



Local arts live

Outdoor cinema, theater & music return to the Swift House Inn — under a tent. See Arts + Leisure.



No postseason

It appeared the Legion team did well enough for a playoff berth. But a tiebreaker said no. See Page 1B.



Time to sell

Longtime owners of Martin's Hardware sell two stores to Aubuchon. See Page 2A.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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Republican candidates face off in Addison-5 primary

Christiano pledges to use common sense

By JOHN FLOWERS
NEW HAVEN — Jon Christiano's name will once again appear on an Addison County election ballot. Only this year, the New Haven resident has set his sights on a seat representing the Addison-5 district in the Vermont House, rather than the state Senate.



CHRISTIANO

Aug. 9 GOP primary that will determine who goes on to face Bridport Democrat Jubilee McGill in the Nov. 8 General Election.

There's a lot at stake, particularly for Addison County Republicans, who hope to preserve what has been their one foothold in Vermont's

General Assembly. Longtime Addison-5 Rep. Harvey Smith, R-New Haven, confirmed a few

months ago that he wouldn't seek re-election to the House district that includes Bridport, Weybridge, most of New Haven and a tiny chunk of Middlebury that encompasses the Marble Works and Seymour Street neighborhoods. Addison-5 gained that Middlebury real estate but lost the northwest corner of New Haven (to adjacent Addison-3) during the latest legislative reapportionment process.

Christiano got a major taste of campaigning in 2020, when he

(See Christiano, Page 15A)

Kent also seeks write-in nod for Senate

By JOHN FLOWERS
BRIDPORT — Some people seek public office to expand programs and services for constituents who encounter barriers in their everyday life.



KENT

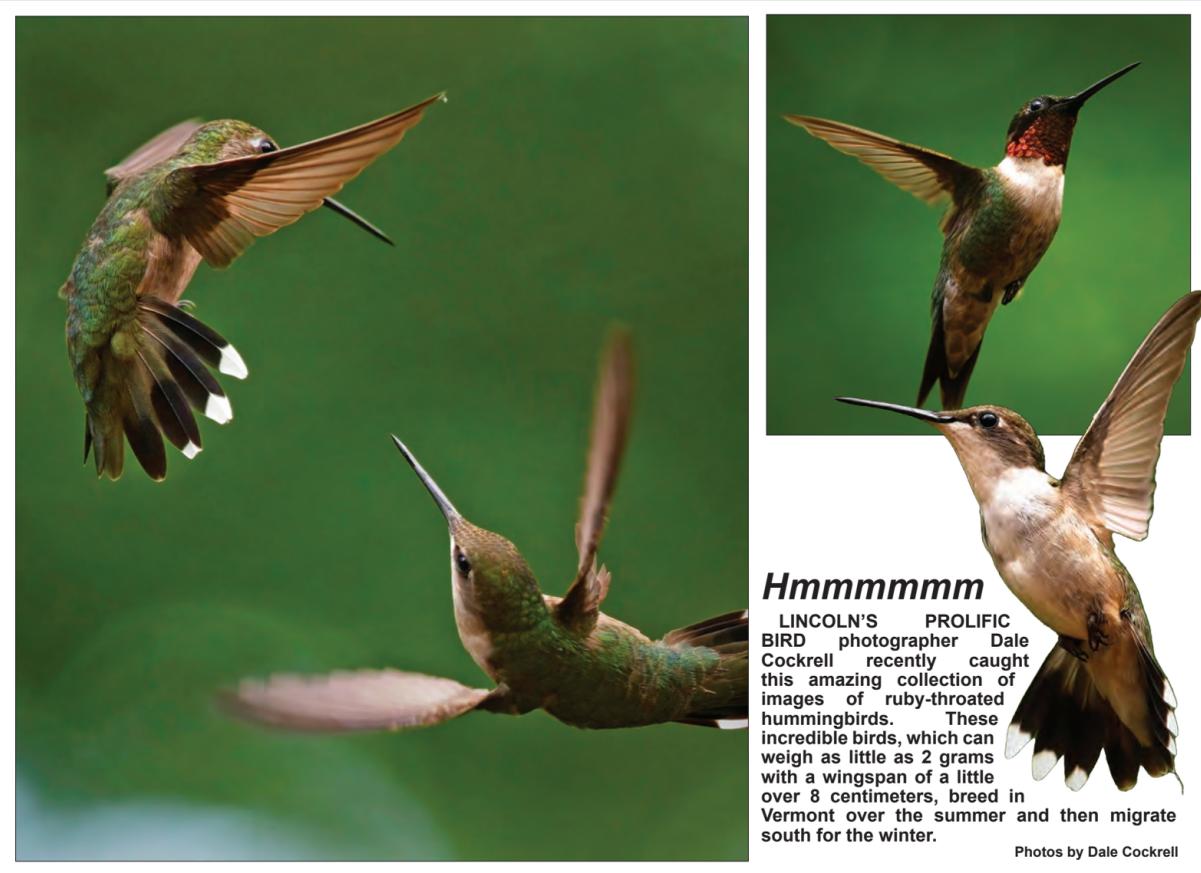
Zachary Kent is seeking office to help minimize government influence over citizens as a strategy to improve conditions for citizens.

The Bridport Republican is competing against New Haven's

Jon Christiano (see related story) in an Aug. 9 primary runoff that will determine who will carry the GOP banner in the race to represent the Addison-5 district in the Vermont House. It's a district that includes Bridport, Weybridge, most of New Haven and a tiny chunk of Middlebury that encompasses the Marble Works and Seymour Street neighborhoods.

“As a Republican, I believe in capitalism,” said Kent, 50. “It gives us the ability to follow what we want to do, to follow our dreams — to go to college, start a family, start a farm. Vermont's economy will be at its best when government stays in its lane and allows the small businesses, farms and entrepreneurs to make their own way and drive.”

Kent and his family moved to Bridport almost a decade ago, though they've lived in Vermont (See Kent, Page 15A)



Hmmmmmm

LINCOLN'S PROLIFIC BIRD photographer Dale Cockrell recently caught this amazing collection of images of ruby-throated hummingbirds. These incredible birds, which can weigh as little as 2 grams with a wingspan of a little over 8 centimeters, breed in Vermont over the summer and then migrate south for the winter.

Photos by Dale Cockrell

Voters weighing cost of Starksboro's exit

MAUSD officials project tax increase

By MARIN HOWELL
ADDISON COUNTY — Residents in Bristol, Monkton and New Haven on Aug. 9 will vote on whether Starksboro will be allowed to withdraw from the Mount Abraham Unified School District (MAUSD).

Representatives from Starksboro and MAUSD disagree on how exactly that withdrawal would affect remaining towns in the district.

At a June 28 MAUSD board meeting, Superintendent Patrick (See Starksboro, Page 16A)

Two towns ask sheriff to resign his position

By JOHN FLOWERS
ADDISON COUNTY — The selectboards of at least two Addison County communities have joined the chorus of calls for Addison County Sheriff Peter Newton's resignation in wake of his arrest last month on two felony sexual assault charges.

Waltham's selectboard also considered drafting a Newton resignation demand, but members ultimately agreed not to pursue that path at this time.

The Panton selectboard on July 11 adopted a statement calling for Newton to “immediately” step down, while the Ripton selectboard has taken the added step of terminating its law enforcement services contract with the sheriff's

On June 28 Newton pleaded not guilty in Vermont Superior Court in Burlington to two felony sexual assault charges, following a months-long investigation into allegations of abuse reported by a woman with whom he was in a relationship.

This past Friday Vermont (See Newton, Page 16A)



By the way

Islesley Public Library's Second Annual Photo Challenge is quickly coming to a close, but you still have time to take that perfect shot. Submit your digital entries by July 31 to renee.ursitti@isleslypubliclibrary.org. This year's theme is “Water, water, everywhere.” Your challenge is to photograph water in some way — it could be in liquid or frozen, flowing or still water. Capture it frozen in time or with motion. The choice is yours. There will be three winners in both the adult (See By the way, Page 17A)

Inconsistencies in leave policies putting employees at risk

By KATIE FUTTERMAN
ADDISON COUNTY — Without a comprehensive, statewide universal paid leave policy, inconsistencies in policies among different Vermont employers leave employees to advocate for themselves.

In Vermont, activists and state representatives said they hope to change that situation by introducing and passing legislation during the Legislature's next biennium.

The federal Family and Medical Leave Act grants employees up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to care for children or family

members, or to recover themselves. Beyond that floor, family leave is largely decided on a case-by-case basis, with employers and employees working it out together.

Franny Gould knows first-hand the difficulties an employee can face when needing time away from work. She had

been a teacher at Mary Hogan Elementary School for less than a year when she needed to request time off for a new baby. She explained how problematic that situation can be.

“I think that that's something that is (See Paid family leave, Page 17A)

Pollinators taking flight in Vergennes

Bee the Change creates city habitat

By KATIE FUTTERMAN
VERGENNES — You may have thought about offsetting your carbon footprint, but have you ever considered your pollinator footprint? Bee the Change, a Vermont-based organization dedicated to increasing biodiversity through pollination, is asking Vermont businesses, schools and community members to do just that by repurposing fields of solar panels and other spaces into designated pollinator habitats.

The goal of Bee the Change's “Our Town Pollinator Project,” (See Pollinators, Page 18A)

Where has the water gone at Middlebury falls?

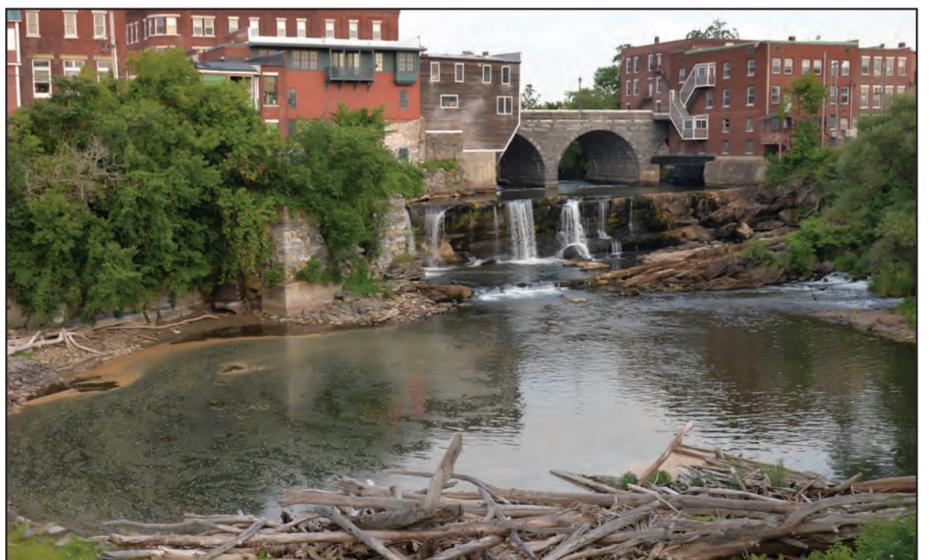
Dry summer and open sluice gate diminishing flow

By SHAYIQ SHAH
MIDDLEBURY — Whether you take a stroll past the falls of the Otter Creek in downtown Middlebury in the evenings or wonder over their beauty from Marble Works during lunchtime, the waterfall is an emblematic feature of the Middlebury community.

Over the past few weeks, however, the sight of the falls has changed: Very little water is flowing over and down the 18-foot drop.

“It is the lowest water flow that I have seen in all my time here,” said Fred Dunnington, who was Middlebury town planner from 1981 to 2013.

The cause for the low flow of (See Middlebury falls, Page 11A)



THE FLOW OF water over the Middlebury falls has slowed to a trickle this month, and people are asking why. In addition to a lower rate of water flow in Otter Creek, an open sluice gate is diverting some of the water before it gets to the falls.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

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New childcare plan gains momentum

Funding, planning builds for center

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Planning and financing is starting to come together for a Community Child Care Expansion Project at 150 Weybridge St. in Middlebury that would bring up to 77 new childcare slots and 28 new jobs to our area by the spring of 2025.

That pending, \$10 million project — combined with a concurrent effort by the Congregational Church of Middlebury to host a 24-slot facility within its downtown campus — would provide a critical infusion of childcare services in a county that, according to the non-profit advocacy group Let's Grow Kids, needs an additional 452 childcare spots just to meet the needs of working parents with youngsters ages 3 and younger.

"I think it's something Middlebury and the whole county really needs," said Linda January, director of the Otter Creek Child Center (OCCC) that's the focal point of the 150 Weybridge St. project. It calls for renovating the OCCC and equipping it with a 12,000-14,000 addition.

"It will put a nice-sized dent in the childcare shortage," January said. "It won't completely solve the problem, but it will definitely ease the pain. For a lot of families" It was a year ago that the

Independent first introduced the project — more than three years in the making — to the community. A 12-member Community Childcare Expansion Team was formed to plan, and advocate for, the expanded center. And the team has had a very solvent and influential ally: Middlebury College, which recently confirmed an approximately \$4 million financial commitment to the center — not only in dollars, but in real estate. David Provost, the college's executive vice president of finance and administration, said the college is donating the 2.5-acre Weybridge Street parcel just west of the OCCC that will make the building addition possible.

"Someone said, 'Why not just add on to OCCC?' It made so much sense, because it's right there in the downtown and it's walking distance for so many people who work there."

— Cheryl Mitchell

The college's support is contingent on an endorsement from the institution's board of trustees.

Middlebury College's interest in the childcare expansion plan is heightened by the fact that in addition to having scores of employees in need of childcare services, the 150 Weybridge St. project will absorb programming at the College Street Child Center (CSCC). Currently located at 228 College St., CSCC employs nine teachers and is licensed for 24 children.

Advocates have mapped out a tentative timetable calling for a spring 2023 construction launch at



CONSTRUCTION COULD BEGIN next spring on a major expansion and renovation of the Otter Creek Child Center at 150 Weybridge St. This architectural rendering shows how the center could accommodate a two-story addition to the back and left of the current building.

150 Weybridge St. that's to involve two phases.

Phase one, according to Community Childcare Expansion Team spokesperson Cheryl Mitchell, will center on site work, installing a driveway and parking lot, and erecting a two-story addition of at least 12,000 square feet at the northwest end of the current OCCC building.

Phase one is expected take 13 months, leading to OCCC programming moving into the new addition during the spring of 2024, thus making way for "phase two": A complete gut rehab of the early 20th century farmhouse that OCCC has called home since its founding in 1984.

Phase two is expected to take around a year, culminating in full occupancy of the expanded childcare center by Feb. 21, 2025, project advocates estimate.

The Community Childcare Expansion Team has commissioned Waltham, Mass.-based DW Associates Architecture Inc. to produce renderings of what the completed project would look like. The renderings show an addition that's harmonious with the rural residential appearance of the OCCC farmhouse. The design depicts sweeping wraparound porches, white fences, and ample grounds on which "multiple age-appropriate, nature-based playgrounds" would be installed,

according to a project narrative.

PAYING THE BILL

Organizers have been diligently applying for grants to help underwrite the ambitious project. In addition to seeking a \$1 million Community Development Block Grant, advocates have applied for a \$350,000 grant through the Northern Border Regional Commission, and \$100,000 through Let's Grow Kids.

And there's another large grant prospect: A major cut of a \$10 million fiscal year 2023 federal earmark that U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., has requested for Let's Grow Kids "to establish a fund for the expansion of childcare facilities in various Vermont

counties." Mitchell said Middlebury's childcare initiative could be in line for \$3 million of that earmark, should Let's Grow Kids land it.

But project boosters aren't just pinning their hopes on grants. They're looking for buy-in from some of the county's largest employers, with Middlebury College having already set the tone.

"(The college) has been looking at this project for years, and they've looked at a couple of other sites, and none of them have really worked out," Mitchell said. "Then someone said, 'Why not just add on to OCCC?' It made so much (See *Childcare*, Page 3A)

Owners sell Martin's Hardware stores

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — In 1995 Martin Clark purchased the Bristol hardware store he'd been working at for a decade and reopened it as Martin's Hardware & Building Supply. Over the next 27 years, Martin and his wife Kathleen would open two more stores in Middlebury and Brattleboro and welcome 25 employees to the Martin's Hardware family.

Now, the Clarks are preparing to step away from the business they've long nurtured as they sell two of their stores to the Aubuchon Hardware Co., a family-owned chain based in Westminster, Mass., and close the third.

The Clarks began the process of exiting the business two years ago, when they started looking to sell their Martin's Hardware location in Brattleboro. The couple wasn't able to find a buyer for that store, which

will permanently close in August, but Martin said they directed buyers' attention to their Addison County locations to eventually give them the chance to fully retire.

"We had interest from other businesses and decided now was the time," the 59-year-old business owner said. "The opportunity was there."

The Clarks said they're confident with the decision to sell to in particular to Aubuchon, a company they believe shares their commitment to meeting the community's needs.

"Aubuchon has a great foundation for giving back. For the small businesses in this community, they've given so much," Kathleen said.

Come early October, the couple's Middlebury and Bristol stores will be fully owned and operated by the Aubuchon firm. Aubuchon will

close and merge its existing Court Street, Middlebury, store with the Martin's Hardware location on Route 7, rebranding that business as Aubuchon Hardware. The Clarks' 68 West Street store in Bristol will continue to operate as Martin's Hardware & Building Supply.

Mike Mattson, vice president of marketing for the Aubuchon Company, said the company plans to keep both Martin's stores open throughout the change in ownership and planned renovations.

"Our plan is to make renovations and improvements to both locations (while they remain fully open) in manageable chunks, which will not overly disrupt day-to-day business operations," he wrote in an email to the *Independent*.

The Aubuchon Company also hopes to keep on all 35 employees that currently work at the two Addison County stores, a team Kathleen Clark said is an irreplaceable part of the Martin's Hardware business.

"The employees are like our extended family," she said.

Martin Clark added, "We can't thank our employees enough. It's their efforts that make this (business) what it is."

As they near the end of their time owning Martin's Hardware, the Clarks agreed, employees included, there is one thing that has made the past 27 years so special.



MARTIN CLARK AND his wife Kathleen have owned Martin's Hardware & Building Supply in Bristol for 27 years. The couple recently decided to sell the hardware store and its sister location in Middlebury to the Aubuchon Company and enter into retirement.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

"It's been the people," Kathleen said. "The best part of owning a business is waiting on people, and the least fun part is all the paperwork."

Even though they're stepping away from their time in the store, the

Clarks say they'll continue to stay active in the county. Martin plans to continue his role as head coach of Mount Abraham Union High School's varsity boys' basketball team, and Kathleen said the extra time might give them opportunities

to find new ways of serving the community.

"We love our community," she said. "We will be staying in the community and maybe starting to volunteer in ways that have interested us."

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Child care

(Continued from Page 2A)
sense, because it's right there in the downtown and it's walking distance for so many people who work there."

Mitchell is a legend in the Addison County childcare field. She co-founded the Addison County Parent-Child Center, which has become a model for not only dispensing care to children, but also for imparting parenting skills to young moms and dads so they can build self-sufficient and caring households. She served 10 years as deputy secretary of the Vermont Agency of Human Services under former Gov. Howard Dean.

So when someone with that kind of resume says, "This is the most childcare-positive climate I've ever seen," people pay attention.

Mitchell is basing her observation on the 150 Weybridge St. project, the Congregational Church project, and growing support for childcare and pre-K initiatives at both the state and federal levels. Rising pay and tuition reimbursement opportunities for early childhood educators have also helped, according to Mitchell.

"The workforce will become more robust, so people won't have as much trouble hiring staff in the future," she said. "Once (the new center) is done, we hope it will be a hub for recruiting and training even more people into the childcare workforce."

January is also upbeat about the future. She said her only trepidation is the environmental review 150 Weybridge St. will have to undergo as part of

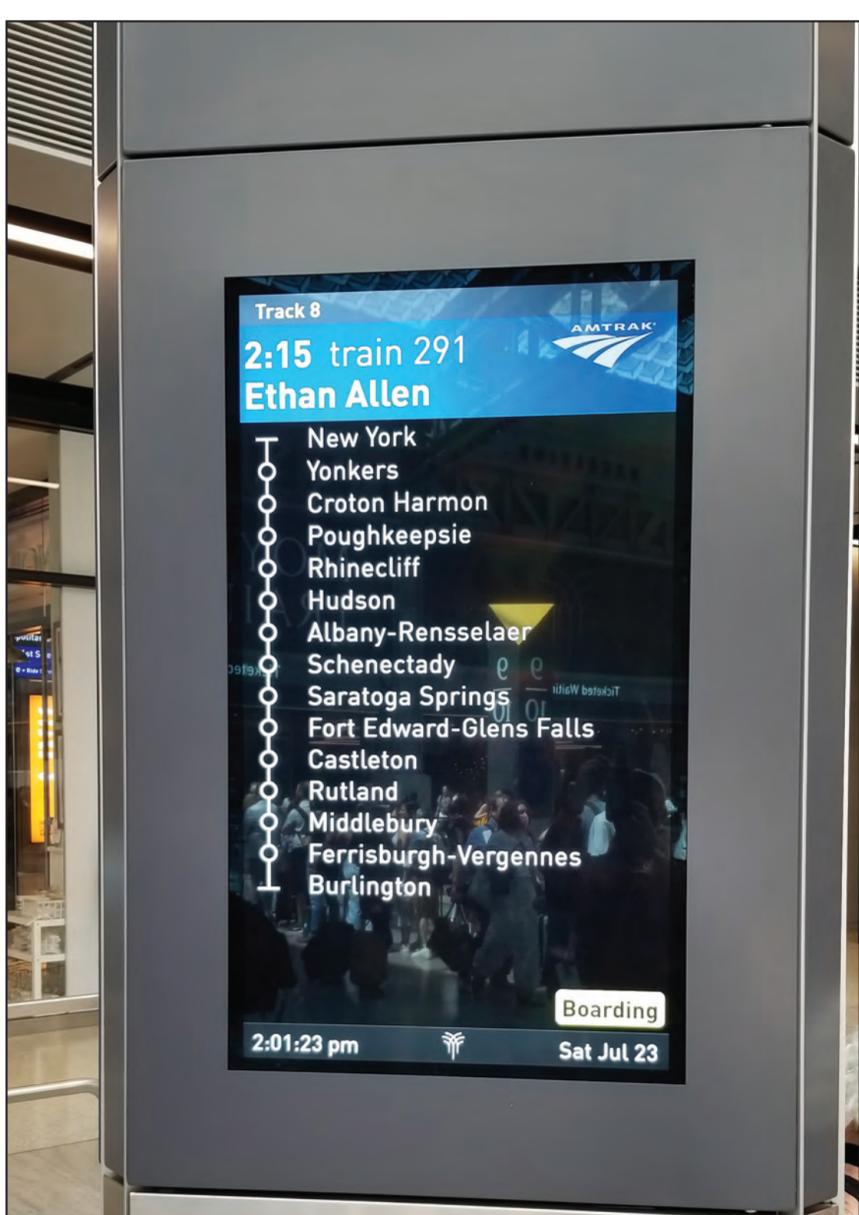
the permitting process. This will include an analysis of the buildings' history. The barn was built between 1870-1900, while the farmhouse is a rebuild of an original structure that burned down during the early 1900s, according to January.

"I hope it doesn't push our timetable back," she said of the review.

But time is relative. It wasn't that long ago that expansion was but a dream for OCC officials.

"I feel extremely optimistic about the project," January said. "For me, it's been a long time in the making. So there are moments it feels very surreal that it's this close to happening. It's really exciting."

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



On the schedule

THIS AMTRAK KIOSK at Penn Station in New York City last Saturday showed a schedule that feature rides from Manhattan to Middlebury and Vergennes/Ferrisburgh! Regular readers know that the first trains between NYC and Addison County won't roll until this Friday (arriving from Burlington at Vergennes/Ferrisburgh at 10:30 a.m. and Middlebury at 10:45 a.m.), but Amtrak was already booking the trips with train service to Rutland and connecting bus service north.

Photo by Joe McVeigh

Panton property tax rates drop

By ANDY KIRKALDY

PANTON — The trend of lower property tax rates in Addison Northwest School District communities also includes Panton, where the town's overall homestead and non-residential property tax rates are decreasing by about 9 and 8 cents, respectively.

Those decreases will translate into hundreds of dollars less in taxes compared to the past year for many residential, business and second-home property owners. Bills will arrive sometime in the next month, according to Town Clerk/Treasurer Maggie McCormick.

The drops in the rates are being driven by lower school taxes. The selectboard recently voted to add 3.52 cents to the portion of the town's tax rates needed to pay for municipal operations, as approved by voters in March.

That municipal part of the rate increased by 5.86 percent to 63.57 cents per \$100 of assessed property value, according to McCormick. She said inflation is a factor for Panton, as it is for all towns, with the cost of equipment,

materials and fuel among rising expenses. The selectboard also gave town employees a 5% raise, she added.

Local school tax rates are dropping in Panton, across ANWSD and in most Vermont towns because lawmakers in Montpelier this spring agreed to apply some of a \$95 million Education Fund surplus to lower this year's statewide homestead and non-residential school property tax rates. That action was intended to knock an average of 14 cents off local rates.

Despite declining ANWSD enrollment that results in less revenue for the district, its communities are seeing school tax rates that dropped in a range from about 7 cents for both homestead and non-residential rates in Addison to roughly 14 cents for the homestead rate in Waltham. (Waltham will set its municipal rate in early August.)

In Panton, the new school tax homestead rate is \$1,5990 per \$100 of assessed property value, a 12.29-cent drop from the previous rate.

Combined with the higher municipal rate, the new overall homestead rate in Panton is \$2,2347. That is 8.77 cents lower than the previous rate.

The decrease translates to about \$88 less in taxes per \$100,000 of assessed value for homeowners who pay based on the full value of their property.

About two-thirds of Vermont property tax payers, however, pay based on their incomes. The impact on their tax bills will vary with their incomes and the value of their properties.

The school tax portion of Panton's non-residential rate — which applies to commercial and rental property and owners of second homes, including a number along Lake Champlain — dropped by 11.76 cents to \$1,5402.

Combined with the higher municipal rate, the new overall non-residential rate in Panton is \$2,1759. That is 8.24 cents lower than the previous rate.

That decrease translates to roughly \$82 less in taxes per \$100,000 of assessed value for the owners of those properties.



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Editorial

Starksboro's request — will the MAUSD district deny it?

In comments to the MAUSD board on June 28, and in a commentary he writes in today's *Addison Independent*, Supt. Patrick Reen paints a worst-case tax scenario in a not-so-subtle attempt to sway an upcoming vote on Aug. 9. In that vote, the district towns of Bristol, New Haven and Monkton will either ratify Starksboro's proposed withdrawal from the school district or choose to deny Starksboro residents that option.

In Reen's diatribe against the withdrawal effort, he speculates that taxes will go up 17%, which would be for the fiscal year in 2025, the first year Starksboro would not be part of the district. He also claims that opportunities for all students will decline, and that the unified school district could be forced back into a supervisory union.

There are many reasons to take Reen's statements with more than a grain of salt.

First, Reen admits that his take on the increase in taxes may differ with others, including that of Starksboro's Save our Schools group that estimates the tax increase would be closer to just under 6%, and that his may be on the high side.

Second, Reen bases his tax estimate on those residents who pay property taxes based on the property value, rather than on their income. It's a common fact that statewide about 2/3rds of Vermont residents pay based on income, which factors in rebates, meaning that most district residents won't see anywhere close to that kind of tax increase. Reen neglects to make that distinction.

Third, Reen doesn't do a projection of the likely tax rate if MAUSD merges with ANWSD, as both school merger committees have approved, as has the State Board of Education. Reen's entire argument that taxes will skyrocket is based on Starksboro withdrawing its few students from the middle and high schools, but if the two districts merge the combined student numbers will be much higher, which, according to Reen, will save \$5 million and drive taxes down. The decrease in taxes because of the merger would surely be far more significant than the loss of Starksboro's students.

Fourth, Reen projects that only 75% of Starksboro and Lincoln students will attend Mount Abraham Union Middle/High School in FY24, compared to the 90% projected by Starksboro's SOS. That figure has a determining factor on how much higher the tax rates might be because state aid is based on student body count.

While nobody can know that number, projecting a worst-case scenario as if it were fact is a suspect tactic that borders on creating an undue influence ahead of an election. Furthermore, not factoring what the taxes might be in a merged system — which will be voted on this coming November — is withholding pertinent information from voters that could mitigate concerns of higher taxes.

Absent from any of Reen's arguments or comments is any sense of community. It is as if the concerns about the loss of community from Lincoln and Starksboro residents have simply gone unheard. That's not a fair comment, in many ways, as the district's charter promised district towns their schools wouldn't be closed unless that town approved such a vote, but under the proposed merged district those rights have been taken away and school closures can happen against a town's wishes. (See SOS's letter on Page 5A.)

Lastly, as for Reen's concern that the school district could be forced to again become a supervisory union, that seems like a red herring considering the state BOE supports the merged school district. Nor did the state BOE force Addison Central School District to become a supervisory union after Ripton withdrew. In fact, the board specifically said it would not do that. Based on both points, it's more logical to suggest the merged district would not be forced to become a supervisory union.

REFRAMING THE CONVERSATION

At an upcoming informational hearing on Aug. 4 at 6 p.m., both sides of this issue would benefit if the conversation were reframed based on best-case or most-reasonable scenarios.

That projection should include the \$5 million in savings from a merged school district in future years, as well as a higher middle-high school attendance rate from both Lincoln and Starksboro if that merged district is successfully run. (This is a self-fulfilling prophecy, by the way: If the merged district is well-received, more students will attend and the number will be closer to 90%; if it's not well received, well, there is reason for those students and families to seek other options.)

Finally, it's clear to see that in Reen's analysis consolidation is the only solution to the problems that ail MAUSD. Just as WalMart's consolidated approach drives down cost to consumers, economic scale can save money. It is a valid economic approach.

But schools aren't selling merchandise; and community has an impact on how students and parents feel about their school, and how much they are willing to be involved — both emotionally and academically. And what much research finds is that the smaller the government, the more involved community members are. That should matter.

Residents should also question whether economic scale is the only thing ailing MAUSD.

Also important to note is that Starksboro residents have voted overwhelmingly to keep their community school intact, if MAUSD proceeds with its merger with ANWSU. That right of self-determination is an integral part of Vermont's character and tradition.

In the August 9 vote, then, the overriding issue for residents of Bristol, New Haven and Monkton shouldn't be how much taxes are going up or down, but what kind of school district they want their kids and grandkids to attend, and whether Starksboro's desire to keep its school open outweighs the MAUSD board's desire to force significant change regardless of the consequences to member towns.

Angelo Lynn



Apex of summer

A BED OF Heliopsis flowers in Cornwall appears to stretch on forever as the golden denizens of summer seem to be whistling a happy tune.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

Letters to the Editor

Elmore a good choice for sheriff

I am writing in support of Michael Elmore in his candidacy for Addison County Sheriff. As spouse of a previous, long-term Sheriff, I have a very good understanding of what it takes to be successful in this role. Michael brings years of experience and a college degree in Law Enforcement to this work, in addition to a positive, professional attitude. He has strong family values and an unwavering work ethic. As Sheriff, Michael will be dedicated to serving the community with both technical and people skills. I strongly encourage you to cast your vote for Michael Elmore.

Julie Coons
Middlebury

Holmes is best pick for sheriff

I am supporting Ron Holmes for Sheriff of Addison County. I believe with his experience as a deputy for over 20 years he is the best person for the job. With age comes wisdom. He is concerned about preserving our safety in schools, homes, and the streets! I met Ron several years ago when our moms were in residential care. He was very kind and devoted to his mother. He will show the residents of Addison the same concern. Ron is loyal and dedicated and I will cast my ballot for him!

Sandra Crossman
Bridport

Porter lacking dialysis center

I am writing this as a plea for myself and many other dialysis patients in the surrounding area.

Why can't we have a dialysis center at Porter?

This would save us from driving or being transported to Rutland or Burlington three times a week. Right now, six hours of my day are taken up due to four hours of dialysis and two hours travel time. I know I am not alone in this.

Some of us need to be picked up at 5-5:30 a.m. to be there for a 6-6:30 a.m. chair.

Please, we need a dialysis center at Porter.

Shirley Douglas
Cornwall

Copland Hanzas earns support

We support Sarah Copland Hanzas for Secretary of State because of her values, her integrity, and her hard work to support democratic principles and the environment. She is a proven leader on some of the toughest issues of our time, such as the climate crisis and healthcare. Sarah is the right woman for the job!

Current Addison County State Representatives: Matthew Birong, Peter Conlon, Mari Cordes, Caleb Elder, Diane Lanpher, Robin Scheu, and Amy Sheldon. Former Addison County State Representatives: Michael Fisher, Steven Maier and David Sharpe

Elmore has proven himself

I hope you will join me in supporting Michael Elmore for Addison County sheriff in the upcoming Aug. 9 Vermont Primary election. Michael grew up in Addison County and graduated from Middlebury Union High School, followed by continuing education at Bob Jones University in Greenville, S.C., where he earned his degree in Criminal Justice.

Michael has always been focused on law enforcement as a career choice and has continued that goal by attending the Vermont Police Academy, receiving the high academic award, and has since been serving

(See Geroge letter, Page 5A)

Our freedoms must be protected

People agree, there are things that are good, and there are things that are bad. But depending on who you talk to, what is good or bad will vary greatly. Even the words themselves ("good" and "bad") are vague and subjective. In terms of making laws and rules for an entire country, who should decide what is bad?

Over time rules and laws have changed. During the Middle Ages, people thought bathing was bad for you. Prohibition sought to curtail alcohol consumption, now an accepted part of our society. For generations women could not vote or own property, and not so long ago, people thought margarine was better for you than butter. The things we accept as bad have not always been viewed that way, and similarly things that are good now have not always been accepted.

Why do some things, even when the evidence is clear that they are bad, or good, continue to be viewed as the opposite? And what happens when people don't agree?

People's convictions about what is good and what is bad are not the same. This stems from cultural, religious, or just personal preferences. But rules and laws that outlaw something one person views as bad may take away something someone else feels is their right, or is good. Indeed, if we tried to accommodate everyone's idea of what was bad into the laws, almost everything would be banned.

We should not allow ourselves to fall into the trap of allowing the ideals of a vocal minority to become

the rule for everyone. If we do that, we force people to follow beliefs that they don't share. Which is bad. What if a powerful group of vegetarians banned the sale of meat around the entire country? Or imagine if a small group of Muslims passed a law that every woman in the U.S. must cover their hair in public? Ridiculous, you would say! The same thing should apply when considering passage of laws that force someone who should be able to make choices about their own body, to give up that right.

The U.S. is not a country with a state religion. It is a diverse country made up of many different religious and cultural practices. Before it was even a country, one of the reasons many people chose to emigrate here was the idea of religious freedom. People have the right to practice any religion they wish. However, the idea of religious freedom should extend to freedom from religion. In a country with multiple religions, religious beliefs must be self-imposed by those who want to follow their restrictions. Forcing others to follow your religion's practices goes against the very nature of religious freedom.

There are few societies where everyone follows all the same rules. Even countries with a state religion and religious law do not always impose these laws on people who don't share that belief system. In Mauritania, a Muslim country, alcohol is banned and any Muslim caught drinking will be thrown in jail. But it is legal for foreigners, like Nigerians, Ivorians, French, or Americans, to consume alcohol. It is a simple

(See Ways, Page 5A)

Ways of Seeing

By Claire Corkins



Decisions loom for MAUSD voters

I am writing this as both the superintendent of the Mount Abraham Unified School District (MAUSD) and a resident of Lincoln. As a result of steadily declining enrollment and increasing costs, we have reached a tipping point where it is becoming unsustainable to operate our schools as we do now. With several key issues coming up for a vote in the coming months, I want to make sure that community members are educated about the impact of their vote throughout our district, as well as the Addison Northwest School District (ANWSD) and possibly all of Addison County. The quality of education we are able to provide, as well as the associated tax rates, hang in the balance.

Starksboro Withdrawal:

On Aug. 9, voters in the towns of Monkton, New Haven and Bristol will decide whether or not to allow Starksboro to withdraw from MAUSD. With Lincoln already approved to leave, adding a Starksboro withdrawal will negatively impact taxes and program offerings for students. A successful withdrawal for Starksboro is also likely to result in MAUSD being forced into a supervisory union governance structure.

• Taxes: If Starksboro withdraws, the education tax rate for 2023-2024 is projected to increase more than 25

cents, or \$507 on a home assessed at \$200,000. This is a 17% increase. The impact will be different for those who pay based on income.

• Opportunities for Students: If Starksboro withdraws it is likely that fewer students from Starksboro would attend Mt. Abe. This drop is in addition to the enrollment decline already projected for Mt. Abe. Ten years ago Mt. Abe had 774 students. Without factoring in a Starksboro and Lincoln withdrawal Mt. Abe is projected to have closer to 500 students five or six years from now. Fewer students likely means reduced academic course offerings as well as co-curricular offerings. Running these offerings in an affordable manner requires enough students to populate them. The alternative would be for taxpayers to support larger increases in taxes to enable programs to run with very few students.

• Forced Back Into Supervisory Union: The Secretary of Education has indicated there is a strong possibility that if Starksboro were to successfully withdraw from MAUSD, he would recommend that the State Board of Education place our District in a Supervisory Union (SU) which could include Starksboro, Lincoln and perhaps even Ripton and

(See Reen, Page 5A)



Community Forum

This week's writer is Patrick J. Reen, superintendent of the Mount Abraham Unified School

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Letters to the Editor

MAUSD voters asked to support Starksboro's exit

Dear Bristol, Monkton, and New Haven friends and neighbors, I am writing on behalf of the Starksboro Save Our Schools Committee to ask you to vote yes on Aug. 9, to ratify Starksboro's withdrawal from MAUSD.

Starksboro SOS is a group of 10 Starksboro residents with a wide range of experience. Our group includes parents, grandparents, Robinson School and Mt. Abraham volunteers and mentors, business owners, the chair of Starksboro Planning Commission, a program manager, a nurse, the spouse of a former Robinson student, current or former teachers, two former school board members, an attorney, and a former public school administrator.

