



Spans for sale

Four fanciful bridges set up around Middlebury will be auctioned to help THT. See Arts + Leisure.



Talking it out

College athletes have launched an online series of conversations on race and identity. See Page 1B.



Star dairy

A Bridport spread that has been in the family six generations is Vt. Farm of the Year. See Page 4B.

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ACSD unveils list of back-to-school rules

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury-area parents have been looking ahead to the start of school on Sept. 8 with a mixture of anticipation and trepidation.

Returning to campus will represent a return to “normal” for many families, even if it’s only for

two days each week, with the other three days involving online studies.

But there’s also been some anxiety about how children will be protected from COVID-19, and what will happen if a wave of the pandemic surges through the student body.

(See *Back-to-school*, Page 13A)

Officials hopeful on high school sports

By ANDY KIRKALDY

ADDISON COUNTY — If all goes well — and local athletic directors acknowledge the COVID-19 pandemic ensures there will be plenty of ifs — sports will return to Vermont high schools this fall, with plenty of guidelines and restrictions, of course.

And, in the words of Mount Abraham Athletic Director Devin Wendel, it will take teamwork and

dedication from all involved if plans for fall sports are to succeed, beginning when students report to practices on Sept. 8. Interscholastic competition could start on Sept. 21.

“People, athletes, coaches, officials, everybody needs to be really vigilant and open, honest and good to each other this fall if we’re all going to make it through,” Wendel said.

(See *Sports*, Page 9A)

Not so fast: ANWSD tax hike seen as less

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — Addison Northwest School District officials say an error on the part of state Agency of Education and/or Vermont Department of Taxes officials incorrectly inflated ANWSD tax bills.

State officials sent out erroneous tax information to district towns, ANWSD officials said, and school tax increases are actually much lower than on tax bills already sent in some communities and that were about to be sent in others.

Tax bills were already sent out in Vergennes and Ferrisburgh and were about to be sent out in Addison and Waltham.

According to data ANWSD municipal officials provided to the *Independent* two weeks ago, residential school tax rates were going up by roughly 9 cents in Addison, 16 cents in Ferrisburgh,

21 cents in Vergennes and 27 cents in Waltham.

The Pantton selectboard on Monday set a new rate calling for a 24-cent hike. But after news broke about the incorrect state numbers that is now moot.

ANWSD Board Chairman John Stroup wrote to other board members that rates on new tax bills “will decrease significantly; perhaps by as much as \$0.09 per \$100 of assessed property value.”

ANWSD Director of Finance & Operations Elizabeth Jennings said she anticipates the district-wide rate will be closer to the original district estimate of about a 4-cent increase to \$1.7753, but “slightly higher.”

That rate will be changed in each ANWSD community based on its Common Level of Appraisal, or CLA.

Three ANWSD towns have CLAs (See *ANWSD*, Page 13A)

Monkton finds humane beaver solution



SKIP LISLE FLOATS a Square Fence Filter out onto Monkton Pond last month. The device, part of a system Lisle invented called the “Beaver Deceiver,” will prevent beaver dams from raising water levels enough to flood nearby roads and houses.

Independent photo/Alexa Lapiner

Animals, homes, roads protected

By CHRISTOPHER ROSS

MONKTON — On a warm sunny Friday afternoon last month, Theresa Payea, dressed in waders, stood atop a well-established beaver dam in Monkton Pond (also known as Cedar Lake).

Payea was there, along with a few other members of the newly re-established Cedar Lake Association, to help bring a decades-long battle with beavers to a peaceful, humane conclusion.

“I’ve lived here 28 years, but I’ve never seen the dam so close up,” she said. “You don’t realize how much trouble beavers are capable of.”

Payea and her neighbors got an up-close and personal view of that trouble last fall, after the beavers in Monkton Pond had outwitted an old baffle cage installed by the Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife to maintain water levels. Beavers clogged up the hole and the water began to rise.

“Our first bad flood, over the road, was last October,” she said. “It flooded some people’s basements.”

(See *Beavers*, Page 14A)

Questions focus on student behavior as semester looms

By CHRISTOPHER ROSS

MIDDLEBURY — As Middlebury College welcomes more than 2,000 students back to campus this month, criticism of its fall reopening plans has also mounted.

Students, faculty and local community members have all expressed concerns about the risk they believe the college is taking by reopening its campus in the middle of a deadly pandemic.

(See *Testing Plan*, Page 11A)

Housing, classes modified to give Midd kids space

By CHRISTOPHER ROSS

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury College students have begun arriving on campus for the fall semester.

On Tuesday, after completing a required 14-day home quarantine, about 270 student leaders made their way to Middlebury and headed immediately to the Virtue Field House, a 110,000-square-foot athletic facility that has been transformed into a high-capacity COVID-19 testing site.

“(Virtue) was chosen as our arrival testing site because we needed a space that could handle a large

(See *Makeover*, Page 10A)



STUDENTS AND OTHERS wait outside Virtue Field House last week in a rehearsal of Middlebury College’s testing for arriving students, which is due to begin this week. Photo courtesy of Middlebury College

College confident about COVID plan



IN A DRY RUN of its testing clinic at Virtue Field House last week, Middlebury College officials said they discovered that they could test roughly 1,000 people in about four hours — half the amount of time they expected.

Photo courtesy of Middlebury College



By the way

Face coverings have been mandated in all public places in Vermont since Aug. 1. If you don’t have a face covering and would like to get one for free, now’s a good time to do it. The state will distribute up to 300,000 cloth face coverings to the public, emergency responders and select agencies throughout the month of August. The State Emergency Operations Center procured

(See *By the way*, Page 13A)



LONGTIME SARAH PARTRIDGE Librarian Mona Rogers will retire at the end of this month. She’s made a lot of friends during her 17-year stewardship of the small library in East Middlebury. Independent photo/John Flowers

Rogers closes book on career at Sarah Partridge Library

By JOHN FLOWERS

EAST MIDDLEBURY — Mona Rogers had an impressive resume to show off when she interviewed to lead the Sarah Partridge Library in East Middlebury back in 2003.

Educator. Business owner. World traveler. And, back in her teen years, experience as an assistant at the library in Massapequa, N.Y., where she grew up.

But she believes it was a humorous-but-frank revelation she offered during her interview with then-Ilsley Library Executive Director David Clark that clinched the East Middlebury job.

“I explained very logically to Dave that my whole house was arranged by the Dewey Decimal System,” Rogers, an ever-gregarious and inquisitive person,

(See *Rogers*, Page 12A)

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ANWSD tax

(Continued from Page 1A)

close to 100 percent: Addison, Ferrisburgh and Vergennes. CLAs measure how towns' property tax valuations compare to fair market values based on an analysis of their recent sales. If a town's assessed values are low, its CLA — expressed as a percentage — will increase its school tax rate; if a town's assessed values are high, its CLA will lower its rate.

