogs, or kids. Call today to take Carson away!

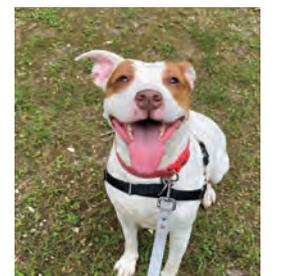
Gryphon is new to us, but very sweet. He loves to get on laps and gives high fives. He has come out of his shell a lot since he arrived! He guards his food and toys from other dogs, so he needs to be the only dog in the home. We are looking for someone with breed experience who is ready to expose Gryphon slowly to lots of new things, as he has spent most of his life isolated at home. He is ready for his best life to start, so come rescue this big guy today!



Irish is a spring-loaded pupper with the most loving personality. He has a ton of energy and needs an owner who is down for play and adventure time. He wants to cuddle, snuggle, and wiggle the whole day through. He has a significant prey drive for small animals – he wants to hunt – so absolutely no small animals or cats in the home. He has never been socialized with dogs and has shown that he is not currently safe to introduce to other dogs. He needs a home where he is the only pet. He loves the

car, attention, drive-throughs, and every single human that he meets. Look at his face....he is the cutest!

This wiggle-butt is **Jayla!** She is crazy about people and would adore a human of her very own. She needs to be the only animal in the household. As far as she is concerned, cats are 100% snacks. She is playful and in need of bonding and training with her new owner. She is 4 years old and as cute as it gets. We are learning more about her the more time we spend with her, so call and talk to us to see if Jayla is the one you have been looking for!



Henny is a hunk of love who is just waiting for his human to come along. He is all wiggles and playtime, energetic and fun. He loves people and playtime and would be an amazing companion dog. He needs to be the only pet in the home at this time. He is a big, sweet goober who doesn't deserve to be stuck in shelter! Come meet him today!

Call or check our website. We may have a pet for you.
388-1100 | HomewardBoundAnimals.org
236 Boardman Street | Middlebury, VT



34 SCHOOL HOUSE HILL RD, MIDDLEBURY
\$350,000

THE HOME

A LOOK INSIDE ADDISON COUNTY HOMES FOR SALE

Cozy one-level home in Middlebury

This home lives large with cathedral ceilings, spacious living area, a dream eat-in kitchen with commercial stainless sink, lots of shelving and windows, open to the family room with custom stone hearth which hosts the wood stove to cozy up to on a crisp evening. There are 2 bedrooms also with vaulted ceilings, both of which open to the private park like acreage. Head into the living room from the front garden entry and connect through to the laundry room and attached 2-car garage. One-level living at its best in Middlebury with privacy and convenience.



This week's property is managed by RE/MAX North Professionals, The Gridley Group, in Middlebury. More info at midvthomes.com.

real estate



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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.

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150 SOUTH PLEASANT STREET
DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY!

MLS #4891697 | \$310,000
3900 SF | 0.24 AC

Development opportunity in downtown Middlebury! This property, formerly a florist shop, has been planned for development into condominium units.

The current owner has permitted a plan with the town for 6 townhouse units. Zoned in the **Village Residential Commercial Zone** the permitted uses include: Bed & Breakfast, Home Occupation, one family, or two family dwelling. Many other conditional uses may be allowed with proper permitting. Have another idea for the property? Let's talk about it!

Off and on street parking is available. Permanent easement to the north allows vehicular access to the rear of the building. A short walk into the town of Middlebury and overlooking the Otter Creek.

The existing building is in need of rehab or removal but an excellent choice in this location.

LAND LISTING: MLS #4891697



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PUZZLE

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4	3	6	2	7	5	9	8	1
7	1	5	8	6	3	2	4	9
6	4	2	5	9	1	8	7	3
3	8	9	7	2	4	6	1	5

Stay Sharp Exercise your mind.
With the Addy Indy puzzles every Thursday!

MUSIC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

His work on Alastair Moock's "Singing Our Way Through" was nominated for a 2013 Grammy award. Nayak has toured with numerous artists including Polly Fiveash, Jeffrey Foucault, Lui Collins, Heather Maloney and Pamela Means.

As Cloudbelly, the pair recently teamed up to create their first album, "Thou/Them," which according to WBUR "shimmers with shades of Joni Mitchell in Laitman's vocals, and an overall dreamy Cowboy Junkies Zen-out vibe."



Cloudbelly will perform a concert for the Ripton Community Coffee House at Burnham Hall in Lincoln, on Dec. 4, at 7:30 p.m.

This is an in-person show you don't want to miss. The duo will play two sets, beginning at 7:30 p.m. For the live-streamed concert, visit the Ripton Community Coffee House Facebook page or YouTube channel.

Covid protections: proof of vaccine required, masking for all indoors, refreshments outside only. Tickets are \$10 general admission; \$15-\$20 generous admission. For more information call 802-388-9782 or visit rcch.org.

Purchase and party on Sunday

Would you like to select a work of art for the college museum? The Friends of the Middlebury College Museum of Art are inviting interested members of the community to join them virtually for their 52nd annual purchase party at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 5.

Since they were founded in 1969, the Friends have importantly supported the educational outreach and collection development of the museum, while also enjoying exhibition openings, lectures, gallery talks and occasional museum trips. At their gala annual purchase party, they are presented with several works of art desired for the museum collection and have an opportunity to vote for the gift they will support with their membership funds. Over the years these gifts have significantly added to the holdings of the museum.