We came together because we learned that Robinson School might be closed without our town having a say in the matter. Since August 2021, we have met regularly. We have attended school board and Merger Study Committee meetings, met with the MAUSD Superintendent and business manager, met with board members and with the chair and vice chair of the board, met with Merger Study Committee members, talked with VT legislators, and spoken with community members in the five towns and in the Addison Northwest School District.

We've written letters and editorials and poured over budgets and spreadsheets. We've worked to keep Starksboro residents informed. Starksboro's withdrawal effort is really about preserving our town's right to vote on school closure.

There are so many great and important reasons to keep Robinson Elementary School open and serving our town's K-6 students. But if we received clear, convincing evidence that our

school could no longer meet the needs of our kids in an equitable and financially viable way, into the foreseeable future, we would vote to close the school, and we bet a majority of Starksboro residents would do the same.

Starksboro's vote to withdraw wasn't about keeping Robinson open no matter what. It's about making sure that those closest to the kids and the community get to decide. It's about preserving our town's right to make this decision. It's about knowing that our diverse community has the wisdom to do the right thing, whatever that right thing is.

The Articles of Agreement that govern the Mt. Abraham Unified School District guarantee that Robinson's K-6 elementary program cannot be closed unless Starksboro votes to do so. That was the agreement when we voted to consolidate under Act 46. That was the promise to Starksboro and to each of the other towns in the school district: Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton and New Haven.

The MAUSD Board has mostly come around to acknowledging that agreement, thanks to our efforts and letters from our selectboard and planning commission, and from many other residents of Starksboro and from the other towns as well. MAUSD is working on ways to address the district's financial issues without closing schools.

But despite our best efforts, the Merger Study Committee — the committee that has decided to recommend merging our school district with the Addison Northwest School District — has refused to provide the assurance that our five towns would get a vote on school closure if the merger with ANWSD is approved. That committee has drafted new articles of agreement that would give the new merged school board

permission to close any of our elementary schools without a town vote after the first four years. The new articles of agreement would also give the new merged board permission to move whole grades or groups of grades out of our elementary schools as soon as the newly merged district begins operation.

On May 10, 2022, Starksboro voted unanimously to withdraw because our town saw that withdrawal would be the only way to make sure we retain our promised right to vote on school closure if a merger goes through.

The withdrawal process has many steps, and the ratification vote by the other towns is the next step in the process. If towns vote to ratify, seeking approval from the Vermont Board of Education is the next step in the process and will require Starksboro to prepare a thorough report and financial analysis of the impact of withdrawing on all affected towns.

The soonest a new Starksboro School District would be fully operational would be the 2024-2025 school year. In the meantime, if conditions change; if the merger is defeated in November, Starksboro voters have authorized our selectboard to terminate the withdrawal process.

We are asking voters in Bristol, Monkton and New Haven to vote yes on Aug. 9, to ratify Starksboro's vote to withdraw. We are asking you to vote yes, because a promise is a promise.

Nancy Cornell
on behalf of the **Starksboro Save Our Schools (SOS) Committee:**
Erin Buckwalter, Denny Casey, Louis Dupont, Margi Gregory, Neily Jennings, Susan Klaiber, Herb Olson, Chris Runcie, Chanda Rochon

Harlin would support small schools at Statehouse

It is disheartening to witness the push for consolidation of schools just as the larger schools are struggling with behavioral issues and teacher retention. It reminds me of the time that Porter Hospital hired a CEO from another state who came

with a standard blueprint for how a hospital system should be managed. It all went wrong, the nursing union sounded the alarm, and the greater community came to the rescue. We need to do this again for our children and our small towns. Vermont is unique.

If you agree with me, vote for Wendy Harlin for Addison-2. Check out her website to explore where she stands on other issues: wendyharlin.com.

Anza Armstrong Ripton

Reen

(Continued from Page 4A)
Addison Northwest School District (ANWSD).

In an SU governance structure, one central office is required to support multiple school boards making decisions independent of one another, each with their own budget. Being forced back into an SU means:

- Reduced equity for students
 - Reduced continuity across elementary schools
 - Reduced staffing flexibility to meet student needs
 - Reduced job security for staff
 - Reduced ability to fill positions
 - Reduced central office efficiency resulting in higher overhead costs
 - Voters would not vote on centralized expenses (i.e. special education, transportation, central office staffing, food service, technology), which typically represents around 30% of the budget.
 - More towns might want to withdraw and be placed in the SU
- Merger of ANWSD & MAUSD:**
On July 20, the State Board of

Education voted unanimously to approve the Report and Articles of Agreement developed by the joint ANWSD & MAUSD Merger Study Committee, which recommends a merger of the two districts. With this approval the voters in ANWSD and MAUSD will go to the polls on Nov. 8 to decide whether or not a merger will happen. A "yes" from ANWSD and a "yes" from MAUSD will confirm the merger. Now that it is no longer part of MAUSD, the Lincoln School Board must decide whether or not to warn a vote to join the merged district or not. Starksboro will either vote on Nov. 8 as a member of MAUSD or, if they have officially withdrawn from MAUSD by then, will not be voting at all on the merger.

As our community considers how they will vote on the merger it is important to compare a future merged scenario with a future unmerged scenario. Comparing either to our current reality is not a fair comparison because our current reality is not sustainable.

- Future Merged Scenario
 - \$5 million in estimated annual savings
 - More tax dollars go directly to students
 - Fewer tax dollars go to overhead costs
 - More middle school and high school students per grade under the same roof means more offerings for students
 - Future Unmerged Scenario
 - Stable tax rates mean reducing student opportunities
 - Maintaining student opportunities means increasing taxes
 - Higher overhead costs per student
 - Fewer students per grade under one roof means fewer offerings for students
- Please, get the facts and cast your vote on Aug. 9 and Nov. 8. More information will be shared soon including details about informational sessions leading up to each vote.

George letter

(Continued from Page 4A)
in the Addison County Sheriff's Department for the past five years.

Recently Michael has taken on more responsibility by handling the day-to-day activities of the sheriff's department and has been recognized for his dedication to serving the needs of the

residents of Addison County and developing a cooperative relationship with the other law enforcement departments in the county. He understands the importance of Modern Community Policing objectives and how best to manage the limited resources available to provide the best services possible

for Addison County residents. If you choose a ballot in the Primary Election that does not have Michael Elmore listed as a candidate, please consider writing his name in for the office of Addison County sheriff. Thank you.

Dean George Middlebury

Balint is most qualified candidate for U.S. House

We write to support Becca Balint's bid to take Congressman Peter Welch's place in the U.S. House of Representatives. Notwithstanding the editorial support for her principal opponent in last week's *Addy Indy*, and the guest editorial the week before, we believe Ms. Balint is clearly the more qualified candidate. She has worked with and for Vermont and Vermonters throughout her adult life, and — most notably — has served several years in the Vermont Senate, including as President Pro Tem during the last term.

She has a solid record of

legislative achievement on behalf of her constituents and all Vermonters. And she has clearly demonstrated the ability to work with her legislative colleagues. This ability to get things done, that need to be done, by working with others is a key strength, especially when compared with her principal primary opponent, who has no legislative experience.

Ms. Balint has also distinguished herself from the other candidate by regularly

voting in local, state and U.S. elections. Sad to say, by her own admission, Lt. Governor Gray did not vote for several years when she was not in Vermont.

Becca Balint is a responsible citizen and a successful Vermont legislative leader. She is clearly the more qualified and responsible candidate. Please vote for Becca Balint for the U.S. House.

Albert and Marcia Perry Middlebury

Letters to the Editor can be found on Pages 4A, 5A, 6A, 7A, and 8A.

Ways

(Continued from Page 4A)
acceptance that everyone does not want to be treated equally. People want to be treated in accordance with their own beliefs, not yours.

We are left with the question — who gets to decide what is bad. If decisions are left to a powerful few that represent the beliefs of a small group of people, inevitably the outcome will benefit only them, and as we have seen recently, is to the detriment of others.

Claire Corkins grew up and lives in Bristol and studied Human Ecology at College of the Atlantic in Maine. After college she worked abroad teaching English as a second language. She currently works with her father in such various endeavors as painting houses, tiling bathrooms, building porches, and fixing old windows. She hikes, reads, plays ice hockey, travels, and wishes she could wear flip-flops all year round.

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for Vermont House Addison-2

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Bill McKibben
Endorses Wendy Harlin

"It's become increasingly clear that Montpelier's one-size-fits-all plans aren't working very well for the health and vitality of our small rural towns, or in truth for the whole county."

— Bill McKibben - Author, Educator, Activist

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Endorses Wendy Harlin

"Rights and Democracy is proud to endorse Wendy Harlin for State Representative. Wendy is a true champion of our local public schools and on key legislative issues such as environmental justice, housing, workers' rights, universal health care, and racial equity, and our members agree she is the voice we need in Montpelier to represent Cornwall, Goshen, Leicester, Ripton, and Salisbury."

www.radvt.org/our-2022-general-endorsements

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Learn more about the campaign, complete a questionnaire so I can hear from you, or get involved by visiting:

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ADDISON COUNTY

Obituaries

Robert W. Smith Jr., 84, of Addison

ADDISON — It is with saddened hearts we announce the passing of Robert “Bob” Smith Jr., born of Robert Smith Sr. and Jessica Stone. Bob Passed away peacefully surrounded by family.

Bob was the definition of a true farmer, always up before the sun. He spent most of his time in the barn or in the fields of Chimney Point Farm. Bob Purchased the farm in 1966 and ran it with his son Peter Sr. and grandson Peter Jr.

Bob was not only farming. He was active in the National Guard, where he drove a tank. He was a DHIA milk tester and chairman of the Tri-Town water board. It was also said that he was the official taste tester of maple syrup for the family sugarhouse. Anyone who knew Bob knew they could stop by for a joke or a story. He was always willing to help friends and neighbors.

He leaves behind his strong work ethic and his values of kindness and love; his wife Rita (Barberi) of



ROBERT W. SMITH JR.

43 years; children Kim Bingham, Peter (Dawn) Smith, Veronica Valz, Jennifer Hatch and Audrey Jackson; the pride and joy of his life, his grandchildren Nathan (Bethany) Bingham, Travis Bingham, Rachael Smith, Peter Smith Jr., Abigail Smith, Maxine Simko, Ella Simko, Lena Simko, Hannah Hatch, Nora Hatch, Sophie Hatch, Claire Hatch

and Maddy Jackson; and his great-grandchildren, Nathan Bingham Jr. and Marolyn Bingham.

He also leaves behind his brothers Wayne (Carol) Richardson, Wallace (Rande) Richardson, Steve (Pam) Smith, Joseph (Sandra) Smith, and his sister Sandra Barton; aunts Edith Miner and Rose Plankey; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was predeceased by his parents, sisters Patricia, Faye and Winona, and brother Robert.

Although he suffered from Parkinson’s and dementia, he never gave up farming. He always wanted to go to the barn to milk the cows or drive his tractors. Bob passed at 4:35 a.m. — it was time to go to the barn.

Per Bob’s request, there will not be a funeral. A special thanks to the staff of Helen Porter Nursing home and Rehabilitation for the care he received. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Addison Volunteer Fire Department and Vergennes Area Rescue. ◊

Raymond E. Grant Sr., 87, of East Middlebury

EAST MIDDLEBURY — Raymond E. Grant Sr., 87, died early Wednesday morning on July 20, 2022, at his residence in East Middlebury.

He was born March 19, 1935, in East Middlebury, the son of Edward and Helen (Faivre) Grant. Raymond attended local schools and then joined the United States Army, where he was a medic and stationed in Alaska. Upon returning home, he started painting for his uncle and went on to own and operate Ray’s Painting for many years. After retirement he enjoyed going with Connie to clean at G Stone Motors.

He married Cornelia “Connie” Cram on June 27, 1964; they enjoyed 55 years of marriage together. He enjoyed country music, NASCAR, hunting, four-wheeling with Charlie Holbrook, motorcycles and his many toys, especially his 1970 Superbee and his two favorite trucks, True Grit and Elvira; but mostly he loved spending time with family and friends.



RAYMOND E. GRANT SR.

Survivors are his sons Raymond E. Grant Jr. (Barbara) of Jay, N.Y., and Michael Grant and his daughter Joy Sansevera Cialini; by his sisters, Nancy Baumgartner of East Middlebury, Marie Nazworthy (Jerry) of Deland, Fla., and Marjorie Webb of Vergennes; by his longtime caregiver Donna Welch of East Middlebury; and by his grandchildren, Becky Barnes (Jason), Kelly Grant, Raymond

Edward Grant III, Alexis Parie and Amanda Fox and companion Danny Vose. He is also survived by his great-grandchildren, Tyler Brouillard and Alex Barnes; By his special nieces, Cindy Webb (Richard) and Susan Hemingway (Ben); by his special nephews, John LeCompte (June) and Peter Manning, and numerous other nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents and by his wife Cornelia (Connie) Grant, who died March 16, 2020; and by his siblings Edward Grant Jr., John Grant and Patricia Chamberlain.

Per his wishes there will be no services at this time. A gathering of family and friends will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to Homeward Bound/Addison County Humane Society at 236 Boardman Street, Middlebury, VT 05753.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home. Online condolences at www.sandersonfuneralservice.com

Letters to the Editor

Leading-edge medical technology a county perk

Last winter, I was diagnosed here in Middlebury by Dr. Ben Rosenberg to need a full knee replacement for my right knee. Living both in Concord, Mass., and in Cornwall, Vt., I have a long-standing internal medicine doctor in Boston whose reputation is to gain access to the best medical capability the medical profession can offer. I had a successful left hip-replacement surgery at New England Baptist Hospital in Boston several years ago. In discussing my various options for where to have my right knee replaced, several variables surfaced.

Same day surgery seemed attractive to me. After a little research, it appears this out-patient capability is available only at a southern New Hampshire hospital with a Boston surgeon or with Dr. Rosenberg at Porter Medical Center here in Middlebury. It was not an option at New England Baptist in Boston or UVM in Burlington.

In close consultation with my Boston doctor and an active discussion with Ben Rosenberg, it was an easy decision to have the surgery three miles from home with a physician I trusted and knew well. I’d be able to walk out

the same day and spend the first night in my bed at home.

The surgery was three months ago and I just played my first sets of singles tennis last week. Thank you, Dr. Rosenberg and thank you, Porter Medical Center for your remarkable care, leading-edge surgical capabilities, and close-to-home small town warmth and friendliness — a remarkable and distinctive combination. I am not sure we all realize how incredibly fortunate we are to have this capability right in our hometown and how important it is to support.

Churchill G. Franklin
Cornwall

Lueders-Dumont dedicated to justice and dignity

I write in support of Tim Lueders-Dumont for Addison County State’s Attorney. I have known Tim for years and know him to be hardworking and empathetic.

The days are long gone when we thought what made a good prosecutor was just the ability to win as many convictions and prison sentences as possible. That said, Tim will not hesitate to take the right cases to trial when needed.

Today, we want prosecutors who understand that conviction and incarceration of people with no history of violence, who have broken the law because of their substance abuse disorder, often does not serve the ends of justice. Instead, our community is better served by supporting treatment and recovery and maintaining of employment. Tim’s track record as Washington County Deputy State’s Attorney shows he understands this and implements it daily. We want prosecutors who

believe that cash bail and pretrial jailing of those who cannot come up with the money should be imposed only in those cases in which it is necessary to guarantee appearance at trial; cash bail and pretrial detention should no longer be the norm and should never again be used as a means to pressure defendants into pleading guilty. That too is Tim’s track record.

And we want prosecutors who will work collaboratively with police, victims, social service providers, mental health counselors, educators, the Department of Corrections, and defense attorneys to obtain outcomes that respect the dignity and the potential of both the victim and the defendant. That is what Tim does. Tim builds teams to get things done. Tim has a track record of accomplishments as a public servant dedicated to justice. Before entering law school, he became the director of policy

for State Treasurer Beth Pearce. In that role, he developed, obtained legislative approval, and implemented the ABLE program, which provides financial choices for individuals with disabilities. He coordinated the citizen outreach for and co-wrote the Treasurer’s encyclopedic report, requested by the legislature, on how to clean up Lake Champlain. And he helped Treasurer Pearce defend the pensions of every Vermont state employee and every Vermont public school teacher. He fights hard for what he thinks is right and he will do so as Addison County State’s Attorney if elected.

Tim has been endorsed by a wide array of state and local leaders, including State Treasurer Beth Pearce, Sen. Chris Bray, Rep. Diane Lanpher, Rep. Matt Birong, Rep. Mari Cordes, Rep. Caleb Elder, and the Vermont State Employees Association. Vote for Tim!

Peggy Nelson
Middlebury

Harlin and McGill understand early childhood needs

As a career early childhood educator and advocate for early childhood education, I know that quality opportunities for children lead to better outcomes later in life and to stronger families, communities, and economies. Vermont is facing a shortage of early childhood educators in all settings including teachers in our public schools. Children, families, and employers are all feeling the effects of turnover, burnout, and uncertainty.

As we move into the election season, please take the time to learn what positions our candidates hold

on investing in early childhood education and our schools. Investing in children is a lever of change that helps us all.

Thoughtful understanding of both early childhood education and what the public education system offers to both students and communities is important in understanding the needs of the families, children, and students who live all across the county.

Wendy Harlin and Jubilee McGill, have this understanding and are developing new visions that can be among the new faces in the legislature in January. If elected,

they will join our early childhood champions from Addison County in Montpelier. Ruth Hardy, Robin Scheu, Amy Sheldon, Matt Birong, Diane Lanpher, Mari Cordes, and Caleb Elder are each reliable advocates for our schools and early childhood programs.

Candidates are busy making themselves known to the voters. I encourage you to participate in the process.

Primary day is coming right up on Tuesday Aug. 9. Early voting has begun.

Su White, ECE
Lincoln

Bruce Francis Wright, 51, of Bristol

BRISTOL — Bruce Francis Wright, 51, passed away Friday, July 22, 2022, at McClure Miller Respite House in Colchester.

He was born on Sept. 11, 1970, in Athol, Mass., the son of Charles and Virginia (Hunting) Wright.

He worked for the A. Johnson Lumber Company for nine years and as a caregiver for his wife.

His hobbies were fishing and watching NASCAR racing. His favorite driver was Jeff Gordon. And he loved his dog Bella.

Bruce is survived by his wife Ordale Wright; his three brothers, Lenny, Edward and David; a sister, Ruthie; three stepchildren Eric Gero, John Gero Sr. and Kim Gero; and nine stepgrandchildren.



BRUCE FRANCIS WRIGHT

To send online condolences to his family please visit www.brownmclayfuneralhomes.com.



ALEISHA BRANDY BALDWIN

Aleisha Brandy Baldwin, 49, of Bristol

BRISTOL — Aleisha Brandy Baldwin, 49, of Bristol, died June 17, 2022. She was born in Middlebury, Vt., on March 13, 1973, the daughter of Fayeline Motto and Alfred Curavoo.

She is survived by her loving husband, Todd Baldwin of Bristol, Vt.; sisters Melissa O’Brien of Bristol, Vt., and Kim Lamere of Plattsburgh, N.Y.; and brother Bruce Curavoo, also of Bristol. She was predeceased by her parents. There will be no services.◊

Letters to the Editor can be found on pages 4A, 5A, 6A, 7A and 8A.

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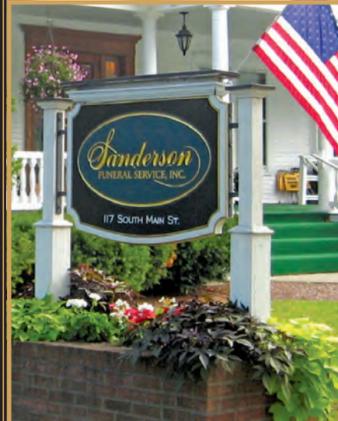
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Forbes
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Letters to the Editor

Donate to Hassan campaign to protect choice in N.H.

How can Vermonters now defend a woman's right to reproductive choice? In addition to voting for Vermont's Constitutional Amendment Prop 5 and Vermont's pro-choice candidates, another important option can be to send a donation in support of the re-election campaign of a neighbor, New Hampshire's pro-choice Democratic Senator Maggie Hassan.

Although Maggie is a centrist Democrat who supports bipartisan work in the U.S. Senate, she is a target for defeat in November by Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell. Based on current polling, Republicans seem poised to regain control of the House of Representatives, but polling also shows control of the Senate remains uncertain. By defeating Hassan, McConnell intends to replace the Democratic/Independent majority in the Senate with a Republican one.

Here's the crux: Given the Republican Party's relentless move to the right, its control of

both houses of Congress could conceivably result in federal legislation banning abortion in all 50 states — including Vermont. How so? The appalling Supreme Court ruling in *Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health* in itself does not ban abortion; it returns that decision to the states. However, the United States Constitution (Article VI, Paragraph 2) generally gives federal legislation "supremacy" over states' actions, including those based on state constitutions. Vermont's legislative actions to support women's rights, and the possibility of formalizing this in the state's constitution via Prop 5, could thus be overturned.

This federal legislation tactic is not without proponents: former Vice President Pence, a potential presidential contender in 2024, is now calling for a Republican-dominated Congress to pursue a national ban on abortion. McConnell and other Republican Senators are not ruling out a federal ban.

Now that Roe is overturned,

some 50% of American women, those residing in anti-choice states, no longer have the protection of a Constitutional right to reproductive choice. Reactionary legislation from a Republican majority in Congress could potentially increase that figure as high as 100%.

Certainly, there are other critically important Senate races requiring support for pro-choice candidates — and we must support them, too. However, as hers is a particular target of the right, Hassan's campaign is especially important.

Defend a woman's right to reproductive choice by electing candidates who will fight for this freedom at state and national levels. Sending Maggie Hassan back to the U.S. Senate is a key way of securing this. Vermonters can't vote for Maggie, but our dollars can support her victory. Please join me in supporting Maggie's campaign. More at: maggiehassan.com.

Peter Huber
Monkton

'Vote Forward' helps empower the underrepresented

I want to encourage people to vote in the upcoming midterm elections. The best way I found was through "VOTE FORWARD," a way to communicate with individual voters by writing a short, non-partisan letter encouraging their vote. This is a proven way to get people who had not recently voted to the polls. You

write as many letters as you wish and mail them all out on Oct. 27, 2022, just before the election.

Vote Forward's mission is to empower grassroots volunteers to encourage their fellow citizens in underrepresented communities to vote. We don't tell people how to vote, only urge them to vote. Here's my message:

"Voting is the voice of the people — all of us together — strengthening and improving our democracy. Every vote counts. Your vote makes a difference."

I encourage you to visit their website: vote4wd.org.

Jack Mayer, MD, MPH
Middlebury

County legislative team endorses Becca Balint

We write to express our strong support for Becca Balint for Congress. We have personal experience working with Becca in the Legislature; we have seen her listen to multiple viewpoints to understand, collaborate with others to move legislation forward, and tackle tough issues head on. Becca leads with courage, kindness, and authenticity, and she cares deeply for the people of Vermont.

Nearly 70 current legislators and 25 former legislators from across the state have endorsed Becca for Congress, which is

telling. She is the only candidate with proven experience as a leader and in getting legislation passed. She has done real work to address issues such as housing, gun safety, paid family leave, women's reproductive rights, economic development, and climate change, among many others. Becca was elected unanimously to be the first woman Pro Tem of the Vermont Senate. The other Senators voted for her not because they agreed with her on all things, but because they knew she would listen to them and be fair. Becca knows

how to reach across the aisle and work with others.

We hope you will join us in voting for Becca Balint for Congress in the Primary Election on August 9.

Rep. Robin Scheu, Addison — 1; Rep. Amy Sheldon Addison — 1; Rep. Peter Conlon, Addison — 2; Rep. Matt Birong, Addison — 3; Rep. Diane Lanpher, Addison — 3; Rep. Mari Cordes, Addison — 4; Rep. Caleb Elder, Addison — 4; Senator Chris Bray, Addison District; Senator Ruth Hardy, Addison District

Local control is best for Starksboro school

Starksboro recently exercised its right to vote on whether or not to withdraw from Mount Abe Unified School District. The vote was held according to requirements dictated by Vermont's election laws. Not a single resident expressed opposition to withdrawing from MAUSD.

Starksboro's unanimous decision was based on what is seen as best for Starksboro's children, including those with special needs. I am moved by the unity of the town on this issue.

During my many decades as a life-long student and a career educator, I both studied and taught at schools large and small. They each have specific advantages. The close community nature of a small

school allows each individual to be known and supported by the whole group throughout their education. A larger school offers more diverse options both academically and socially. Families tend to locate themselves in the kind of community they prefer.

Likewise, the "flexibility" to assign staff across a district is not always seen as a benefit. An experienced teacher may no longer choose to stay in a district where she or he might be transferred at will. Retaining experienced teachers is essential to maintaining strong programs.

The cost of operating our schools and thus our taxes will continue to grow. However, groups

in both Lincoln and Starksboro determined that only a very small percentage of that increase will be attributed to their withdrawal. The lost revenue from those towns will be offset by money saved by not having to maintain their school facilities. Surveys also found that the overwhelming majority of students in both towns look forward to attending Mount Abe.

I will vote yes on August 9th. I believe local control is best for our students and communities. It upholds Vermont's democratic tradition and will not harm neighboring towns. I encourage others to do the same.

Alice Leeds
Bristol

Elmore exhibits high level of maturity and leadership

My name is Robert Wesley, I am a deputy with the Addison County Sheriff's Dept.

There are two purposes to me writing this letter, the first is to offer my full support to Mike Elmore is his bid to become the next Sheriff of Addison County. The second is to shed some light on who Mike Elmore is as a person for those of you that might not be too familiar with him.

Mike is one of the most honest and genuine people I have ever met. I have never once seen Mike waiver from his values in any way.

I'm sure you've heard the term "age is just a number" which is usually reserved for someone of my age (57) who always says they feel younger inside than their actual age. But in Mike's case it works in the opposite direction. Mike is far beyond his age of 27 in professionalism, respect and leadership than his age might suggest. Although I have 30 years on Mike I have never once had an issue in taking direction from him.

One the most important lessons I've learned in law enforcement did not come from the Academy, as great as they have been in preparing me for my job. It did not come from all the continuous education that is required. It came from riding with Mike one day on patrol when a call came over the radio about a missing 12-year-old girl. We happen to have been in the town of the call and within five minutes located the girl sitting on the ground in the corner of a baseball dugout. Looking back now when I was standing over her in full uniform I must have looked scary to her. The first thing Mike did was sit down getting on her level introducing himself, starting the conversation. Within 10 minutes she was reunited with her family. I remember driving away saying to myself "Thanks, Mike. You just taught me an important lesson and don't even realize it".

I've also been roadside with Mike, having to make an arrest on an individual with an outstanding warrant. I've been on numerous

search warrants with Mike, including one of our last taking 10 firearms off a convicted felon. I've seen Mike deal with an individual that needed a mental evaluation after smashing out the window of one of our vehicles. So not only does Mike have the compassion as shown with the lost girl he also has the grit to quite frankly get the job done no matter the situation.

Lastly, I want to say how proud I am to be working with Mike, proud to see the growth he has shown. Yes, Mike is my boss, perhaps having some people believe is the reason for this letter. But the truth is I not only think of Mike as my boss but even more importantly as a friend. As a friend I want to see him succeed and excel at his new venture.

So, when you go to the polls in August please vote for Mike Elmore as your next Sheriff of Addison County, you can be proud doing so.

Robert Wesley
Ripton

Addison-2 constituents well-served by Conlon

I write to endorse Peter Conlon for re-election to the Vermont House and encourage voters in Ripton, Cornwall, Goshen, Salisbury and Leicester to cast a vote for him on August 9. We have known Peter for many years as a fellow member of our faith community and having served with him on several boards. A native Vermonter and lifelong public servant, Peter knows and cares deeply about the lives and concerns of his constituents.

Previously a local news editor and dairy labor specialist, who now operates his own move management company (whose primary clients are aging Vermonters in transition) and is a member of the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department, Peter understands first-hand the challenges faced by Vermonters of all backgrounds and perspectives.

Always hopeful about a bright future for Vermont, Peter nonetheless brings a pragmatic, solutions-oriented approach to the Statehouse, and has represented our district with distinction. While Peter has served on the Education Committee, we have been impressed with his support of environmental initiatives, including:

- Expanding the Current Use Program to include so-called reserve forests, recognizing the value of wild forests to both wildlife and carbon sequestration.
- The Global Warming Solutions Act and the Clean Heat Standard bill that would encourage the state's fossil fuel dealers to pivot to cleaner solutions.
- Approving \$80 million to fund home weatherization and efficiency improvements, supporting transportation

initiatives to reduce carbon emissions, and funding increases to help build the work force to make this happen.

Act 250 reform measures that would diminish forest fragmentation and preserve larger blocks of forest while also encouraging development in appropriate areas.

In addition, Peter this year sponsored H.581 relating to rural economic development; H.134, relating to paid family and medical leave insurance; and H.171, relating to the funding and governance of Vermont's childcare system, as just a few examples.

Voters in Addison-2 will continue to be well served by Peter Conlon in the Vermont Statehouse.

Amy McGlashan
Ripton

Letters to the Editor can be found on pages 4A, 5A, 6A, 7A and 8A.

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Why we support PETER CONLON for VT House



"We appreciate Peter's open thinking to challenging issues, and ability to build consensus. We have watched Peter clearly distill complex problems and, when necessary, find compromise. That is the kind of skill we need in Montpelier."

- David and Magna Dodge of Cornwall

- Representing the Addison-2 District since 2017
- Member of the Rural Economic Development Caucus of the House
- 32-year resident of Cornwall
- 17-year member of the MUHS and ACSD school boards
- 17-year member of the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department
- Self-employed small-business owner



Early voting has started for Vermont's Aug. 9, 2022, Primary. You can request a ballot by visiting your town clerk

conlonforhouse.com

Paid for by Conlon for House, P.O. Box 886, Middlebury, VT 05753

Conflicts with bears are escalation

Vt. Fish & Wildlife Department Urges Proactive Coexistence Steps

MONTPELIER — High-risk bear conflicts such as home and vehicle entries are being reported more frequently this summer than in previous years, according to the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department.

“Vermont’s black bears are learning to connect humans and food, and becoming bolder,” said wildlife biologist and Black Bear Project leader Jaclyn Comeau. “The number one cause of this dangerous, escalating behavior is Vermonters failing to secure food sources that attract bears. This failure is putting people and bears in danger.”

Bear incident reports to the department have been on the rise

for a decade, from 135 reports in 2011 to 650 in 2021. This year, over 700 reports have already been submitted.

“We are receiving more bear incident reports, and more concerning we are also receiving more reports of truly high-risk behavior by bears,” said Comeau. “In a typical year, we receive just two or three reports of bears breaking into homes. This summer, we are hearing of two to three attempted or successful home entries per week.”

The department urges individuals, towns, and businesses to be proactive in keeping bears from seeking food near people. Securing garbage, taking down

bird feeders, locking vehicles and making sure not to store food in vehicles, composting properly, and protecting backyard livestock with an electric fence are necessary.

“Coexisting with our healthy bear population requires all Vermonters to remove potential sources of conflict before problems start,” said Comeau. “Preventing a conflict is much easier than resolving an ongoing conflict and is the safest option for both bears and people. Once a bear has learned truly high-risk behaviors like home entry, lethal control may be needed to protect human safety. No one wants to have to resort to that measure.”



DAMAGE TO THIS BUILDING exterior, caused by a bear that became habituated to a birdfeeder on the property, is just one example of how bears are getting bolder and connecting humans with food

Photo courtesy of Vermont Fish & Wildlife

Letters to the Editor

Gray has the experience Vermonters need in D.C.

In the Democrat primary for Rep. Peter Welch’s seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, one candidate in particular stands out to me and that is Molly Gray. Despite what others have been saying, she has the best national and international experience for U.S. Congress.

Having grown up on a Vermont farm and having attended UVM and Vermont Law School, she understands how our laws impact all parts of the state and all Vermonters. Her Vermont legal experience includes clerking for a Judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals in Vermont and serving as an assistant attorney general. As lieutenant governor, she serves in the Vermont executive branch, working directly with a Republican governor. This background has made her well-versed in the issues facing Vermont and the legislation coming out of our statehouse.

More importantly, she has relevant legislative experience on the national level as a Congressional aide to Rep. Peter Welch (she also interned for Sen. Leahy when she was a student at UVM). Being an aide in the

U.S. Congress and having a law degree gives her insight into how legislation works its way from bill through committees to law at the federal level and gives her familiarity with the kinds of backroom politics and deals that need to happen to move legislation forward. Becca Balint has experience in the Vermont legislature, but Vermont is very different than D.C.!

Her international experience is also a huge advantage. When she worked for the International Red Cross, she led field missions to a variety of developing countries, including Haiti, Uganda, Georgia, the Balkans, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. As Lt. Governor, I know Molly was a key member of a delegation of Vermont officials who visited North Macedonia (a country we have a state partnership with) and met with their officials here. These talks revolved around improving economic, agricultural, and long-standing military ties with the Vermont National Guard. In addition to her J.D. law degree, she has a master’s degree in International Law from the Graduate Institute of

International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland. This background and education and her focus on human rights throughout her career gives her the understanding of foreign affairs and economic and security agreements that a U.S. Representative in Congress needs.

It’s going to take someone bold and politically savvy in Washington politics to challenge the Republicans while also finding common ground to work together to actually pass legislation. It’s going to take someone with a global view to understand how to effectively work with the rest of the world to solve global problems such as climate change, improve international security, and address economic, health, and social challenges. Molly Gray is that person.

If you want to learn more about her experience and views, check out her website mollyforvermont.com/meet-molly/ (and Wikipedia) to learn more about her background, her qualifications, and the issues she supports. I hope you will consider voting for her.

**Brenda Ellis
Bristol**

Elmore exemplar of commitment and integrity

I am writing this letter to voice my unwavering support for Mike Elmore in the upcoming race for Addison County Sheriff. I am a retired Trooper and have worked in and around Law Enforcement for more than a quarter century. In that time, I have had the great honor to work with men and women who possessed great commitment to serving their communities and displayed the highest of moral integrity. In my experience none have shown greater dedication to these ideals than Mike Elmore.

The experience Mike has gained by taking on greater and greater responsibilities within the

Sheriff’s Department will allow him to hit the ground running and allow service to the various towns and citizens of Addison County to continue without interruption.

As the only police officer running for the position Mike is uniquely situated to understand the needs of the community, the welfare of the department and the best way forward to work in partnership with other community organizations. The quiet and steady leadership Mike has shown in hard times speaks to his ability to problem solve and overcome obstacles, but just as important is the same type of leadership he shows when times are not

so hard. It is the same quiet and steady approach, a commitment to doing the right thing tempered by compassion and kindness that assures me he is the right man for the job.

I have no doubt that as Sheriff Mike Elmore will serve the citizens of Addison County, work daily to keep them safe, be a strong partner to and leader within the community, and an example of decency, values, and compassion we can all be proud of.

Please join me in supporting Mike Elmore for Addison County Sheriff.

**CJ Campbell
Ferrisburgh**

Harlin will bring new ideas to state legislature

At a recent Meet and Greet with Wendy Harlin, who is running against Peter Conlon in the Democratic primary for a seat in the House, I was struck by Wendy’s grasp of a number of wide-ranging issues from education (yes, keeping small schools open) to the environment, to housing and social justice.

When we focused on education, we talked about the short-sightedness of funding rural

development at the same time allowing the undermining of small rural towns by closing their elementary schools. We talked about the idea of consolidation of high schools while keeping the young children in schools in their own towns.

I am impressed that Wendy has the endorsement of Rights and Democracy, an organization that supports candidates who work to protect the environment, expand

health care for all and work toward racial equity. It’s time for some new ideas to guide the legislature, instead of the lockstep march toward closing small schools and undermining small towns. I will vote for Wendy Harlin for the Addison-2 seat in the Vermont House, and I hope you will, too.

**Andrea Chesman
Ripton**

Notes of appreciation

Peasant Market raises more than \$24K this month

On behalf of the members of St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church we would like to extend our thanks to the many people who made our event possible this year. Thanks to the efforts of participating community members we were able to raise over \$24,000 to give to local nonprofits who help those in need in our community.

Our thanks go to the members of the St. Stephen’s community, who helped out in so many ways, as well as to the members of the public who came by to donate and

purchase items. Special thanks to the Festival-on-the-Green for sharing their big tent with us, Broughton’s for help with other tents, Dundon’s for the portalets, Casella for the dumpsters and trash receptacles, the *Addison Independent* and the Little Pressroom for help with publicity, JET Landscaping and Middlebury College for help with the tables and chairs. For pie baking supplies we thank Middlebury College, the Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op, and King Arthur Baking

Company. For plants and garden supplies, thanks go to Peet Farm Greenhouses, Pine Tree Gardens, Rocky Dale Gardens, and Middlebury Agway Farm and Garden.

We appreciate the goodwill and fellowship that this event demonstrates in our community and we welcome the opportunity to give back in this way.

Thanks again!
**Linda Horn
2022 Peasant Market Chair**

Firefighters train to cut open cars

Middlebury firefighters receive hands-on experience

MIDDLEBURY — Members of the Middlebury Fire Department participated in vehicle extrication training on July 8 and 9. The training was provided by Todd Bedard and Jeff Limoge, who have been teaching vehicle extrication together for over 20 years.

The Friday evening session consisted of classroom training highlighting the safety concerns of vehicle extrication, the tools used in vehicle extrication, and some of the techniques that are used when working to remove a victim from a vehicle.

The practical session on Saturday provided firefighters with the opportunity to apply classroom knowledge in the field. Using vehicles that had already been in crashes, firefighters used hydraulic tools, reciprocating saws, and hand tools to cut open the vehicles. For the seven firefighters participating in the Saturday training, it was a hands-on learning experience to sharpen skills that they may be called upon to use at a moment’s notice.