Vergennes has a CLA of about 96%, and Panton's is about 93%. Those CLAs will mean residents' savings from the coming tax adjustments will be less than that of residents in the other ANWSD communities.

So what happened to the rates?

ANWSD officials dug into the question of why they were so much higher than the district estimated. Stroup said he obtained a spreadsheet from

one state agency that was used to calculate the district-wide rates.

He gave that spreadsheet to Jennings, and she discovered the mistake that she explained in a Tuesday email to local municipal officials. ANWSD is carrying a debt load for building improvements that should have been taken into consideration in calculating its rates.

"In the last week we have been attempting to figure out why there was such a huge discrepancy in the union tax rate coming from the tax department to all of you," Jennings wrote.

"We figured out the error, and it is that our district was not being given credit for our debt service amount. We have worked with the Agency of Education (AOE) and they will be giving the Tax Department information to adjust the union tax rate on our behalf."

Stroup emphasized in his email to other board members that local school officials have no control over the process state officials use to set statewide and individual district school tax rates.

"(Neither) This Board nor the District has any way to verify the homestead tax rates sent out by the municipalities because our business office does not learn from the AOE the complete picture until after tax bills are sent," he wrote.

"We only learned about this error because many of us recognized that our union tax rate was likely to be only about a \$0.04 increase, and we could not explain the additional significant jump in rates."

Jennings said she would have eventually uncovered the problem, but not until more towns had sent out bills. On Tuesday morning Waltham was ready to hit print on its invoices, and Panton adopted an incorrect rate on Monday night and was planning to send out its bills

within the week.

"I normally would not have caught this issue till the Agency of Education gives our cash flow reports to us and you at the end of August," Jennings wrote in her email to municipal officials, "however, community and board members prompted us to look into this because the tax rates were so high."

Jennings said it's not clear how soon the tax department will update the ANWSD school tax rates — the non-residential rates, covering commercial property, rental property, and seasonal and second homes, should also be lowered. The first set of non-residential bills called for levies ranging from basically level in Addison to an increase of almost 19 cents in Waltham.

"I do not know what the time frame is for them making this adjustment or getting word out to all of you," Jennings wrote.

PREBATES LOWER BILLS

Of course, many ANWSD residents wouldn't have paid the full freight of the projected increases, nor will they do so for the new lower bills to come.

Homeowners who pay based on their income do not pay the full amount of school taxes as would be calculated by applying tax rates to their assessed values. About two-thirds of Addison County and statewide homeowners receive Education Tax Credits.

According to 2019 state figures, those credits, or prebates, averaged \$1,885 in Addison, \$1,932 in Ferrisburgh, \$1,432 in Vergennes, and \$1,434 in Waltham.

ANSWD voters in March OK'd a 2020-2021 district budget of \$21,842,595 that reduced spending by about \$300,000, or 1%, over the past school year.

That spending plan avoided programming cuts and closed Addison Central School for use as an elementary school, instead repurposing it for alternative education. Addison's elementary students will attend Vergennes Union Elementary School under the hybrid in-person/virtual learning plan now proposed in the district in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As well as wondering if other districts had similar problems, Stroup summed up for ANWSD.

"When all said and done (again), the district's estimates are going to be really close to accurate. Final numbers from the AOE and Department of Taxes will confirm in time," he wrote. "The short story is that we were able to correct a significant error, thereby saving ANWSD taxpayers from an erroneous increase in homestead property taxes."

Outdoor labor

MASONS APPLY MORTAR to the joints of the concrete railroad tunnel going into downtown Middlebury last week. The worksite has been a beehive of activity during the 10 weeks that the project is in high gear.

Independent photo/
Alexa Lapiner



ACSD school consolidation details emerge

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Downsizing from seven to three elementary schools could save Addison Central School District taxpayers an estimated \$3.3 million in year one, and \$41.5 million over 10 years.

Downsizing to four elementary schools would reduce costs by around \$33 million over a decade.

That's according to ACSD administrators and a consultant that assessed the Middlebury-area's education infrastructure.

Those estimates were among several new pieces of information reviewed by the ACSD Facilities Committee as it coordinates a master plan for the district's myriad school buildings. The ACSD includes Middlebury Union middle and high schools, as well as elementary schools in Bridport, Cornwall, Ripton, Middlebury, Salisbury, Shoreham and Weybridge.

Once completed, the ACSD facilities master plan will help the school board determine which elementary schools should fit into the district's future plans and which could be mothballed to save money during this era of declining enrollment and rising public education costs.

ACSD board members are studying the concept of reducing the number of elementary schools to either three or four. A preliminary consolidation concept being studied by the Facilities Committee calls for the Middlebury, Salisbury and Bridport grade schools to absorb students now attending Weybridge, Ripton, Cornwall and Shoreham elementary schools.

In principle, Middlebury's Mary Hogan Elementary School would accommodate the Weybridge and Ripton children, while Bridport Central School would take in Shoreham's students. Salisbury Community School would accommodate Cornwall's children. But ACSD board Chair Mary Cullinane has also stressed that families would have a broad choice on where to send their children within the district.

It should also be noted that ACSD's elementary school system will shrink to kindergarten through grade 5, beginning in the fall of 2021. That's when all ACSD sixth-graders will begin attending MUMS, to facilitate the district's transition to an International Baccalaureate curriculum.

Talk of consolidation has raised major concerns among some families

— particularly those residing in Ripton, Weybridge and Shoreham, whose schools would close under the current system modeling. More than 500 people have signed an online petition asking the ACSD board to table further school consolidation discussions until the end of the COVID-19 pandemic (see related story on Page 13A).

Cullinane and Facilities Committee Chair Victoria Jette argue the district can't afford to pause its master planning process, given the depleted state of Vermont's education fund that could lead to major cuts in future school budgets. Brittany Gilman, ACSD business manager, said the COVID-related shortfall in the Education Fund is currently \$96.3 million for fiscal year 2021, which began July 1.

Carrying seven elementary schools in the long term would exact an even greater toll on local taxpayers, officials fear.

"We believe we have to find ways to operate under this new norm," Cullinane said. "This work is important, critical and requires our immediate attention. Unfortunately, due to system-wide economic factors, the state will be looking to us to spend less on our schools or increase taxes to a level that is over the funding threshold, thereby having a significant impact on local taxes."

"I believe that we would be shirking our responsibility as a board if we allow the pandemic to paralyze us," Jette told her committee colleagues at an Aug. 11 Zoom gathering. "Is it going to be easy? No. But as we discussed last night (at a retreat), the board is unanimous in its desire to keep going."

"We believe that the financial condition of the state is going to result in substantial cuts to school budgets, and to not be prepared to mitigate some of the harm those cuts

will cause would be irresponsible," she added.

CRUNCHING NUMBERS

So the Facilities Committee continues to crunch numbers on school consolidation scenarios, with the help of the consulting firm TruexCullins, Superintendent Peter Burrows, and Gilman.