This year's purchase party will be held virtually via Zoom and will be dedicated to choosing a work of contemporary art to enrich the museum's modern collection from three nominees selected on the New York market by Professor of Studio Art Jim Butler. Butler will present the works along with profiles of their artists. Members will then vote on-line for their selection.

The party is free, but one must be a member of the Friends in order to register for and participate in the selection. The Friends have expanded their membership categories this year to make the organization and its activities accessible to anyone interested in the museum and its activities. To participate in the event, go to the Middlebury College Museum of Art website and follow the prompts for upcoming events.

PROPERTIES WITH LAKE AND/OR MOUNTAIN VIEWS



BRIDPORT, VT

Year-round, 2 BDR cottage with 50 feet of rapped shoreline and a dock. Other features include a garage and 30'x32' commercial style barn. The land backs up to a natural wetland.

MLS# 4891435

\$299,000



FERRISBURGH, VT

This 1900 farmhouse has 2 BDR, 1 BA and sits on 5 acres. The downstairs has been renovated and there is opportunity to expand the upstairs. There is enough land for a couple of horses and some gardens, too.

MLS# 4891588

\$250,000



ADDISON, VT

This 6 BDR, 5 BA Cape sits on top of 20+ acres and a ridge capturing view of the Adirondacks and Green Mtns. Property includes a 1 BR apt with private entrance. The main source of heat is geothermal, and the home is powered by a solar array.

MLS# 4888875

\$1,100,000



ADDISON, VT

Open House this Sunday (12/5) 11am-2pm. This 3 BR ranch home has expansive views of the Green Mtns and Adirondacks. Key features include hardwood floors, a 4-season porch, 2 car garage, paved driveway, full basement, wood stove, and an acre of land.

MLS# TBD

\$339,900

Shop
Dine
Stroll

CELEBRATE
DOWN
TOWN
VERGENNES

COMMUNITY CORNER

Come to Vergennes this Saturday (12/4) for the Holiday Stroll!

9am-6:30 pm

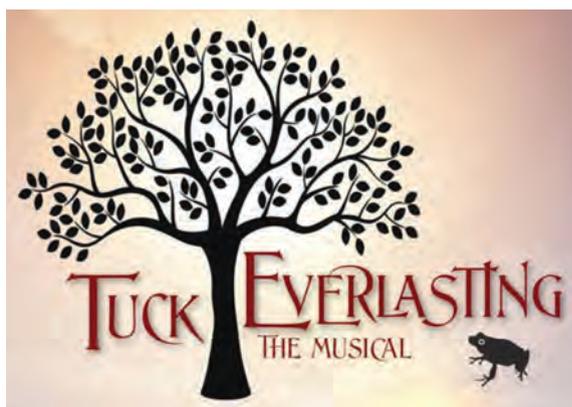
Visit
VergennesDowntown.org
for a full list of events.

Audition for 'Tuck Everlasting The Musical'

The Middlebury Community Players will hold auditions at Town Hall Theater on Dec. 6 and 11 for their spring production of "Tuck Everlasting The Musical," based on the 1975 American children's novel "Tuck Everlasting" by Natalie Babbitt. Tuck was originally scheduled for spring 2020. MCP had to postpone the production due to Covid and will be presenting the show in April 2022.

Eleven-year-old Winnie Foster yearns for a life of adventure beyond her white picket fence, but not until she becomes unexpectedly entwined with the Tuck Family does she get more than she could have imagined. When Winnie learns of the magic behind the Tucks' unending youth, she must fight to protect their secret from those who would do anything for a chance at eternal life. As her adventure unfolds, Winnie faces an extraordinary choice: Return to her life or continue on with the Tucks on their infinite journey.

Auditions will be at Town Hall Theater on Monday, Dec. 6, from 7-9:30 p.m. (registration



Sign up to audition for the Middlebury Community Player's spring production of "Tuck Everlasting The Musical." Auditions will be held on Dec. 6 and Dec. 11. Must be at least 11 years old to audition.

starts at 6:30 p.m.), and Saturday, Dec. 11, from 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (registration starts at 10 a.m.) Come to only one audition day. Auditioners must be at least 11 years old. Those younger than 18 years old must have a parent or guardian sign their audition form.

Some of the original cast is able to return, but are there still several lead roles to be filled, as well as ensemble members, who are vital for setting the tone of the show and on stage

for many of the song and dance numbers. Lead roles include: Jesse, Miles and Angus Tuck; The Man In The Yellow Suit; Constable Joe; and Hugo. The Ensemble consists of the chorus and dancers who will play circus performers, circus goers, and townspeople (up to approx. 12 actors). Directed by Kristen Ginsburg, Music Director Jennifer Allred, Choreographer Kendra Gratton. Rehearsals begin with a read-through on Monday evening, Jan. 10, 2022. Performances will be April 14-16.

Covid Protocols. In keeping with state health recommendations for those participating in close contact indoor events, all those attending auditions are required to provide proof of vaccination and must remain masked and maintain safe distancing. These protocols will be in effect throughout rehearsals, depending on current health recommendations.

Visit middleburycommunityplayers.org for details and audition forms.

Anyone with questions should email info@middleburycommunityplayers.org, or leave at voicemail at 802-388-7432.

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Wine for the adults.
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Tues - Sat 11am - 5pm Sun 12pm - 5pm
Open Dec 2, 9, 16 until 8PM