The Middlebury Fire Department would like to remind the public that the department is an all-volunteer department. The department is actively seeking Middlebury residents who would like to join the

organization to take part in training opportunities such as this one and to serve our mission of protecting life, property, and the environment.

The Middlebury Fire Department would like to thank the dedicated firefighters who gave up their time on a Friday evening and a Saturday

to deepen their knowledge and broaden their skills. The department would also like to thank Todd Bedard and Jeff Limoge for their time and expertise, as well as Mid State Towing and GHR Metal Recycling, who assisted with obtaining the vehicles.



MIDDLEBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT Captain LeRoy Graham practices cutting a car as part of a vehicle extrication training hosted by the department on July 9.

Photo/Donald Patterson, Middlebury Fire Department

Tim Lueders-Dumont for Addison County State’s Attorney



Tim has a decade of Vermont-specific government and legal experience including as a Deputy State’s Attorney. He is an empathetic and community outcomes-based prosecutor with a focus on harm reduction and accountability - a proactive approach to public safety.

Early voting has begun for the Vermont Democratic Primary, August 9th!

Visit www.timldvermont.com to learn more.

**TIM
LUEDERS-DUMONT**
— ADDISON COUNTY STATE’S ATTORNEY —

Paid for by Tim L-D for Vermont. 221 Barre St. #B202, Montpelier, VT 05602.

Troopers asking for your help

ADDISON COUNTY — Vermont State Police are asking for help from the public as troopers gather information on several recent incidents.

The most notable of these was a July 23 car crash in Monkton in which the driver fled the scene.

At about 2 p.m. last Saturday, troopers responded to a report of a one-car crash on Hardscrabble Road near the intersection with Boro Hill Road. Police report that the driver, who ran away, was driving a 2005 Subaru Impreza westbound on Hardscrabble Road entering the eastbound lane and continuing on off the road and striking a utility pole causing power outages in the area.

Hardscrabble Road, where the crash occurred, was temporarily reduced to one lane of travel.

Bristol police, Vergennes Area Rescue Squad, Green Mountain Power, Comcast and the Monkton Volunteer Fire Department all assisted troopers.

This case is active and pending further investigation. Vermont State Police request that anyone with information that may help them identify the driver of the Impreza call the New Haven barracks at 802-388-4919 or leave an anonymous tip online at vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit.

Separately, state police are trying to piece together what led to a bad motorcycle crash near the Snow Bowl that landed the driver in the hospital last Saturday.

On July 23 at around 3:39 p.m. state police were notified of a one-motorcycle crash on Route 125 in Hancock. Troopers determined that Rostislav Kechedzhi, 47, of Waltham, Mass., sustained serious injuries when the 2014 Kawasaki ZG1400 crashed. The events leading up to the crash are being actively investigated.

Middlebury Regional EMS

Climate matters

Perspectives on Change

Vermonters must act today with tomorrow in mind

26th in a series

By ROSS CONRAD

In June the Middlebury selectboard approved a free right-of-way easement for Canadian-owned Vermont Gas Systems (VGS) to build new fossil fuel infrastructure downtown on Mill Street. This despite the various fossil fuel reduction goals and efforts Middlebury has adopted to help the state meet its greenhouse gas (GHG) emission targets. Common sense says that if we are serious about reducing our GHG emissions and transitioning away from fossil fuels, halting installation of new fossil fuel infrastructure is an appropriate place to start.

I concede that in some limited instances the use of the fracked methane gas delivered by VGS may be the best or even the only way for a property owner to accomplish a goal. Unfortunately, the selectboard made no effort to find out what alternatives to Vermont Gas were considered in this instance and why they may have been rejected in favor of gas.

I contacted the owners of the Stone Mill where the proposed gas line is being planned and found that while they did give consideration to the use of less environmentally harmful alternatives, they seem to be under the impression that gas is more environmentally friendly than fuel oil. The reality is that numerous published peer-reviewed studies have found that methane, the primary component of natural gas, is over 80 times as potent a greenhouse gas as carbon dioxide within the first 20 years of its release. The large amounts of methane that leaks from gas wells, pipelines and from home appliances means that in most instances natural gas is more harmful than coal or oil.

VGS tries to divert attention from its dirty fuel by highlighting renewable natural gas (RNG) projects they sponsor at dairy farms, landfills and wastewater treatment plants. The fact is that the amount of RNG that Vermont Gas generates is about 1% of the total gas it delivers. There is not enough waste manure and effluent in the entire state to ever be able to begin to replace the dirty fracked methane that is normally delivered through VGS pipelines.

In approving the VGS easement, the selectboard did not negotiate any compensation in return for the conveyance of a right of way across town property that VGS plans to profit from in perpetuity. When VGS wants to install its pipelines across private property, they offer to compensate the property owner accordingly. The town of Middlebury receives no such courtesy. This results in a situation where Middlebury taxpayers are subsidizing VGS business activity.

Our town is divided over VGS. Some folks are all for Vermont Gas and want no limits on its business activity, while others are totally opposed and would like to have never seen VGS come to Middlebury in the first place. I propose a compromise that honors both sides of this issue. Before approving all new right-of-way easement requests from VGS the selectboard should confirm that fracked methane gas is indeed the best option for the property owner by reviewing what renewable energy options were considered and why they were rejected.

In cases where the use of gas is found to be appropriate, the selectboard ought to require VGS to pay the fair market value for rights of way on town property. These funds could then be used to help the town pay for its various fossil fuel reduction and transition efforts. It's only fair that the companies responsible for pollution are required to help pay the cost of dealing with the problems the pollution causes.

In an effort to foster a town-wide discussion on this issue, and convince the selectboard to stop rubber-stamping VGS easement requests, a petition is being circulated to require the selectboard to put the question of whether to grant this easement on the ballot in November. This way Middlebury voters will decide whether to allow VGS to use town-owned land for the build-out of new fossil fuel infrastructure free of charge.

In addition, I am making a commitment to the residents of Middlebury: In the future, whenever the selectboard approves an easement request from VGS without receiving compensation for use of town land, and without confirming that gas is in fact the best and most appropriate fuel source for the intended use, I will circulate a petition to put the question on the ballot so the voters can have the final say.

It's time we changed the sheets on the deathbed of the fossil fuel industry. To paraphrase New Haven beekeeper Kirk Webster: The old ways of doing things are dying and a new way is struggling to be born. Are you going to attend the funeral or the birth? They're both happening at the same time, so you have to choose.

Middlebury beekeeper Ross Conrad is a founding member of the Middlebury Energy Committee and serves on the Addison County Regional Planning Commission Energy Committee.



took Kechedzhi to a helicopter that whisked him to the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H., for treatment of serious injuries. Ripton Fire and Rescue also assisted on the scene.

Police are asking anyone who may have seen the crash of the red motorcycle with a Massachusetts license plate — possibly traveling with a larger group of motorcycles — contact Trooper Murdock at the New Haven barracks at 802-388-4919.

Meanwhile, state police are asking for help finding out who broke into vehicles at the Snake Mountain parking area in Addison last Thursday.

On July 21, troopers were advised

of two separate thefts/vandalisms from motor vehicles at the parking area. Items stolen were an iPad, iPod, three pairs of sunglasses (Tom Ford and Oakley), \$40 cash and two sets of keys. Both vehicles sustained broken windows during the break-ins.

The Vermont State Police is requesting help from the public in identifying the individuals involved. The only information troopers have so far is a black lifted truck with silver chrome with a man inside it. Anyone with information regarding the thefts is asked to contact Trooper Armin Nukic at 802-388-4919 or to leave an anonymous tip online at vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit.

In other recent activity, Vermont

State Police

- On July 12 at just after 3 p.m. responded to a one-car crash on Route 7 at the intersection of Lime Kiln Road in New Haven. Police report that Jeffrey Marshall, 73, of Rutland was driving a 2006 Buick Lucerne southbound on Route 7 when he attempted to go around a southbound vehicle in front of him that was turning east onto Lime Kiln Road. Marshall's vehicle exited the roadway and subsequently hit a large culvert causing unknown damage to the undercarriage of the vehicle.

Marshall sustained minor injuries and was taken to Porter Medical Center by Bristol Rescue for further medical evaluation.

Route 7 in the area of the crash

was temporarily reduced to one lane of travel during this incident.

Neither speed nor impairment were contributing factors in this crash, police said.

The New Haven Fire Department helped out after the crash.

- On July 13 at a little after 1 a.m. a trooper saw a motorcycle northbound on Route 7 in Salisbury at an egregiously high rate of speed; radar indicated the speed was 94 mph in a posted 50 mph zone. Police cited driver Christopher Hart, 32, of Fair Haven for negligent driving and for driving a vehicle under the influence of alcohol or other substances. They also issued him civil tickets that carried \$817 in fines.

- On July 13 at approximately

3:06 p.m. looked into a report of an impaired driver stopped in the roadway of Morgan Horse Farm Road in Weybridge near Vermont Marble Power. Troopers located the vehicle parked in the roadway and identified the driver as John Moriarty, 72, of Bridport.

Police report that Moriarty drove a 2007 Nissan truck into a boulder and a utility box in the area, causing damage to the vehicle as well as the utility box. Middlebury Regional EMS treated Moriarty for minor injuries at the scene.

Troopers detected indicators of impairment and cited him for driving under the influence. After processing at the barracks, police released

(See State police, Page 13A)



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FOR CONGRESS



THE TEENAGE ACTORS in the Town Hall Theater Young Company's production of "Oliver!" perform the show's big number, "Consider Yourself," during a rehearsal before last Friday's opening of a three-day run that was received with much applause from appreciative audiences.

Photo by David Devine

Youth production of 'Oliver!' transports Middlebury audience

By KATIE FUTTERMAN

The Town Hall Theater's production of "Oliver!" left the audience begging, "Please, sir, may I have some more?"

For those who attended one of the three sold-out productions

this past weekend, it seemed unbelievable that the carefully timed choreography, perfectly pitched notes and brilliantly characterized acting were put together in just three weeks.

The trick, according to director

and set designer Doug Anderson, is to treat young people like they're adults.

"If you treat them like they're professionals, and you set very high goals, they meet those goals," he said.

The cast sure did fool the audience into thinking they were professionals. It turned out, however, that they were 12- to 18-year-olds taking part in a summer camp. They rehearsed for three weeks, Monday through Friday, from 1 to 4 p.m., with three dress rehearsals prior to opening night. The show turned out so well that according to Anderson, about half of the audience had no relation to the performers, which is rare for a youth production.

But only young people could bring the kind of vivacious energy that this cast brought, beginning with their performance of "Glorious Food" to set the tone for the show.

One of the reasons the theater chose "Oliver!" is because it allowed youth to play young people. The teens had come in June prior to the camp's start to sing, dance and act and eventually determine which parts would work best for each individual. The show demonstrated that the matches had worked, as each cast member played their parts as though they had been them their whole life.

Ellie Wilkinson-Sachs starred as Oliver Twist, and carried the show through her swift, light movements, exhibiting Oliver's scrappiness. But Wilkinson-Sachs had key moments of tenderness as well, as she looked at the audience with puppy dog eyes and sang "Where is Love?"

None of the other actors disappointed, either. Members



OLIVER (SKILLFULLY PLAYED by Ellie Wilkinson-Sachs), on the left, and the Artful Dodger (Lucas Flinner, on the right) flank Asa Baker-Rouse's Fagin in the THT Young Company's production of "Oliver!" last weekend.

Photo by David Devine



RORY HENDEE PLAYING Nancy in the THT Young Company's "Oliver!" wowed audiences with her breathtaking voice, particularly in "It's a Fine Life."

Photo by David Devine

Theater Review

of the ensemble harmonized and danced in unison, and many of them doubled as other characters who would occasionally pop in for a comedic line, or to show off their pick-pocketing skills as they stealthily pulled handkerchiefs out of the pockets of Fagin, played by Asa Baker-Rose.

Rory Hendee, who played Nancy, even fell off the stage — purposefully, that is — after Bill Sikes, played by Ethan Ernstrom, killed her. The fall, of course, was

not before Hendee had offered up her breathtaking voice, as she belted songs like "It's a Fine Life" and swayed her long, flowing skirt back and forth.

But the youths' experience went beyond merely putting on a good show. For Anderson, the highlight is what happens to kids outside of the show itself.

"I see amazing personal growth in these kids," he said. "And that's what the arts can do for kids, it can open them up and give them a comfortable safe space to expand themselves and try new things."

After many stage combat scenes and heartfelt solo songs, the cast bowed for a standing, cheering crowd.

No one can know what happens after the curtain closes on the finale, but Anderson did provide a little bit of insight into what might have happened next.

"Inevitably, when the show is over, they all start crying. Because they've made such fast friends, and they don't want to leave them and they've had such a remarkable experience," he said.



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ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SHOWS that there is less water flowing down Otter Creek this summer than in past summers and thus less getting to the Middlebury falls. In addition, a sluice gate under 54 Main St. is diverting a lot of water away from the falls. Independent photo/John S. McCright

Middlebury falls

(Continued from Page 1A) water is apparently twofold — one natural and one human-made. The dry summer this year is the major reason for the low water flow. Otter Creek water flow data collected since 1902 by the United States Geological Survey show that water levels are indeed historically low.

Over the past 120 years, the median discharge of water in cubic feet per second in Otter Creek for the month of July has mostly been between 400-500 cubic feet per second (cfs) with 450 cfs being the average discharge rate. July 2022 has seen the discharge rate be less than 300 cfs for most of the month with it breaching 400 only once. Clearly, it is dry this summer.

The second reason that less water is making it to the lip of the Middlebury falls is that a good amount of what flows down Otter Creek is being diverted to the sluice under the building at 54 Main St. The building and the sluice — a gate for controlling the flow of water — are owned by the Holm family.

The sluice gate has been visibly higher than usual, which reduces the flow of water going over the falls.

Anders Holm exercises full control over the sluice gate. The sluice was intended to divert water through a Central Vermont Public Service Corp. hydropower project more than 40 years ago, but the project didn't get built on account of "competition from nuclear power," Holm said.

The Holm family purchased the sluice and the site in 1982.

Since then, the Holm family "spent substantial capital," Andres Holm said, to restore the foundations of the buildings and install the sluice gate to regulate the flow of water through their property.

"We applied for grants and received them, including top honors from the Vermont Clean Energy Fund."

— Andres Holm

More than a decade ago, the Holms pitched the plan to start up the hydropower project under the name of the Middlebury Electric Co. Town officials opposed the project, and it never got federal approval.

Holm explained that the sluice gate was opened this summer "to relieve the pressure of the river on our foundation," especially after the effects of a town water pipe spill last winter on the stability of the building were unknown.

While, Holm claims that the sluice gate is opened to preserve the structural integrity of their building, others have contested such claims.

"The Holm family dreams of a great hydro-power project," Dunnington said. "Anders wants the town to do something to promote the hydro project. He wants to demonstrate the site's capability as a potential hydro project site by showcasing a high flow through the Holm flume."

Holm himself claimed that issues on both sides of the river will be "remedied with the completion of the hydro project."

Why is it there concern about

hydro here?

Dunnington said there are two main reasons the diversion of water through the sluice should prompt apprehension from the community: economic and ecological.

"Hydro power will not generate enough power to pay back the investment," according to Dunnington.

He also said that the peak time to generate power would be in the summer, which coincides with the low-flow period.

"No one is going to invest in it," Dunnington said.

He added the state's policy that restricts the amount of water that can be diverted to hydropower during dry periods would further damage the project's viability.

"This prevents the Holm family to receive a Water Quality certificate for their hydro dreams," Dunnington said.

The ecological reason the water flow matters is that having the flow over the falls re-oxygenates the water and is better for aquatic life, Dunnington said.

Holm, on the other hand, singles out "Middlebury's centuries old water claims" as the root cause for the conflict. He disagrees with both economic and ecological concerns brought forward by Dunnington.

He claims that if the hydro power plant was built it would be capable of producing "7 million kWh of power," and dismissed economic concerns.

Holm disputed the argument that his project could not raise capital.

"We applied for grants and

received them, including top honors from the Vermont Clean Energy Fund," he said.

Holm countered the environmental concern by claiming a hydro plant would help the local ecology.

"The plan will regulate water flow over the main falls and solve erosion issues on both sides" he said.

While Dunnington acknowledges that Holm might have some justifiable concerns, he wishes that Holm "reflects what the community might feel about the project if the falls continue to dry up."

Dunnington believes "negotiating a balance between community concerns, low-flow periods, and hydro" is the only way to resolve this issue. However, this understanding, according to the former planner, has been "elusive for the past 20 years."

Meanwhile, there is a 60% chance of rain on Thursday with a spate of sunny and dry weather after that.

Hunter education courses offered

MONTPELIER — If you or someone you know would like to go hunting this fall but have never taken a hunter education course, this is the time to act: Vermont's volunteer hunter education instructors are now holding a limited number of courses throughout the state.

People must pass the basic hunter education course before they can purchase their first hunting license.

"Most of these courses are held in August and September," said Vermont Fish and Wildlife's Hunter Education Coordinator Nicole Meier. "All of our instructors are volunteers. They teach because they are passionate about hunting and want to ensure that Vermont's safe hunting legacy continues.

We credit Vermont's strong safety record with our volunteer instructors — in fact, in 2021 Vermont boasted zero hunting related incidents."

"Courses are available in basic hunter education, bowhunter education, trapper education, and combination hunter-bowhunter education. We expect more classes to be posted throughout August and September, so check our website frequently."

The courses will be listed as they become available at www.vtfishandwildlife.com. On the Home page, click on Hunt and then Hunter Education and Find the Right Class for You. To register go to registered.com/programs/vermont.



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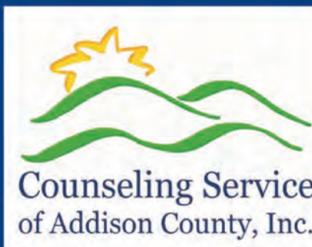
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Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.



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NORTHLANDS JOB CORPS students in the center's Advanced Welding course recently made a bicycle rack that Northlands donated to Vergennes. It was installed last week in the city's Falls Park; two more are planned. Members of the class pictured are, left to right, Eli Cervantes, Jacob Georgoulakos, Alan LeMaster (back), Ryan Beardsley (front), Dylan Joseph, Javen Skye, Jermaine "X" Johnson, Kayleen Mundo, Zoe Lindal (back), Clarice Cooper (front) and Jair Chapa-Flores.

Photo courtesy of Kathy Rossier

Job Corps class makes, gives bike rack to city of Vergennes

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The newest amenity in Vergennes's Fall Park is a custom-made bike rack, designed and built by the students in the Northlands Job Corps Advanced Welding class.

According to class instructor

Russell Fox it is the first of three bike racks to be given to the city as part of a community service/educational program jointly funded by Northlands contractor Educational Training Resources (ETR) and the Department of Labor, which oversees the nation's

Job Corps centers.

Those centers, more than 100 nationwide including Northlands, offer free federally funded vocational training to disadvantaged youths. ETR, which operates nine of those centers, recently earned a five-year contract from the DOL to run Northlands after improving student performance there in the first few years of its tenure.

Fox said annually Job Corps centers across the U.S. plan such

projects to complete the following year. Students are involved in all phases, he wrote in an email, "the idea, sketches, parts lists, dimensions and a cost breakdown of the project."

"These projects can range from additions to the campus, shop, local community and beyond," he added.

Working with the city, he said, Northlands was granted the funds to build the three bike racks, each "with custom, decorative pieces on

top," such as the fish that adorns the Falls Park rack.

The class is currently working on the second rack, which Fox said is planned for installation at the city's swimming pool. The site for the third rack is yet to be determined, he added.

The process starts with an idea, Fox said, and the students work with help from Fox's co-instructor, Jim Blanchard, to create a 3-D model of the project with all

necessary measurements.

Then, he said, the work begins.

"These drawings and plans are then given to the students and they start the building process," he wrote. "Each student has the ability to take part in the project and learn valuable skills in the many steps associated with it including accurate cutting, fabrication skills, welding in different positions, quality control and more."

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Addison property taxes rise

By ANDY KIRKALDY

ADDISON — Addison property and business owners discovered higher taxes as they opened the bills that were mailed out on July 8, but levees to pay for Addison Northwest School District operations did not lie behind the increases.

Rather, about \$200,000 of higher town spending approved by town residents on Town Meeting Day lies behind increases that sugar off to roughly 6 cents.

Even though that increase was offset by the selectboard's application of about \$74,000 of a fund balance, the portion of the overall tax bill required to fund town services rose by about 13 cents, from 43.58 cents per \$100 of assessed property value to 56.55 cents, including a small amount to pay for a veterans' tax exemption.

Town officials said costs of hiring an addition worker for the town road crew, the change of the assistant clerk position from part-time to full-time and benefits for both of those positions and the new town clerk (previous clerk Marilla Webb received health benefits elsewhere)

added up.

Meanwhile, school tax rates dropped, by 7.2 cents in the case of the homestead rate and by 6.84 cents for the non-residential rate, which applies to owners of commercial and rental property and second homes.

The bottom line for homeowners is thus an increase of 5.77 cents in their overall tax rate, from \$2.1287 per \$100 of assessed property value to \$2.1864.

That change translates to about \$58 in additional taxes per \$100,000 of assessed value for those Addison homeowners who pay taxes solely on the basis of the value of their homes.

About two-thirds of Vermont property taxpayers, however, pay based on their incomes. The impact on their tax bills will vary with their incomes and the value of their properties.

Addison's non-residential taxpayers are seeing a 6.13-cent increase in their overall rate to \$2.1269 per \$100 of assessment.

That change translates to about \$61 in additional taxes per \$100,000 of assessed value.

Opera house grant to help boost revised access plan

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — A \$30,000 Community Development Block Grant awarded to the city of Vergennes last week will help what is now an expanded Vergennes Opera House handicap access project move forward, according to Friends of the Vergennes Opera House (FVOH) President Gerianne Smart.

The proposal now includes full access to the stage and dressing room for performers and stagehands, as well as an elevator tower to the left rear of the building that the theater shares with Vergennes City Hall. It also brings upgrades to the alley that city hall shares with St. Paul's Episcopal Church to the left of the building.

The stage and dressing room access elements have boosted the projected cost from this past spring's \$1 million estimate to \$1.25 million. Smart said the project could take three years of fundraising and construction to complete.

But she said FVOH members believe not only that creating more complete accessibility is the correct path, but that also the goal is achievable, just as was their original four-year effort to reopen the theater that culminated

successfully in 1997.

"What's on our side is time. What's also on our side is our tenacity and our 100% belief in this project," Smart said. "When it's a good idea and it's the right thing to do, it gets done."

The \$30,000 grant will go toward the roughly \$120,000 needed for architectural blueprints for its access plans.

FVOH already has in hand another \$28,000 and needs about another \$60,000 to pay for those more detailed plans, which can then be used to seek bids from contractors. Smart said the group is optimistic other funding requests to private sources can close that gap.

This project's centerpiece, which was largely drawn up by city general contractor Norman LeBoeuf, as were new elements, remains the elevator tower at the left rear of city hall. The building has a Main Street entrance and first-floor lobby.

FVOH officials note the elevator tower and related landscaping will allow for easy access to the first floor of city hall as well as the second floor theater space.

That landscaping is included in conceptual plans developed with officials from the next-door church. The plan for the access drives the city and church to share calls for benches, plantings, pedestrian lighting and a rain garden.

"The main part of the project remains the same," Smart said. "Which is an elevator tower affixed to the exterior of the building that one would access from a reimagined alleyway that would turn into a pocket park."

The tower solves the major access issue for the theater. Those with any physical challenges must now be dropped off at the end of an upsloping private driveway to the right of city hall. From the driveway, which ends near the water tower behind city hall, they can either make their own way, or manage with help from family or friends, along a ramp that runs behind the building.

That ramp, which is level with the rear of the theater because city hall is built into a hillside, leads to an ADA platform to the left of city hall. From there, they can enter the rear of the opera house to attend theater or community events. But whoever has dropped them off must return to their vehicles and find parking elsewhere; there is none available there or room for any.

But with the tower in place, those same folks can be dropped off right at an entrance to the theater or city offices.

What is new in the plans is equal access for performers to the stage and the dressing room, known as the green room, where they prepare for

(See Opera House, Page 13A)

VERGENNES

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Opera House

(Continued from Page 12A)
the spotlight. That room is a story below and essentially directly under the stage.

That work entails adding a smaller second elevator to the right of the stage, moving one of the two green room rest rooms and making them both handicap accessible and creating a small corridor from the elevator to the rest of the theater.

That hallway will access a lift that will go either up a half level to the stage or down a half level to the green room, linking them. It will be also be helpful for moving equipment as well as people, Smart said, but creating equal access for all is at the heart of the plan.

"We recognized that doing this all-access project, that all-access needs to mean all-access (for) all beings, all people, all folks who could benefit from what's going on in that building, whether they're a performer or an audience member," she said.

"(The second lift) is just a fantastic piece of equipment to have," Smart added. "It's access for everyone. Whatever you have with you, or whatever you're working through, whatever struggles you have, you should be able to get into the opera house and have full enjoyment and usage of that space."

There is little question of the

value of that space to Vergennes. Since the 125-year-old opera house reopened in 1997 it has hosted a wide range of events, including concerts and plays produced or hosted by FVOH, private functions such as weddings and parties and community meetings and forums, including the city's annual meeting in March.

Despite the higher projected price tag, Smart said she and other board members are undeterred by the cost.

Smart notes state and nonprofit leaders and city officials have backed the plans, and the dozen-and-a-half letters of support the opera house has received include ones from local elected officials and nonprofit heads, former Gov. Howard Dean and the heads of the Preservation Trust of Vermont and Vermont Arts Council.

Smart also pointed out there are more public funds available now than in the 1990s for such projects, foundations have been encouraging and there is more attention paid to and understanding of accessibility issues.

"The initial restoration work from when we started really pounding the pavement to the day it was reopened was five years. This project will probably take about three to be completed," she said. "It will get done."

Sleepy man cited for DUI along with 3 others

VERGENNES — Vergennes police cited four people for driving under the influence of alcohol between July 11 and 24.

The most recent case came early in the morning on July 21. Police allege that just before 1:30 a.m. John J. Forero-Castano, 31, of New Haven was driving on Main Street and apparently fell asleep behind the wheel before his vehicle drifted across the center line and came to rest in front of the Stevens House at the intersection of Main and Green streets.

Police allege that he showed signs of impairment and that his non-evidentiary roadside blood-alcohol content (BAC) tested at 0.149%; the legal limit for driving is 0.08. Ultimately police cited Forero-Castano for DUI.

Also, while on patrol early in the morning of July 17, police came across a vehicle pulled over along Hopkins Road and said they stopped to check on the welfare of the operator. Again, they alleged the driver, Gabriel H. Litch, 22, of Vergennes, showed signs of impairment and did not do well in roadside sobriety testing. They also alleged he had a roadside BAC of 0.177 and later cited him for DUI.

On July 16 police pulled over a vehicle after allegedly seeing it being operated erratically on Green Street. They alleged the operator, James F. Ploof, 24, of Leicester failed roadside sobriety testing, and refused BAC testing. Police eventually cited him for DUI.

On July 12 police were conducting routine bar checks and stopped at the City Limits tavern on Green Street. An employee noted a patron who allegedly posed a problem, and police saw signs of intoxication. They said they offered him a ride home, which he declined, and when they explained the Act 1 Detoxification facility in Burlington as an option he also refused.

Shortly afterward, police said they saw the man, Jerry Rule Sr., 70, of Panton, try to start driving home, and said they were unable to stop him before he started backing out of a parking place. Police eventually cited him for DUI and alleged his BAC tested at 0.167.

In other incidents in that two-week period, Vergennes police conducted 14 patrols by car and seven on foot; made 25 traffic stops, not counting the DUIs; took four sets of pre-employment fingerprints; responded to an accidental 911 hang-up call; and also:

On July 11 helped the Vergennes Area Rescue Squad (VARS) with an uncooperative elderly patient on New Haven Road.

On July 12:
• Looked into a tip that a woman on Facebook who said she was making solicitations on behalf of an international student placement agency was misrepresenting her background. Police concluded she was and notified officials at the Addison Northwest School District and Department for Children and Families (DCF).

• Twice conducted checks on the welfare of a city family involved with the Project Vision North program.

On July 13 spoke to a Vergennes woman about a child custody dispute and the health and welfare of the

Vergennes Police Log

children involved; police spoke to DCF and learned they were aware of the issues.

On July 14 arranged for the return to the owner of a cellphone that had been found in the Booth Woods area.

On July 15, following an alert about erratic driving, stopped a vehicle on Main Street and determined the driver was safe to continue.

On July 16 discussed with the neighboring families involved in Hillside Acres apartments longstanding issues involving bullying and threats involving children and their fathers.

On July 17 took a report from a Northlands Job Corps official that a student had been dismissed from the program after threatening another, a report police said was required by law and protocol.

On July 18:
• Issued a citation to a Hillside Acres apartment resident on behalf of Middlebury police.

• Helped find a man suffering from Alzheimer's who had left his home after a disagreement with his wife.

On July 19:
• Responded to a complaint that someone was taking unwelcome pictures of Collins Aerospace employees as they came and went at work. Police determined it was a social media performer testing whether his constitutional rights would be respected, and that he was breaking no laws.

• Went to the John Graham Shelter to look into reports that a female resident was physically and verbally mistreating her young daughter. After an investigation police cited Erin Smith, 28, for cruelty to a child.

• Dealt with a landlord-tenant dispute at a West Main Street address.
• Helped a female Hillside Drive



Be bop DeBruyn

MOST AREA FOLKS know Rob DeBruyn as Middlebury Union High School's band director. But he also plays saxophone and other instruments in his free time outside school. Here he is blowing a mean sax with a group called CFI during a performance at Middlebury's Festival On The Green on Friday, July 15.
Independent photo/John S. McCright

State police

(Continued from Page 9A)
Moriarty to a sober party.

On July 14 issued a press release following up on a July 4 report of a vandalism at the Short Stop gas station in North Ferrisburgh. Police were told that a customer had dismantled two protective shields near the cash registers at the store. State police were able to identify the individual who vandalized the store property as Shawn A. Mathieu, 37, of Charlotte. On July 14 police located Mathieu and cited him for unlawful mischief.

On July 16 at approximately 9:26 p.m. logged a report of a single vehicle in a ditch off Route 22A in Orwell. Police said that driver William Marsh, 33 of Fair Haven was under the influence of intoxicants and they cited him for driving under the influence.

On July 19 at a little before 5 p.m. received the report of a domestic disturbance on Route 74 East in Shoreham. Police said that through investigation they determined that Christopher Lewis, 52, of Shoreham had assaulted and injured a household member. Troopers took Lewis to the New Haven barracks and cited him for domestic assault.

On July 19 at 8:51 p.m. responded to a report of a family fight at a Notch Road home in Bristol. State police allege that Kevin Irish, 56, of Bristol attempted to strangle and cause serious bodily injury to a household member. Irish also allegedly prevented the victim from calling 911.

Police arrested Irish, took him to the New Haven barracks and cited him for first degree aggravated domestic assault and interference with access to emergency services. Then police lodged Irish at the Northwest Regional Correctional

Center with bail set at \$1,000.

On July 20 received a report of a family fight that had occurred just after midnight on July 18 at a Hardscrabble Road home in Monkton. Police said Jonathan Turner, 47, of Monkton attempted to strangle and cause serious bodily injury to a household member. On the 21st troopers located Turner at his residence, arrested him and cited him for first degree aggravated domestic assault.

On July 23 at 6:18 p.m. responded to a one-car crash with injuries on Route 17 East near Mountain Road in Addison. Police report that 28-year-old Sarah Mills was driving a Chevy Aveo westbound on Route 17 when she attempted to pass a vehicle while navigating a curve. The Aveo flipped onto its roof and blocked both lanes of traffic. Mills was transported by DHART to the University of Vermont Medical Center and was in critical condition on Saturday evening; on Tuesday the hospital said she was in serious condition.

Route 17 East was shut down for approximately four hours for the crash investigation and roadway cleanup. Troopers were assisted by Vergennes Fire Department and Vergennes Area Rescue Squad. The crash investigation is still pending.

On July 24 at around 6 p.m. clocked a vehicle traveling 84 mph in a posted 45 mph zone on Route 17 through the intersection with Green Street in New Haven. Police stopped the vehicle and cited 30-year-old Marcie Whittemore of Bridport for negligent driving. Police also issued her civil tickets for exceeding the limit in state speed zones and for driving with a civilly suspended license.

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Kent

(Continued from Page 1A) since 1999. They hopped between such communities as Barre, Montpelier and Burlington as their jobs dictated. Kent has spent his career in the information technology industry, specializing in web development and e-commerce. He's between jobs right now, but his past employers include Adtalem Global Education and Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Vermont.

His wife, Kathryn Kent, is an attorney specializing in trademark law and litigation. They have three grown children, five grandchildren, and recently adopted another young child who just turned 4.

Kent said the 2016 presidential election got him interested in politics.

"That election season captivated me," he recalled of the abundance of GOP hopefuls who took a swing at the party's nomination for president. "The fact that Donald Trump won I thought, 'This is incredible.'"

He'd been thinking about taking the plunge himself and the retirement of longtime incumbent Rep. Harvey Smith, R-New Haven, clinched Kent's candidacy — not only for the Addison-5 House seat, but also for a potential state Senate

run. Kent served notice he'll seek to get the minimum 50 write-in votes on Aug. 9 to place his name on the ballot for Nov. 8 General Election contest for Addison County's two state Senate seats.

So he'll have a big choice to make if he's successful in both races.

"It felt like a calling, a civic duty," Kent said of his candidacy. "And it seems like as good a time as any."

Kent said his decision-making as a lawmaker would be informed by five basic priorities.

"At a high level, I feel the citizenry of the state should be healthy, safe, educated, prosperous and free," he said. "That addresses health care; law and order; the education system; commerce without burdensome government intervention; and freedom of speech, religion, movement and association. Those are the campaign priorities I have that I feel are the things that would address most issues that come up in people's lives today."

There'll be no shortage of weighty tasks for lawmakers

during the next biennium.

It won't be long before the Legislature will need to confront the reality of dwindling federal pandemic aid and the impact that will have on state budgets going forward, Kent reasoned.

As a fiscal conservative, Kent said he's prepared to make tough budget decisions.

"As far as resources, I believe that Vermont has to live within its means," he said. "As a citizen, you and I aren't expected to spend more than we make; that's just how it is. And I think government should be expected to do the same."

And speaking of making tough choices, Kent believes Vermonters should have more choices when it comes to health care. Vermont's Health Care Exchange features two insurers: Blue Cross-Blue Shield and MVP. Kent would like to see the doors opened to other carriers.

"I'm annoyed that we have so few choices," he said, adding he'd push for additional choices in the exchange marketplace.

"I believe more competition

would lower prices," Kent said. "The current choices I see on the exchange aren't affordable for the average family in Vermont."

The state should also take steps to lower the cost of prescription drugs, something Kent believes could be accomplished by importing the same kinds of medications from other countries.

"Lowering the costs of prescription drugs should be a priority," he said, noting the particular strain such costs are placing on the elderly and others on fixed incomes.

Kent said he'd also advocate for more aggressive steps to stem the flow of illegal drugs into the state, and to curb fraud in the health care system that he said is passing along costs in the form of higher premiums to those with legitimate health insurance plans.

Asked if he'd endorse a single-payer health care system for the state, he replied, "I'll have to do more research."

Like his primary opponent Jon Christiano, Kent is a fan of school vouchers, which he, too, would extend to families using private and/or religious schools.

"It creates competition," he said. "I believe the (state funding) should follow the child."

And Kent would also extend voucher eligibility to homeschooling families. Kent and his spouse homeschooled their three oldest children.

"We wanted to make sure our kids reflected our belief structure," he said.

Kent pledged to become an advocate for farmers, whom he called hard working, "salt of the earth" citizens who are dealing with too many government regulations.

"Farmers don't get to control much; they can't control the price of their fuel, their feed, and they can't even control the price they get for their milk," he said.

Farmers also took a hit during the pandemic, when schools stopped purchasing milk while classes were being held virtually. And some farms now have to compete with other industries for a shallow pool of drivers with CDL licenses to drive large milk trucks, Kent noted.

"We need to find a way that when the markets go up and down, we have the ability ... to remove impediments (to success)," he said. "Government's main role should be to remove impediments from small businesses, farmers and entrepreneurs, and then step aside."

Kent said he's concerned about

global warming, but doesn't buy into some of the more dire forecasts for the planet that have been coming from renowned scientists and environmentalists.

"I share the concerns, but not the alarming concerns," he said. "As a Christian, I believe we are stewards of the planet; this is our gift. We only have one Earth and it's our job to be the best stewards we can be."

He acknowledged the negative impacts of fossil fuels and single-use plastics.

"We need to continue investing in green energy while incentivizing companies and businesses and individuals to buy green energy (infrastructure), like solar panels and turbines," he said. "But I think we cross a line when government mandates that."

He applauded Vermont's efforts to reduce its carbon emissions, but doesn't believe the state's efforts alone will "budge the needle" remedying global warming on an international scale.

"I don't think the country is ready for (green energy mandates)," Kent said.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Christiano

(Continued from Page 1A) competed for one of the county's two seats in the state Senate. Incumbent Democratic Sens. Chris Bray of Bristol and Ruth Hardy of Middlebury comfortably won reelection that year, with Christiano finishing fourth in the field of five, still with a respectable 5,442 votes.

He took his loss in stride, saying his main reason for his Senate bid was to give local Republican voters another GOP option (along with Addison's Peter Briggs) on the ballot.

"I didn't have high expectations of winning," he acknowledged, noting Democrats' recent stranglehold on the county's two Senate seats.

This time he's setting his political sights a little closer to home and on a seat his party has held for the past 11 years.

"I thought it was an opportune time," Christiano said. "I thought about running for the (Addison-5) seat two years ago, but I would not run against Harvey. Now Harvey is stepping down and maybe this is the time. My goal is to try to hold that seat for the Republican Party."