The effort has included modeling on how faculty and class sizes would look in both three- and four-school elementary systems serving a combined total of 720 kids in grades K through 5.

As currently imagined, the three-school model assumes:

- 480 total students at Mary Hogan Elementary, and 120 each at the Salisbury and Bridport schools.
- Eighty children in each of grades K through 5 at Mary Hogan School, with an estimated 20 per grade at both Salisbury and Bridport schools.
- Number of sections of kindergarten set at five at Mary Hogan and two each at Salisbury and Bridport. Also, grade 1-5 sections set at four (Mary Hogan) and one (Salisbury/Bridport). Alternatively, small kindergarten classes could be confined to one section in Salisbury/Bridport, and another grade could have two sections in the event of a "bubble," officials said.
- Twenty-five classroom teachers at Mary Hogan, and seven each at Salisbury and Bridport.

Students would have access to onsite special educators, speech/language pathologists, interventionists, paraeducators and guidance counselors. Each school would also have library, nursing, Spanish language, phys ed, art and music personnel, as well as custodial, administrative and clerical positions.

The need to add one or two buses to keep student ride times at a maximum of one hour. Based on ACSD's current transportation contract, that would cost around \$90,000.

Current visioning for a four-school model assumes:

- A total enrollment of 396 at Mary Hogan, and 108 each at Salisbury, Bridport and an as-yet unidentified school.
- Sixty-six children in each of grades K through 5 at Mary Hogan School, with an estimated 18 per grade at each of the other three schools.

This model assumes four sections of each grade at Mary Hogan and one of each grade at the other schools. (See Consolidation, Page 3A)

Petition seeks pause in ACSD master planning process

By JOHN FLOWERS

RIPTON — A Ripton man is spearheading an online citizens petition aimed at convincing the Addison Central School District board to suspend its work on a facilities master plan — which will likely include recommendations on elementary school closures — until the COVID-19 pandemic is over.

The petition had garnered more than 559 signatures as the *Independent* went to press on Wednesday.

"In the current situation, the education of our students necessitates all the energy and resources the district has available," reads the petition, which is attributed to the "ACSD VT Citizen's Alliance."

"This situation also requires space for appropriate social-distancing in classrooms, making any discussion to reduce space ill-advised," the petition language continues. "The situation is further complicated by the current inability to hold any sort of community meetings, which would allow for full public participation in such important processes. Because of these factors, we ask that the board stop any facilities master plan discussions and planning at this time, and instead direct their

full attention to the safety of the students."

Steve Cash of Ripton said he composed the petition, with input from other folks concerned about the prospect of seeing the current seven ACSD elementary schools whittled down to three or four (see related story on Page 1A). The ACSD includes Middlebury Union middle and high schools, and the elementary schools in Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham and Weybridge.

A preliminary consolidation concept being studied by the ACSD's Facilities Committee calls for the Middlebury, Salisbury and Bridport grade schools to collectively absorb students now attending Weybridge, Ripton, Cornwall and Shoreham elementary schools.

This concept also acknowledges that ACSD's elementary school system will shrink to pre-K through grade 5, beginning in fall 2021. That's when sixth-graders will begin attending MUMS, a change being made to facilitate the transition to an International Baccalaureate curriculum.

Cash, the parent of a future Ripton student, listed what he believes are five justifications for this time, and instead direct their

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Petition

(Continued from Page 2A)

pausing facilities planning in the ACSD:

- The inability to define how long the COVID-19 pandemic will last.

- The inability to forecast what condition the ACSD will be after the pandemic.

“We can’t know what will change in the fabric of our society,” he said.

- The current, challenging environment for public meetings. Local, state and regional boards have been meeting online since mid-March.

- It appears counterintuitive to talk about reducing school space at a time when districts are looking to maximize the building square-footage at their disposal in order to implement social distancing requirements, according to Cash.

- Preserving the health and

safety of students, staff and faculty should be the district’s top priority right now, rather than the long-term future of school buildings, according to Cash.

Cash acknowledged that declining enrollment and rising education costs are forcing the ACSD board to look at ways to streamline operations. But he warned that savings for the district might result in higher costs for parents, such as having to rearrange work schedules to conform to new, longer bus routes.

“That money might be saved in a budget, but the reality is that cost is just transferred to the parents or people in that district, potentially,” he said.

“It just shuffles the bills.”

Cash believes the district should get through the COVID-19 crisis before reimagining its school

campuses.

“I don’t think this is an ideal time to dream or plan,” he said.

Cash has yet to decide when he’ll submit the petition to the ACSD board. For now, he’ll see how many more signatures it gets. The petition can be found at tinyurl.com/yynvnmqs.

ACSD leaders said they’re aware of the petition, but were candid in stating the facilities master planning effort is unlikely to be tabled. They noted the board paused the planning process when COVID-19 first hit back in March, but resurrected the effort a few months later when the state released dire news about major revenue shortfalls for the Vermont Education Fund.

Editor’s note: Please see a longer version of this story with more comments online at addisonindependent.com.

Back-to-school

(Continued from Page 1A)

The Addison Central School District (ACSD) late last week released a document that gives parents some answers.

The 66-page “ACSD Health & Safety School Reentry Guidelines” spells out how school procedures and activities will conform with state and federal guidelines aimed at staving off the coronavirus while children are at school.

The reentry plan prescribes COVID-related marching orders for student/staff health screenings, busing, cleaning and disinfecting, physical distancing, public use of schools, large activities/sports, food services, facial coverings, and contact tracing and other precautionary measures.

It’s the work of more than 70 members of the school community, including administrators, school board members and parents who together formed the ACSD Health and Safety Action Team.

And their work isn’t done, according to ACSD Superintendent Peter Burrows.

“They helped create this initial plan, and our process through the year is to keep these groups meeting to assess where we are, how we’re doing, whether we need to transition in any way, and bring coherence to the work we’re doing,” Burrows said on Monday.

“There’s so much changing by the day. This group and recovery planning was designed to bring all the different leaders and work together into a cohesive process to help us make the right decisions and make sure everyone is part of those decisions and maintain clarity around communication — which we realized is critical during the pandemic.”

BROAD OUTLINE

The ACSD’s reentry guidelines can be read in their entirety at tinyurl.com/y5afglpk. Here’s a sampling:

- All students, staff members and visitors must have a daily health screening, including temperature check at or before the first point of contact prior to entering a school building as described below. Health screening questions will be completed at home by a parent or guardian (or student if high school age). Temperature checks will be completed by ACSD staff at the first point of entry to the school. Visitors will also need to perform a health screening before entering the building.

- Any one “yes” answer to the above screening questions, or a temperature of 100.4 or higher taken at home, and the student must stay home for the day. Parents/guardians must contact their primary care physician for guidance, and the school nurse must be notified.