Christiano has considerable experience in local politics. He spent four years leading the Addison County Republican Committee, before ceding that mantle to Tom Hughes in 2019.

He's served as a New Haven lister since 2015.

He ran unsuccessfully for his town's selectboard in 2017, but remains keenly interested in local, state and federal policies.

Christiano believes he could bring a good business perspective to the Vermont Statehouse. He and his wife, Jane Ross, move to Vermont in 1969 when Jon took a job with IBM in Essex Junction. At IBM, he was responsible for negotiating annual equipment purchases totaling more than \$40 million. He retired from IBM in 1993, and the couple relocated to New Haven 11 years ago. Christiano and Ross run a small farm operation, raising pigs and chickens and selling eggs.

Asked what he's emphasizing in his 2022 campaign, Christiano immediately replied "economics."

"Generally, I'm against anything that adds cost to our already strained household budgets," he said. "I'm interested in supporting and promoting ideas that help put food on the table — especially for elderly people — and put fuel in the gas tanks so people can get to work. I'd also like to help lower the cost of heating our homes this winter, which is going to be brutal."

Bearing in mind surging inflation and high fuel prices, the Legislature should refrain from increasing taxes next year, according to Christiano. And that means resisting any attempts to

impose surcharges on fossil fuels, he added.

"I'm not a big proponent of the global warming (argument), because in my opinion it doesn't follow the real science," he said, asserting that temperature swings are a "natural phenomenon" that

have been occurring for millennia. He dismissed carbon dioxide as being at an "insignificant" percentage of the atmosphere.

"I just don't buy into the idea that (global warming) is going to be the end of the world," said Christiano, though he has invested in a heat pump and solar panels.

Economic development is a big part of Christiano's campaign message, and he believes part of the answer lies in attracting small manufacturing enterprises to the Green Mountain State.

"We need new, small industry in Vermont," he said, specifically citing small engine manufacturing and electrical appliance assembly lines.

He stressed these new businesses should ideally be located away from urban centers, to facilitate worker commutes.

"They don't have to be in Burlington," he said. "It's a double win. It could provide jobs for the people who live there, and it helps the economy and the environment because people don't have to drive far to get to work."

Christiano hears a lot of talk about broadband and internet connectivity in Vermont, and he agrees the state needs a telecommunications upgrade. But

he has a different idea for how to do that.

"I think we should go with a satellite link," he said. "It would save a lot of digging, a lot of construction costs. If you've got a satellite hookup — and most everybody does, of some sort these days — it would eliminate a lot of those obstacles."

On health care, he continues to favor individual medical savings accounts as a way to make insurance more affordable.

"People who are more responsible for themselves are more frugal with how they expend those funds," he said.

Christiano believes hospitals need to be more responsible about reducing costs and isn't pleased with the current oversight over hospital budgets.

"I'm not a big fan of the Green Mountain Care Board and any of these other non-elected boards," he said. "There's no responsibility to the voters or the patients who are voters, most of them."

The Addison-5 district is home to several farms, and Christiano believes those who run them are hamstrung by too many regulations, and that state government could make their path to prosperity easier.

"Less regulations, less hand tying," he said, alluding specifically to new rules in the works to govern on-farm slaughter. "These are unnecessary burdens on farms in general, and especially small farmers."

When it comes to public education, Christiano is an unabashed fan of school choice, and would like to see vouchers follow students to any learning center of their choice — including ones that are private and/or religious.

He's been following the

controversy surrounding the potential closure of small schools in the wake of current enrollment and funding problems.

"I don't have a problem with consolidating schools," he said. "I see it as a definite way to save money and avoid duplication of services."

That said, he believes any school

closure/consolidation should come with a decrease in staffing — particularly administrative positions.

Christiano vowed, if elected, to apply a common test to his legislative decision making.

"I think legislators need to exercise good old-fashioned common sense, because that's

what voters are looking for and what they face every day," he said.

"They're facing choices about their expenditures, what they're going to do with families. I think common sense gets overwhelmed by other issues — finances and politics."

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com

"I don't have a problem with consolidating schools. I see it as a definite way to save money and avoid duplication of services."

— Jon Christiano

MAUSD

BRISTOL * LINCOLN * MONKTON * NEW HAVEN * STARKSBORO

July 25, 2022

INFORMATIONAL MEETING ON THE IMPACT OF A STARKSBORO WITHDRAWAL

On August 4, 2022 from 6-8 pm, the MAUSD School Board will hold an informational meeting for the residents of Bristol, Monkton and New Haven addressing the impact of a Starksboro withdrawal from the district. This meeting is being held prior to a vote in these three towns on August 9 to approve or reject Starksboro's request to withdraw.

The informational meeting will be held in Bristol at Holley Hall, with satellite locations at the New Haven Town Hall and the Monkton Town Hall. Community members can attend the meeting in their town or another location, or virtually via Zoom. The Zoom link can be found below.

In order to prepare communities for the vote on Starksboro's withdrawal from MAUSD, there will be a presentation and an opportunity for residents to ask questions. The district has determined, in short, that if the Starksboro vote is approved:

1. Taxes will go up close to 17% for FY 2023-24 or \$507 on a home assessed at \$200,000 or \$289 for income sensitized families. Fewer students in the District equals higher costs per pupil which equals higher taxes.
2. Starksboro could become a secondary choice district meaning reduced academic offerings, reduced co-curricular offerings and reduced support for students.
3. MAUSD most likely would be forced back into a Supervisory Union meaning reduced equity for students, reduced continuity across elementary schools, reduced staffing flexibility to meet student needs, reduced job security for staff, reduced ability to fill positions, higher overhead costs due to reduced central office efficiency, and the inability for voters to vote on centralized expenses.

All of this information, and the assumptions and formulas used to develop this information, will be shared with town voters at the August 4 meeting. In addition, if a merger with Addison Northwest Supervisory District (ANWSD)* is successful and Starksboro

withdraws, there is less efficiency overall and the impact would be a higher tax rate or reduced support and opportunities for students. Fewer students in the District will increase expenses, therefore increasing taxes. If Starksboro stays in the district and there is a vote for a district merger, there would likely be:

- A more stable tax rate
- Lower overhead cost per student
- Stable or increased support and opportunities for students
- Greater equity for students
- Protection for small schools
- Improved staff recruitment and retention
- Towns can still withdraw from a merged district

Please be sure you are informed on the impact of your vote and plan to attend this very important meeting on August 4 from 6-8 pm. There will be time for questions and you are encouraged to submit your questions prior to the meeting by emailing the Board Chair Dawn Griswold at dawn.griswold@mausd.org.

The informational meeting will be held at Holley Hall in Bristol, and two satellite locations: New Haven Town Hall and Monkton Town Hall. The meeting will also be held via Zoom at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86384562512>
Meeting ID: 863 8456 2512
Passcode: MAUSD

When is the vote?

The vote to allow Starksboro to withdraw from MAUSD will take place on Tuesday, August 9 which is the same day as Vermont state primary elections. You can request an early/absentee ballot from your town clerk by August 8.

*Note: The MAUSD/ANWSD Merger Study Committee will be sharing more detailed information about the proposed merger in the coming weeks and giving community members an opportunity to ask questions.

This informational campaign is organized and paid for by the MAUSD Community Engagement Committee

Starksboro

(Continued from Page 1A)

Reen presented to the board some of the things that would likely result from Starksboro leaving the district. The superintendent's presentation consisted of three main points:

- Taxes will likely increase.
- Opportunities for students will likely decrease.
- MAUSD will likely be forced back into a supervisory union.

POTENTIAL TAX INCREASES

Reen estimated Starksboro's withdrawal from the district would increase the MAUSD education tax rate for 2023-2024 by more than 25 cents, or 17% over 2022-2023.

Members of Save Our Schools, a group of Starksboro residents spearheading the town's withdrawal efforts, questioned this estimated tax increase and on July 19 shared to Front Porch Forum the group's own financial projections for the district if Starksboro withdraws. The group's post also listed multiple reasons for questioning MAUSD's estimates, including:

- The district's projections should compare FY24 district taxes with Starksboro in the district to FY24 district taxes without Starksboro rather than comparing FY23 district taxes with Starksboro

to FY24 district taxes without Starksboro to more accurately reflect how FY24 district taxes would differ with Starksboro out of the district.

• The district's estimated tuition revenue is "unrealistically low," as it assumes only 75% of Lincoln and Starksboro students will continue to attend Mount Abraham Union Middle/High School in FY24. SOS predicts around 90% of Starksboro students will continue to attend Mount Abe in FY24, resulting in a higher district revenue.

In their post, the SOS group projects the district's tax rate is more likely to increase by 5.7% following a Starksboro withdrawal as opposed to 17%. It is unknown which estimate is more likely to be realized for FY24 if Starksboro withdraws, but the loss of students from Starksboro (compounded with the loss of students from Lincoln, which recently separated from MAUSD), will likely result in an increased cost per student and therefore an increased tax rate for

the district.

SOS also raised an issue with how MAUSD's tax projections did not reflect anticipated savings

"Fewer students sharing the overhead cost, the fixed overhead cost, leads to a higher cost per pupil, which leads to a higher tax rate."

— Superintendent Patrick Reen

from a possible MAUSD and Addison Northwest School District (ANWSD) merger. Starksboro's withdrawal is predicated on this merger proposal passing on Nov. 8 and MAUSD's projected tax increases reflect FY24 for the district without Starksboro rather than FY24 in a merged district without the town.

Estimates were not given for what the implications of Starksboro's withdrawal would be for taxpayers in this proposed merged district, though Reen said at the MAUSD board's July 20 meeting that merging with ANWSD would not eliminate the financial impacts of a Starksboro withdrawal.

"These assumptions do not factor in a successful merger, in which case essentially everything changes in terms of assumptions and costs and calculations and tax rates and things like that,

but what doesn't change is still the concept," Reen said. "Fewer students sharing the overhead cost, the fixed overhead cost, leads to a higher cost per pupil which leads to a higher tax rate."

SUPERVISORY UNION

Reen also discussed in his presentation the concern that should Starksboro leave the district, MAUSD would likely be forced back into a supervisory union, which would add another level of boards and administration to the school system. It has been speculated that the Vermont State Board of Education could respond to a Starksboro withdrawal by recommending the creation of a supervisory union with MAUSD, ANWSD, Ripton, Lincoln and potentially Starksboro.

Reen said at a June 28 board meeting that it seems likely the state board would make this recommendation if Starksboro withdraws in order to maintain stability in the region.

MAUSD board members presented to the state board on June 15 their reasons for not wanting to be forced into a supervisory union, which included:

- Reduced equity and consistency for students in terms of programming, levels of support and opportunities.

- Reduced job security for staff.
- Unequal representation on the supervisory union board and steeper tax rate increases for taxpayers.

Some members of SOS took issue with Reen's picture of a future MAUSD without Starksboro. Susan Klaiber, Nancy Cornell and Herb Olson released this statement on behalf of Starksboro Save Our Schools Wednesday too late to include in its entirety here. One relevant comment that captures the tenor of the conversation was:

"We're concerned that MAUSD may have crossed the line between legitimately providing objective information, (for example before an annual budget vote), and advocating for a particular result on a voting issue. For MAUSD to advocate against ratification is unlawful unless MAUSD registers with the Secretary of State and discloses how much in taxpayer funds and staff time has been used. It appears that MAUSD has recently sent misleading and erroneous information to parents of MAUSD students. This is unconscionable."

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

MAUSD board members will host an informational meeting next Thursday, Aug. 4, at 6 p.m. to further discuss the potential

impacts of Starksboro leaving the district. The meeting will include a presentation from Reen and a Q&A period. Community members can attend the meeting in person at Bristol's Holy Hall or at satellite locations at New Haven Town Hall and Monkton Town Hall. There is also a remote option to attend the meeting, which can be found on the MAUSD board's calendar at tinyurl.com/MAUSDboardcalendar.

Reen said despite disagreements between MAUSD board members and SOS representatives, he is hopeful the common viewpoints from each party will help voters decide which way to vote on Aug. 9.

"I think there is general agreement on the concept that if Starksboro withdraws taxes are likely to increase for Bristol, Monkton and New Haven. How much they increase is something we might agree to disagree on," Reen said. "I also think there is agreement that if Starksboro withdraws MAUSD is more likely to be forced into a supervisory union. Perhaps these two areas of general agreement will help voters sort through the complexity of the issue."

Newton

(Continued from Page 1A)

Superior Court Judge Kirstin Schoonover ruled that she wouldn't grant extensions of a temporary extreme risk protection order or an emergency restraining order against Newton. VTDigger.org reported that Schoonover's order said, "The State has failed to establish clear and convincing evidence" that (Newton) presents an extreme risk of harm to others at the time of the hearing.

Back on June 28, Newton

was released on \$100,000 bond following his arraignment, under various conditions—including that he not engage in law enforcement activities. But given Newton's status as an elected official, there was nothing the court could do to preclude him from continuing his administrative oversight of the department. Addison County Sheriff's Department (ACSD) Sgt. Michael Elmore—who along with fellow Republican Ron Holmes is on the Aug. 9 primary ballot to

succeed Newton as sheriff—is currently coordinating day-to-day operations for the organization.

Newton has refused calls for his resignation that have come from multiple citizens, local legislators and even Gov. Phil Scott. Current state law would require a legislative impeachment process to remove him from office.

But there's always the court of public opinion, and Pantan and Ripton officials recently decided to add their voices to those seeking a

leadership change at the ACSD.

"We have lost confidence in Sheriff's Newton's ability to lead the Addison County Sheriff's Department," reads the statement from Pantan's top leaders. "As an individual, Sheriff Newton deserves a complete investigation and legal due process. As a law enforcement officer however, the severity of the charges, circumstances of the allegations, and conditions of his release are not conducive to his ability to lead the sheriff's office safely and justly, even in a removed administrative capacity."

"For the safety of our Pantan constituents and all residents of Addison County, we must have law enforcement officers who are trustworthy and above reproach. For the safety of Addison County and its residents, we urge Peter Newton to resign as sheriff effective immediately," the statement concludes.

Pantan selectboard Chair Howard Hall said he and his colleagues didn't take their action lightly. Hall spent 30 years as a professional firefighter in the suburbs of Chicago prior to arriving in Vermont around a decade ago. Moreover, he was president of a union representing 110 firefighters and paramedics.

"If he represents the town of Pantan as the sheriff of Addison County—which he does—we felt that we had lost confidence in his ability to be equal, fair and consistent with the law," Hall said. He noted if Newton had been part of a union or was a municipal

employee, he'd likely be on paid or unpaid administrative leave pending resolution of his legal case.

Hall acknowledged Newton is innocent until proven guilty, but believes there's a cloud hanging over his leadership that undermines his ability to do his job.

"If you've been arrested, there's serious issues," Hall said. "People don't arbitrarily or capriciously arrest people; they have to have some form of evidence."

While Pantan officials would like to see Newton leave office, they want to keep his deputies on the job. Pantan has a service contract with the ACSD and there are no plans to change that, according to Hall.

"We believe the (deputies) are doing their job, until they're not," he said. "We didn't lose confidence in everyone."

Meanwhile, Ripton selectboard members did take the step of ending their town's service contract with the ACSD. Ripton, according to selectboard Chair Laurie Cox, has for years maintained a pact with the sheriff's department to provide local patrols. Ripton has requested an average of 25 hours of ACSD patrols per month, at a current hourly rate of \$34 (plus mileage).

Cox said she and her colleagues had been dissatisfied with ACSD service during the past year, and that Newton's June 28 arrest gave the board further reason to terminate its service contract.

"It's not like we felt we were losing something big by not having them be here," Cox said. "We felt we needed to send a clear message (about Newton's status as sheriff)."

Cox conceded that Ripton's call

for Newton to resign isn't likely going to trigger such a concession by the embattled sheriff. But ending service contracts could become a winning strategy, she said. The ACSD currently has contracts with 14 communities.

"If communities cancel their contracts, that sends a different kind of message—a financial message," she said.

Ripton will likely revisit its ACSD contract status under a new sheriff, Cox said.

Dave Silberman is Addison County high bailiff, who by statute would replace the sheriff if that person is unable to carry out the functions of the job. The high bailiff would preside over the department until the governor appoints someone to serve as sheriff until the next election.

Silberman, an attorney and entrepreneur, isn't eager to step into the sheriff's role, but said he's prepared to do so if called upon.

"I applaud Ripton and Pantan for taking the steps that they have taken, and I hope to see more towns follow their lead, because the people of Addison County deserve better," he said. "If I were the elected leader of a town that had a contract with the sheriff, I'd find it very difficult to continue to receive those services from the department under the leadership of Peter Newton, given the terrible accusations against him, and the apparent credibility of those accusations."

Silberman reported receiving "quite a few calls from members of the community expressing their concern with Peter Newton remaining in charge of the sheriff's department, even in this vague administrative capacity that he claims to be leading in. There are folks in the community who don't feel safe."

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

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AGE WELL™

Vermont State Primary Election is August 9

MONTPELIER — Secretary of State Jim Condos reminds Vermonters that the Tuesday, Aug. 9, Statewide Primary Election is only two weeks away and encourages voters to formulate their voting plan.

"Whether you're voting early or voting at the polls on Election Day, having a voting plan will ensure that you don't miss this important opportunity to exercise your Constitutional right to cast a ballot," said Condos. "We have worked to make it easy for eligible Vermonters to register to vote. The method you use to cast your ballot, whether early by mail, drop box, in person, or at the polls on Election Day, is your choice: the most important thing is that you vote!"

Those planning to return their ballot by mail are encouraged to get their voted ballot in the mail

stream no later than Friday, July 29, to ensure ample time for it to be delivered to the Town Clerk before Election Day.

Vermonters can also vote early, or return an early ballot, in person at their Clerk's office any day before Election Day on Aug. 9, during normal business hours. Secure drop boxes are available in many towns for voters to conveniently return their ballot packages.

The Town Clerk must have a voter's ballot in hand by 7 p.m. on Election Day, Aug. 9, for it to be counted.

Early voters are strongly encouraged to carefully follow all instructions included with their ballot, such as only voting one ballot of the three Major Party ballots they are given, placing their voted ballot in the 'voted ballot' envelope and signing the certificate on the front, and placing the

other two in the 'unvoted ballots' envelope, which must be returned along with their voted ballot.

For the first time in a Vermont statewide election, voters who made an error will have an opportunity to fix that error with their Town Clerk. Early voters should check the status of their returned ballot at mvp.vermont.gov or keep an eye out for correspondence from their Clerk to know if they have a defective ballot that needs curing.

All polling places will be open as usual on Tuesday, Aug. 9. Polls close at 7 p.m.

"The Statewide Primary is an important process that determines which Major Party candidates may appear on the November General Election ballot," said Condos. "I believe our democracy is stronger when we all participate, so make your voting plan today."



SEVEN 4H TEENS recently took a tasting tour through Addison and Chittenden Counties. They stopped at Rosie's Restaurant in Middlebury as part of the tour, and also visited Dakin Farm, Champlain Valley Apiaries, and Monument Farms in Addison County.

Photo courtesy of UVM Extension

4-H teens go on a tasting tour

ADDISON COUNTY — Seven Vermont 4-H teens with an interest in food production and related career opportunities had the opportunity to visit several businesses in Addison and Chittenden counties on a food-tasting tour July 14.

Yankee Farm Credit and University of Vermont (UVM) Extension 4-H sponsored the tour, which was open to 4-H'ers, ages 14-18, from throughout the state. The group visited five farms and agribusinesses with lunch at Rosie's Restaurant in Middlebury.

Participating in the full-day tour were Hailey and Mackenzie Chase, Bristol; Samantha Flint, Brookfield; Alexis, Erin and Katherine Whipple, Bridport; and Isabella Wilbur, Orwell. They were accompanied by Liz Kenton, UVM Extension Youth Agriculture Project coordinator, and

Wendy Sorrell, UVM Extension 4-H livestock educator.

The first stop on the tour was Shelburne Farms, where the teens visited the farm barn and cheese-making facility to observe how farmstead cheddar cheese is made from milk from the farm's herd of purebred Brown Swiss cows. They sampled smoked cheese and six-month, one-year, and two-year aged cheeses to explore the different tastes.

Their tour of Sweet Roots Farm and Market in Charlotte provided an opportunity to see how a pick-your-own operation is sustainably managed and learn about retail sales with a visit to the farm store. A fun highlight was picking blueberries to snack on throughout the day.

At Dakin Farm in Ferrisburgh, Sam Cutting Jr. shared the history

of his family-owned business and described how their products from maple to smoked meats are produced. The teens tasted their spiral ham, cheddar cheese and crackers after a private tour of their packing and shipping barn.

The group also visited Champlain Valley Apiaries in Middlebury, established in 1931, to learn about beekeeping and different types of honey. They each received an 8-ounce jar of honey to take home.

Their final stop was at Monument Farms Dairy in Weybridge, a fourth-generation family dairy farm that processes its own milk from its herd of Holstein cows. Sharon Palmer took the teens on a tour of the facility and talked about how cows make the milk that they process and package for delivery. The teens also sampled the dairy's famous chocolate milk.

Paid family leave

(Continued from Page 1A)

important for people to understand that ... (employers) can do anything. So the superintendent with the principal has the power to be like, 'No, you can't take any leave,' or 'No, you can only take the 12 weeks,' or the power to be like, 'Sure, you can take the whole year off,'" Gould said.

Legislators have worked to address the issue. In April 2019, Rep. Robin Scheu, D-Middlebury, sponsored bill H.107, a paid family and medical leave bill that included a bonding leave of 12 weeks and medical leave of eight weeks for all employers. The Democrat-controlled Senate modified the bill and passed it, but Republican Gov. Phil Scott vetoed the bill, and an override lost by one vote.

Then COVID-19 hit. "I think that COVID really broke open the fact that these programs are really critical," Scheu said. "They're critical for employers and employees as well, and it has wreaked havoc on everybody by not having these programs. We can't find workers. There are people who can't afford to take time off because they don't have any programs for them."

"It (has been) a very different time in America," said Rep. Emilie Kornheiser, D-Windham.

Scheu added that prior to the pandemic, legislators, employers and advocates may have understood the issue intellectually, but they didn't yet feel it viscerally, the way people might now.

In the beginning of the pandemic, Vermont workers used unemployment insurance to address the lack of paid leave, according to the legislators.

LACK OF FUNDING

Meanwhile, small businesses have found the lack of government support for paid leave particularly problematic. Main Street Alliance, which organizes small businesses around issues pertinent to them, has advocated for a universal, publicly funded policy of family paid leave in order to level the playing field.

The organization worked with Vermont Business for Social Responsibility to pull together more than 100 small businesses and nonprofits, and over 500 workers, to advocate for a COVID-19 paid leave program in bill S.11, which successfully passed the Vermont Legislature this past biennium.

The program earmarked almost \$15.2 million to be used between July 1 and June 30, 2023, for up to 40 hours of 100% wage replacement of up to \$21.25 an hour per employee. It can be used for a range of reasons, including exposure to COVID-19 and loss of school or childcare.

Employers can apply quarterly

for the program, which will be run by the Department of Financial Regulation, though state director Morgan Nichols is still awaiting guidance on how employers can apply.

In the same biennium, Scheu and Kornheiser co-sponsored an even more comprehensive paid leave bill that was signed onto by almost everyone in the Democratic and Progressive caucuses, but it hinged on a federal bill that failed to clear the U.S. Senate. The federal bill would have supplied funding for the paid coverage, the stumbling block that keeps states and many individual employers from implementing generous policies.

As for Gould's fate, she was initially granted 12 weeks leave, despite not technically being eligible as she had not yet worked there a full year. Still, she felt she needed more than 12 weeks. She recalled working in New York City after her first pregnancy, all while having horrible postpartum depression and a child still in the intensive care unit. "I was in charge of 18 preschoolers by myself and it's just, it's straight-up dangerous to have somebody who's so sleep-deprived and just feeling so awful, to be in charge of little kids," Gould said.

So, Gould kept pushing. Eventually, she met with the Addison Central School District superintendent and developed a plan to split the year with her husband, Adam, who is also a teacher at the school.

"I was really nervous to go to that meeting with him, but it wasn't sitting right with me, I was feeling so depressed, going back. I was (thinking) I'm probably not going to look back and wish I hadn't advocated for myself and my child," she said.

Gould knew many other employees, particularly if they were a first-time mother or weren't sure how their employer would react, might not have the ability to self-advocate the way she did. If Gould hadn't succeeded in this pursuit, she said, she probably would've just gone back to work. Like many teachers, Gould needed to support her family, and she couldn't risk losing her new job.

OTHER STRUGGLES

Meanwhile, the hospitality industry, in particular, struggles with leave policies. Rep. Matt Birong, D-Vergennes, who owns 3 Squares Café in the Little City, recounts years of watching people make sacrifices between pay and a family.

"It's like absolutely insane. You're really picking winners and losers financially and sociologically with how people can family-plan based on whether or not they have

the luxury or independent wealth to actually nurture and begin to cultivate a family," he said.

Phil Summers, executive director of the Addison County Chamber of Commerce, said small businesses in general, which are critical to Vermont's economy, don't necessarily have the financial stability to provide the leave policies necessary, and at the same time are hit much harder by the loss of employees.

The largest employer in the county, Middlebury College, has a comprehensive policy outlined on its website. The college allows staff up to six weeks of paid leave after the birth or adoption of a child. For faculty, however, there is room for different paths.

Faculty members who are scheduled to teach through a term, whether or not they are the birth mother, are provided with six weeks of paid leave. The birth mother gets an additional four- to six weeks of short-term disability pay, at a 60% rate. Beyond that, there are different options faculty can choose, some paid and some not.

"We have a generous combined time off policy and some employees opt to use their combined time off to supplement parental leave in different ways," said Caitlin Goss, vice president for human resources and chief people officer at the college.

In a tough labor market, Birong said paid leave policies are critical to growing Vermont's workforce and attracting people from outside the state.

"If we're gonna promote supporting families and encouraging younger people to move, live, and stay in Vermont, then you gotta talk the talk. And family leave talks the talk," said Birong.

According to some business owners, such policies are also important for gender equality and advancement in the workplace, especially given the recent overturning of Roe v. Wade.

"This could not be a more important moment to recognize that paid family leave is a woman's health initiative just as much as it is any other type of economic piece," said Vergennes resident Sas Stewart, owner of Adventure Dinner. "If there's ever been a time where we need to more closely come back and give care to the women in our lives, this is the moment."

Scheu and Kornheiser are eager to keep fighting during the upcoming session of the Legislature.

"This next biennium, we're not going to be waiting anymore," said Kornheiser.

Still, they will need to grapple with pushback surrounding how to pay for such programs, and debates about how to administer them.

"I think the conversation will likely be easier this time around, but that doesn't mean it will be easy," said Kornheiser.

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)

and youth categories. One entry per person, and original amateur work only. No Photoshop or otherwise manipulated images is allowed. Winners will get the enlarged and mounted print of their winning photo, which will be included in a lobby exhibit and virtual art gallery. This year's guest judges are Kylie Wolgamot, MUHS art teacher; Caleb Kenna, local professional photographer; and Steve James, photographer for Addison Independent.

Vermont's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined slightly to 2.2% in June, and was substantially lower than the national rate of 3.6% for that same month. The June jobless rates for Vermont's 17 labor market areas ranged from 2.0 percent in White River Junction to 3.7 percent in Derby. The Middlebury-area unemployment rate for June was 2.4%, translating to 457 jobless folks out of a workforce of 19,295. The Middlebury-area's June rate was up 0.5% from May and was down 0.9% compared to June of 2021.

With summer in full swing, cyanobacteria blooms are appearing in Vermont's lakes and ponds. Also known as blue-green algae, those blooms can produce toxins that can make people and pets sick, so if you see them, it's best to stay away. Blooms are usually green or blue-green and can make the water look like pea soup or spilled paint, but they can be other colors and consistencies, too. Swimming or wading in water with a cyanobacteria bloom may cause skin rashes, diarrhea, a sore throat, stomach problems, or more serious health concerns. Kids and pets are more likely to play in or drink the water, so be sure to keep them away from the shoreline or water if you think you see a bloom. To see where blooms have recently been reported, view photos or a video of cyanobacteria blooms, or report suspected blooms to the Vermont Department of Health, visit healthvermont.gov/cyanobacteria.

Speaking of potentially harmful flora, here's a message from Middlebury Police Chief & Emergency Management Director Tom Hanley: The growth and spread of poison parsnip has exploded this summer. This is an invasive species that originates from Europe and Asia. It is found virtually everywhere in our area

— roadsides, meadows, fields. Most of us are familiar with the plant as its growth has become ubiquitous in recent years. Still, it represents a danger to children and to those unfamiliar with it. The plant produces a sap that can cause painful rashes and raised skin blisters similar to second-degree burns when exposed to sunlight. The plant is identified by pods of yellow flowers and a stalk that can grow to 6 feet. Should you come in contact with the plant, wash your skin thoroughly with soap and water as soon as possible, and protect exposed skin from sunlight for 48 hours. If you experience a skin reaction, call your health care provider. Manual removal of plants can be effective for small areas. Cutting roots 1-2 inches below the soil or pulling plants by hand should be done before they have gone to seed. Mowing wild parsnip after flowers have bloomed but before seeds have developed can also kill the plants.

Reminder: Cady Road in Middlebury is closed between Lower Foote Street and Route

116 until Aug. 8. During this time, the entire road surface will be resurfaced. The section of Cady Road located between Route 7 and Lower Foote Street will also receive this treatment, but will remain open with times of temporary lane closures. Please be aware and attentive of workers, road and lane closures.

Those in charge of fun activities and literacy programs in Bristol are planning a novel — some might say mysterious — way of raising money for the Bristol Recreation Department and Lawrence Memorial Library for future programming and events. They're planning an Oct. 1 "Speakeasy," featuring food, drink, and a who-done-it mystery to solve. Attendees will be encouraged to turn out in "Roaring 1920s" regalia — think flappers, gangsters, "The Great Gatsby," and Prohibition. Oct. 1 might seem a long way off, but you can already purchase your tickets through the Bristol Recreation Department website at tinyurl.com/yc87pukv.



For more agricultural delights, check out the official Addison County Fair & Field Days Program in next week's edition!

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT
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2022 Garden Game

CATEGORIES & FRONT-RUNNERS:

- Asparagus (length x circumference) - Laura Asermily, 17" x 2.25"
- Beet (circumference)
- Broccoli (diameter) - Ed Blechner, 12"
- Cabbage (circumference)
- Cantaloupe (circumference)
- Carrot (length x circumference)
- Cauliflower (diameter)
- Corn (length x circumference)
- Cucumber (length x circumference)
- Edible Leafy Greens (length x width - leaf only)
- Eggplant (circumference x circumference)
- Fennel (length x circumference)
- Green Bean (length)
- Kohlrabi (circumference)
- Leek (length x circumference)
- Melon (circumference)
- Onion (circumference)
- Parsnip (circumference)
- Pepper (circumference x circumference) - Gary Miller, 12" x 14.5"
- Potato (length x circumference)
- Pumpkin (circumference x circumference)
- Radish (circumference) - George & Patrick Martin, 12.25"
- Rhubarb (length)
- Rutabaga (circumference)
- Summer Squash (length x circumference)
- Sunflower (diameter)
- Tomato (circumference)
- Turnip (circumference)
- Winter Squash (length x circumference)
- Zucchini (length x circumference)

Why do gardeners plant bulbs?

So the worms can see where they're going.

Why shouldn't you tell a secret in a garden?

Because the potatoes have eyes and the corn has ears.

What do you call a cheerleading herb?

An encourage mint!

No contest entries this week, folks. For more gardening triumphs (and less terrible jokes), be sure to bring in those veggies!

Play the Garden Game!

Do you have veggies to share in our pages? We welcome entries from any of the listed categories (right). Bring your entry into our office between 9am and 4pm Monday-Friday and we'll measure it and snap a photo. Each week we'll publish new entries and update our frontrunners for each category in the contest. At the end of the season, each category winner* will be eligible to receive a gift certificate from our Garden Game sponsor, Middlebury Agway.

More info online at addisonindependent.com

*Please note: Each individual is eligible to win one gift certificate, even if they win multiple categories.

Pollinators

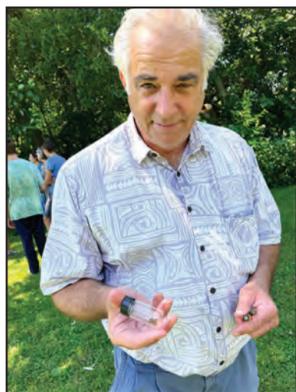
(Continued from Page 1A)
 launched last month, is for every town in Vermont to eventually have one of these habitats.

This past Saturday, Vergennes celebrated being the first city to do so, by unveiling a half-acre habitat for pollinators in the city's Falls Park.

"Vergennes has been one of the most welcoming towns to come into," said Patrick Kitchen, who works for Bee the Change and contacts businesses about offsetting their footprint. "Even when I go into a business and they're busy and they really don't have time for me to talk to them, they still let me come in and do my little spiel for them."

Bee the Change asks business owners to pay 11 cents per square foot of their business in order to fund a pollinator habitat equivalent in size elsewhere in Vermont.

Thus far, seven Vergennes businesses have agreed to offset their footprints through this initiative: Stone Block Antiques, Linda's Apparel, Vermont Pure CBD, Olsen's Ice Cream, Lily Boutique, Gaines Insurance and Ten Stones Emporium. Kitchen said more are in the works, as well.



AFTER WORKING AN overnight shift Friday as a physician at the Porter Hospital Emergency Room, Mike Kiernan, co-founder of Bee the Change along with his wife, Tawnya, collected two bees to bring along to Saturday's event in Vergennes Falls Park. Here he shows off one of the bees.

Independent photo/Katie Futterman

In addition to local business owners, city officials were an essential part of getting the pollinator habitat completed.

When Vergennes Recreation Department park coordinator Erin Wolcott received an email proposing the project from Bee the Change co-founder Mike Kiernan, she knew there was a lot of park space in Vergennes. So she worked with her colleagues for about a year to determine the best spot for the habitat.

That spot ended up being a serene, waterside expanse for native pollinators. It took about a week's worth of work, over time and with various steps, by Paul and Flurine Seiler, who tilled the land in May and transformed it from a grassy field. This transformation is key to increasing biodiversity.

Kiernan spoke to the celebrants at the July 23 grand opening of the habitat about the importance of creating these spaces for pollinators. Although 25 years ago the region had all 17 species of bumblebees native to Vermont, Kiernan told them, today there are only 10, seven of which are endangered. He cited a conclusion made by the UN Agency for Climate Change and UN Agency for Biodiversity last year, in which they stated that two major crises affecting life on earth are climate change and the accelerating rate of biodiversity loss.

"It's not easy, but everywhere we see turf grass, which, it is beautiful and pleasing to us to see a swath of green, but if everywhere we see turf grass we ask, 'Why? Why is that not a nice path through a beautiful diverse habitat?'" said Kiernan.

He led the group on a tour around the habitat, occasionally pulling out a bee to show the group. The bee buzzed inside a plastic container in his pocket until he eventually released it into the world.

Attendees of the celebration then gathered around a table, which offered drinks and snacks, as town officials expressed their gratitude and excitement about the new habitat.

Sue Rakowski, who sits on the city council, said, "I am very proud that Vergennes has embraced this,



CORNWALL FARMER PAUL Seiler runs a disc harrow through land at Vergennes Falls Park in May to begin the process of creating a pollinator habitat there. A few sunflowers wait to be planted at the margins of the area.

Independent photo/Steve James

and has brought people together to make something that's not only beautiful, but is important for not only pollinators, but also our world."

Ron Redmond, city manager of Vergennes, thanked everyone for their hard work.

"I'm really struck by how important it is to have urban guerillas and instigators and leaders, and so much of what we do here in Vergennes, it's only gonna happen because people like Erin step up, and behind the scenes, it's happening all the time. And that's what I love about working here," he said.

Redmond was eager to continue with the project and look for more spots for pollinators in the future. He added that the city will supplement the new garden with educational materials around the habitat, including a statement on the city's website about Bee the Change's pollinator project.

Kiernan also thanked statewide donors to Bee the Change. The

media organization Vermont Public offset the footprint of not only its Colchester building, but its parking lot as well. Pomerleau Real Estate offset the footprint of all of its real estate.

Barr Hill Gin has a cocktail called "Bee's Knees," for which the company donate 10 square feet of pollinator habitat for every picture posted online of the drink. This year, that made up 200,000 square feet of pollinator habitats.

Vergennes may be the first, but it is not the only town working to offset its pollinator footprint. Mooretown and Waitsfield both have smaller gardens for pollinators next to their elementary schools. Bee the Change had planting parties in which they gave the kids Dixie cups of seeds to plant. Bristol, Marshfield, Waterbury and Londonderry have also begun the process, and about 15 other towns will begin creating their own habitats later this summer and in the fall.

At Shelburne Museum, there is



FLURINE SEILER, LEFT, who tilled the Falls Park land with Paul Seiler, talks with Bee the Change Mike Kiernan at Saturday's pollinator habitat dedication in Vergennes

Independent photo/Katie Futterman

a pollinator art sculpture exhibit by artist Nancy Winship Milliken, with a flowering habit around four of her sculptures. In the future, Bee the Change is looking to encourage more businesses to donate and more towns to pollinate.

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Sockeye in the Wood River system: abundance, resilience, diversity; Part 1



MATTHEW DICKERSON

For five days and nights I resided in a shoreline cabin partway up the Wood River system in Alaska's Wood-Tikchik State Park. Officially, I was serving as artist-in-residence for Alaska State Parks and had come to spend a week in the state's largest park trying to represent it in prose and photography. The reality is that at roughly 1,600,000 acres — larger than the state of Delaware — Wood-Tikchik is far too big to see (or represent) in so short a time. So I had narrowed my geographical focus to just one section of river 200 yards long and the nearby forest and meadow.

Most of Wood-Tikchik State Park drains westward out of the Wood River Mountains through its two eponymous rivers — Wood River to the south and Tikchik River to the north — into the Nushagak River. The Nushagak is one of the most important and largest drainages of Bristol Bay, which in turn is the world's most

productive salmon water, where half of the world's wild-caught sockeye salmon are harvested. Several million sockeye spawn up the Wood River every year in late summer.

In mid-July, the start of this famous sockeye run had reached the part of the river I was visiting. I constantly heard the splashing of salmon working their way upriver past me, and out into the lake where most were destined to continue up some other river or stream farther up the system. When the splashing sounds became too compelling for me to keep my eyes off the water, I'd lift my gaze from my writing to look out over the river and watch the salmon porpoising at the head of the current. Or, better yet, leaping acrobatically several feet in the air — a behavior I have been told helps the salmon loosen their eggs in preparation to spawn.

I also watched osprey hover high over the water and bald eagles perch in tall spruce trees along the bank, both hunting for fish. Bold magpies and the gulls sometimes chased off the much larger birds of prey. Common mergansers came in packs of eight

(See Dickerson, Page 2B)



AC BASEBALL CATCHER Parker Kayhart gets all of a pitch during the county Legion team's 12-2 win on Sunday over visiting SD Ireland. Kayhart had two hits and score a run for the home side.

Independent photo/Steve James

Legion baseball just misses postseason

Strong finish not enough as AC loses playoff berth on unusual tiebreaker

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**

MIDDLEBURY — The Addison County American Legion team took two out of three games over this past weekend, including a 12-2 home win over fellow playoff contender S.D. Ireland on Sunday that Coaches Tim Paquette and Dwight Burkett believed put their team in position to earn one of the four Northern Division playoff berths.

Paquette, the head coach, said after that game he believed if Franklin County lost on Monday at Essex, then AC would finish fourth. AC finished its season at 9-10, while FC entered Monday's game with a 9-11 record, though owning

the head-to-head tiebreaker with AC.

A win would give FC a better winning percentage and the tiebreaker. But Paquette and Burkett reasoned a loss would give AC the better record, 9-10 compared to 9-12.

Essex prevailed on Monday, 7-1, and the coaches went to bed believing they would take on Southern Division top seed Brattleboro in the first round of the tournament.

The Vermont American Legion website on Tuesday morning listed Franklin as the No. 4 seed from the North.

Burkett said he had spoken to

the division commissioner and was told the head-to-head tiebreaker trumped winning percentage.

"Wins are the tiebreaker, and they have the head-to-head tiebreaker," Burkett said. "Apparently losses don't play into it."

He was not pleased that a young AC team resurrecting the program after two summers was not rewarded for its efforts.

"It's a tough pill to swallow," Burkett said.

Both Paquette and Burkett rated the season a success regardless, with improved play and chemistry as it progressed.

"I saw the boys grow as the year went on," Paquette said after

Sunday's big win. "They got better and competed a lot better. And as time went on, they became a team."

"I'm very proud of the results at the end of the year," he added.

Most of team will also return.

"We should be contending more next year," Paquette said. "We've got our learning curve under our belt this year, and we'll build on that next year."

AC, 12-2

In Sunday's regular season finale, both visiting SDI and AC scratched out early runs. SDI scored in the first on an infield hit, an error and a bloop double off AC starting and winning pitcher Tyler Kimball.

(See Legion, Page 4B)



A SOW BROWN bear with two cubs patrols the shoreline of Alaska's Wood River this month. This time momma bear was successful in her hunt. Bears are just one of a vast number of species dependent directly or indirectly on salmon for food.

Photo courtesy of Matthew Dickerson

Shooting summer school

YOUNG ADDISON COUNTY basketballers got a chance to show off their hoop skills during last week's Mayhem Basketball Camp hosted at the Middlebury Recreation Center. Middlebury Union Middle School basketball coach and Shoreham resident Randy Stockwell has run the camp for over a decade, teaching hoopsters in grades 3-9 how to dribble, pass and shoot. Pictured at right are campers in the grades 3-6 cohort practicing their shooting skills during last Friday's session.

Independent photos/Steve James



HENRY MCDONOUGH and BO MCGINNISS



TUCKER CRAM



COACH RANDY STOCKWELL



GRIFFIN SHELDRIK



ELIAS JRANG



RUBY WELLS

Dickerson

(Continued from Page 1B)

or more, disappearing below the surface to reappear elsewhere a few moments later. Fireweed and cow parsnip (a near relative of the common invasive poison parsnip that plagues Vermont) carpeted the riverbanks in places where trees were sparse. And cloudberry, crowberries, blueberries, moss and cotton grass dotted a vast meadow (many miles in diameter), which sprawled across a flat hilltop only a few hundred yards behind our cabin.

When I wasn't sitting in the cabin writing, I was exploring the nearby woods and meadow, walking the lakeshore and riverbank, and taking photographs. On multiple occasions, I watched a mother brown bear with two first-year cubs meander up the far bank looking for salmon. Two lone male brown bears also patrolled opposite shores at different times, and another sow with two second-year cubs passed by one evening at dusk — all looking for salmon suppers.

Abundant and fat resident rainbow trout and grayling also cruised the river in search of food. They didn't have to search hard. In a few days, the famous "egg drop" would begin. The sockeye would start laying their eggs on the gravelly river bottom, and many of those eggs would drift downstream in the current before settling in. The rainbows and grayling eagerly gobble up the loose eggs — and get very large doing so!

In the meanwhile, however, the air was thick with all sorts of adult aquatic insects including mayflies, stoneflies, midges and especially caddisflies. That meant the water was also thick with the nymphs of those species. In short, there was no shortage of trout food. So in the evenings after dinner (and after a good day of writing), from about 7:30 until 10:30 p.m. when the guided anglers had all flown away and I was ready for a break from work, I'd wade out into the river and cast flies to the trout and grayling hoping for some close-up



A TALL ALASKAN male sockeye salmon attempts to swim up a shallow Alaskan stream to spawn.

Photo courtesy of Matthew Dickerson

fish photos.

On Wednesday afternoon when my five-day stay upriver was over, I sat in a ranger station in Aleknagik talking with biologist Daniel Schindler. Daniel is a professor in the School of the Environment at the University of Washington, and a principle investigator of the university's Alaska Salmon Program. The program has been studying salmon in Bristol Bay with a research station in Aleknagik since the 1940s. They now have nearly a century's worth of data to use in understanding the salmon, the river, and how both are changing over time.

There were many take-aways from our conversation, but perhaps the most significant for me was the tremendous conservation importance of the diverse protected habitats within this state park — and the resulting genetic diversity of the salmon population that spawns there. When sockeye spawn, the vast majority of them return to their natal streams where over many generations they have adapted to specific localized geological conditions. These adaptations make a salmon especially well fit for one river or stream, but not necessarily for another in the same system. Two tributaries of the same lake, even a mile apart, can have very

different conditions that result in different adaptations including body size, coloration, timing of the spawning, and size of their eggs.

As a teaser to entice readers to come back to my next column, here is one hint at how diversity within the sockeye species impacts fitness. A larger sockeye or one with a taller body might have an advantage in one type of river; additional stores of fat can fuel a longer spawning run, and female sockeye also select males based on both color and size. However in a shallow stream, a really tall salmon has a harder time migrating upriver. Tall salmon actually tip over in a shallow stream and can't swim, which turns out to be counterproductive to a fish trying to spawn! In those smaller streams, the sockeye with more torpedo-shaped bodies (rather than wide pancakes) are better fit for passing on their genes. Given that entire vast ecosystems of Alaska including countless species of mammals, birds and other fish are dependent on salmon, which also turn out to be quite important to world food supplies, having such a variety of protect habitats is vital. Those habitats and the species they support are also quite inspiring and beautiful. I'm already ready to return.

Champs top BCC; CVSL meet next

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The Vergennes Champs splashed past visiting Burlington Country Club on Thursday, July 21, 312-135, to finish their Champlain Valley Swim League regular season at 5-1.

Next up for the Champs and the rest of the CVSL is the league meet, which Vergennes will host this Friday and Saturday.

The Champs and undefeated Burlington Tennis Club are the top teams after the regular season, with the Essex and St. Albans squads also highly competitive.

Against BCC last week the Champs won 12 of 17 relays in which points were scored, while individually Sophia James, Will Clark and Brantley Cook led the way with three individual wins apiece.

Weston Kittredge, Flint Crary, Luke Davis, Scarlet Giroux and Bee Eckels contributed two victories each, and nine Champs won once each.

Champs scoring points for their team with top-three finishes in individual races were:

- BUTTERFLY**
- U-8 girls: 2. Lydia Bearor.
 - U-10 girls: 3. Juliette Angier.
 - U-10 boys: 1. W. Kittredge,

- 22.35; 3. Tobin Howell.
- U-12 girls: 1. So. James, 32.92;
- 2. J. Hutchins.
- U-12 boys: 1. F. Crary, 35.95; 2. Khanlen Ouimette.
- U-14 girls: 3. Ella Romond.
- U-14 boys: 1. W. Clark, 30.03; 2. N. Smits.
- U-18 girls: 1. Acadia Clark, 30.58; 2. Carlyn Rapoport.
- U-18 boys: 1. L. Davis, 27.71.

- BACKSTROKE**
- U-8 girls: 1. Sc. Giroux, 23.90.
 - U-8 boys: 1. B. Cooke, 26.46; 2. Martin Gee.
 - U-10 girls: 1. J. Angier, 21.6; 2. Kendall Kittredge.
 - U-10 boys: 1. Sk. James, 23.63; 3. W. Kittredge.
 - U-12 girls: 2. J. Hutchins; 3. Reese Muzzy.
 - U-12 boys: 1. K. Ouimette, 38.56; 3. Alejandro Ramos.
 - U-14 girls: 1. E. Romond, 34.92.
 - U-14 boys: 1. W. Clark, 28.94; 2. N. Smits.
 - U-18 girls: 1. B. Eckels, 35.58; 3. Siobhan Potter.
 - U-18 boys: 1. Calder Rakowski, 31.18.

- BREASTSTROKE**
- U-8 girls: 1. Sc. Giroux, 26.21.
 - U-8 boys: 1. B. Cook, 42.65.
 - U-10 girls: 1. Isabella De La

- Cruz, 21.26; 3. Cecilia Neffinger.
- U-10 boys: 1. Sk. James, 23.06; 2. W. Kittredge.
- U-12 girls: 1. So. James, 38.34; 3. Ayla Kittredge.
- U-12 boys: 2. Rowan Neffinger; 3. Henry Stroup.
- U-14 girls: 2. Ellie Eckels.
- U-14 boys: 1. N. Smits, 34.15; 2. Clark Crary.
- U-18 girls: 1. C. Rapoport, 35.18; 2. A. Clark.
- U-18 boys: 1. L. Davis, 38.87; 2. Grey Fearon.

- FREESTYLE**
- U-8 girls: 1. L. Bearor, 18.58.
 - U-8 boys: 1. B. Cooke, 20.87; 2. Martin Gee.
 - U-10 girls: 2. Roxanne Perry; 3. I. De La Cruz.
 - U-10 boys: 1. W. Kittredge, 17.14; 3. T. Howell.
 - U-12 girls: 1. So. James, 30.41; 3. Ayla Kittredge.
 - U-12 boys: 1. F. Crary, 30.90; 2. K. Ouimette.
 - U-14 girls: 2. E. Romond; 3. Adrienne Smits.
 - U-14 boys: 1. W. Clark, 24.5; 2. Cohen Howell.
 - U-18 girls: 1. B. Eckels, 27.03; 2. A. Clark.
 - U-18 boys: 1. L. Davis, 25.62; 2. C. Rakowski.

Hammond claims Devil's Bowl main event

WEST HAVEN — New Hampshire driver Walter J. Hammond make the most of his trip westward to the Devil's Bowl Speedway on Saturday, picking up his second win of the summer in the headlining Sportsman Modified Series.

Bridport's Gage Provencher was the only local winner on Saturday, picking up a wire-to-wire victory in a 15-lap 500cc Mini Sprint feature. It was his second victory of the season.

Rounding out the top five finishers in that race were Lane Saville, Raelin Dunham, Orwell's Roger LaDuc and Logan Dennis.

Leicester's Adam Piper earned the pole in the 30-lap Sportsman Modified main event and led for 16 laps, when Hammond came knocking. Hammond took the lead and held off late challenges for the win.

Frank Hoard took second, followed by Don Mattison, Orwell's Tim LaDuc, and Shoreham's Anthony Warren

in the top five. Orwell's Jimmy Ryan and Middlebury's Todd Stone ran 9-10.

Don Mattison, Walter J. Hammond, and Brent Warren were heat race winners.

Rutland racer John "Bubba" McPhee earned his second Limited Sportsman feature win. McPhee started third, took the lead on lap three, and held off second-place finisher Alex Layn for the win in a 20-lapper. Josh LeClaire, Jason Quenneville and John Gosselin completed the top five.

Fair Haven's William Lussier Jr. drove to victory in the 20-lap Rookie Sportsman main event. Lussier took advantage of a front row starting spot to grab the lead and never look back. Josh Bussino, Boomer Patterson, Kamden Duffy and Orwell's Daryl Gebo rounded out the top five finishers.

Rutland's Allen Hewitt earned his first win of the season in the 15-lap Mini Stock A-Main.

Hewitt started fourth, took the lead on lap 4, and cruised to the win. He was followed by Chris Conroy, Salisbury's Brian Blake, Ripton's Chris Sumner and Jakobee Alger in the top five.

Luke Fellows won the 10-lap Mini Stock B-Main.

Local women golfers fare well

MIDDLEBURY — Ralph Myhre Golf Course members on July 19 competed and fared well at two Vermont State Women's Golf Association "State Days," one at the Rutland Country Club and one at the Essex Country Club.

At the Rutland Country Club, Kathy Mackey compiled the First Place Gross score in Flight Four, and Eileen Sims had the Sixth Place Gross score in the same flight.

At the same time at the Essex Country Club, in Flight Two Eva Mastalos had the Sixth Place Gross score, and Giselle Lafleche shot the Eight Place Gross score.

In regular weekly play at Ralph Myhre, in July 21 Thursday Afternoon Bill Davidson Men's Golf the team of Jim Dayton, Chris Prickett, George Ramsayer and Jeff Stetson prevailed, with Prickett shooting an afternoon best low net score of 71.

The foursome of Richard Romagnoli, Jim Johnston, Dayton Wakefield and Deem Schoenfeld took second, and the trio of Eric Bergland, Jim Dunn and Douglas Biken was third.

In the Friday Evening Mixer the next day, the team of Wyatt Shattuck and Kath, Molly and Paul Quinlan was the winner, with the foursome of Deb and Jim Hadeka and Dale and Jill White in second.

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Sharks bite Marlins; league meet on tap

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — The visiting St. Albans Sharks topped the Middlebury Marlins on Thursday, July 21, 274-194, in the final regular season Champlain Valley Swim League meet for both teams.

Next up for both squads will be this weekend's CVSL championship meet hosted by the Vergennes Champs.

The state championship meet in the Upper Valley Aquatic Center in White River Junction will follow the weekend after. The Marlins won their small-team division at the state meet a year ago.

Highlighting the Marlins' efforts vs. the Sharks were a four-race sweep for age-18-and-under swimmer Aidan Chance, three wins apiece from Cassandra Bellman and Felix Poduschnick and two wins each from Sadie Chance, Constantin Bellman and Natalie Rockwell.

The Marlins' U-12 girls' relay teams also swept both their races, and four other Middlebury swimmers won their individual events.

Marlins scoring points for their team with top-three finishes in individual races were:

BUTTERFLY

- U-8 girls: 1. Ca. Bellman, 21.83.
- U-8 boys: 1. F. Poduschnick, 19.2.
- U-12 girls: 1. S. Chance, 33.69; 2. Mitzi Poduschnick.
- U-12 boys: 1. Co. Bellman, 38.38; 2. Jorgen Pirrung.
- U-18 girls: 1. Holly Staats, 30.44; 2. Nora Wootten.
- U-18 boys: 1. A. Chance, 26.42; 2. Connor McNamara.

BACKSTROKE

- U-8 girls: 1. Dorothy Krahn, 25.22.
- U-8 boys: 3. Evan Hill.
- U-10 girls: 3. Daphne Prentice.
- U-10 boys: 2. Gavin Krahn.
- U-12 girls: 2. Fiona Mackey; 3. Abigail Hamilton.
- U-12 boys: 3. Daniel Power.
- U-14 girls: 3. Elizabeth Rockwell.
- U-18 girls: 1. N. Rockwell, 34.43.
- U-18 boys: 1. A. Chance, 31.14.

BREASTSTROKE

- U-8 girls: 1. Ca. Bellman, 26.03.
- U-8 boys: 1. F. Poduschnick, 28.13.
- U-10 boys: 3. G. Krahn.
- U-12 girls: 1. S. Chance, 37.82; 2. M. Poduschnick.
- U-12 boys: 1. Co. Bellman, 44.32; 3. J. Pirrung.
- U-14 girls: 3. Quinn Mackey.
- U-18 girls: 2. N. Wootten.
- U-18 boys: 1. A. Chance, 32.66; 3. C. McNamara.

FREESTYLE

- U-8 girls: 1. Ca. Bellman, 20.07.
- U-8 boys: 1. F. Poduschnick, 18.46; 2. E. Hill.
- U-10 girls: 1. Nicola Power, 17.59.
- U-10 boys: 1. G. Krahn, 17.84.
- U-12 girls: 1. S. Chance, 30.21; 2. F. Mackey.
- U-12 boys: 1. J. Pirrung, 30.71.
- U-14 girls: 3. Q. Mackey.
- U-18 girls: 1. N. Rockwell, 27.34; 2. N. Wootten.
- U-18 boys: 1. A. Chance, 24.15; 2. C. McNamara.



THE ADDISON COUNTY 9-11-year-old Little League Baseball All-Star team won the state championship this past weekend in Brattleboro and has advanced to regional tournament play. Previously AC had prevailed in the District 1 Tournament in Burlington. Photo Courtesy of Dustin Hunt

County Little League team nets state crown

Run through VT tourney follows District win; Northeast regional comes next

BRATTLEBORO—The Addison County 9-11-Year-Old Little League Baseball All-Star Team defeated host Brattleboro, 6-3 on Saturday, to win the age-group title and complete an undefeated 3-0 run through the championship tournament.

The AC 9-11 team will next play in the New England/Mid Atlantic regional, with the squad's first game scheduled for Aug. 1 against Washington, D.C., in Beverly, Mass.

On the weekend of July 16 and 17, AC defeated Champlain and Lyndon to reach this past Saturday's state championship game as the four-team tournament's only undefeated team. Brattleboro needed to defeat AC twice to prevail, but AC took care of business on Saturday.

On Sunday, July 10, AC completed its successful run through the District 1 Tournament by defeating Shelburne, 13-2, in a winner-take-all final.

AC won three games in a row

while facing elimination in that tournament, including knocking off Shelburne in the final.

The AC players are Timmy Wright, Luke Wing, Jake Wing, Tucker Sheldrick, Oakley Hunt,

Rhys Del Giasco, Brady Duguay, Thatcher Leggett, Grady Coleman, Grayson Conrad and Ezra Bliven. Jesse Wing and Todd Duguay coach the team.

Shrine Bowl set for Aug. 6

CASTLETON — The 69th Annual Shrine Maple Sugar Bowl football game featuring top recently graduated high school standouts from Vermont and New Hampshire will be played on Saturday, Aug. 6, in David Wolk Stadium at Castleton University. Kickoff time will be at noon.

The game will feature two all-stars from local high schools, Otter Valley's Dylan Stevens-Clark, a tight end and defensive

lineman, and Ryan Stoddard, a two-way lineman from the Mount Abraham-Vergennes cooperative team.

Tickets are available at the gate or at shrinemaplesugarbowl.com.

The Shrine Maple Sugar Bowl has raised over \$4.5 million for Shriners Children's Hospitals in the past 68 years, according to the event's website.

Teams will begin practicing onsite this Sunday, July 31.

Lincoln, VT Homeowner Recommends Bristol Electronics



Phase I - 2014

For a long time I had been thinking of going solar, but had not pursued it until I talked with a neighbor who just had hers installed. I contracted with her installer and soon had panels on the roof that supplied all of my household electricity, with some extra capacity to supply an on-demand electric water heater I soon put in. I loved not hearing the propane boiler firing up in the summer to keep domestic water hot for the shower I'd be taking 16 hours later. Thrilled with the installation and not having an electric bill. I even splurged and bought my first ever noisy window A/C.

Phase II - 2016

While my primary heat source has been a woodstove and later a pellet stove, the propane boiler served as my backup. On a December road trip to PEI, I discovered the 25+ year old propane boiler died on me. I'm lucky to have had a monitoring system to notice this and awesome neighbors to feed pellets until I got back. Rather than buy another fossil fuel burning device, I decided to have heat pumps installed. At the time Bristol Electronics didn't install those, but they were very competitive as I shopped around for additional solar capacity. So in February 2016 they were on the roof installing panels that would provide enough electricity year round to supply my heating needs. And, since the heat pump also cools the house quietly on the hottest days, I sold the window unit. Maybe I'm just getting older, but there seems to be more and more of those hot days.

Phase III - 2019

Since I commute from So. Lincoln to Burlington, I've always felt guilty about all of the CO2 I've been emitting to get to work. I still have 7-10 years before I can even think about retiring, so I decided to make the investment and buy an electric car. And part of that investment was to buy the additional solar capacity to power it. I didn't think twice about having Bristol Electronics do it. My roof was running out of space, and since it has a low pitch, snow coverage was an issue for the last two years. This time I worked with Chris, Stephen, Dave and Trevor to have a ground mount installed that will be easy to clear the snow off of. They did amazing work, despite weather issues, and were actually able to make some long overdue landscaping improvements during the process. I couldn't be happier with my experience with this team!

~ Paul Webb, Lincoln, VT



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Bristol Police Log

BRISTOL — On Saturday, July 16, Bristol police received money found on West Street. The owner can call Bristol police at 802-453-2533 and cite incident 22BR001927 to retrieve the money.

Between June 27 and July 17, Bristol police completed 20 foot patrols and three car patrols; conducted 21 traffic stops; and checked security at Mount Abraham Union High School 20 times, at Bristol Elementary School 19 times and at local businesses 18 times.

Police also processed 28 fingerprint requests, helped three residents get into their locked vehicles, responded to one accidental 911 call, and conducted four welfare checks.

In other recent activity, Bristol police:

- On June 27 responded to a complaint of trespassing on Birch Ledge. Officers found no action that rose to the level of an offense.
- On June 28 responded to a crash involving a car and motorcycle at the intersection of North Street and Prince Lane. The motorcyclist sustained minor injuries.
- On June 29 responded to a complaint of panhandling on the Bristol Town Green.
- On June 30 received a report of a barking dog in the South Street area. Police found the dog and explained the ordinance to its owner.
- On June 30 responded to reports of someone screaming in the park. Officers found the person and said no action rose to the level of an offense.
- On July 1 responded to a report of loud music on South Street. The resident did not realize how loud the music was and turned the volume down.
- On July 1 received a report of a missing child on Morgan Horse

Lane. The child was found within five minutes of police arriving.

- On July 1 responded to a complaint of a vehicle speeding and driving erratically on Morgan Horse Lane. The vehicle was gone by the time police arrived.
- On July 2 provided traffic control on West Street while an American flag was raised for Fourth of July events.
- On July 2 provided emergency lights and assisted with traffic control at the scene of a crash on Route 116 until Vermont State Police, the Bristol Fire Department and Bristol Rescue arrived.
- On July 3 issued parking tickets to vehicles on Lincoln Road.
- On July 3 responded to a report of a dispute during the fireworks show, but everyone involved had separated and moved on before police arrived.
- On July 3 received a report of a disorderly person in the parking area of the Bristol Rec Field during fireworks. The individual was gone when police arrived.
- On July 4 provided traffic control during Fourth of July events.
- On July 5 received a delayed report of damage to a vehicle. The person reporting the damage had stopped in at various businesses in the Bristol area on June 30.
- On July 5 assisted Vermont State Police with traffic control at the scene of a motor vehicle crash on Bristol Road in Monkton.
- On July 6 recovered found property on West Street. The owner was contacted and will retrieve the found items.
- On July 6 conducted traffic control while crosswalks were painted at the intersection of Main and North streets.
- On July 6 conducted a property watch on Mountain Terrace.

- On July 6 responded to two-car accident at the intersection of Maple and West streets.
- On July 8 served court paperwork to a person on Monkton Road.
- On July 8 someone reported receiving threatening messages. Police determined none of the messages contained threats and explained how the person could block further messages.
- On July 8 issued parking tickets to vehicles on Park Place.
- On July 10 received a report of illegal dumping on Mountain Street. An investigation is ongoing.
- On July 10 cited Zander Wildason, 20, of Vergennes for driving under the influence following a traffic stop for a speed violation.
- On July 11 responded to a complaint of a dog running freely on Birch Ledge. Police returned the dog to its owner.
- On July 11 assisted a person in identifying an attempted phone scam on Prince Lane.
- On July 11 responded to a request for assistance with a disabled vehicle on Prince Lane. The person had resolved the issue before police arrived.
- On July 12 received a complaint about threatening on South Street. An investigation is ongoing.
- On July 12 issued parking tickets on West Street.
- On July 13 responded to a report of a person yelling on North Street. Police discovered the person was frustrated with personal issues and did not realize how loud he was being. The person declined assistance with obtaining help from a social service organization.
- On July 15 completed firearms qualification on Hardscrabble Road.
- On July 15 assisted a person on Taylor Avenue who was locked out of their apartment.
- On July 16 received a report of a dog left inside a vehicle on Prince Lane. The vehicle was gone when police arrived.
- On July 16 cited Emily Ross, 38, of Bristol for violation of an order against stalking.
- On July 16 assisted a person on Main Street retrieve their keys from a locked building.
- On July 17 tried to find a loose calf reported on North Street. The calf was gone before police arrived.
- On July 17 issued parking tickets to vehicles on Lincoln Road.
- On July 17 someone reported receiving threats on social media. An investigation is ongoing.



AC SHORTSTOP NEIL Guy is tagged out on a close play while trying to steal second base early in his team's 12-2 home win over SD Ireland. Guy reached base four times and turned a slick double play. Independent photo/Steve James

Legion

(Continued from Page 1B)

AC tied the game in the second. Jarret Muzzy led off with a walk, moved to second on a wild pitch and scored on Kimball's opposite-field double.

SDI used a walk and two singles to take the lead in the top of the third. In the bottom of the third, SDI brought in a reliever who tossed the rest of the game and struggled, allowing 11 runs on six hits, five walks, and four hit batters. SDI (9-12), fighting for playoffs, also made four errors and allowed five unearned runs.

In the third inning, four AC runners scored. Alex Sperry, playing despite a leg injury suffered on Saturday that left him hobbling (AC had only nine players, and he had to play to avoid a forfeit), singled to lead off. A Carter Paquette ground ball forced him at second base.

Parker Kayhart then singled, Neil Guy reached on an error, and Muzzy walked. Barret Barrows plated Paquette with a fly ball, and Xavier DeBlois walked to load the bases. Errors scored Kayhart and Guy, and then Jacob Kemp was hit by a pitch to score Muzzy with AC's sixth run.

A slick double-play turn by Guy at shortstop ended SDI's fourth quickly. In AC's fourth, Paquette was hit by a pitch, moved to third when Kayhart lined a hit-and-run single, and scored on a Muzzy fly ball to make it 7-2.

A more dramatic double play got Kimball out of trouble in the fifth. Two singles and an error loaded the bases with none out. The next batter drilled the ball back at the lefty hurler's face, but he snared the ball and doubled the runner off third. The next batter grounded to Guy to

end the threat.

Kimball finished having allowed five hits and a walk, striking out one batter and hitting one. Muzzy pitched a scoreless sixth.

AC scored two in the fifth and three in the seventh to win by the 10-run mercy rule. In the fifth, DeBlois and Kimball singled, and Kemp reached on an error, with DeBlois scoring. Sperry then bunted Kimball home, clapping as he limped 20 feet down the first-base line.

In the seventh, Guy singled and was forced at second by a Muzzy ground ball. Muzzy traveled around the bases on three wild pitches as Barrows walked. DeBlois and Kimball singled to load the bases. Sperry came up with two out and hit a slow roller to third.

The play became a slow-motion train wreck for SDI: a bobble; a low throw that bounced about 15 feet past the first baseman, who scrambled after it; Sperry hopping down the line; the fielder diving as Sperry made one last lunge for the bag; a safe call; DeBlois chugging non-stop behind Kimball from second; a belated throw home; and another safe call after DeBlois stretched for home plate; and then an AC celebration with Sperry at its heart.

EARLIER GAMES

On July 20, AC lost at home to third-place Colchester, 6-4, as a rally fell short. Guy started and allowed only one run until the top of the fourth, when a walk, three singles and a double plated four runs. Guy went five innings, allowing five hits and five walks, and Kemp allowed one run on two hits in two relief innings.

AC scored all four of its runs in

the fifth. DeBlois and Tanner Harris singled, Kimball sacrificed them to second and third, and Peyton Paquette doubled the runners home. Singles by Carter Paquette and Muzzy capped the outburst.

On Saturday, AC split two games, knocking off second-place Essex, 11-8, in a morning contest before falling to South Burlington, 13-3, in the late-afternoon heat.

Against Essex, AC rallied from deficits of 5-0 after two innings and 8-6 after five to prevail. AC began rallying with three runs in the third. Cole Warren (hit by pitch), Carter Paquette (walk) and Harris (passed ball on a strikeout) scored the runs, and Tim Whitney hit an RBI single.

AC cut the lead to 7-6 with three more in the fourth, a rally keyed by singles from Sperry, Guy, Muzzy and Harris.

Essex made it 8-6 in the bottom of the inning, but AC tied it in the sixth. Guy tripled and scored on a Muzzy groundout, and singles by Kimball and Harris and a Whitney sac fly made it 8-8.

Kayhart singled to start AC's winning rally. Guy also singled, Muzzy was hit by a pitch, and they all scored on a Harris single and an error.

Whitney earned the win by allowing one run in three innings in relief of Barrows.

Things didn't go so well at South Burlington in a six-inning setback later on Saturday. SB scored six in the first off Kemp, the AC starter, and scored in every inning except the second. Singles by Sperry, Muzzy and Whitney scored a run for AC in the first, and in the third Muzzy singled home Zeke Dubois (hit by pitch) and Carter Paquette (single).

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community calendar

July 28 THURSDAY

Age Well grab and go meal in Vergennes. Thursday, July 28, 11 a.m., St Peter's Parish Hall, 85 S. Maple St. Please stay in your car. Drive up, check-in, contact free pick up. Breaded chicken breast with tarragon sauce, mashed cauliflower, spinach, roll, date and raisin cookie, and milk. Advanced reservations only. Call Michelle to reserve by Sunday, July 24, 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.

Summertime Sweets in North Ferrisburgh. Thursday, July 28, 6:30-7:30 p.m., North Ferrisburgh United Methodist Church, 227 Old Hollow Rd. Join the festivities to enjoy a variety of sweets and ice cream. Come and enjoy fellowship, music and yard games (bring something to play with friends and neighbors). If you would like to share a song or other performance, please contact Jill Wilkens at jwilkens40@comcast.net. Free. Bring a chair. If raining, meet inside the church.

July 29 FRIDAY

Ethan Allen express debut in Vergennes. Friday, July 29, 10:30 a.m., Amtrak station, 400 Route 22A. Join the celebration of the new train service to NYC. Dignitaries and ribbon cutting, lu.lu. ice cream and Douglas' Sweets.

Ethan Allen Express debut in Middlebury. Friday, July 29, 10:45 a.m., Amtrak station, 30 Middle Seymour St. Join local officials and dignitaries to welcome the train from Burlington to New York City as it arrives in Middlebury. Treats from Haymaker Buns and some celebratory remarks. Parking spaces at the platform reserved for Amtrak customers. Please do not park in the Marble Works as those spaces are reserved for customers of those businesses. Park off site and walk to the platform.

Age Well grab and go meal in Starksboro. Friday, July 29, 3:30 p.m., Starksboro Baptist Church, Route 116. Please stay in your car. Drive up, check-in, contact free pick up. Breaded chicken breast with tarragon sauce, mashed cauliflower, spinach, roll, date and raisin cookie, and milk. Advanced reservations only. Call Michelle to reserve by Sunday, July 24, 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.

Terrible Mountain String Band in Middlebury. Friday, July 29, 6-8 p.m., at Happy Valley Orchard. Bring your chair and your picnic blanket and come and enjoy some of Vermont's finest folk musicians for free. Hard cider will be available for purchase at the new farm store at the orchard. Please keep dogs at home. More info on Facebook and Instagram @mountainmacclider.

July 31 SUNDAY

"Blast from the Past: Historic Clock and Watches" in Addison. Sunday, July 31, noon-4 p.m., Chimney Point State Historic Site, 31 Route 17. Green Mountain Timekeepers Society members are in residence on the Chimney Point porch to keep time and talk with you about the history of your clocks and watches and how they can be repaired. Bring your old clocks and watches or photographs and learn more about your timepieces. Clock repair demonstrations throughout the afternoon.

Aug 1 MONDAY

Age Well grab and go meal in Bristol. Monday, Aug. 1, 11 a.m., American Legion Airport Dr. Drive in, loop around, and stay in your car. Meatballs marinara over penne pasta with parmesan cheese, mixed vegetables, roll, vanilla fluff and milk. Advanced reservations only. Call Michelle to reserve by Thursday, July 28, 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.

Aug 2 TUESDAY

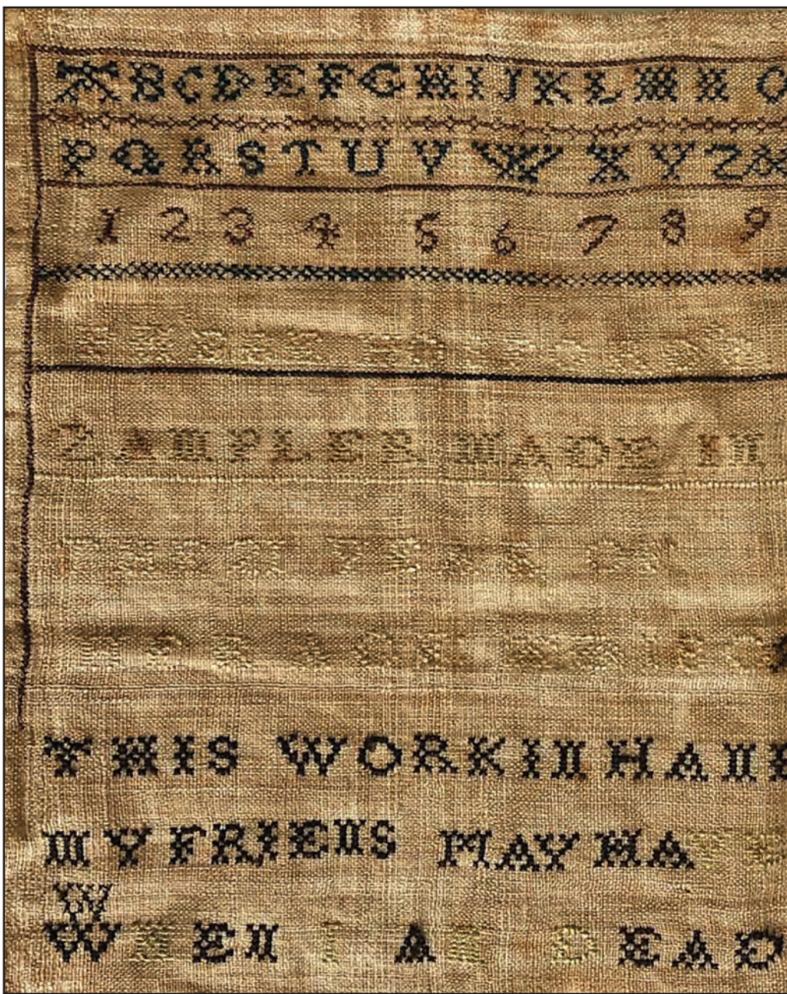
Age Well grab and go meal in Bridport. Tuesday, Aug. 2, 11 a.m., Bridport Congregational Church 54 Middle Rd. Please stay in your car. Drive up, check-in, contact free pick up. Meatballs marinara over penne pasta with parmesan cheese, mixed vegetables, roll, vanilla fluff and milk. Advanced reservations only. Call Michelle to reserve by Thursday, July 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 a 48-hour notice.

Age Well and Vergennes Seniors in person meal in Vergennes. Tuesday, Aug. 2, 10 a.m., Vergennes Congregational Church, 30 South Water St. Meal served at noon. Beef goulash, rice pilaf, peas and mushrooms, roll, pineapple and milk. Advanced reservations only. Call Michelle to reserve by Thursday, July 28 at 802-377-1419. \$5 suggested donation. Bring your own place setting. Open to anyone age 60 and up and their spouse of any age. Local bus provided. Call TVT at 802-388-2287 to arrange. TVT requires a 48-hour notice. Masks encouraged unless seated and eating. Stay home if you don't feel well.

Aug 3 WEDNESDAY

Age Well grab and go meal in Monkton. Wednesday, Aug. 3, 11:30 a.m., Monkton Town Hall 92 Monkton Ridge. Meatballs marinara over penne pasta with parmesan cheese, mixed vegetables, roll, vanilla fluff and milk. Advanced reservations only. Call Michelle to reserve by Sunday, July 31 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 a 48-hour notice.

Vergennes Lions Club charity auction in Vergennes. Wednesday, Aug. 3, 5 p.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall, 85 S. Maple St. Item preview starting at 5 p.m., auction at 6 p.m. Guest Auctioneer Tom Broughton. Great items and great variety. Come and bring the family. Burgers and



A stitch in time

A NATIONWIDE HUNT for made-in-America samplers — needlework made by American school girls, has come to Vermont and you can hear about it at the John Strong Mansion in Addison on Saturday, Aug. 13, at 1 p.m. Learn about the search and how you can become a volunteer for the project.