Students will be asked to maintain a stock of three face coverings for school, in case one or more get dirty. While students will be responsible for

their own masks, the district will have some spares to pass out for those who are caught shorthanded.

“The state has provided us with some, and we’ve bought some,” Burrows said. “We’ll be prepared.”

- Students must perform hand hygiene upon boarding buses and wear masks, and those who are visibly ill with symptoms that could be related to COVID-19 (cough, nasal congestion, vomiting) won’t be allowed to board buses and will be sent home with a responsible adult. If no one is available to take the student home, the student will board the bus with social distancing on the ride to school, where a nurse or assistant will evaluate the student and isolate him or her, if needed.

- Schools will be cleaned daily and disinfected three times per day. Administrative facilities will be cleaned daily and disinfected once a day. Playground equipment will be disinfected at the beginning of the day and between use of individual cohorts.

- All groups of people gathering in one common space may not exceed the number that is allowed per state guidance. This includes students and adults that are congregating in one space. Common space would be each individual room in a school building, not the entire school building.

- Physical barriers, such as Plexiglas, should be installed in reception areas and employee workspaces where the environment does not accommodate physical distancing.

- When necessary, hallways should be one-way and clearly marked as such.

- Students should eat their meals either in their classroom or outside.

- There will be no travel abroad and local field trips will be kept to a minimum, Burrows said.

- Students should be encouraged to maintain six feet social distancing while at recess. Schools are being encouraged to hold classes outdoors whenever possible during the pandemic, Burrows noted.

PHYSICAL SPACE

In the meantime, maintenance staff have removed from classrooms all furniture made with fabric, in order to facilitate disinfecting procedures.

Officials have also been shifting desks and chairs around the classrooms in order to comply with social distancing guidelines. Plexiglas and plastic shields have been installed at workstations where there’s usually a lot of interaction between people.

“We’re still working on facilities to improve the ability to distance and keep people safe,” Burrows said. “We have been able to get a lot of the supplies we’ve

Consolidation

(Continued from Page 2A)

- Twenty-four classroom teachers at Mary Hogan, and seven each at Salisbury, Bridport & school No. 4.

- The four-school model would cost \$660,000 more in staffing than the three-school concept.

Students would also have access to the same variety of on-site educators and staff as under the three-school scenario.

Current K-5 enrollment at the ACSD’s seven elementary schools: 49 in Bridport, 69 in Cornwall, 360 at Mary Hogan, 44 in Ripton, 64 in Salisbury, 81 in Shoreham and 43 in Weybridge.

ACSD principals have seen, and reacted to, the two consolidation models, according to Facilities Committee members. Their consensus takeaway, according to the committee: The three-school model is preferable to four schools, with the rationale that it would provide “the greatest opportunity for equity amongst the schools,” according to an informational handout at the Aug. 11 meeting. The principals also decided that “the four-school model was unnecessary given the space available in the schools in the three-school model,” according to the handout.

District officials are mapping out new ways to get public feedback.

Editor’s note: Please see a longer version of this story with more comments online at addisonindependent.com.

needed, which is a bit surprising; we thought it would be a challenge with so many districts needing the same things right now. We’re well on our way to being ready for Sept. 8.”

Addison Central leaders are still getting a handle on how many district families will opt for a 100% distance learning setup, or who have decided to homeschool during the pandemic.

“We don’t think it will be a significant number,” said Burrows, who added the Legislature has plans to hold districts harmless from per-pupil state aid losses that arise when local students opt for homeschooling.

There will be no COVID testing kits on site.

District officials are confident students, teachers and staff will adapt to the on-campus pandemic rules.

“I think we’ve all been living through a lot of stress and anxiety during the pandemic, and the message I’m sharing with the community is that we need to work together and we can’t expect things are going to return to any kind of ‘normal,’ or any kind of consistency, for a period of time given how changeable we’re seeing the school landscape and the health landscape across the country,” Burrows said. “The more we can be ‘in the moment’ working to problem-solve and use the best information that we have and communicate clearly and take care of each other, that’s how we’re going to make this a successful year.”

14 seek 4 council seats

By ANDY KIRKALDY & JOHN S. MCCRIGHT

VERGENNES — The race to fill four vacant seats on the Vergennes City Council in a Sept. 22 special election is set: 14 residents turned in papers to be on the ballot to challenge for the open slots created by four recent resignations.

Several of those running are well known and have governing experience. Four who filed are seeking both a term that expires in March 2021 and a term that will end in March 2022. A candidate who wins both seats would have to resign one of them, leaving the council to make an appointment to fill the other slot.

Former longtime city manager Mel Hawley, former mayor and multi-term councilor Mike Daniels, former multi-term councilor Clara “Ziggy” Comeau, former deputy mayor Randy Ouellette, and former alderman David Small are among those voters will be able to choose either in person on Sept. 22 or beforehand by mail.

Others on the ballot include restaurateurs Richard “Dickie” Austin and Ian Huizenga. Austin is a partner in the Vergennes Restaurant Group (which includes Black Sheep Bistro, Park Squeeze and the Bearded Frog in Shelburne) and Huizenga is the head chef and brewer of Vergennes eateries Hired Hand and Bar Antidote.

Others who had filed on or before midweek last week were former Pantone lister Beverly Biello and Collins Aerospace employees Jill Murray Killon and Justin Bassett. Another entry into the race is Michel Djordjevic, who bought the Strong House Inn on West Main Street with his wife, Amy, two years ago.

Three more candidates joined the fray either late last week or on Monday: Raymond Henry Paul, a project engineer with Engineers Construction Inc.; Rainwalker Winterpainter, who this past year worked in maintenance and substitute taught for the Addison Northwest School District; and Julian Cesner, who is a counselor at a community mental health agency.

Biello, Comeau, Austin, Ouellette, and Murray Killon are seeking terms that would expire in March 2022.

Huizenga, Hawley, Daniels, Winterpainter and Small are on the ballot for terms that would expire this coming March.

Djordjevic, Bassett, Cesner and Paul are seeking both terms and would have to step down from one if voted in for both.

The need for the special election arose after Mayor Jeff Fritz resigned at the July 16 city council meeting, making it official on July 26. On July 19 Bill Benton stepped down, and Councilors Mark Koenig and Tara Brooks resigned at about the same time as Fritz on the afternoon of July 26. The resignations left the seven-member body without a quorum.

City Clerk Britney Aube noted seats on the council aren’t the only offices on the Sept. 22 ballot. Karen Quigley signed on to run unopposed for a term on the board of listers that will expire in March 2023. But Aube said an opening on the board of auditors failed to draw any interest.

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Guest Editorials

Postal Service crisis bad for newspapers & democracy

By Layne Bruce

Executive director of the Mississippi Press Association

A move by the U.S. Postal Service to slow down mail service by cutting overtime and reducing sorting sure seems like a gambit by the Trump administration to impact voting by mail this fall.