Photo courtesy of John Strong Mansion

great food cooked onsite will be ready. Items to donate? Call Lion Jim McClay at (802) 545-8181. All proceeds are put back into the community benefiting both individuals and groups such as the Vergennes Area Rescue Squad and the Boys and Girls Club.

Town Band performs in Bristol. Wednesday, Aug. 3, 7-8:30 p.m. Town Green. The Bristol Band, which has been making music since 1870, will play in the gazebo every Wednesday. St. Ambrose barbeque. Bring a lawn chair or blanket.

Newton and Thompson sawmill presentation in Salisbury. Wednesday, Aug. 3, 7 p.m., Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. From 1864 to the 1930s the Newton & Thompson sawmill at Sucker Brook on the east side of Lake Dunmore was a microcosm of rural community life and activity. Bill Powers will bring to life some of the activities and memories of the forgotten mill in this Salisbury Historical Society presentation.

Stargazing at Mittelman Observatory at Middlebury College. Wednesday, Aug. 3, 9:30-11 p.m., weather permitting, top of McCardell Bicentennial Hall. A variety of interesting stars, star clusters and nebulae will be visible through the observatory's 24-inch telescope in a dome and smaller telescopes on the roof deck.

Aug 4 THURSDAY

Friends of Bixby donation day in Vergennes. Thursday, Aug. 4, 3-6 p.m., back parking lot, Bixby Library, 258 Main St. Book donations for the upcoming book sale will be accepted. Please make sure your donations are recent (fiction after 2013 or popular author), clean, and in saleable condition. Any questions call the Bixby 802-877-2211.

Paint Night in Middlebury. Thursday, Aug. 4, Community Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Join Renee for a fun-filled evening of painting. Step-by-step instructions for an ocean themed painting you will take home with you. Everything you need is provided. Attendees under 14 years old must bring along an adult.

Block Party in Middlebury. Thursday, Aug. 4, 4-7 p.m., Main Street. The sod's going down on Main Street for an evening of food, music and entertainment for all ages.

Aug 5 FRIDAY

Age Well sit-down lunch in Middlebury. Friday, Aug. 5, 11 a.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Doors open at 11 a.m., meal served at noon of lasagna rollettes, meatballs in marinara, classic mixed vegetables with lima beans, dinner roll, vanilla fluff with mandarin oranges and pineapple, and milk. Bring your own place setting. \$5 Suggested donation. Masks encouraged unless seated and eating. Please stay home if you don't feel well. Advanced reservations only by Sunday, July 31. Call Michelle at 802-377-1419. Open to anyone age 60 and up and their spouse of any age. Free ride may be available. Call TVT at 802-388-2287 to inquire. TVT requires 48-hour notice.

Age Well grab-and-go meal in Starksboro. Friday, Aug. 5, 3:30 p.m., Starksboro Baptist Church, Route 116. Please stay in your car. Drive up, check-in, contact free pick up. Meatballs marinara over penne pasta with parmesan cheese, mixed vegetables, roll, vanilla fluff and milk. Advanced reservations only by Sunday, July 31. Call Michelle at 802-377-1419. Open to anyone age 60 and up and their spouse of any age. Free ride may be available. Call TVT at 802-388-2287 to inquire. TVT requires 48-hour notice.

Aug 6 SATURDAY

Town-wide yard sale in Brandon. Saturday, Aug. 6, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Brandon Town Hall and locations across town. Stop in at Brandon Town Hall for some great bargains or just sit down and relax with a cool drink and snack for sale at its concession area. Bathrooms will be available downstairs. 8 x 10 spaces with a 6' table are available for \$25 per space. Contact Dennis at denniswarden@gmail.com or by leaving a message at 802-247-5420 to rent a space.

Craft fair in Bristol. Saturday, Aug. 6, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Holley Hall, 1 South St. Support the Mt. Abe varsity softball team and help them generate funds for their 2023 spring training trip. Items will be raffled off to support the team. Local vendors with have custom tumblers/water bottles, decals, crocheting items, t-shirts, bags, baked goods, jewelry and much more. Contact Gabbi at 802-324-7374 to be a vendor or with questions.

Used book sale in Vergennes. Saturday, Aug. 6, 9 a.m.-noon, Downstairs in the Otter Creek room, Bixby Library, 258 Main St. Enter from the back parking lot. Choose from a large variety of fiction, non-fiction and children's books, some on orderly shelves and the more recent in boxes.

Friends of Ilsley Library used book sale in Middlebury. Saturday, Aug. 6, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Town Office plaza, corner of main and Cross Streets. Rain location, Jessica Swift Community Room at the Ilsley, 75 Main St.

Aug 7 SUNDAY

Addison Town Historical Society picnic in West Addison. Sunday, Aug. 7, 4 p.m., Bodette's Grove, 7240 Route 17 West. A short business meeting at 4 p.m., followed by the picnic and socializing. Recent donations to the Historical Society will be on display, including some early stone tools and assorted clay pipes from the area. Bring artifacts to identify. Geoff and Sue Nelson will provide hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, rolls and condiments. Let them know your preference by Aug.5 at gsnelson@gmavt.net or 802-759-2399. Bring something to share for pot-luck, your own plates, cutlery, napkins, and beverage. There are some seats and tables, or bring your own seating.

Aug 9 MONDAY

Age Well grab-and-go meal in Bristol. Monday, Aug. 8, 11 a.m., American Legion, Airport Dr. Drive in, loop around, and stay in your car. Chicken and biscuits, red mashed potatoes, diced carrots with dill, strawberries over pound cake and milk. Advanced reservations only by Thursday, Aug. 4. Call Michelle at 802-377-1419. Open to anyone age 60 and up and their spouse of any age. Free ride may be available. Call TVT at 802-388-2287 to inquire. TVT requires 48-hour notice.

City Band performance in Vergennes. Monday, Aug. 8, 7 p.m., on the green. Free.



2022 Point CounterPoint Faculty Concert Series

Friday, July 29th at 7.30pm – Middlebury Town Hall Theater, Constance Holden Memorial Concert

Friday, August 12th at 7.30pm – Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. Salisbury

Thursday, August 25th at 7.30pm – Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. Salisbury

Saturday, September 3rd at 7.30pm – Chamber Music Concert at Middlebury Unitarian Universalist Church



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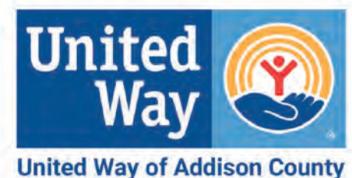


This August, four thousand Addison County children will begin a new school year. Soon school supply lists will be sent out and families will begin purchasing notebooks, binders, crayons, and pencils for their students. For some families, shopping for school supplies is fun. But for too many families in Addison County, it proves to be a financial burden.

With the cost of *all* supplies rising dramatically, the need for United Way of Addison County's Stuff the Bus program is greater than ever. Together we can support local families and alleviate the financial strain of preparing children to learn.

Help us stuff 500 backpacks for Addison County students by donating today!

unitedwayaddisoncounty.org



BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR **CALENDAR ONLINE**

Middlebury man cited for violating conditions

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police arrested Stephan Belanger, 28, of Middlebury on six counts of violating his conditions of release, in the Court Street area on July 18.

Police said Belanger was also found the subject of an active arrest warrant. Police released Belanger from custody after he posted \$200 bail.

In other recent action, Middlebury police:

- Were informed of the possible violation of a restraining order involving a local resident on July 11.
- Received a report on July 11 of ongoing illegal dumping on Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects property off Boardman Street.
- Checked on a man found sleeping on the town green, in violation of town ordinances, on July 12. Police explained the town park curfew to him.
- Responded to a verbal dispute between a couple in the Elizabeth Court neighborhood on July 12.
- Checked on the welfare of a man who was sleeping off Cross Street near the bridge at 11 a.m. on July 12. Police said a friend was keeping an eye on him.
- Helped Vermont State Police find a person of interest in the Academy Street area on July 12.
- Investigated a July 13 report of a woman flagging down cars on Academy Street and then trying to get into the vehicles without permission. The woman had left the area when police arrived.
- Responded to noise complaints in the Valley View Drive and East Main Street areas on July 13.
- Responded to a report of a youth allegedly bullying another youth in the Seymour Street area on July 13.
- Assisted a person whose motorcycle had reportedly been stolen from the Jayne Court area on July 13.
- Helped Fish and Wildlife put down an injured deer on Route 7 in Salisbury on July 13.
- Interviewed a local resident who reported an encounter with a bobcat in the Forrest Road area on July 14.
- Received a report that someone had dumped trash at the side of Halpin Road on July 14.
- Responded to a report of someone allegedly experiencing a mental health issue on Academy Street on July 14.

Middlebury Police Log

- Received a report that someone had broken a window on a Route 7 South building on July 14.
- Responded to a report of someone acting erratically in a Route 7 South store on July 14.
- Responded, with Middlebury Regional EMS, to a report of an overdose case at Sugarwood Court on July 14. Police said MREMS took the person to Porter Hospital.
- Arrested Larry L. Lanpher Jr., 31, of Leicester on an outstanding warrant at the Sugarwood Court complex on July 14.
- Investigated a possible assault near Porter Field Road on the Middlebury College campus on July 15.
- Fielded a stolen vehicle complaint at Otterside Court on July 15.
- Investigated a reported disturbance near the intersection of South Main and Academy streets on July 15.
- Checked on a report of a child allegedly left unattended in a vehicle parked off Washington Street on July 15.
- Responded to the Boardman Street area on July 15 to a report of a person believed to be experiencing a mental health crisis.
- Helped Porter Hospital officials with a person experiencing a mental health crisis on July 16.
- Responded to a reported car-versus-deer collision at the intersection of Route 7 and Halladay Road on July 16.
- Assisted a local person whose computer was allegedly hacked on July 16.
- Found an unwanted person on the town green at around 4:15 a.m. on July 16.
- Responded to a reported dispute between East Main Street neighbors on July 17.
- Assisted an employee of a Court Street business who was allegedly being harassed by a customer on July 17.
- Received a report about homeless individuals allegedly congregating underneath the Cross Street Bridge on July 17.
- Fielded a complaint about an alleged "homeless camp" behind (See Police log, Page 7A)



ENGAGEMENTS



DAVID PAYNE, REBECCA HANLEY AND CHILDREN

David Payne, Rebecca Hanley

David Payne of Shoreham and Rebecca Hanley of Middlebury have announced their engagement. Payne proposed in Central Park, Manhattan, with his two sons, Gage and Oliver, and Rebecca's daughter, Grace, present.

Payne is the son of Kevin and Lisa Payne of Shoreham and Hanley is the daughter of Thomas and Judith Hanley of Middlebury. An Oct. 13 wedding in Shoreham is planned.

Lincoln

Have a news tip? Call Dawn Mikkelsen at 453-7029

NEWS

LINCOLN — There has been some interest in non-English story time for children. The library received a donation of Spanish books for kids, so that will be the first story time offered. If you speak another language, have children's books in other languages, or are interested in joining the group, please contact Wendy at lincolnlbraryvt@gmail.com.

REMINDER
Vermont's Primary Election will

be held on Tuesday, Aug. 9. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Burnham Hall. Please make sure to drop off your absentee ballot before the polls close.

Until next time ... If You Continue to Carry The Bricks From Your Past, You Will End Up Building The Same House. Make Time to Enjoy The Simple Things In Life. If It's Heavy, Ask Yourself Why You're Still Carrying It.

Ferrisburgh Day to return this fall

By ANDY KIRKALDY

FERRISBURGH — For the second straight year, Ferrisburgh Day will again return to the town, this year with events on both Sept. 24 and 25, including welcome mats put out at town buildings, museums and other nonprofits, businesses and churches, plus activities for children.

The first modern Ferrisburgh Day was staged in 2010, when members of the Ferrisburgh Historical Society revived the 1970s Ferrisburgh tradition of annual "Good Neighbor Days," during which residents gathered and picnicked.

Back in 2010 historical society members said they hoped Ferrisburgh Day could help neighbors once again become better acquainted.

Several were held through 2015, when the town's new highway shed and office building was unveiled. Organizers revived the tradition in 2021, when the COVID-19 pandemic eased enough to allow folks to emerge and begin to mingle again.

According to organizer Ashley LaFlam plans for this year's Ferrisburgh Day are still taking shape, and final schedules and offerings should be made available by around the end of August.

So far, she wrote in a press

release, the town-wide celebration offering a kick-off event on Saturday, Sept. 24, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.: a "Family Fall Fest" at the Cross Life Church at 1759 Route 7. That event will include what is billed as "the biggest hayride in Addison County," the "Out Front Food" food truck, kids' craft tables, farm animals, and more.

Ferrisburgh Day events on Sunday, Sept. 25, will include activities from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ferrisburgh Historical Society, the Union Meeting Hall, the town's fire station and highway department, and Ferrisburgh Central School.

The Rokeby Museum, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, and Woodman Hill Orchard will also be open and welcoming visitors during normal business hours, LaFlam noted.

Also returning will be the Passport Stop Program, through which children can earn free Cookie Love ice cream. Children who visit and receive stickers from at least five designated Ferrisburgh Day stops will be eligible for the free treat.

LaFlam said the list of Passport Stops and updates on the events for Ferrisburgh Day will be posted in the coming weeks on ferrisburghvt.org as well as on Facebook and Instagram pages at @ferrisburghday.

Vergennes Lions Club to hold annual auction Aug. 3

VERGENNES — The Vergennes Lions Club will be holding their annual charity auction at St. Peter's Parish Hall in Vergennes on Wednesday, Aug. 3, with item preview starting at 5 p.m. and the auction commencing at 6 p.m. Guest Auctioneer will be Middlebury Lion Tom Broughton. Great items and great variety. Come and bring the family. Burgers and great food cooked onsite will be ready.

If you have an item you would like to donate to the auction, please

call Lion Jim McClay at (802) 545-8181. All auction proceeds are put back into the community benefiting both individuals and groups such as the Vergennes Area Rescue Squad and the Boys and Girls Club.

The club would also like to thank everyone who participated in the recent Car Raffle. Every ticket was sold, and the happy winners were: Car, Susan Therrien, Vergennes; \$500 cash, Peter and Fran Guendel, Waltham; and the smoker, Jeffrey Higbee, Ferrisburgh.

ADDISON COUNTY School News Briefs

Three local students have been named to the dean's list at Endicott College in Beverly, Mass., for the spring 2022 semester. They include: **Emily Aldrich**, daughter of Elizabeth and Robert Aldrich of Bristol, Sport Management;

Gwen Stafford, daughter of Heather and Travis Stafford of Shoreham, Exercise Science/Pre-AT; and **Latham Lomax**, son of Jennifer Hedling of Starksboro, Exercise Science.

St. Lawrence University named more than 630 students to its dean's list for the spring 2022 semester. Among those named to the list were six Addison County students, including English majors **Isaiah DiNapoli** of Bristol and **Polly Heminway** of Shoreham; undeclared major **Hannah Kelley** of Ferrisburgh; Environmental Studies and Biology major

Isabella Lucarelli of Bristol; Music major **Harlow Punderson** of Middlebury; and **Carley Sherwin** of North Ferrisburgh, who is majoring in Performance and Communication Arts.

To be eligible for the list, students must have completed at least four courses and have an academic average of 3.6 based on a 4.0 scale for the semester.



MUHS Class of 1987 - 35th Reunion

Mr. Ups Porch (pay your own way)

Saturday, July 30th, 5pm

All are welcome (kids, partners, family)

Other classes also welcome

RSVP and questions to John-O at jniles7@gmail.com



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"The Taste of Vermont"

at Addison County Fair & Field Days
Dining Hall • Tuesday, August 9th
Sittings at 5:15, 6:00 and 6:45
Adults: \$10 Children 10 & under: \$5

Tickets available now at:
Middlebury Inn in Middlebury, Pratt's Store in Bridport, the Field Days office or at fielddays@gmavt.net.
Beginning Aug. 7th, tickets will only be available at the Field Days office.
Call 545-2557



Tickets Sell Out!

Green Mountain Passport Day

Opening Day Parade 6:00PM

Whiskey & Wine Band 7:00PM

Bracelet Rides - ALL DAY for \$25

Rides and Midway by Dreamland Amusements



Addison County Parent/Child Center
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- Community Playgroups
- Parent Education Classes
- Home Visits
- Pregnancy Prevention Programs
- Parent Training & Child Center

Helping Young Families Get The Right Start

College internship program gets boost

By MARIN HOWELL
MIDDLEBURY — Back in March, Middlebury College received a \$25 million grant from an anonymous donor to fund the creation of a new conflict transformation initiative. Now, support from the newly formed Kathryn Wasserman Davis Collaborative in Conflict Transformation, or KWDCCT, is being used to enhance the work of students in the college's Privilege and Poverty (P&P) summer internship program as they serve at Addison County organizations.

Conflict transformation is a field of study that seeks to build a more equitable world by addressing the root causes of conflict. Through the KWDCCT, the college has been able to support existing institution-wide work in the area of conflict transformation and begin implementing new programming, such as through P&P's summer internship program.

This year, the P&P internship program was able to offer six additional placements at local organizations and pilot a new restorative practices training with funding and support from the KWDCCT.

Ashley Laux, director of the college's Center for Community Engagement, said these additions will enrich the work already being done by P&P interns.

"We have this great ongoing program, and that program is really not changing, but conflict transformation is a new lens through which students can see the work that they're doing," Laux said.

The P&P internship program is part of the P&P learning community's curriculum, which gives students a space to synthesize their work and experiences inside and outside the college through the theme of economic inequality. The eight-week internship program allows students to think deeply about the causes and consequences of economic inequality through their placements at various social service organizations in Addison County.

This year, the internship program was able to offer six more of these placements. P&P Faculty Director Matt Lawrence said these additional placements will allow for more effective internship



THIS SUMMER LIZA Grebenkina is interning at the Helping Overcoming Poverty's Effects food shelf as part of Middlebury College's Privilege and Poverty summer internship program. This year's program offered more internships and a new restorative practices training thanks to funding and support from the college's new Kathryn Wasserman Davis Collaborative in Conflict Transformation.
Photo courtesy of Liza Grebenkina

experiences.

"I believe community engagement is most impactful when it takes place in groups where students can learn from and with each other. This grant gives more of our interns that chance," Lawrence said.

"Community engagement is most impactful when it takes place in groups where students can learn from and with each other."

— Matt Lawrence

Makenna Janes, a rising sophomore at Middlebury College, is interning with John Graham Housing & Services this summer. John Graham was one of the organizations to receive an additional P&P intern this summer, and Janes said working with a fellow student has offered her support that she would not otherwise have received.

"So far having the other intern with me, it's been a very nice partnership where we each are experiencing different things but we're able to talk about them with each other and support each other. I can't imagine being the only intern here," Janes said.

"Having the other intern with me, it's been a very nice partnership where we each are experiencing different things but we're able to talk about them with each other and support each other."

— Makenna Janes

Janes wants to see the program continue to expand, particularly in order to keep meeting the county's needs year-round. "I would hope that in the future, the program could be opened up to even more college students in the community. Even with the increase of interns from last year, they still need more help during the summer and during all times of the year," she said.

This year's internship program also included a pilot training on restorative practices, offered along

with other training given to students during the spring prior to their internship. The training was led by the college's staff of restorative practice trainers and taught students skills and strategies for engaged listening, understanding various perspectives and exploring the sources of conflict and harm.

Laux said this one-day pilot training was meant to supplement the program's other forms of training, which prepare students for what they'll encounter during their internship.

"Inevitably when we're working in communities, conflict is going to come up, so how can we help students learn how to navigate conflict and try to channel conflict as a positive force or as a force for positive change," Laux said. "Providing them the restorative practice training is helping them learn a new skill set for how they might navigate conflict or challenges differently."

Gayathri Mantha is a rising sophomore at Middlebury College interning with both the Addison County Public Defender's Office and Addison County Restorative Justice Services. She said her experience in the P&P internship program has worked toward that goal of looking at conflict differently.

Through her work at Restorative Justice Services, Mantha helps local adult and youth offenders realize the impact of their actions and repair some of the harm caused by their offenses. Mantha said this work was challenging for her at the outset.

"At first it was hard for me to be like 'I am actively trying to help someone who caused a lot of harm' and I had to shift that mindset to think 'they deserve just as much



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENT Makenna Janes is interning at John Graham Housing & Services this summer through the college's Privilege and Poverty internship program. With funding from the Kathryn Wasserman Davis Collaborative in Conflict Transformation, the program offered more student internships this year with six social service organizations in Addison County.
Photo courtesy of Makenna Janes

community support if not more as I do," Mantha said.

Mantha isn't the only P&P intern to think deeply about conflict this summer. Liza Grebenkina, another rising sophomore at Middlebury College, is working at the Helping Overcoming Poverty's Effects (HOPE) food shelf. She said the college's emphasis on conflict transformation is giving her new ways to look at inequality in the county and beyond.

"I think conflict transformation and the issue of economic inequality are strongly related. When we talk about inequality, we need to think about why it exists in the community and I think we need to be very community specific," Grebenkina said.

P&P interns like Mantha and Grebenkina are encouraged to explore these ideas of conflict and economic inequality during the program's weekly meetings, where students reflect on their internship experiences. P&P Assistant Director Jason Duquette-Hoffman said these meetings are a big part of the program and hopefully get students thinking

about what effective change they can make in the areas of conflict they observe. "These internships are explicitly learning opportunities, so we meet every week as a cohort and process through their experiences the work that they're doing. We're talking about the bigger picture," Duquette-Hoffman said. "We are trying to understand the drivers of these things, and sort of thinking forward about what could transformation looks like."

"Providing (student interns) the restorative practice training is helping them learn a new skill set for how they might navigate conflict or challenges differently."

— Ashley Laux

ADDISON COUNTY

School Briefs

Caitlin Walsh of Vergennes was named to Montclair State University's spring 2022 dean's list. Walsh is a Musical Theatre

major and was among almost 6,000 students named to the list. To qualify, students must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Elijah Bachand of Middlebury has made Emmanuel College's dean's list for the spring 2022 semester. To earn a spot on list, Emmanuel students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester.

Stephen Finch of was among more than 1,700 undergraduate and graduate students recently awarded degrees at Adelphi University's commencement exercises on May 23, 2022. Finch earned a Master of Science in Biology.

Police log

(Continued from Page 6A)

a Main Street business on July 17.

- Assisted a local resident who was receiving unwanted phone calls on July 17.

- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS with a drunken man in the Elizabeth Court area on July 18.

- Checked on the welfare of a man who had allegedly voiced a desire to harm himself on July 18.

- Warned the owner of a dog that had been left in an unoccupied vehicle in the Otterside Court parking lot on July 18.

- Located a driver on July 18 who had allegedly backed his truck into another truck parked off Boardman Street and then left the scene. Police said the case is under investigation.

- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS on a medical call in the Jackson Lane area on July 18.

- Got help for a drunken man who had passed out in the South Village Green area on July 18.

- Checked on the welfare of an elderly resident at the request of a Residences at Otter Creek worker on July 19.

- Received a report that someone had stolen a pop-up camper trailer from a Lower Foote Street residence on July 19.

- Were informed on July 19 that a juvenile had allegedly stolen some game cards from a Main Street business.

- Began an investigation into an alleged retail theft from a Court Street business on July 19.

- Assisted the Charter House Emergency Shelter with a guest who had a head injury, was drunk and was also suicidal on July 19.

- Were informed on July 19 of the theft of storage containers from the Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects loading dock off Boardman Street.

- Received a report that a vehicle had been vandalized while parked off Overbrook Drive on July 19.

- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS with an unresponsive woman in the downtown area on July 20.

- Connected a person on Court Street to medical and mental health services at Porter Hospital on July 20.

- Checked on the welfare of a man who had been struggling during a walk in the hot weather in the Brookside Drive area on July 20. Police said the man said he was OK and declined medical attention.

- Responded to a report of disorderly behavior in the downtown area on July 21.

- Responded to a report of a person urinating in public in the North Pleasant Street area on July 21.

- Served a no-trespass order on a person no longer wanted at a North Pleasant Street address on July 21.

- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS with a person who appeared to be ill in the Court Street area on July 21.

- Helped a resident remove a bat from inside her Court Street apartment on July 22.

- Assisted a person whose car had been struck while parked at Porter Medical Center on July 22.

- Spotted a large black bear near Mead Lane on July 22. Police warned area residents of the presence of the bear.

- Assisted a person on July 23 whose vehicle had broken down on Case Street until a tow truck arrived.

- Returned a found wallet to its owner on July 23.

- Assisted Porter Hospital on July 23 with a patient who was drunk and acting out.

- Responded to a report of a loud party and fireworks in the Colonial Drive neighborhood on July 23.

- Investigated a domestic dispute at an Elizabeth Court residence on July 24.

- Located a drunken man who had been creating a traffic hazard on Route 7 North on July 24. Police gave the man a ride to a family member's home.

- Investigated a domestic dispute at a Seymour Street residence on July 24.

- Assisted a local person who reported facing online harassment on July 24.

- Responded to a report of a missing flower pot and tipped-over porta potty off Mill Street on July 24.

- Received a report about a person pulling up flowers at the intersection of Main Street and Merchants Row on July 24.

- Assisted a person experiencing a mental health crisis in the Cedar Court area on July 24.

- Investigated a report of a man attempting to break into a Court Street residence on July 24. Police said the man fled when confronted by the resident. Officers searched the area but couldn't locate the man.

Peregrine falcon nesting season is complete

MONTPELIER —Hikers and rock climbers can return to Vermont cliffs starting Aug. 1, now that peregrine falcon nesting season has ended. The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department has confirmed that all the young falcons have learned to fly and should not be disturbed by human presence on the cliffs.

According to Vermont Fish and Wildlife's migratory bird biologist Doug Morin, the young peregrines have fledged, and nesting data suggest Vermont falcons had a successful year. "The falcon's nesting success is due to a combination of factors, including good weather and cooperation from hikers and rock climbers who observe a respectful distance from nesting falcons during this critical period," Morin said.

Margaret Fowle, the Audubon biologist who coordinates the monitoring effort on behalf of the Fish and Wildlife Department, says that biologists and volunteers monitored peregrine pairs that occupied about 50 Vermont cliffs in early spring and summer.

Peregrine falcons were removed from the state's Threatened and Endangered Species List in 2005. Ongoing

cooperation from recreationists and continued monitoring efforts by Vermont Fish and Wildlife and Audubon Vermont will help ensure the peregrine's recovery in future years.

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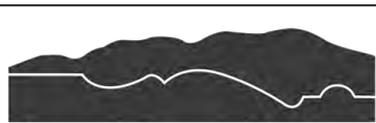
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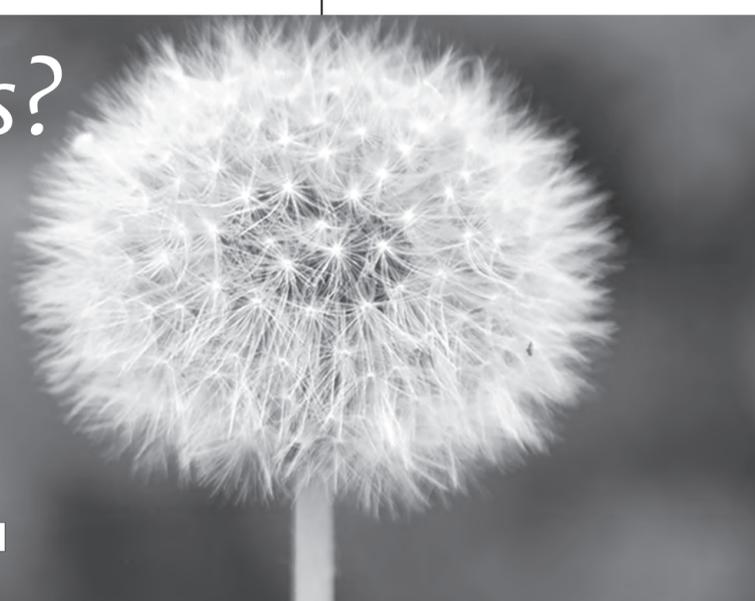
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Public Meetings

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Help Wanted

NORTH WILLISTON CATTLE CO: Is seeking a Dairy Herdperson. A 240 cow dairy milking with 4 Lely robots, is seeking an experienced herdsperson. Competitive salary and benefits. On site housing possible. Hours are M-F 5 a.m. - 1 p.m. and alternate week-ends and holidays. Must be able to work independently as well as part of a team. Focus is on herd management and herd health. For more information please call Ben (802) 598 2027.

SWIFT HOUSE INN is hiring a Breakfast Server to take and deliver orders. If you're an early bird who enjoys talking to people and thrives in a fast-paced workplace, we'd like to meet you. Weekend availability a must. Full-time. To apply please call 802-388-9925, email: rissa@swifthouseinn.com, or drop by the inn and ask for an in-person application.

Help Wanted

MAPLEFIELDS
Looking for work in your hometown?
We offer medical, dental, paid vacation, personal time, sick time and 401K for full time positions.
ALL ADDISON COUNTY LOCATIONS CURRENTLY HIRING!
For openings and to apply, visit Maplefields.com

Help Wanted

For Sale

20' ALUMINUM EXTENSION LADDER, 8' step ladder, 6' step ladder. Bunch of tools. Welder, battery charger, lawn roller. New overhead garage door 7'x9'. 802-623-8571.

Help Wanted

For Sale

CARE HOME CLOSED Lift chairs, hospital beds, walkers, commodes, and much more. Call 802-771-7053 or come to yard sale on 7/30 and 7/31.

FOR SALE: HONDA Self-propelled gas lawn mower in Middlebury village. Two years old. \$600 new. Asking \$385. Call 802-989-5773, please leave message.

HARLEY DAVIDSON PARTS For Sale. Jugs, pistons, chips, handlebars, running bars, saddle bags etc. Brand new muffler. Lots of nuts, bolts, nails, all kinds of hardware. 802-759-2030.

TWO RIFLES FOR sale. Savage Rifle Youth Model .243 caliber \$400. 3 boxes of premium ammo \$150. Thompson Center Arms Compass model rifle. 6.5 Creedmoor \$350. 5 boxes of ammo \$200. 802-483-2373.

Lawn and Garden

FOR SALE: HONDA Self-propelled gas lawn mower in Middlebury village. Two years old. \$600 new. Asking \$385. Call 802-989-5773, please leave message.

Vacation Rentals

ADDISON: LAKE CHAMPLAIN waterfront camp. Beautiful views, gorgeous sunsets, private beach, dock, rowboat and canoe included. \$999 weekly, or call for weekends. 802-349-4212, no texts.

For Rent

BRIDPORT, LAKEFRONT HOME 3 Bd., 2B, washer/dryer, fully furnished, available 9/4/22 through 6/1/23. Internet, basic electricity included, \$1500 plus security deposit. No Smoking. Call 802-425-4505 for additional information. Pets may be possible depending on size, for an additional pet security deposit.

Help Wanted

For Rent

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 ONE BEDROOM Very nice, very convenient, onsite laundry, free satellite dish, no pets, non-smoking. \$900 per month plus utilities. 802-388-5474

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

SHOREHAM: Share a home with a sociable senior gentleman who enjoys card games & family time. Minimal rent in exchange for evening meal prep 3-4x/week, companionship & light help around the house. Private BA. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, refs, background checks req. EHO.

THE MEADOWS

Middlebury, VT
We are currently accepting applications for our waiting list.
Eligible applicants pay 30% of their adjusted income for rent.
For more information, please write or call the rental management agent.
Real-Net Management, Inc. 26 Court Street Middlebury, VT 05753 802-388-4994
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Help Wanted

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.

VERGENNES WILLOW APARTMENTS is currently taking waitlist applications for 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. No smoking/no pets. Income limits apply - Rent rate based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191. www.SummitPMG.com.

For Rent

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

Att. Farmers

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@cloud.com with "horse" in the subject line for more information.

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

OLD & USED GUNS WANTED
Rifles, Hand guns, Shot guns
Top prices paid.
P: 802-775-2859
C: 802-236-7213

For Rent

It's against the law to discriminate when advertising housing

It's against the law to discriminate when advertising housing. Its easier to break the law than you might think. You can't say "no children" or "adults only."

There's a lot you can't say. The Federal Government is watching for such discrimination.

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.

Call the Addison Independent at (802) 388-4944.
ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT



Addison County Parent/Child Center
Seeking a staff person to join our dynamic team, providing support to young families through Center and home-based services.
Positions available are Van Driver, Outreach Worker, Childcare Teacher/Parent Educator.
Abundant professional development and individual and group supervision opportunities, as well as collaboration with other community agencies and home visiting.
MSW preferred, a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in a related field is required.
Great working environment and generous benefits
Total hours negotiable
Please send a resume and cover letter, along with 3 references to Donna Bailey at dbailey@addisoncountypcc.org

Lawn and Garden

FOR SALE: HONDA Self-propelled gas lawn mower in Middlebury village. Two years old. \$600 new. Asking \$385. Call 802-989-5773, please leave message.

Vacation Rentals

ADDISON: LAKE CHAMPLAIN waterfront camp. Beautiful views, gorgeous sunsets, private beach, dock, rowboat and canoe included. \$999 weekly, or call for weekends. 802-349-4212, no texts.

For Rent

BRIDPORT, LAKEFRONT HOME 3 Bd., 2B, washer/dryer, fully furnished, available 9/4/22 through 6/1/23. Internet, basic electricity included, \$1500 plus security deposit. No Smoking. Call 802-425-4505 for additional information. Pets may be possible depending on size, for an additional pet security deposit.

Help Wanted

SLATE VALLEY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL BASED CLINICIAN VACANCY- 2022-2023 YEAR

Slate Valley School District is seeking a full-time School Based Clinician beginning August 2022 to support the implementation of our school-based mental health interventions and response within the newly developed district Middle School at Fair Haven Union Middle High School.

The selected candidate will have experience in school based social-emotional services and middle school programming.

The selected candidate will team up with a school counselor and social emotional interventionist to support students in grades 7-8.

For more information, please contact Kris Benway, Director of Special Services at 802-265-4905 or email at kbenway@svuvt.org
All applicants must apply on www.SchoolSpring.com
Position will remain open until filled
EOE

Auctions
Public Notices for the following can be found in this ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Page 11B and 12B.

MARKET REPORT ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
Sales for 7/21 & 7/25, 2022

| BEEF | LBS. | /LB | \$ | COST |
|--|---------|------|-----------|------|
| Nop Bros & Sons | 1560 | 1.10 | \$1723.80 | |
| Kayhart Bros | 1085 | 1.03 | \$1117.55 | |
| J. Townshend | 1670 | 0.90 | \$1503.00 | |
| Gosliga Farm | 1645 | 0.90 | \$1480.50 | |
| Wilcon Farm | 1890 | 0.85 | \$1606.50 | |
| A. Brisson | 1435 | 0.85 | \$1219.75 | |
| Vorsteveld Farm | 1525 | 0.80 | \$1220.00 | |
| CALVES | LBS./LB | \$ | | COST |
| J. Allen | 97 | 3.10 | \$300.70 | |
| H. Sunderland | 104 | 3.00 | \$312.00 | |
| A. Brisson | 85 | 3.00 | \$255.00 | |
| Kayhart Bros | 113 | 2.90 | \$327.70 | |
| Barnes Bros. | 110 | 2.80 | \$308.00 | |
| Total # Beef: 152 Total # Calves: 373 | | | | |

We value our faithful customers.
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.
call 1-802-388-2661

Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found in this ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Page 11B and 12B.

- Act 250 (1)
- Addison (1)
- Addison County Courthouse (1)
- Bridport (1)
- Friends of the Vergennes Opera House (1)
- Hancock (1)
- Monkton (2)
- Mt. Abraham Unified School District (1)
- New Haven (1)
- Orwell (1)
- Salisbury (2)
- Weybridge (1)

TOWN OF MONKTON TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

The Town of Monkton is seeking qualified applicants for Town Administrator. The Town Administrator is a highly responsible administrative position supervising and coordinating the overall operations of the Town. The Town Administrator's mission is to support the Selectboard in carrying out its duties and responsibilities. This job is a salaried position as defined in the Town's Personnel Policy and subject to employee benefits as defined therein. It is expected to be performed under normal office conditions for a minimum of twenty-two (22) hours per week. Three years experience in local government planning or administration, or equivalent experience in business or government preferred. Salary of up to \$35,000 depending on experience and qualifications. A full job description is available at Town Hall or online at monktonvt.com/town-admin.

To apply fill out an application at monktonvt.com/apply and submit with a resume to selectboard@monktonvt.com or mail to P.O. Box 12, Monkton, VT 05469-0012.
Applications are due by August 9, 2022.

PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF ADDISON

The Addison Planning Commission will hold a monthly meeting on Monday, August 15, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Addison Town Clerk's Office.

- To consider the following:
- To approve the meeting minutes for July 18, 2022.
 - To transact any business found necessary before the board.
 - To allow time for public comment interaction at beginning of the meeting.
 - We need to work on updating & referencing some sections for implementing Subdivision & Zoning Regulations into the Town Plan. Continue to work on definitions & reviewing the Vermont State Statutes (Chapter 117).
 - Continue working on items that are considered projects in progress at the August meeting & continue to review the Zoning Regulations pertaining to Districts & sections. We will review the revised notes on items that the Z.A. helped with (Zoning) PUDS, density-zoning, tables & road frontages within the districts.
 - We have a rough draft to work from to review corrections & consider input from the Select Board & DRB for additions/corrections.
 - Planning for a WORK meeting on Monday, August 15, 2022 at 6:30PM at the T.C.O. after the regular monthly meeting.
Starr Phillips, Secretary
Addison Planning Commission

Do you thrive in a culture of JOY, KINDNESS, and FUN?
Join us today and be part of something special in Middlebury!

BIG NEWS! WE ARE GROWING OUR TEAM!

The Yellow House Community (YHC) is a State licensed Therapeutic Community Residence located in downtown Middlebury. We recently renovated our second dwelling, the Carriage Barn, and are excited to hire additional staff ("Sidekicks") for our two beautiful homes. At YHC, we provide residential support to young adults ("Friends") with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We are looking for team players who are patient, reliable, and love to have fun.

COMPETITIVE COMPENSATION - FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING - PAID TRAINING

EVENING SIDEKICK (FT/PT; Shift hours: 3pm - 9pm)
The Evening Sidekick collaborates with the Program Director and Sidekicks to assist Friends with nighttime activities and routines. Evening Sidekicks guide Friends in dinner preparation, games, exercise, social outings, household chores, personal/hygiene care, and bedtime routines. Evening Sidekicks enjoy a laid-back, evening vibe with plenty of opportunities for connection and fun with our residents. **Compensation ranges from \$18 - 22/hr with higher rates for weekend shifts.**

OVERNIGHT SIDEKICK (PT; Shift hours: 9pm - 7am)

The Overnight Sidekick is responsible for the overnight care and supervision of a dwelling's four young adult residents. The Overnight Sidekick sleeps at Yellow House and awakens to respond to Friends' needs and emergencies. A typical night involves the Overnight Sidekick waking up for one ten-minute session. Great second job opportunity!
\$160/overnight flat-rate compensation; \$175/overnight for weekends.

"TWO-PACK" SIDEKICK (PT; Evening 3pm - 9pm + Overnight 9pm - 7am)

A Two-Pack Sidekick works two Evening/Overnight combination shifts per week, with shifts starting at 3pm and continuing through to the next morning. The Evening/Overnight combo shift is favored by YHC staff because it allows for maximum earning power with a small weekly commitment. Earn \$28K+ annually for 2 nights per week!
Additional pay for weekends.

Also hiring reliable on-call substitutes for all positions.

For detailed job descriptions, please visit our website: yellowhousecommunity.com
Applicants should submit a Letter of Interest, Resume, and 2 References (phone numbers) to Elise Haydon, YHC Executive Director at: elise@yellowhousecommunity.com
29 Seminary Street Middlebury, VT 05753 802.989.7044

SHARD VILLA
LEVEL 3 RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME
NOW HIRING CAREGIVERS
Full-Time + Part-Time
All Shifts
~ Competitive Pay ~
~ Shift Differentials ~ (for evenings, nights and weekends)
For more information Visit our website www.shardvilla.org
802-352-4369

**ACT 250 NOTICE
APPLICATION 9A0158-12 AND HEARING
10 V.S.A. §§ 6001 - 6111**

On June 3, 2022, Vermont Agency of Transportation filed "complete" application number #9A0158-12 for a project generally described as Partial Findings under the Act 250 Criteria for future hangar development at Middlebury State Airport per legislative mandate. The proposed project includes 1 large hangar (120' X 120'), 3 medium hangars (60' X 80'), 5 small hangars (60' X 60') and ±70,450 square feet of new impervious surface. The project is located at 467 Airport Road in Middlebury, Vermont.

The District 9 Environmental Commission will hold a site visit and public hearing on Friday, August 19th, 2022 beginning at 9:30AM at the project location. The public hearing will commence as soon as possible following conclusion of the site visit. The public hearing will be held at the Middlebury Town Offices located at 77 Main Street, Middlebury, VT.

This application can be viewed on the Natural Resources Board Act 250 Database here: <https://anrweb.vt.gov/ANR/Act250/Details.aspx?Num=9A0158-12>.

To request party status, fill out the Party Status Petition Form on the Board's website: <https://nrb.vermont.gov/documents/party-status-petition-form>, and email it to the District 9 Office at: NRB.Act250Barre@vermont.gov.

If you have a disability for which you need accommodation in order to participate in this process (including participating in the public hearing), please notify us as soon as possible, in order to allow us as much time as possible to accommodate your needs. For more information, contact Josh Donabedian, District 9 Coordinator at the email listed below.

Josh Donabedian
District 9 Coordinator
Joshua.Donabedian@vermont.gov
Mail: 10 Baldwin Street Montpelier VT 05633-3201
Physical: 111 West Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452

HEARING NOTICE

TOWN OF ORWELL- DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The Orwell Development Review Board will meet in person on Wednesday, August 17th, 2022 at 7:00pm at the Orwell Town Clerk's Office located at 436 Main Street, Orwell, VT. By Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87159590685> or phone 1-929-205-6099 use meeting ID: #871 5959 0685 to conduct the following business:

1. Permit #6-29-22: Beeman, Charles & Diane, Gosselin/Beeman Life Estate/Beeman, Charles for a Variance needing setbacks for a two (2) car garage w/ upstairs storage, located at 23 North Orwell Road, Orwell, VT 05760.

Information pertaining to this matter may be viewed M, T, Th & Fr. 9:30-12:00 and 1:00-3:30 at the Orwell Town Clerk's Office located at 436 Main Street, Orwell, VT.

Joseph Andriano, Chair
Orwell Development Review Board

**WARNING FOR
SPECIAL MEETING**

MOUNT ABRAHAM UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

The legal voters of the town of New Haven are hereby NOTIFIED and WARNED to VOTE BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT at the Town Hall in New Haven, Vermont on **Tuesday, August 9, 2022 between the hours of 7 AM and 7 PM** to act upon the following question:

Article 1: Shall the legal voters of the town of New Haven ratify and approve the Town of Starksboro's vote of May 10, 2022 to withdraw the Town of Starksboro from membership in the Mount Abraham Unified School District ('MAUSD')?

For the purpose of voting by Australian ballot:

Voters of the Town of New Haven will vote at the Town Hall located at 70 North Street, New Haven, VT 05491. The Polls will open on Tuesday, August 9, 2022, at 7:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM.

Upon closing of the polls, the ballots shall be publicly counted by representatives of the Board of Civil Authority of the Town of New Haven. Ballots will not be commingled.

The legal voters of the Mount Abraham Unified School District are further notified that voter qualification and registration relative to said meeting shall be as provided in Section 706(u) of Title 16, and Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Dated this 6th day of July, 2022.

On behalf of the Mount Abraham Unified School District Board of Directors:

Dawn Griswold, Chair of the Board

Received for the record and recorded this 6th day of July 2022 by:

Jennifer Bauer, Clerk of the District

**WARNING FOR
SPECIAL MEETING**

MOUNT ABRAHAM UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

The legal voters of the town of Monkton are hereby NOTIFIED and WARNED to VOTE BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT at the Monkton Town Hall in Monkton, Vermont on **Tuesday, August 9, 2022 between the hours of 7 AM and 7 PM** to act upon the following question:

Article 1: Shall the legal voters of the town of Monkton ratify and approve the Town of Starksboro's vote of May 10, 2022 to withdraw the Town of Starksboro from membership in the Mount Abraham Unified School District ('MAUSD')?

For the purpose of voting by Australian ballot:

Voters of the Town of Monkton will vote at the Monkton Town Hall located at 92 Monkton Ridge, Monkton, VT 05473. The Polls will open on Tuesday, August 9, 2022, at 7:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM.

Upon closing of the polls, the ballots shall be publicly counted by representatives of the Board of Civil Authority of the Town of Monkton. Ballots will not be commingled.

The legal voters of the Mount Abraham Unified School District are further notified that voter qualification and registration relative to said meeting shall be as provided in Section 706(u) of Title 16, and Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Dated this 6th day of July, 2022.

On behalf of the Mount Abraham Unified School District Board of Directors:

Dawn Griswold, Chair of the Board

Received for the record and recorded this 6th day of July 2022 by:

Jennifer Bauer, Clerk of the District

**WARNING FOR
SPECIAL MEETING**

MOUNT ABRAHAM UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

The legal voters of the town of Bristol are hereby NOTIFIED and WARNED to VOTE BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT at Holley Hall in Bristol, Vermont on **Tuesday, August 9, 2022 between the hours of 7 AM and 7 PM** to act upon the following question:

Article 1: Shall the legal voters of the town of Bristol ratify and approve the Town of Starksboro's vote of May 10, 2022 to withdraw the Town of Starksboro from membership in the Mount Abraham Unified School District ('MAUSD')?

For the purpose of voting by Australian ballot:

Voters of the Town of Bristol will vote at Holley Hall located at 1 South Street, Bristol, VT 05443. The Polls will open on Tuesday, August 9, 2022, at 7:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM.

Upon closing of the polls, the ballots shall be publicly counted by representatives of the Board of Civil Authority of the Town of Bristol. Ballots will not be commingled.

The legal voters of the Mount Abraham Unified School District are further notified that voter qualification and registration relative to said meeting shall be as provided in Section 706(u) of Title 16, and Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Dated this 6th day of July, 2022.

On behalf of the Mount Abraham Unified School District Board of Directors:

Dawn Griswold, Chair of the Board

Received for the record and recorded this 6th day of July 2022 by:

Jennifer Bauer, Clerk of the District

**FRIENDS OF THE VERGENNES OPERA HOUSE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The Friends of the Vergennes Opera House (FVOH) seeks proposals from qualified architectural firms for complete design services to construct accessibility improvements to Vergennes City Hall and Opera House. Qualified firms will have experience complying with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings, accessibility modifications and not less than \$1M of professional liability insurance. A copy of the Request for Proposals may be downloaded from <https://www.vergennesoperahouse.org/>. A mandatory site visit for respondents will be held August 10, 2022 and proposals are due August 31, 2022. FVOH reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or to accept any proposal deemed to be in its best interests. FVOH does not discriminate and proposals from minority and women-owned business enterprises are invited.

**TOWN OF WEYBRIDGE
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE (ONLINE)
PLANNING COMMISSION**

A public hearing before the Weybridge Planning Commission will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at 7:00 PM, to pursue the following business:

To consider the request of Yeasin Bhuiyan to subdivide his property at 5971 Snake Mountain Road into two lots.

Persons wishing to be heard at this Public Meeting may do so in person or may be represented at the meeting by a licensed Vermont Attorney or an authorized agent; please note that in accordance with Chapter 117, Section 4464 of the Vermont statutes that participation in the Public Meeting is a prerequisite to the right to take subsequent appeal.

The full application and survey can be viewed at the Town Clerk's Office. Call 545-2270 for access instructions. Please call or email jwolson23@gmail.com or clerk@townofweybridge.org for instructions on participating in the hearing via Zoom.

Jeff Olson, Chair
Weybridge Planning Commission

**TOWN OF NEW HAVEN
REQUEST FOR BIDS**

The Town of New Haven is seeking bids from qualified contractors for their train depot relocation project. The project includes site work, drainage and constructing a concrete foundation on which the building will be placed by the Town's moving contractor. The entire RFP, with the building plans, are posted on the Town's website at www.newhavenvt.com. Bids will be due no later than 3:00 PM on August 18, 2022. Proposals can be sent via email to the Town Clerk at newhaventownclerk@gmavt.net. Contractors providing only hard copies must provide six (6) copies and they can be either mailed or delivered to the Town Clerk at the Town Office. The mailing address is: 78 North St. New Haven, Vt. 05472. Any questions regarding this project can be directed to Matt Young at Ascent Consulting LLC at myoung@ascentconsultingllc.com. All questions need to be received no later than August 4, 2022; all answers will be posted on the town's website. If necessary, the final addendum to the RFP will be posted on the town's website no later than August 9, 2022.

The Town of New Haven is an Equal Opportunity Employer

**TOWN OF BRIDPORT
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The Bridport Zoning Board of Adjustments will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, in the Town Office at 82 Crown Point Road, to consider each of the following application(s):

- At 7:05 PM on Application (#V22-34) by Jennifer Lowe & Charles Duvic for lot adjustment parameters on parcel ID# 04-007A owned by Jennifer & Charles Duvic. The property is located at 2574 East St.

Plans and additional information regarding any such application may be viewed at said Town Office or by calling (802) 758-2483, Ext. 2. Participation in the Bridport Zoning Board of Adjustments proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal on any decision of it on an application.

Steven DeCarlo, Zoning Administrator

**STATE OF VERMONT
SUPERIOR COURT
ADDISON UNIT
PROBATE DIVISION
DOCKET NO.: 22-PR-03012
IN RE ESTATE OF:
ANDRE A. LAMBERT**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
To the Creditors of Andre A. Lambert, late of Addison.

I have been appointed to administer this ancillary 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: 07/19/2022

Executor/Administrator:

Marc Lambert

Mailing Address: 138 Webster

Street, Malone NY 12953

Email: marc.lambert.a@gmail.com

Publication: Addison Independent

Publication Date: 07/28/22

Address of Probate Court:

Addison Unit, Probate Court

7 Mahady Court

Middlebury, VT 05753

**STATE OF VERMONT
SUPERIOR COURT
ADDISON UNIT
PROBATE DIVISION
DOCKET NO.: 22-PR-04041
IN RE ESTATE OF:
DEBORAH ANN MUSCATO**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
To the Creditors of Deborah Ann Muscato, late of Leicester, Vermont.

I have been appointed to administer this ancillary 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: 07/22/22

Executor/Administrator:

Michael Tebbetts

Mailing Address: % William B. Miller,

Jr., PO Drawer 350,

Middlebury, VT 05753-0351

Email: gmillier@langrock.com

Publication: Addison Independent

Publication Date: 07/28/22

Address of Probate Court:

Addison Unit, Probate Court

7 Mahady Court

Middlebury, VT 05753

**TOWN OF SALISBURY
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The Salisbury Development Review Board (DRB) will hold a Public Hearing in the Town Office (25 Schoolhouse Road) at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, to consider the following:

Application 2022-03

An application from Greg West (parcel ID #0705029) in connection with a proposed (Major) (5) lot subdivision, from the referenced parcel, creating a total of 5 lots, located on Upper Plains Road in Salisbury. This property is in the Low-Density Residential District, (LDR).

This application is pursuant to §2.4.3, §6.1, §6.0.1(4), & §6.5.2 of the Salisbury Unified Development Regulations.

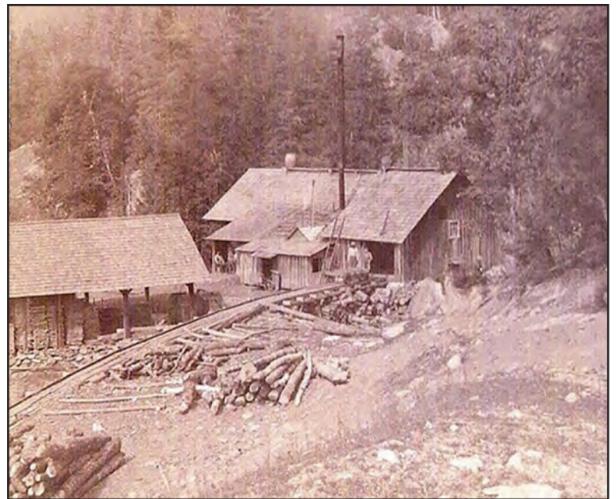
Participation (either oral or written) is a prerequisite to an interested person's right to take any subsequent appeal from the DRB's decision. See 24 V.S.A. §4465(b) and §4471.

These hearings will be conducted with in-person and remote access. Those wishing to participate remotely must obtain the necessary remote access codes. Access codes (for on-line or phone) are available by contacting the Salisbury Town Clerk during regular business hours prior to 3:00 PM on August 16, 2022. The Salisbury Town Office is open on Tuesdays from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Thursdays from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Application materials are available for inspection in the Town Office during regular business hours.

Anna Scheck

DRB Clerk



THE THOMPSON SAWMILL at Sucker Brook was a microcosm of rural life and activity. Learn more about it at the Salisbury Historical Society's presentation on Wednesday, Aug. 3, at the Salisbury Congregational Church.

Learn about Thompson sawmill on Aug. 3 at the Salisbury church

SALISBURY — Thompson sawmill at Sucker Brook on the east side of Lake Dunmore was a microcosm of rural community life and activity. Bill Powers brings to life some of the activities and memories of the forgotten mill on Aug. 3, at 7 p.m in the Salisbury Congregational Church.

Combining over 70 photographs with artifacts and extracts from historical documentation, he will present a comprehensive view of a small but vibrant sawmill community that today is only

marked by the mill's foundation and iron work in surrounding ledges.

Included in the presentation are: Loyal Kelsey (1821-1893) who farmed the present day Branbury Beach at Lake Dunmore; Charles Wesley Sanderson, (1838-1905) a foremost landscape painter from Brandon; "Aunt Jennie" Rickert (1856-1934), who ran a tea house nearby; and Harley Rowe (1866-1931), a blacksmith who left his mark and lies beneath a millstone grave marker in Forest Dale.

Public Notices

can be found in this
ADDISON INDEPENDENT
on Pages 11B and 12B.

TOWN OF HANCOCK, VT

The Town of Hancock is seeking bids for riprap and guardrail installation on Killooleet Road.

Bidding information is available at www.hancockvt.org or by contacting Dan Perera at dan@enigmamuseum.com.

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, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
9am to 1pm

Tuesday **12:30pm to 4:30pm**

APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED.

FACE MASKS REQUIRED.

(even if vaccinated)

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addisoncountyclerk@gmail.com

**TOWN OF MONKTON
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD**

The Monkton Development Review Board will hold the following hearings on August 8, 2022, beginning at 7:30PM. The hearings will be held in person at the Town Office, located at 92 Monkton Ridge. The hearings will also be available via Zoom and login information is below.

Conditional Use Application #2022-03-CON of the Town of Monkton Community Dog Park for a shade structure located at Pond Road (Morse Park) (Parcel ID 13.215.018.000) in the RA-5/Pond Zoning Districts.

An electronic copy of the applications can be obtained by emailing zoning@monktonvt.com. A hard copy of the application is available at Town Hall by appointment. Please call 802-453-3800 to make an appointment.

Remote Access: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/> • Meeting ID: 821 1683 9768 • Passcode: 679652

Phone In: 1-646-558-8656 • Meeting ID: 821 1683 9768 • Passcode: 679652

**TOWN OF SALISBURY
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The Salisbury Development Review Board (DRB) will hold a Public Hearing in the Town Office (25 Schoolhouse Road) at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, to consider the following:

Application 2022-05

An application from Merle Schloff and Christopher Andres (parcel ID #1404015 & 1404008) for a Conditional Use Permit, property owners New England Forestry Foundation & Middlebury Area Land Trust, to create a historic/educational park and trail system on the MALT parcel. The proposed project will include creation of an entrance/curb cut from Hooker Road, constructing a short access/drive leading to a parking area, constructing a 50' x 80' gravel parking area, installing identifying signage, creating a short footpath leading from the parking area to a crosswalk across West Shore Road. This property is located in the Medium Density Residential and High-Density Residential District, (LDR & HDR).

This application is pursuant to §2.4.1E, §2.4.2E, §3.4.2, and §3.8.4 of the Salisbury Unified Development Regulations.

Participation (either oral or written) is a prerequisite to an interested person's right to take any subsequent appeal from the DRB's decision. See 24 V.S.A. §4465(b) and §4471.

These hearings will be conducted with in-person and remote access. Those wishing to participate remotely must obtain the necessary remote access codes. Access codes (for on-line or phone) are available by contacting the Salisbury Town Clerk during regular business hours prior to 3:00 PM on August 16, 2022. The Salisbury Town Office is open on Tuesdays from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Thursdays from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Application materials are available for inspection in the Town Office during regular business hours.

Anna Scheck

DRB Clerk

ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison Independent

July 28, 2022



The team in charge of putting on the "Under the Tent" series of film screenings, live music and theatrical performance gathers recently where the tent will be erected next to Middlebury's Swift House Inn. Pictured, from left, are Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival's Sophia Lundberg and Lloyd Komesar, Town Hall Theater's Lisa Mitchell, Middlebury Jazz Collective's Gary Sarachan, Middlebury Acting Company's Melissa Lourie, and Swift House owners Serena Kim and Matthew Robinson.

INDEPENDENT PHOTO/SAM LIPIN

What's 'Under the Tent'?

Swift House Inn increases its cultural footprint

T

BY **SAM**
LIPIN

he Summer of '22 in Addison County has so far been jam packed with live events — including the World+Wine Music Series in New Haven, the Festival on the Green in Middlebury and the most recent kids' production of "Oliver!", to name a few. But

don't put your going-out shoes away just yet. Swift House Inn has a whole lot more to come.

The Swift House in conjunction with the Middlebury New Film Festival (MNFF) and Town Hall Theater (THT) will host a series of live events outside "Under the Tent" from Aug. 2 to 28.

The 30-foot-by-60-foot tent in question will be placed behind the main inn and fit about 100 people for film screenings, live music and acting performances.

The series will kick off with the MNFF Sunset Series' "Streep Week," five nights of Meryl Streep from Aug. 2-6.

MNFF Producer Lloyd Komesar was long opposed to showing films outside — due to the obvious issues it presents such as being susceptible to bad weather and the glare and noise of street traffic — until he met with Swift House owners Matthew Robinson and Serena Kim.

"It seemed like they were interested in creating a cultural footprint for the inn," Komesar said of his first meeting with Serena and Matthew, who purchased the inn in 2020. "Not just as a lodging and dining establishment, but there was sincere interest to grow their influence in town."

In summer 2021, Swift House hosted five weeks of Martin Scorsese films for one night a week in July and then showed three MNFF films in late August. "Because of COVID's incursion on us, the idea of having an alternative outdoors venue turned out to be a pretty good idea," Komesar said.

The events were well-attended and people

SEE TENT ON PAGE 3

THE MONTH IN POETRY



Susan Jefts is a poet and editor from the Adirondacks and Vermont, whose poems have been published in numerous journals, locally and nationally. She runs workshops using poetry to deepen our experiences in nature, and of what we find sacred.

There is much one could be confused about these days between so much news, so many activities, so many things to be distracted by. Even so many good books to read. But never can there be too much of some things. A thousand orchises is not too many, air of sweet is never too sweet, summer trees never too green. There is a healing and integrating power to beauty that can change our experience of the moment, and even of our relationship to crisis and challenge, if we are able to stop and see and feel.

We might even feel overwhelmed at times by beauty, or unable to absorb it if our inner state is not able to match what is before us. We've all had times like that. But beauty is always there waiting when we're able to see again, when we're able to step forward to meet it.

There can never be too much of all that Frost speaks of, and no moment can be too brief to raise, as he says, a simple prayer to help us truly see and protect

however we can our meadows of a thousand flowers or at the very least, silently honor them, especially if we find ourself so fortunate as to be so confused with flowers.

TO RAISE A SIMPLE PRAYER

ROSE POGONIAS

A saturated meadow,
Sun-shaped and jewel-small,
A circle scarcely wider
Than the trees around were tall;
Where winds were quite excluded,
And the air was stifling sweet
With the breath of flowers,—
A temple of the heat.
There we bowed us in the burning,
As the sun's right worship is,
To pick where none could miss them
A thousand orchises;
For though the grass was scattered,
Yet every second spear
Seemed tipped with wings of color,
That tinged the atmosphere.
We raised a simple prayer
Before we left the spot,
That in the general mowing
That place might be forgot;
Or if not all so favoured,
Obtain such grace of hours,
That none should mow the grass there
While so confused with flowers.

— Robert Frost

This poem by Robert Frost was first published in 1915 in the book *A Boy's Will* (Henry Holt and Co), and is in the public domain.

"GORGEOUS...IRRESISTIBLE." - TIMES ARGUS

Jack London's
MARTIN EDEN
A TALE OF IMPOSSIBLE LOVE AND THE AMERICAN DREAM

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BEST DIRECTOR**
2021

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Q & A AND DISCUSSION W/ DIRECTOR JAY CRAVEN

7PM, SUNDAY, JULY 31
MIDDLEBURY TOWN HALL THEATER

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TENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

seemed to like the idea, he said, encouraging a larger "Under the Tent" production this summer.

"We owe a special debt of gratitude to the Swift House and Serena and Matthew for allowing us to pivot some of our resident company productions to the tent outdoors," said Lisa Mitchell, executive director of the THT whose box office is selling tickets to all the events at the Swift House. "It was tremendous for us, and they were so accommodating."

After "Streep Week," THT will host a "Taste of Spain" wine event on Aug. 11, where guests will taste five wines — including a Cava, two whites and two reds — and enjoy tapas from Swift House's Jessica's Restaurant. Swift House Sommelier David Herren will be on hand to deliver a brief overview of the wines and the regions they come from.

Next, the newly formed Middlebury Jazz Collective will present its first event of many under the tent on Aug. 13. The Miles Donahue Quartet will perform with percussion help from the Berklee College of Music in Boston for two sets beginning at 7:30 and 8:45 p.m., respectively.

"There's a large appetite for jazz in Middlebury and I'm going to feed it," said Middlebury Jazz Collective founder Gary Sarachan, who was involved with Jazz St. Louis, a non-profit organization dedicated to both jazz performance and jazz education. "I'm confident this is going to be the first of what will be an ongoing series of jazz to feed that appetite."

The following weekend, the Middlebury Acting Company will present "American Dreaming: A New Play Festival," fit with three staged readings for two nights and a matinee, as well as three playwriting workshops. The plays and workshops will focus on the concept, "What does the American Dream mean today?" The first staged reading on Friday, Aug. 19, at 7 p.m. will be "Griswold," a play about the landmark U.S. Supreme Court case that established a right to sexual privacy and paved the way for the court's landmark Roe V. Wade decision.

"The cool thing about this kind of venue is that you no longer have to worry about physical

"THE COOL THING ABOUT THIS KIND OF VENUE IS THAT YOU NO LONGER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT PHYSICAL PRODUCTION VALUES OR FANCY SETUPS BECAUSE YOU CAN'T. IT PUTS THE FOCUS SQUARELY ON THE ART FORM ITSELF AND I THINK PEOPLE REALLY LIKE THAT."

— MACo Artistic Director Melissa Lourie



The Swift House's "Under the Tent" series will take place behind their main inn in this 30-foot-by-60-foot tent, which will be equipped with a full bar and about 100 chairs for sit-down performances.

production values or fancy setups because you can't," said Melissa Lourie, artistic director the Middlebury Acting Company, who spoke to the added intimacy of performances under the tent. "It puts the focus squarely on the art form itself and I think people really like that."

The finale of the Swift House's "Under the Tent" series will be the film screenings of MNFF8, which will take place Aug. 24-28. The festival will showcase more than 120 films from talented first- and second-time filmmakers of the last calendar year. Swift House will host the after party for the first night of screenings on Aug. 24, before hosting its own screenings the subsequent three nights.

Swift House is one of five venues showing MNFF films this year, including the Dana Auditorium and Twilight Hall on the Middlebury College campus, the Marquis Theater and two screens at the MNFF's home venue, the Town Hall Theater.

"It's a simple concept: Let's show films outdoors

under the tent at Swift House where people can drink, eat, schmooze and see a movie," Komesar said about the idea of an outside film venue. He also emphasized that he could not have managed the festival without his festival coordinator, Sophia Lundberg.

Swift House will provide grab-and-go food through Jessica's Restaurant, as well as a full bar under the tent. Guests are encouraged to arrive an hour early before the film begins at 7:30 p.m.

Robinson and Kim spent the bulk of their careers in entertainment and the arts before buying the inn. Over more than a quarter century, Robinson worked for Walt Disney Company, Warner Brothers, and 20th Century Fox Film; while Kim was an arts and culture writer and editor for about 20 years for a plethora of publications including *Vibe Magazine*, *Complex Media* and *Kore Asian Media*.

"It's something that is always evolving for us," Robinson said about the role Swift House plays as a cultural hub in Middlebury. "Swift House is a big broad canvas for us to work with and we are always trying to figure out ways to grow that."

"It tells our community we're building something here," Komesar added on the influence of the "Under the Tent" series. "Whether it's something that changes in the future, we don't know, but this is a very august group; people who have a lot of experience and are trying to deliver something for the community."

The first movie of "Streep Week" will be "August: Osage County" on Aug. 2 with dining and bar service beginning at 6:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased for this and all subsequent "Under the Tent" events through the Town Hall Theater box office, as well as walk-up tickets for a slightly higher price. Parking at the inn is limited, so Robinson and Kim encourage guests who must drive to park on High Street, Seminary Street and at the Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op after 7 p.m. A golf cart will be available for those with mobility issues.

ART ON EXHIBIT

Middlebury gallery opens exhibit: *About Town*

Coming on Aug. 1, Edgewater Gallery at the Falls will open a new exhibit of work by Betsy Silverman and Rachel Wilcox.

Both artists capture the essence of the urban landscape; its pace, energy and diversity. These city scenes show us the intersection of people's lives and their stories, and the compositional complexity

and excitement where architecture, vehicles, and streetlife meet.

An opening reception for "About Town" will be held on Friday, Aug. 19, from 5-6:30 p.m.

For more information visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-458-0098 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com.



"Chowder Town" by Betsy Silverman – 36x36 – \$5,900.



"Commute" by Rachel Wilcox – 30x30 – \$3,000.

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MORE INFO @ BALDMOUNTAINTHEATER.ORG

Mark your calendars for Plein Air 2022 in Middlebury

Also coming on Aug. 19-21 is Plein Air 2022. The Edgewater Galleries downtown and at the falls will host opening receptions Friday, Aug. 19, from 5-6:30 p.m. This event is free and open to all.

Plein Air Paint Out will take place Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 20-21, from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., where artists will be painting en plein air throughout Middlebury.

A ticketed cocktail reception and Wet Paint Sale will be held on Sunday, Aug. 21, from 3:30-5:30 p.m., at Edgewater Gallery at the Falls, One Mill St., Middlebury. Meet the artists, enjoy cocktails, light refreshment, and live music. View the completed paintings and purchase paintings "off the easel." Tickets are \$30 and are available at edgewatergallery.com, by calling 802-989-7419 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com.

ART ON EXHIBIT

ART ON MAIN

25 Main Street, Bristol

Visit artonmain.net or call 802-453-4032 for more info.

"Photography by Denise Letendre." Art on Main is highlighting new photographer artist, Denise Letendre, through the month of July. She uses sepia in her photos to enhance light, line and texture, which can be overlooked in color photography. On view through July 31.

BRANDON ARTISTS GUILD

7 Center St, Brandon

Visit brandonartistsguild.org or call 802-247-4956 for more info.

"Vermont: On the Road," the third in a series of three Vermont-centric shows. An all-member and all-media display, this show shares each artist's favorite spots across Vermont, from crowd-favorite occasions to secret hideaways to even the road that gets you there. On view July 15-Sept. 5.

EDGEWATER GALLERY ON THE GREEN

6 Merchant's Row, Middlebury

Visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-989-7419 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com for more info.

"Land & Tide: Scenes from New England," is a solo exhibition of photographs by Jim Westphalen, on view July 1-Aug. 9. Experience the majesty of the New England landscape through the eyes and lens of fine art photographer Jim Westphalen as he takes us on a journey that includes the pastoral farms and snow dusted mountains of Vermont and the rocky shorelines and surf of the Atlantic coast.

EDGEWATER GALLERY AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury

Visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-458-0098 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com for more info.

"About Town" featuring Betsy Silverman and Rachel Wilcox, is on view Aug. 1-Sept. 30. Both artists capture the essence of the urban landscape; its pace, energy, and diversity. These city scenes show us the intersection of people's lives and their stories, and the compositional complexity and excitement where architecture, vehicles, and streetlife meet. An opening reception will be held Friday, Aug. 19, from 5-6:30 p.m.

JACKSON GALLERY

68 S Pleasant Street, Middlebury

Visit townhalltheater.org/jackson-gallery or call 802-382-9222 for more info.

"Inspired by Nature: A Mother and Daughter's View." Paintings by Bristol artist Brenda Myrick and Barbara Lane, a 92-year-old retired surgical nurse from Whiting, will be on view July 8-Aug. 13. The Jackson Gallery is located in the lower level of Town Hall Theater, and is open Monday through Friday 12-5 p.m., and an hour before any public events in the building.

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 12



ARIES: March 21-April 20. Aries, try to focus on simple pleasures this week. You don't have to travel to foreign lands or handle complicated hobbies to find happiness right now.

TAURUS: April 21-May 21. Taurus, seek opportunities to focus your mind, which is bubbling with creativity lately. Dabble in artwork or jewelry making. Cake decorating also may appeal to you.

GEMINI: May 22-June 21 Gemini, you may need to dig down deep and find your motivation for a new project. A change of scenery could be the catalyst for change. Book a short venture to refresh.

CANCER: June 22-July 22. Cancer, with a clear mind and excellent communication skills, this week you can lead the meeting and get the results you desire. This is only one step on the path to success.

LEO: July 23-Aug. 23. Leo, some type of force is helping you continue your path forward. It may be pride; it may be a desire to move past your current situation. Whatever it is, keep up the momentum.

VIRGO: Aug. 24-Sept. 22. Virgo, though it goes against your nature, feel free to be lazy once in a while this week. Share your responsibilities with someone else and you will benefit from the rest.

LIBRA: Sept. 23-Oct. 23. Libra, this week you are able to convey what is going on inside your mind. Don't hold anything back, even if it makes you hesitant to do so.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24-Nov. 22. TScorpio, people will be eager to hang on to your every word this week. Think carefully about what you have to say to further your cause to the fullest.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23-Dec. 21. Sagittarius, if you find that your mind is muddled and communication is not coming easily to you, take a break and enjoy some alone time. Engage in solo projects.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22-Jan. 20. Capricorn, words may not be the best way to express what you are feeling right now to a partner. Actions will speak louder than words.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21-Feb. 18. Things could get intense for you this week, Aquarius. A lot of information is headed your way. A roadblock is in your path, but don't let this trip you up.

PISCES: Feb. 19-March 20. Pisces, are you prepared for the spotlight to be turned on you at work? Brush up on your skills and what you have to say to superiors.

Why not take some wool for a spin?

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Sat 10am-5pm

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FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

JULY 28 — Beatrix Potter, childrens' book author (d)
JULY 29 — Ken Burns, filmmaker (6g)
JULY 30— Kate Bush, singer-songwriter (63)

JULY 31 — J. K. Rowling, author (57)
AUG. 1 — Jerry Garcia, singer-songwriter (d)
AUG. 2 — James Baldwin, writer (d)
AUG. 3 — P. D. James, novelist (d)

CALENDAR

JULY 28-AUG. 4
2022

FRIDAY, JULY 29

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN HUBBARDTON.

Friday, July 29, Taconic Mountain Ramble. Walk the western and eastern trails at Taconic Mountains Ramble State Park. About 4 miles with one ascent to Mt. Zion Major. Trails are moderately challenging. Hike includes a stop at the park's Japanese water and rock garden. Wear appropriate clothing; bring water, lunch and hiking poles. Limit 10 participants. Contact leader Ruth Penfield at ruthpenfield@gmail.com or 860-214-4180 to register and for meeting time and possible carpooling from the Middlebury area. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

"THE POWER OF INSECT PHEROMONES: THEN AND NOW" IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, July 29, 12-1 p.m., Sheldon Museum, One park St. Biologist Greg Pask will discuss the rich history of insect pheromone research, its connections to modern agricultural practices, and the current insect pheromone research at Middlebury College. Free. Offered in conjunction with the Sheldon's "Moths in the Garden" series to benefit museum collections. More info at HenrySheldonMuseum.org/events or 802-388-2117.

PHOTOGRAPHY OPENING RECEPTION IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, July 29, 4 p.m., Photoplace Gallery, 3 Park St. Trees have never been more vital to our survival than they are today. This exhibit celebrates their existence and their beauty with images of trees of all sizes and

shapes, in all environments and seasons. 5% of all submission fees were donated to the National Forest Foundation. Complimentary food and drinks. The gallery director and manager will be available to discuss the exhibit and answer any questions you may have about the gallery.

SWING NOIRE AND PIZZA IN GOSHEN. Friday, July 29, 5-8 p.m., Blueberry Hill Inn and Outdoor Center, Ripton-Goshen Rd. Over the last decade, Swing Noire has become Vermont's premier Gypsy Jazz ensemble. Some call it Gypsy Jazz, some Hot Swing; in either case it is acoustic jazz in the spirit of Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli. SReservations for each pizza night will open the Monday prior to the event. BYOB.

CARILLON CONCERT IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, July 29, 6 p.m., Middlebury Chapel lawn, Old Chapel Rd. Middlebury Spanish School alumna Carla Staffaroni will perform. Free and open to the public. Bring lawn chairs or blankets.

TERRIBLE MOUNTAIN STRING BAND IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, July 29, 6-8 p.m., Happy Valley Orchard, Quarry Rd. Bring your chair and your picnic blanket and come and enjoy some of Vermont's finest folk musicians for free. Hard cider will be available for purchase at the new farm store at the orchard. No pets, please. More info at facebook.com/mountainmaccider.

ATLANTIC CROSSING IN SALISBURY. Friday, July 29, 7:30 p.m., Salisbury Meetinghouse,

853 Maple St. Salisbury Summer Performance Serieswelcomes this folk trio as part of its 42nd Summer Performance Series. Masks requested if not fully vaccinated. Free-will donation.

"THERE ONCE WAS...TALES OF THE KAZAKHS" IN ROCHESTER. Friday, July 29, 7:30 p.m., Spice Studio, 428 S Main St. The return of Bald Mountain Theater's annual family-friendly summer favorite "There Once Was ..." will bring you to the steppes of Asia with folktales from Kazakhstan. These stories from small, nomadic villages trying to survive in this wild, starkly beautiful landscape have a common thread: they celebrate the underdog. Reservation required. Seating limited to 35 patrons. Tickets, available at the door, are \$15. More info at www.baldmountaintheater.org.

POINT COUNTERPOINT FACULTY CONCERT IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, July 29, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant St. Enjoy Point CounterPoint's faculty concert, "Transfigured Night," featuring genre-changing music by composers who changed the course of music over their careers. Donations appreciated.