He practically said as much Aug. 13 on Fox Business.

Democrats have proposed over \$3.6 billion for voting by mail at a time when casting ballots in person is a perilous chore for many. And they've asked for \$25 billion to finally shore up the postal services' perpetually precarious finances.

But President Trump told Fox's Maria Bartiromo that increased mail-in voting will lead to widespread voter fraud (even though it's apparently fine in Florida where he voted in the primary just this year).

"Those are just two items. But if they don't get those two items, that means you can't have universal mail-in voting because they're not equipped to have it," he told Fox Business.

This could easily be one of the president's most self-defeating ploys. And, lord knows, that's a high bar.

First, there is no evidence mail-in voting (or absentee voting — whatever you want to call it, it's the same thing) is riddled with fraud or inherently benefits one party over another. In fact, some conventional wisdom would have you believe less voting by mail could hurt Republican candidates more since a high proportion of those ballots are cast by older Americans — usually more reliably supportive of the GOP.

Second, slowing down the mail further cripples an already seriously atrophied economy. A lot of merchandise and money still moves the old-fashioned way by snail mail. Slower service means everything from paper checks to mail-order prescriptions are going to take longer to get where they're going.

Anecdotally, we can see this happening daily. In our office, not surprisingly, we receive mail copies of all newspapers in the state. Papers have been showing up just recently from late June and early July. And a valuable payment to a contract laborer took 13 days to make its way to Virginia by first class this month.

Again, conventional wisdom — if there even is such a thing anymore — would dictate the slower the money comes, the angrier businesses and Americans in general are going to get with the powers that be.

There is no denying the financial straits of the post office. Historically one of America's best-run bureaucracies — yes, the post office is actually very popular — USPS was saddled with billions of dollars in liabilities when congress ruled 15 years ago the agency should pre-fund its retirement pension benefits. That meant paying up front for the nearly 5 million career employees in its ranks.

Ever the can-kickers, congress has for years ignored real fixes and chosen to selectively act whenever the post office was on the brink of shutdown. Turns out it takes a helluva lot of 50-cent stamps sold to cover the agency's budget, even with all of the income from far more lucrative package delivery clients who now use it.

Lawmakers passed up the best chance yet to correct the problem earlier this year when they indiscriminately spewed trillions in stimulus benefits practically out of fire hoses at most Americans and businesses in an effort to put out the economic inferno ignited by the COVID-19 pandemic.

All of this is of particular concern to local newspapers and other publications that work diligently to get their still very-analog products to the docks of local post offices every day. In fact, this industry has become more reliant on USPS in the last decade than it ever had been in the past.

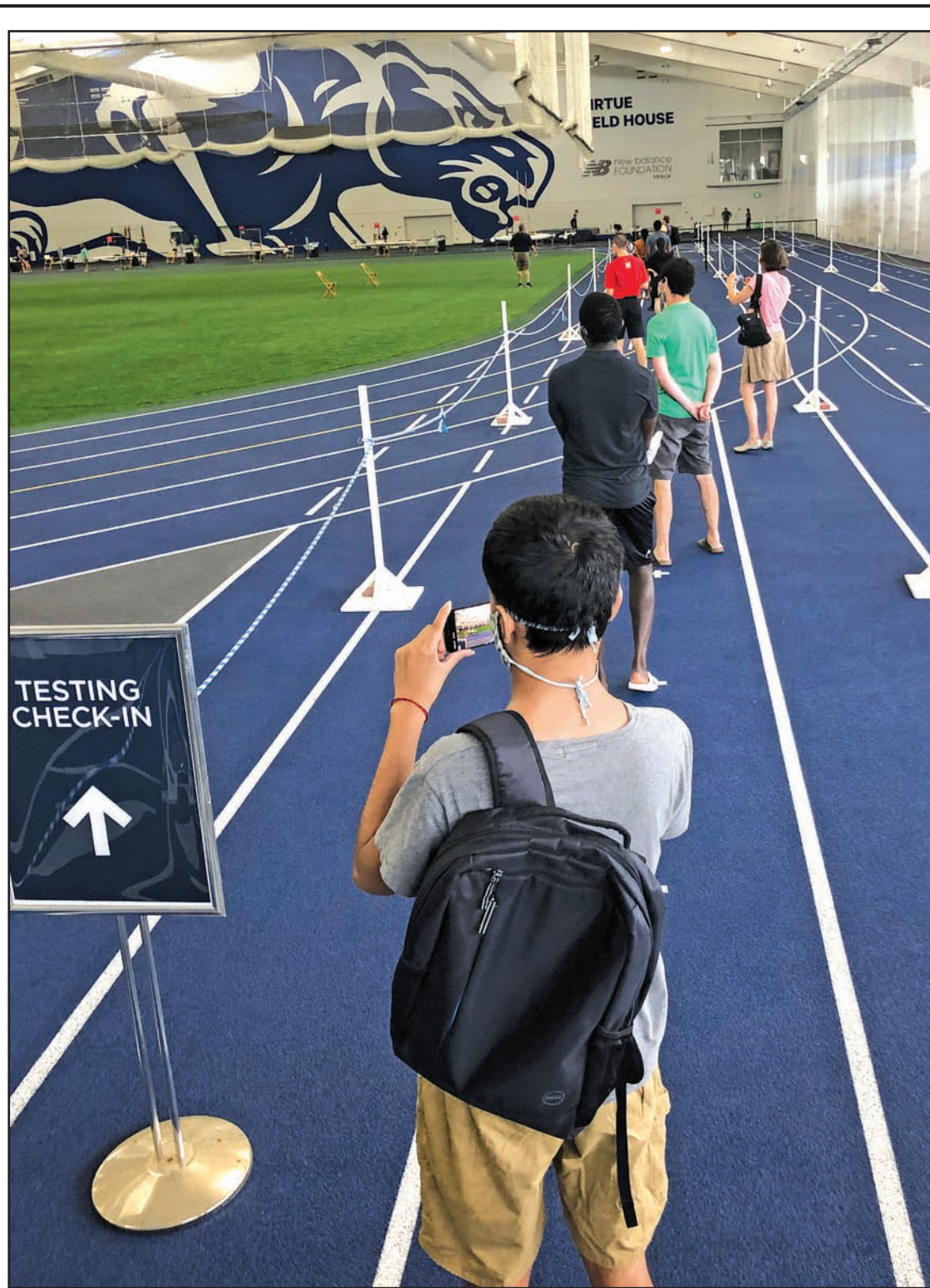
Whereas in "olden times" it was common for weekly newspapers to be delivered to subscribers in the mail, it was customary for daily newspapers to use contractors for direct delivery — paperboys, if you will. But as shrinking margins have put a terrible squeeze on the business of local journalism, newspapers began turning to USPS in large numbers for the delivery of their printed products.

In fact, in Mississippi, where pre-pandemic "daily newspapers" numbered about 17, most were carrier-delivered. But in recent years that number has dropped to just a handful as many others turned to USPS for delivery solutions.

Now comes the word the post office, led by a Trump administration cronies with no prior experience in the agency, is slowing down service by cutting overtime and reducing daily sorting in some locations, putting carriers on the street faster at the expense of unsorted mail piling up back at the office.

All of this is another potential powder keg in a year replete with them. Slowing the mail is going to lead to consumer frustration and further rusting of economic gears at a time when mail-based commerce is soaring because of coronavirus concerns.

Congress could and should act now to resolve the USPS crisis and, as much of a pipe dream as it may be, tell the president to leave politics and related unsubtle, very undemocratic, shenanigans out of it.



Test central

STUDENTS WAIT on the track in Middlebury College's Virtue Field House last week, where officials set up more than a dozen stations where students and others at the college could get tested for COVID-19. These folks were testing how smoothly the testing service worked. More than 1,000 students are expected on campus by the end of next week.

Photo courtesy of Middlebury College

Essential exercise during isolation

Due to COVID-19, the border to Mongolia is closed, so I can't go there. Film festivals are not in person. I stay home. A friend gets my groceries for two and a half months. In early May when I have my annual exam by telemedicine, I tell my doctor I'm gaining weight because the pool is closed and I normally swim five days a week.

The water outside is too cold, I tell her. She says, "Why don't you get a wet suit?" Being compliant, I looked into it, but find that they cost \$250 and you can't even try them on because of COVID-19. My doctor says gaining two or three pounds is not so bad, but we are in this for the duration and one pound a month over many months could cause health problems.

I haven't left my half-acre property in Middlebury. I am getting exercise by doing my own spring clean up — raking leaves and piling branches.

A Mongolian shaman writes me a message. "When the water is clear, the people will heal." This makes me think, maybe I could go a little farther back from my property where there are wetlands and I could clean up the land. When I venture out, I find planters, plastic containers, beer bottles, and a camp chair. Each day I bring some to the garbage.

And I hear about a two-mile walk on the Trail Around Middlebury that goes through woods and is not too mountainous. Whereas I used to go places so I would see people, now I am looking for places to go without people. I have been isolated for over two months. I find it hard meeting people on the trail. To avoid people, I go earlier and earlier in the morning. This is more in keeping with my normal exercise pattern anyway, since I like to exercise before breakfast.

When I find a tick embedded in my knee, I decide I am done walking in the woods and cleaning up the wetlands — for now. We have a heat wave and I figure the water might be warm enough for swimming. Branbury Beach is crowded when I venture out. I am nervous, even as I walk past everyone to swim. The water is cold. The strokes feel like old friends, though.

If you live alone for months, you might begin to say things out loud. I do. Driving out the dirt road from Kingsland Bay after the first time I swim there this year, I hear myself say, "I feel like a human being." Water is essential for me.

I find out I can go to Branbury any time — they don't lock the gate. That solves my problem of bumping into people. I begin to swim there before breakfast.

Things are becoming harmonious.

One day when my work is done and I feel more relaxed about seeing a few people, I spend an afternoon at Kingsland Bay. First, I paddle my kayak to the opposite shore and lie on a rock reading. On the way back I glide past turtles, frogs, ducks and a Canada goose. My kayak slides over pond lilies, known as lotus blossoms in Buddhism and in Mongolia. After I put my kayak on land, I take a long, smooth swim. I haven't had a hug in six months. I feel hugged. My cells feel awake. Water connects with all water, the whole world.

On the way home, when I find myself singing Mongolian nature songs with lines like "peaceful nature waking up" and "soft, tender world," I know I have found balance.

Sas Carey has finished the draft of her memoir during the social isolation and has sent it out to a consultant. Hopefully, it will be ready in a year or two.

Ways of Seeing

By Sas Carey



Meet our new pet dog...er, turkey

Gobbles is lonely.

That sentence makes grammatical sense once you learn that "Gobbles" is the name previously given to the very large, very tame hen turkey we just acquired. She is a pet.

She was the only turkey at her last home, and she's the only turkey here, unless you count the four baby turkeys, or poults, currently living in a tub in our dining room. But I'll get to that.

Her first night was a little tricky; she followed the chickens into the coop around sundown, but she had apparently slept on the ground at her last home; it was clear she had never seen a roost before. Still, she was intrigued by the concept.

Not wanting to look like a rube in front of the chickens, who can be so judgmental, she gamely climbed the set of stairs inside the barn, and we could almost hear her whispering to herself, "Don't look down. Don't look down."

When morning came, only Gobbles remained on the roost, eight feet up. All she could do was make anxious noises, something between "No really, this is fine" and "I'm going to die up here." We brought her food and water throughout the day, but she would not

budge.

Finally, around 5 p.m., Mark mounted a rescue effort, bear hugging her to avoid getting pummeled by her powerful but apparently never-used wings and lowering her to terra firma.

The next day, she got down all by herself, which leads us to believe either she is a quick learner or she was testing us to see how much we would coddle her.

Gobbles was relinquished from her last home because she felt a longing for motherhood but, with no tom on the premises, could not hatch out a clutch of eggs. In desperation, she discovered a mother duck with a nest of ducklings and decided those would do.

The mother duck disagreed, and an ongoing conflict ensued. Gobbles had to go.

After three days with us, she settled in well, although she spent a good deal of her time roaming the property making a "Hey, where are all the other turkeys?" cluck, a sound we recognized when past turkeys had gotten separated from the flock.

We had a great idea: We'd get Gobbles some poults. (See *Around the bend*, Page 13A)



Around the bend

By Jessie Raymond

Letters to the Editor

ACSD board must be creative

I want to encourage the ACSD officials, board members, and anyone else involved in the current stage of master planning to think outside the box. A recent article in this paper mentioned the likelihood of four elementary schools eventually being closed. It then went on to mention a suggested distribution of students. It also mentioned that they are still looking into a few different options. I know this is just the current stage in a much longer discussion that has been happening since the district consolidated. The following are thoughts I have been meaning to share both before and after reading this article.

I know there has been a lot of contention throughout this process and it has taken much longer than district officials originally planned. I want to thank them for continuing to keep the lines of communication open for everyone. At the same time, I know it cannot continue forever, and we are getting ever closer to final decisions. I do not expect everyone to be happy with the end results. I do expect it to add to what will already have been a chaotic few years. I have seen and heard much of the debate about equality, equity and everything else through this process, all while trying to keep an open mind.