BIG APPLE COMICS IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, July 29, 8:30-9:30 p.m., American Flatbread Pavilion, Marble Works. New York City-based standup comedian Tina Friml returns to her hometown, with her favorite fellow NYC comics in tow, to bring the laughs in this three-part summer

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

MCTV SCHEDULE Channels 1071 & 1091

MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY TELEVISION: P.O. Box 785, Middlebury, Vt. 05753

Please see the MCTV website, www.middleburycommunitytv.org, for changes in the schedule; MCTV events, classes and news; and to view many programs online. Submit listings to the above address, or call 388-3062.

| MCTV Channel 1071 | MCTV Channel 1091 | Thursday, Aug. 4 | Saturday, July 30 | Center |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| Friday, July 29 Through the Night — Public Affairs 5 a.m. Candidates for Public Office 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church Service 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church Service 5:30 p.m. Energy Week 6:30 p.m. Candidates for Public Office Saturday, July 30 5 a.m. Candidates for Public Office 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 3 p.m. Energy Week 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service 5:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 8 p.m. Candidates for Public Office Sunday, July 31 5 a.m. Selectboard, Cannabis Control Board (CCB) 9 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Energy Week 11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Green Mountain Care (GMC) Board | 4 p.m. Congregational Service 6:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Candidates for Public Office Monday, Aug. 1 4:30 a.m. GMC Board 9 a.m. Energy Week 10 a.m. Select Board, Public Affairs 8:30 p.m. Candidates for Public Office Tuesday, Aug. 2 4 a.m. Energy Week 5 a.m. Candidates for Public Office 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard, CCB 4 p.m. Congregational Service 5:30 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Selectboard 10 p.m. Candidates for Public Office Wednesday, Aug. 3 4:30 p.m. Press Conference, Public Affairs 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Selectboard, Press Conf. 5 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs, Candidates | 5 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 8 a.m. Congregational Service 12 p.m. Selectboard, Press Conf. 8 p.m. Energy Week 9 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. Candidates for Public Office MCTV Channel 1091 Friday, July 29 5 a.m. 2022 Jazz Fest - Matt Dolliver Band 8 a.m. Bridgeside Books Author Talk - Bill McKibben 9 a.m. Landscape Design for Pollinators 11 a.m. Gospel Hollow Players 1 p.m. Festival - MCMC Steel Drum Camp Band 1:36 p.m. Festival - CFI 3 p.m. Beyond the Wild Honeybee 4:35 p.m. William Ghezzi - Solo Classical Guitar 5:38 p.m. MCMC Steel Drum Camp Band 6 p.m. Festival on The Green 6:14 p.m. Festival - Eté | 10 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 a.m. Festival - Radio Free Honduras 7:49 a.m. Yoga for Everyone 9 a.m. School Board Meetings 3 p.m. Landscape Design for Pollinators 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. Bill McKibben 8 p.m. Festival on The Green Sunday, July 31 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 a.m. Festival - Kaleta Super Yamba Band 7:42 a.m. Yoga for Everyone 8 a.m. Yoga for Everyone 2 p.m. Bill McKibben 3 p.m. Landscape Design for Pollinators 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. William Ghezzi Monday, Aug. 1 4:35 a.m. William Ghezzi 5:38 a.m. Faestival - Damn Tall Buildings 7 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 12 p.m. Festival - Vermont Folklife | 2 p.m. School Board Meetings 10 p.m. Author Talks Tuesday, Aug. 2 6 a.m. School Board Meetings 11 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 12 p.m. Jazz Festival 2022 5:30 p.m. Festival - Reggie Harris 7 p.m. William Ghezzi 8:03 p.m. Bill McKibben 9:01 p.m. Landscape Design for Pollinators 11 p.m. State Board of Education Wednesday, Aug. 3 5 a.m. Jazz Festival 7 a.m. Poets and Authors 12 p.m. School Board Meetings 6 p.m. Gospel Hollow Players 8 p.m. Bill McKibben 9 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 10 p.m. Poets and Authors Thursday, Aug. 4 6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 a.m. School Board Meetings 5:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6:30 p.m. Yoga 8 p.m. Festival On the Green |

comedy series under American Flatbread's new pavilion. July 29 comics include Jeff Screen, Gabe Pacheco and None Brown-West. Free. Limited seating. More info and registration at townhalltheater.org.

SATURDAY, JULY 30

L.C. JAZZ DANCE BAND IN BRANDON. Saturday, July 30, 7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. This 17 piece volunteer Big Swing Orchestra is back for another night of music, singing and dancing. Come dance the night away or just sit back, tap your feet, and listen to some fantastic music. This is a fund raiser for the band's scholarship fund and the Town Hall for the continuing renovation of our Town Hall. Tickets \$14 couples/ \$8 adults/\$7 students and seniors.

"THERE ONCE WAS...TALES OF THE KAZAKHS" IN ROCHESTER. Saturday, July 30., 7:30 p.m., Spice Studio, 428 S Main St. See July 29 listing.

SUNDAY, JULY 31

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, July 31, 10 a.m., Abbey Pond trailhead, Route 116. A 2.5-3.0 hour hike that travels along a pretty, cascading stream to Abbey Pond. Moderately challenging 4.1-mile hike, out and back, with an elevation gain of 1,207 ft. Three stream crossings, ending at a quiet pond that is drained from Hogback Mountain and maintained by beavers. Limit 10 participants with the ability to feel confident on rocky, rooty uphill/downhill terrain and stream crossings. Bring water, snacks and bug repellent. More info contact Annette Seidenglanz at tenthousandfeet27@gmail.com or 610-442-6348. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

JAY CRAVEN'S "MARTIN EDEN" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, July 31, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Come see Jay Craven's new independent narrative feature film, "Jack London's Martin Eden." Based on London's autobiographical novel, the film tells the story of a poor and unschooled sailor who unexpectedly meets Ruth Morse, a magnetic young woman of means and education. Their unconventional attraction upends both lives and propels timely themes of impossible love, dogged individualism in pursuit of the American Dream, and the quest for a comfortable place in an inconstant world. Tickets \$15, available at townhalltheater.org.

"THERE ONCE WAS...TALES OF THE KAZAKHS" IN ROCHESTER. Sunday, July 31, 2 p.m., Spice Studio, 428 S Main St. See July 29 listing.

MONDAY, AUG. 1

MUSIC MONDAY IN BRISTOL. Monday, Aug. 1, 5 p.m., on the green. Head to the town green for al fresco dining and bar from 3 Squares Cafe, Lulu Ice Cream, Crooked Ladle Catering, Pavlov's Dogs and South Mountain Crepes. Stay for the live music from 6-8 p.m.

COMMUNITY ART PROJECT IN MIDDLEBURY. Monday, Aug. 1, 5:30 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Join Renee to assemble the returned woven CDs into a large collaborative art piece to be displayed in Ilsley Public Library's lobby. All are welcome, light snack provided.

TUESDAY, AUG. 2

"AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, Aug. 2, 7:30 p.m., Swift House Inn, 25 Stewart Ln. The 2022 MNFF Sunset series returns to the tent for its second year with Streep Week, five consecutive nights of acclaimed films starring the iconic, three-time Academy Award winning actor Meryl Streep. This 2013 film in an American tragic comedy about a dysfunctional family that reunites into the familial house when their patriarch suddenly disappears. Series pass \$60. Advance single night tickets \$13, available at townhalltheater.org. \$15 at the door.

RIPTON OUTDOOR SPORT AND RECREATION HISTORY PRESENTATION IN RIPTON. Tuesday, Aug. 2, 7:30 p.m., Ripton Community Church, Route 125. Ripton Historical Society member Norm Tjossem will talk about the history of outdoor sports and recreation in Ripton and its environs. Illustrated with photos, showing some of the breathtaking beauty of this northern section of the Green Mountain Forest which has made Ripton a magnet for outdoor enthusiasts since Joseph Battell established Bread Loaf Inn in 1866.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 3

BLUES WITHOUT BORDERS IN BRANDON. Wednesday, Aug. 3, 7 p.m., behind the Brandon Inn. A good dose of blues for a summer evening. Bring a chair or a blanket for listenin' or nappin' and your fingers and toes for snappin' and tappin'. Free.

NEWTON AND THOMPSON SAWMILL PRESENTATION IN SALISBURY. Wednesday, Aug. 3, 7 p.m., Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. From 1864 to the 1930s the Newton & Thompson sawmill at Sucker Brook on the east side of Lake Dunmore was a microcosm of rural community life and activity. Bill Powers will bring to life some the activities and memories of the forgotten mill in this Salisbury Historical Society presentation.

"SHERLOCK JR." and **"Battling Butler"** silent films in Brandon. Saturday, Aug. 3, 7 p.m., Brandon town Hall, 1 Conant Square. *RESCHEDULED FROM JULY 23* A Buster Keaton double feature showing the stone-faced comedian at the peak of his physical comedy powers. Live music for each silent film program will be provided by Jeff Rapsis, a New Hampshire-based performer and composer who specializes in scoring and presenting silent films. Admission is free; donations are welcome to help support ongoing

Town Hall renovation efforts.

"THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, Aug. 3, 7:30 p.m., Swift House Inn, 25 Stewart Ln. The 2022 MNFF Sunset series returns to the tent for its second year with Streep Week, five consecutive nights of acclaimed films starring the iconic, three-time Academy Award winning actor Meryl Streep. A 2006 American comedy-drama based on Lauren Weisberger's 2003 novel of the same name also tars Anne Hathaway. Series pass \$60. Advance single night tickets \$13, available at townhalltheater.org. \$15 at the door.

THURSDAY, AUG. 4

BLOCK PARTY IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Aug. 4, 4-7 p.m., Main Street. The sod's going down on Main Street for an evening of food, music, and entertainment for all ages.

UNDER THE SEA PAINT & SIP (SODA) IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Aug. 4, 6 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Join Renee for a fun-filled, no pressure evening of painting. Using a professional step-by-step video Renee will lead you through the steps to create your own masterpiece in minutes. Expect to have fun, laugh and let your inner painter loose. Register at ilsleypubliclibrary.org. All supplies are provided, as well as a non-alcoholic sip.

AUTHOR TALK IN VERGENNES. Thursday, Aug. 4, 6-7 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. "Mona Passage," a former Coast Guard officer's debut novel, explores the moral question of who has a right to a better life. It was the 2019 Veterans Writing Award (runner-up). Come by the Bixby for an informal conversation with author Thomas Bardenwerper, who will read selections from his book followed by a Q&A. Copies will be available for purchase. More info at bixbylibrary.org/event/monapassage.

"FLORENCE FOSTER JENKINS" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Aug. 4, 7:30 p.m., Swift House Inn, 25 Stewart Ln. The 2022 MNFF Sunset series returns to the tent for its second year with Streep Week, five consecutive nights of acclaimed films starring the iconic, three-time Academy Award winning actor Meryl Streep. Streep shines in this 2016 biographical film directed by Stephen Frears. Series pass \$60. Advance single night tickets \$13, available at townhalltheater.org. \$15 at the door.

VERMONT BLUES RETREAT BLUES JAM IN BRANDON. Thursday, Aug. 4, 7:30 p.m., Compass Music and Arts Center, 333 Jones Dr. Come hear the Vermont Blues Retreat faculty house band. Outside musicians and audience welcome. Free will donation.

SEE MORE ONLINE!

ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

FILM SCREENING

'Jack London's Martin Eden' to play in Middlebury

Jay Craven's new independent narrative feature film, "Jack London's Martin Eden," will play at the Middlebury Town Hall Theater on Sunday, July 31, at 7 p.m. Director Craven will introduce the screening and lead post-film discussion.

"Jack London's Martin Eden" received its world premiere at the Nantucket Film Festival and has won Best Film and Best Director awards at the Boston Film Festival and Best Narrative Feature at the Arlington International Film Festival. Other festival dates include The Woods Hole Film Festival, St. Louis International Film Festival, Sonoma International Film Festival, Berkshire International Film Festival and a special screening at the biennial symposium for Jack London scholars.

Middlebury College student (class of 2020) Isabel Merrell participated in the production by playing a supporting part in the film and working as set dresser and scenic painter on the production.

Set in 1909 and filmed on Nantucket, the film is based on Jack London's autobiographical novel, "Martin Eden." It tells the story of a poor and unschooled sailor who unexpectedly meets Ruth Morse, a magnetic young woman of means and education. Their unconventional attraction upends both lives and propels

timely themes of impossible love, dogged individualism in pursuit of the American Dream, and the quest for a comfortable place in an inconstant world.

Jack London was America's most popular writer at the turn of the 20th century, having written stories including "Call of the Wild" and "White Fang." His novel, "Martin Eden," inspired Ernest Hemingway, Susan Sontag and Upton Sinclair, among others. Italian filmmaker Pietro Marcello recently made another adaptation of the story that has been well received. "We were surprised to see an Italian version being made simultaneously," Craven noted. "Although I like Marcello's stylistic approach and it gives audiences a chance to compare notes on both films and dig deeper into the story and its cultural context."

"Martin Eden's" cast includes Andrew Richardson in the title role and Hayley Griffith and Annet Mahendru as Ruth Morse and Lizzie Connolly, respectively.

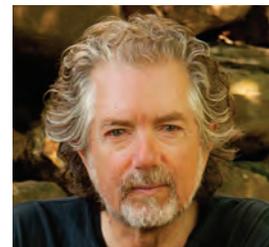
"Jack London's Martin Eden" was produced through director Craven's Semester Cinema program, hosted for this iteration at Sarah Lawrence College. Twenty-eight professionals mentored and collaborated with 35 students to make the film. For more information go to townhalltheater.org or contact Jay Craven (jcraven1590@gmail.com).

director's notes

ON MAKING A FILM OF JACK LONDON'S "MARTIN EDEN"

I chose to make "Martin Eden" because Jack London has always interested me, for his vivid writing, social engagement, complex humanism and the textured

emotions of his characters. I was also drawn to London's own volatile life and his legendary status as America's first "celebrity writer," whose work inspired Ernest Hemingway, Upton Sinclair, John Steinbeck, Jack Kerouac, Sinclair Lewis, Norman Mailer and Susan Sontag, among others.



BY **JAY** CRAVEN

"Martin Eden" tells the story of a poor and unschooled sailor (Eden), who unexpectedly meets Ruth Morse, a magnetic young woman of means and education. Their unconventional attraction upends both lives and propels timely themes of impossible love, pursuit of the American Dream, dogged individualism, and the quest for a comfortable place in an inconstant world.

I liked how London explores dynamics of social class and weaves the story around his own autobiography. London seemed to excavate his own conflicted struggles through Eden, whose idealistic pursuit of his single-minded goals, and his hard work to transform himself, ultimately leaves him emotionally stranded, unable to return to his roots or find sustenance in his "success." Twenty years before it emerged as an articulated philosophy, London probed modern man's existential dilemma.

Largely self-educated, Jack London teased out autobiographical elements in this story but maybe never dug quite deep enough to fully unearth the painful contradictions and demons that haunted him. Martin Eden remains an enigma and his mystery appeals to me. Still, London provided plenty for our own investigations and projections.

I say "our" investigation because I

SEE DIRECTOR ON PAGE 14



Tips for welcoming a new cat

Cats have a special place in the hearts of millions of people. These wily rascals can be flirty, funny or even aloof. The personality of cats, coupled with their compact size, makes them ideal pets for homes of all sizes.

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals says approximately 1.3 million cats are adopted from animal shelters each year. However, of the cats entering shelters, only around 37% are ultimately adopted, according to the National Kitten Coalition. Individuals who adopt cats may want to take every step they can to make the relationship with a new companion animal work.

Here are a few tips to help:

Pick a familiar item and bring it with you. Does the cat have a favorite toy, carrier or scratching post? Moving something into the home that has the animal's smell may help him or her adjust more quickly.

Select a room as a home base. Introducing the cat

to the entire home and all of the people in it can be overwhelming. Rather, select a small room in the home, such as an office or laundry space, that the cat can call home for the time being. With the door closed, this small space can be comforting and let the cat learn the smells and sounds of the home before it ventures into other areas. Remember to visit often and provide plenty of love and affection as tolerated.

Avoid lots of traffic. Now is not the time to host a house party. Remove stressors like large crowds, increased foot traffic and kids' play dates. Loud sounds and sudden movements can put cats on edge.

Don't force the issue. The kitty will start to come around when he or she is ready. Don't be compelled to pull the pet out from hiding under a bed or couch; let the cat set the pace.

Keep kids away. Young children tend to be boisterous and jerky, which isn't a good mix with a skittish cat. While the cat is acclimating, keep young children away. When they are introduced, do

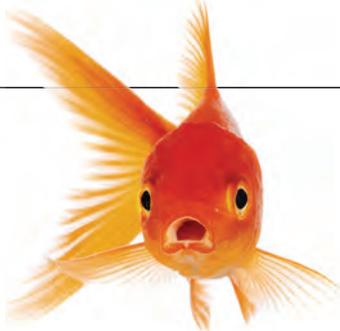
so in small intervals and supervise carefully so the cat does not get hurt and children are not accidentally scratched or bitten by a scared cat.

Provide a quiet area. Perhaps that first room or a cozy nook can be the cat's quiet spot. According to cat behaviorist Jackson Galaxy, cats need solitude and quiet time. A box or basket lined with soft, washable bedding in a corner can serve as a place for a cat to retire to.

Introduce existing pets slowly. Existing pets should be introduced gradually. Keep a dog confined until the cat feels secure in the home. Two altered cats can become friends in the same home. However, older cats often are more accepting of kittens than other adults. Keep this in mind when making introductions.

Cats are happiest when they've had time to settle and get used to surroundings in their new home. Once the adoption takes place, give the cat plenty of time to become comfortable in its new environment.

— MetroCreative



Pet of the WEEK
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Addison County's Humane Society

PETS IN NEED
HOMeward BOUND
Addison County's Humane Society

Atticus is a 6-year-old shorthaired Chihuahua. He is an energetic little 13-pound guy, but will still find time to relax during the day. Atticus needs a bit of time to warm up to you and becomes very affectionate once the relationship is established. He likes his alone time and would do best in a home without young children. Atticus is good with other dogs, but we aren't sure about cats yet. He walks well on a leash and knows the "sit" command. He would benefit from continued training for basic commands. He is very focused when treats are involved.



Fresca is a 2-year-old super sweet pit bull who is still working on her confidence. She is a bit timid at first but warms up quickly when food is involved. Fresca loves being out for walks and enjoys outdoor playtime. A fenced-in yard would be perfect for Fresca to work off some energy. She's still working on good manners and would be best suited for a home without young children. Fresca has previously done well living with other dogs but is selective as to what dogs she will accept to spend time with. Proper introductions are key for her to have a good experience.



Hunter is a 58-pound adolescent (between 1.5-2 years) who is still learning how to control his size. He is full of puppy-like energy and loves going on long walks. Hunter is very strong and pulls on the leash so he will need a person who is willing to put in the time and dedication for his ongoing leash and manners training. Being outside is where he's the happiest and having access to a large, fenced-in yard would help work out some of his pent-up energy. Hunter loves using his nose and is great at solving puzzle toys and doing nose work for mental stimulation. He is dog friendly but should be in a cat-free home. Hunter would do well with older children who are used to being around large, energetic dogs.



Olive is a sweet, 8-year-old, 40-pound pit bull mix who has stolen the hearts of the shelter staff. She's had a rough life and is now ready for her very own family to spoil and shower her with love. Olive enjoys going for walks and happily wags her tail when she's outside. She loves being around people and does well with children. Treats are her favorite thing and she gets very excited about breakfast and dinner! Olive is reactive towards other dogs and should be the only dog in a home.



Sam and Sabrina are two 14-year-old senior Boston terriers with charming personalities. They are a bonded pair who enjoy taking naps together as well as playing outside in the grass. They are sweet and affectionate and want to be where you are. Sabrina loves to be held. Although they're good with dogs and cats, they are slowly losing their senses due to age and would do best in a quieter home with either no other pets or with pets of similar low-key energy. Sam and Sabrina like short walks where they can take their time to explore all the interesting smells.



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PUZZLES

sponsored by **SPARROW ART SUPPLY**

ACROSS

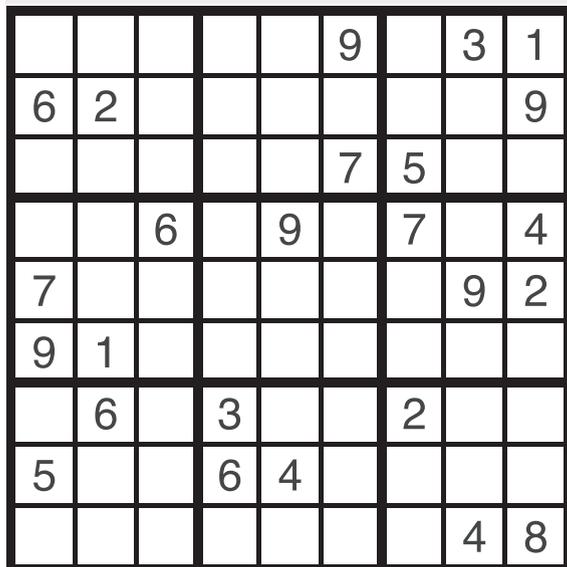
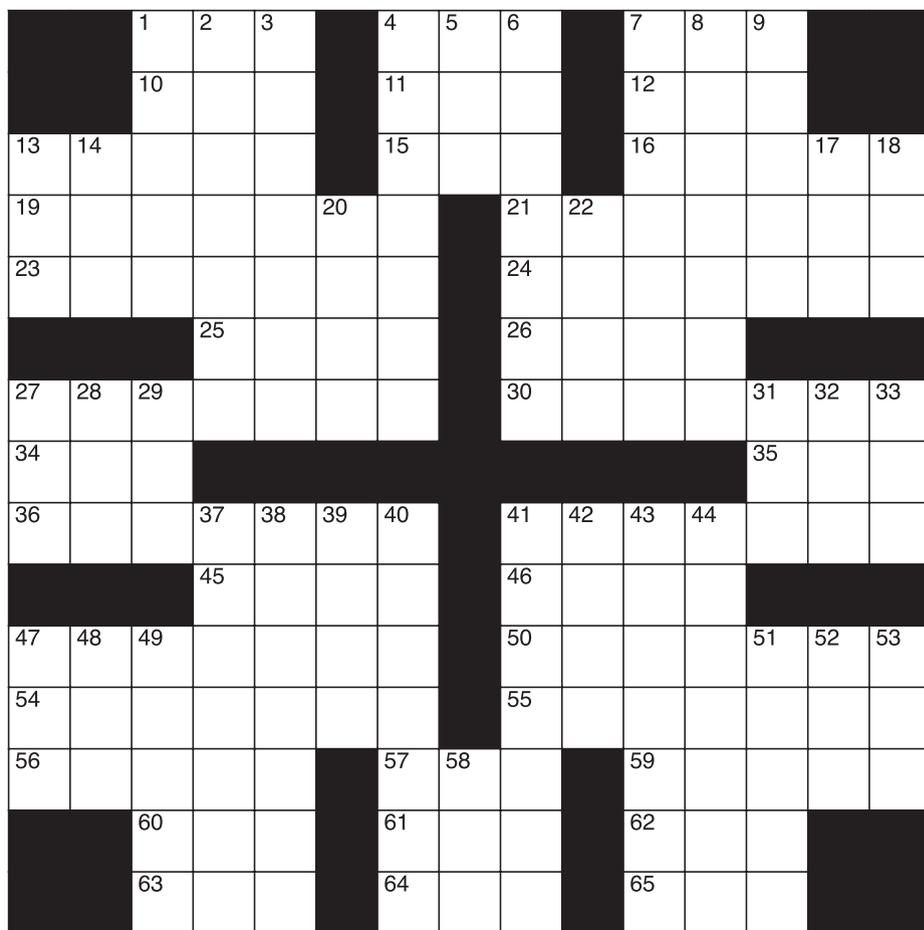
- 1. America's WW2 President
- 4. Move earth
- 7. Insecticide
- 10. Naturally occurring solid material
- 11. State of fuss
- 12. Bhutanese wine
- 13. Greek island
- 15. Taxi
- 16. Tanzanian ethnic group
- 19. Metrical foot
- 21. Boasted
- 23. Eel-like vertebrate
- 24. Small freshwater lakes
- 25. Morally base
- 26. Not odd

- 27. Where you live
- 30. Fixed in place
- 34. A very large body of water
- 35. Moved quickly
- 36. Winged horse
- 41. Small waterfall
- 45. Hoopster Gasol
- 46. One who mimics
- 47. Tropical plant
- 50. Used of walls
- 54. A citizen of Iran
- 55. Christian hermit
- 56. She marries the groom
- 57. American patriotic society
- 59. Wine grape
- 60. School of Buddhism
- 61. A team's best

- pitcher
- 62. Consumed
- 63. Time zone
- 64. Part of a company name
- 65. Type of bulb

DOWN

- 1. Marine protozoan
- 2. You use it for your eyes
- 3. Set aside for a later time
- 4. Metrical foot
- 5. Famed journalist Tarbell
- 6. Consumes quickly
- 7. Rewards in a civil suit
- 8. Kamodo are some
- 9. Ballroom dance



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

- 13. Chum
- 14. Comedienne Gasteyer
- 17. A room to relax
- 18. Commercials
- 20. Six (Spanish)
- 22. Wild party
- 27. Small European viper
- 28. Baseballer Gordon
- 29. Eccentric person
- 31. A way to save for your future
- 32. Young boy
- 33. Midway between northeast and east
- 37. Changed
- 38. Prominent
- 39. Genus of seabirds
- 40. Event regarded as wrong
- 41. Skipped in a lively way
- 42. Multi-function radar (abbr.)
- 43. A country in W. Africa
- 44. Burn a corpse
- 47. Women's __ movement
- 48. NHL great Bobby
- 49. Coarse, green material
- 51. Treated with calcium oxide
- 52. When you hope to get there
- 53. "Partridge" actress Susan
- 58. What thespians do

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 12.

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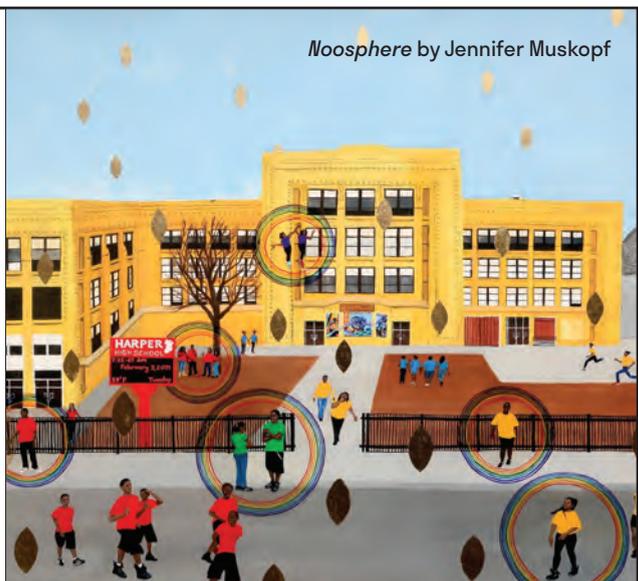
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THE HOME

A LOOK INSIDE ADDISON COUNTY HOMES FOR SALE

Call this Craftsman Colonial home!

This gorgeous Colonial home was crafted by a master carpenter from Vermont. Andy Mansfield started learning his craft at a very young age and as he matured so did his carpentry skills. You will not find a finer built home anywhere. His meticulous attention to detail shows throughout the property. There are custom built cherry cabinets and locally milled Maple hardwood floors through most of the home. The beamed ceiling in the living room, traditional colonial paned windows, wide wall boards and Rumford fireplace give this home the feeling of early Americana with the comforts of today's living. The rooms are spacious yet warm with the rich tones of wood and the 3 zones of radiant heat that secretly heat while keeping the colonial look. Here is your chance to live in a home that can give you access to the world! Yes, this property has 201-feet of Otter Creek frontage and there is a navigable river that leads to Lake Champlain and beyond to the St. Lawrence Seaway on to the Atlantic Ocean. While you are at home, you will appreciate a private, dead-end road. The 1.3 acre yard offers mature landscaping with a gentle slope to the creek with a deck to sit waterside. For you land lubbers, watch the boats come down to the Basin at the Vergennes Falls from the expansive screened-in porch that runs along the back of the home. Finally, the perfect property is finished off with a 32' x 24' insulated and heated, 2-story barn/garage. Live in the future with a home that boasts the quality of our ancestors. This is the Mansfield House!




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EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

72 Porter Field Road, Middlebury.
Visit museum.middlebury.edu/exhibitions or call 802-443-5007 to make your free reservations.

"Contemporary to Classical: Highlights from the New Collection Handbook," featuring more than 40 works from the museum's new permanent collection handbook. On view Jan. 28-Aug. 7.

"Into the Screen: Digital Art from teamLab." This exhibition highlights a singular immersive digital experience by teamLab and the traditional 17th- to 20th-century screens and prints that inspired it. On view Jan. 28-Aug. 7.

NORTHERN DAUGHTERS FINE ART GALLERY

221 Main Street, Vergennes.
Visit northerndaughters.com or call 802-877-2173 for more info.

"In Relation" a solo exhibit of new work from Rose Umerlik. Five large pieces make up this body of work, including two 72-inch diptychs, whose compositions seem to embody the experience of working towards connection across space. On view through July 31.

SPARROW ART SUPPLY

52 Main Street, Middlebury.
Visit sparrowartsupply.com for more info.

"The Ordinary and The Extraordinary," explores the contrast between the everyday and the out-of-this-world. In this all-media show, artists highlight one, the other, and even combine the two. Over 30 artists illustrate the theme in all kinds of ways, through showcasing intricate processes, giving routine moments the spotlight, bending perspectives, transforming recycled objects and beyond. On view July 14-Aug. 27.

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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."

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PUZZLE

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UPCOMING MUSIC

carillon concerts

Tatiana Lukyanova will play Middlebury College's Carillon on Friday, Aug. 5, at 6 p.m. This concert is free and open to the public, and can be enjoyed on the steps of the Chapel or on the surrounding lawns. Audiences are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets. Performances will continue each Friday through Aug. 19.

Point Counterpoint faculty to perform at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury

On Friday, July 29, enjoy Point CounterPoint's faculty concert, "Transfigured Night," featuring genre-changing music by composers who changed the course of music over their careers. The performance will be held at the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury at 7:30 p.m.

The Ravel Quartet, with its undertones of Asian harmonies and Polynesian rhythms, got the composer expelled from the Paris Conservatory after its premiere, but remains one of the most widely performed pieces in the repertoire today. Richard Lane's trio for the unusual combination of viola, cello and piano complements with jazzy rhythms and modal harmonies. Harry Burleigh was the African American singer-composer long considered Dvorak's muse, introducing him to the music of his enslaved ancestors, which Dvorak quoted



in many of his most famous compositions such as the New World Symphony.

The program will conclude with the haunting "Transfigured Night" sextet by Arnold Schoenberg, the ultra-romantic composition with the deeply modern subject matter that marked the end of centuries of evolutionary development in compositional technique and paved the way for the development of contemporary music.

This concert is free, but donations at the door are appreciated. Learn more here about Point CounterPoint, a chamber music camp sited on beautiful Lake Dunmore.



New Haven \$82,000
12.8A of private, wooded land suitable for a 3 bedroom single family residence in New Haven! This land has potential views of the Green Mountains with some clearing. Septic design available done by K. LaRose.



Weybridge \$695,000
Located on James Rd in Weybridge this beautiful farmhouse enjoys being just minutes from Middlebury College, town and spectacular views of the Green Mountains! The enclosed porch, private patio, trees and mature landscaping provide privacy and enjoyment. The detached barn has a heated finished office/studio space with lots of built ins. The house has a Pantone Stone FP, family room with woodstove, sauna and wetbar. Don't miss this great opportunity!



South Bingham St., Cornwall \$374,900
This 1930's 3 bedroom, 2 bath home is loaded with charm and warmth. Large glassed-in porch/family room with fireplace and wood stove. Plus a Mobile home that can be rented. 1.6 plus acres, mature trees and plants. Barn with a greenhouse and a heated 2 car garage. Don't miss out on this special property!



Shoreham \$349,900
Deeded access to Lake Champlain. With 2,364SF of finished space there is lots of room for everyone to spread out, large 3.72 acre. Enjoy the deeded access to Lake Champlain with a poured concrete pad to launch your kayak or boat. Come see what living the Lake life is all about!

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BRANDON NEW LISTING!
69 PARK STREET

MLS #4921304 | \$495,000
7BD | 6BA | 4086 SF | 0.55 AC

Located on a wide avenue with sidewalks into town, this historic Park Street masterpiece has much of its original charm, including hardwood floors, coffered ceiling, wood burning fireplace and wainscoting.



HUBBARDTON NEW LISTING!
1924 ROUTE 30

MLS #4921690 | \$189,000
4BD | 1.5BA | 2303 SF | 0.69 AC

Less than 1 hour to Killington, 30 minutes to Middlebury and a short distance to Castleton University. Make an excellent home with a little sweat equity and a cosmetic refresh. Detached barn and a pre-inspection!



SALISBURY NEW LISTING!
1008 VT ROUTE 7

MLS #4921810 | \$399,000
4BD | 3BA | 1160 SF | 2.00 AC

Meticulously maintained by its current owners, this move-in ready home has so much to offer, incl. radiant heat, sunroom, basement w/ workshop & detached garage with 2+ bays and a 2nd floor studio apartment!



MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
5 COURT STREET

MLS #4922137 | \$1,300,000
COMMERCIAL | 11,484 SF | 0.10 AC

A landmark in downtown Middlebury since 1814, this structure was the replacement of the original courthouse in this location and built in 1880. Declared the "handsomest courthouse in the state" by the Middlebury Register in 1883, its facade remains as picturesque as ever. Currently used as office space, with many of the original architectural details intact. Includes an elevator, sprinkler system, full basement and three floors above. Air conditioned, 10 foot ceilings, security system, and one of the most prominent architectural examples in downtown Middlebury.



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DIRECTOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

developed and produced this project in association with 35 students from a dozen colleges, including Wellesley, Mount Holyoke, Skidmore, Hamilton, Middlebury College and University of Vermont.

Mentored by 27 professionals, students played substantial roles in every aspect of production, from casting, script development and costume design to sound recording, location scouting and script supervising. They also built sets — including one for an early 20th-century laundry and another for a New England tenement duplex. Their fingerprints are everywhere in the film.

Born in 1876, the year of Little Big Horn, Custer's Last Stand and Alexander Graham Bell's patent for the telephone, Jack London's life mirrored the turbulent times he inhabited, as America lurched forward from the Civil War, a rural frontier and the eradication of Indigenous resistance into a modern world shaped by growing industrialization; cultural modernism; race, class and gender inequality — and still more war, when the United States joined the devastating, contentious and controversial European conflict of World War I.

Jack London wrote 23 novels, three memoirs and hundreds of short stories and poems, but he died at the age of 40. Through his protagonist, Martin Eden, London reveals his own attraction to wealth and material comfort, his relentless struggle for recognition in the face of constant rejection, his political restlessness and discontent — and his ambivalence about wealth and success, once achieved.

I'd say we hewed fairly close to London's narrative — though we couldn't do everything he describes in his novel. We were also attracted to London's photographs, taken on his worldwide sojourns, so we built several montages that bring to life what he saw and how he saw it. We liked London's women characters and, through our dialogues, worked to develop them and add dimension.

In a 1984 interview with *The Paris Review*, James Baldwin talked about knowing when to stop writing a novel. The same is true for making a film.

"When you've finished a novel it means, 'The train stops here,' he said. "You have to get off here.' You never get the book you wanted, you settle for the book you get."

I often don't really know a film I make — or fully its themes — until I've lived with it for a while and let it speak to me. And, yes, unanswered questions remain. But I look forward to getting to know "Martin Eden" a little better. After all, the final collaborators in this sprawling collaboration are audience members who interact with what appears on screen and share their own imagination of it.

Editor's note: Filmmaker Jay Craven will screen "Jack London's Martin Eden" at 7 p.m., Sunday, July 31, at the Middlebury Town Hall Theater. For more information, go to townhalltheater.org or contact Jay Craven at jcraven1590@gmail.com.



SUMMER SIZZLERS IN REAL ESTATE



206 SLEEP HOLLOW, FERRISBURGH

This gorgeous 3BDR, 2BA Colonial home was crafted by a master carpenter from Vt. There are custom built cherry cabinets & locally milled Maple HW floors through most of the home, and 3 zones of radiant heat. This property has 201' of Otter Creek frontage, a 1.3 acre yard with mature landscaping, and a 32'x24' insulated & heated, 2-story barn/garage.
MLS# 4922133 **\$650,000**



9 ROSSITER STREET, BRANDON

This 2 BDR, 1 BA home sits on 0.41 acres and has been kept in good repair with many recent updates, including: new double pane vinyl windows, new roof (2019), and new water heater (2020). The 31'x24' barn on the property can serve as storage, studio apartment, or home business.
MLS#4919893 **\$135,500**



310 QUAKER ST, FERRISBURGH

One of a few affordable housing units in Ferrisburgh that is move in ready. This 3BDR unit is freshly painted through out, shining oak flooring, partially finished lower level, new stone patio and fire pit, mature trees and level land. The location is ideal for commuting north or south. Don't miss out on this great buy!
MLS#4922437 **\$299,000**

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19 CHIPMAN HEIGHTS, MIDDLEBURY #4921955

Charming home in one of best locations in the Town of Middlebury! It is both in a neighborhood, and is very private with a partially wooded .9 acre lot with access to walking trails on town-owned land.



There are beautiful long-range views in winter when the leaves are off the trees. The house has been very nicely updated with replacement windows & exterior doors, new and/or refinished floors, new decks, nicely updated bathrooms, new appliances, insulated basement and other improvements that you need to see yourself. This 4-bedroom, 3-bath home is spacious and cozy. Easy access to stores, schools, and to all that Middlebury has to offer!

\$629,000.00

22 UNION STREET, BRANDON #4922143

Great investment opportunity as a rental or as an owner-occupied rental in the heart of Brandon. This 2-unit, potential of 3-unit, building is located within walking distance of all that the downtown Brandon has to offer. The building has two finished units and has been approved to add a third. There is an electric panel already for the third unit. New windows in the majority of the building. It also has a wonderful backyard! Come check out the possibilities.



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