Three and a half years ago my family of five was preparing to move from Middlebury to Cornwall (See Ross, Page 12A)

Fate of Beirut truly a tragedy

The catastrophic explosions and aftermath in Beirut, Lebanon, were truly a horrible tragedy. I have never been to Lebanon but my father traveled on business throughout the Middle East 90 years ago. He spent a year in the Middle East, followed by a year in India, buying furs (mostly Persian lambs), and having them shipped back to the States. I grew up hearing amazing stories of his travels, including crossing the Syrian Desert at night in an old Buick and navigating by the stars, avoiding bandits, and learning to speak fluent Arabic. But what always stood out were his tales of Beirut, the "Paris of the Middle East." He loved his time there, so much so that when he was ill with cancer and hospitalized in 1982, my mother would not tell him the news about the horrors of the Lebanese Civil War raging at the time. She was convinced that it would upset him terribly.

Perhaps Beirut in 1930 was not as wonderful as my father made it out to be. Probably not. But no people, whatever their politics, deserves the cruel fate of the Lebanese. If the pandemic that we are all going through shows anything, it may just be the desire of us all to want the peaceful right to health, happiness and equality.

Ed Blechner
Addison

Can Vegan diet aid vs. COVID?

History could provide us with valuable information about improving our overall health — and perhaps in extension helping us to cope better with COVID-19. World-famous Dr. Caldwell Esselstyn, author of "Prevent and Reverse Heart Disease," explains the following: "World War II provided a graphic example of how the ravages of chronic diseases (coronary, diabetes, obesity, hypertension, etc.) could be totally halted. Norway was one of several western European nations occupied by Nazi Germany during the 1939-1945 conflict. The Germans removed all animal livestock from these countries and the native population subsisted on whole grains, legumes, vegetables, and fruit. Almost immediately death from heart attacks and strokes in Norway plummeted. With the cessation of hostilities in 1945 (See *Lessons*, Page 7A)

Letters on Pages
4A, 7A & 13A

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Obituaries

James Richard Bullard, 88, of Westport, N.Y., former
Shoreham Ferry owner

WESTPORT, N.Y. — James Richard Bullard, 88, of Westport, N.Y., died Sunday, Aug. 16, 2020, at UVM Health Network Elizabethtown Community Hospital. He was born in Schuylerville, N.Y. on Valentine's Day in 1932, son of the late Kenneth and Adelaide (Gannon) Bullard.

He is survived by his wife Shirley, niece Spring, nephew Alpheus, brother David, stepdaughters Sandy and Sharon, and stepgrandchildren Andrew, Matthew and Kate.

Jim had a distinctly different path in life. He was a graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy and Cornell University. He was drafted into the U. S. Army in 1954 and served in Germany until 1956. He studied at Columbia University and was a Fulbright Scholar to Turkey until he was called back to his family orchard business upon the illness and death of his father in 1964.

After several years at Bullard Orchards, a family dispute based on fundamental management issues led Jim to leave. With very limited resources and after a period of some anxiety, a chance encounter in New York City led to hiring by Uniroyal to grow rice and maize for plantation workers in Liberia. Later



JAMES RICHARD BULLARD

he worked for the International Center for the Improvement of Wheat and Maize in the Congo. In all, he spent almost eight years in Africa. Jim was multi-lingual and traveled internationally for the Holstein Friesian Association.

In 1976, Jim retired to the U.S.A. and, again by a lucky turn, bought the Fort Ti Ferry in Shoreham, Vt., the ninth owner since 1789. He operated the ferry for twenty two very happy years, became a dedicated Vermonter, a long-term member of the Middlebury Union High School board, and a dedicated

student of the history of Lake Champlain.

In 1983, he married Shirley Perkins Hormel, a Vermont speech-language pathologist. They sold the ferry business in 1998 and retired to Westport, N.Y. He loved boating on Lake Champlain, the Hudson, and St. Lawrence Rivers during the summers. Jim served as a volunteer with Literacy Volunteers of Essex and Franklin Counties, as a tutor, board member, and president. He was especially interested in helping Latino inmates at the Moriah Shock Correctional Facility to improve their English and their chances for better lives.

At his request there will be no services. Some summer evening post-pandemic, he would be pleased if friends gather on the ferry to reminisce. He would also be pleased if friends and acquaintances would make memorial donations to Literacy Volunteers, 3265 Broad Street, Port Henry, NY 12974.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Heald Funeral Home, 7521 Court Street, Elizabethtown, N.Y. To light a candle or leave an online condolence please visit healdfuneralhomeinc.com.

Lawrence Arthur "Tweeter" Felion, 82, of Leicester

LEICESTER — Lawrence Arthur "Tweeter" Felion died on Aug. 17, 2020, surrounded by family. Well known statewide as a logger, he was employed by A.J. Johnson Co. for 53 years and was noted for an excellent work ethic. In fact, he still owned and operated the original 1966 TimberJack skidder and he was still operating his chainsaw this past winter/spring.

Born on Sept. 26, 1937, in Leicester Jct., he was one of 10 siblings.

He is survived by his wife Jean of 60 years, who never left his side no matter where they were or where they went; his son Larry, "Homer," a company partner/confidant in the woods — working together, they produced several thousand board feet of timber; a daughter Lisa Schauwecker and husband David; granddaughter Amanda; grandson Andrew and his wife Lindsay; and great-grandchildren, Mackenzie and Bennett. He was extremely proud of all of his grandchildren by personally supporting them at ball

LAWRENCE ARTHUR
"TWEETER" FELION

games and horseshows. Tweeter was well known for helping anyone in need. Tweeter often referred to being "On the Road Again" in many aspects of his journey through life and was well known for being friends to Willie Nelson and Aaron Tippin. One of the highlights in life was being escorted

by Willie to his tour bus in front of several political VIP's for a "grand tour."

In 1966, Tweeter was the State Champion for New England and Canada for Axe cutting. He was very proud to show off the axe that he won to anyone who stopped by for a visit and would often shave his arm with this axe to prove how sharp it was.

Tweeter was a legend in the world of forestry. In 1967, there was an article on Tweeter in Vermont Life. He was featured on WCAX as a Super Senior, in an article in Northern Woodlands, as well as in Folk Life. An Autobiography is due out this fall.

Tweeter will be missed by all around him.

By his request, there will be no calling hours or funeral, and as he has stated to many, "if they can't come and see me when I'm alive I sure as hell don't want them around when I'm dead."

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

Helen Dupoise memorial service

NEW HAVEN — A celebration of life service for Helen Dupoise, who died Aug. 8, 2020, will be held on Saturday, Aug. 29, at 11 a.m., at St. Mary's Parish in Middlebury. Interment will follow the service.

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John Garrett French, 80, of Underhill

UNDERHILL — John Garrett French passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2020, with his loving family by his side and his beautiful view of Mt. Mansfield. John was born in 1939 in Burlington, Vt. He attended Burlington High School and Burlington Trade School, graduating in 1958. John married Christine Vincent of Bristol, Vt., on March 1, 1963. He was happily married for 57 years.

John started his trucking career in 1958. He started hauling fish from Maine for Ray's seafood and bought his first truck in 1963 and started his own business. His sons all started with the family business and he enjoyed every moment. In 1965 he incorporated snowplowing services to the business. One of John's favorite pastimes was camping, traveling to numerous campgrounds and finally a permanent site at Lakeview Campground for the past 30 years.



JOHN GARRETT FRENCH

John was grateful for his many years of work with Frank W. Whitcomb, his second family. His family will continue on his legacy of the family business of John G. French and Sons Trucking Inc.

He leaves behind his wife Christine French of Underhill; son

John B. French and wife Susan of Fletcher; son Scott of Cambridge; son Steve of Underhill; and son Mikey and wife Clarissa of Jeffersonville. He also leaves behind three special grandchildren that brought much joy and happiness to him: Kamrin, Charlie and Millie; his sister Alvera "Pat" Minkle of California; and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by both parents, Bert French and Isabell McClinton French. He leaves behind many special friends — you all know who you are.

The family would like to thank Dr. Don Miller, Dr. Robert Labelle and the Hospice Care team. There will be a private family service at a later date per his request. Any donations should be to the animal rescue of their choice. The family also invites you to share your memories by visiting awrfh.com.

Roxanne Smith, 40, of Lincoln

LINCOLN — Roxanne Smith, of Lincoln, passed away July 25, 2020, at her home while being lovingly embraced by her family and dearest friends.

Roxanne fought a long, courageous battle against cancer and, because of her strength, was able to extend the time she had with her children, August and Gilmore, and provide them with many beautiful memories with their mother. She passed one month past her 40th birthday.

Roxanne was born on June 16, 1980, to Christopher and Beth (Holden) Smith of Harrisville, N.H. She is survived by her sons, August Lang, age 12, and Gilmore Lang, age 9; her mother, Beth Smith, and stepfather, Jeff Enright, of Harrisville; and her sister, Madelynn (Smith) Cassin, of Westmoreland, N.H. She will be dearly missed by all of the extended family, including her niece and nephews, brother-in-law, aunts and uncles, her cousins and their children. She is predeceased by her father, Christopher.

The COVID-19 pandemic presented challenges for all, but especially for Roxanne, as she was separated from her family and friends whom she so dearly loved at a time when more was required of parents. At the onset of the required isolation, her mother, Beth, moved right in. Roxanne and all who love her wish to express endless thanks and love to Beth for this selfless gift of her time.

Being raised in a small New England town gave her an appreciation for both the importance of the natural world in our lives and the value of belonging to a loving and supportive community. Both of these pillars would define how Roxanne lived her life and raised her children. Roxanne loved the land and had an incredible ability



ROXANNE SMITH

to farm and raise animals, making everything she touched thrive. She was always employed in local, sustainable agriculture, be it working with horses, running her own small farm, and most recently at Lincoln Peak Vineyard. The vineyard was a second home, and her coworkers were so dear to her.

Roxanne loved living in Lincoln. She loved the change of seasons and natural beauty and, even more, she loved the people. The town of Lincoln embraced Roxanne and held her high, keeping her propped up throughout the ups and downs of the past few years since her diagnosis. Roxanne also loved the Camp Takodah community and spent many summers there as a camper, and even more in the role of counselor. The friendships she made there have lasted a lifetime, and Roxanne shared that connection with her kids, who look forward to camp every summer. She was always excited for the start of baseball season; she played as a child and passed this love of the game on to her boys. They were fans of the Boston Red Sox and were thrilled visiting the city to catch games at Fenway Park or listening on the radio.

Words fall short in describing a life lived so vibrantly. Roxanne was so much to so many. She was the person you called when you were moving your house or livestock. She was the one who helped stake your tomatoes, gave advice planning a flower garden or identifying a pest. Roxanne was equally likely to show up in coveralls and mud boots or, as she called it, "a fancy lady," looking like a million bucks with her long, straight blonde hair flowing. She was the definition of brave, long before cancer made it necessary to be.

Perhaps the most difficult thing to express was her unparalleled sense of humor. Roxanne was brilliant and understood levels of humor that most of us don't. She was tuned into the world around her and thought deeply, so much so that friends say she could have written a New York Times opinion column. Even during the worst days of living with cancer, Roxanne fought to keep going, volunteering to make delicious food for community fundraisers. You can bet she had an opinion about politics and how people should care for one another. She really saw people for the best of who they were, and appreciated them, warts and all. Roxanne shined so brightly that even in her absence, we can still hear her laughter.

A small, private remembrance will be held in the fall in Lincoln, at which time a stone bench at the Lincoln Sports Field will be dedicated. A larger celebration of her life will be held on a future date when it is safe to gather in large groups. This date will be announced on Facebook. Donations to a trust for her children can be sent to Beth Smith, P.O. Box 1, Harrisville NH 03450.

Valerie Maria Cyr, 79, of New Haven

NEW HAVEN — On Sunday, Aug. 16, 2020, Valerie Cyr, loving wife and mother of four children, passed away peacefully at the age of 79. She was lovingly cared for by Alice Barnum during the last 4 and a half years as she struggled with Alzheimer's.

Valerie was born on June 22, 1941, in Bridgeport, Conn., to Paul and Jean (Szeman) Zapotocky. She attended Roger Ludlowe HS (Class of 1959) in Fairfield, Conn., earned a Business Certificate from the Butler Business School in Bridgeport and had early success at Remington-DuPont, also in Bridgeport. She had two sons, Robert and Christopher, and two daughters, Amy and Jeannie with her first husband, Robert Herlihy. On Oct. 28, 1978 she married Wayne Donald Cyr of New Haven, Vt. Her first born, Robert, married Leslee Harton of Essex Jct. that same day for a double wedding. In 2018, they celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary at Project Independence, where they spent quality time together. She worked at the Banknorth Group for 15 years.

Valerie had a passion for music. She'd sit with her children in front of the stereo, pointing out specifically what songs and lyrics were the ones to "listen" to. Her music taste was wide ranging and an education in itself. From Peter, Paul & Mary and Johnny Cash to Judy & Liza, Barbra Streisand and show tunes, music made her heart the happiest. Her fondest memories would always include the artists she got to see live, trips to NYC



VALERIE MARIA CYR

for Broadway musicals or cabaret at Don't Tell Mama. Valerie was always asking, "What's happening with music in New York? What's new to listen to?"

She was also a joyful and avid reader. Maeve Binchy and Mary Higgins Clark were among her favorites. She took late-night escapes sitting on the edge of the couch for hours, feet up on the coffee table, engrossed in these "other worlds." Valerie and her mother, Jean, shared their favorite books and she always looked forward to discussing them either on their many outings into town or over coffee as their houses in Underhill were next to each other.

Valerie and husband Wayne, a carpenter, met and fell in love when he was building an addition onto her mother's house. Their first date was at The Olde Board Restaurant in Burlington and "She and I" by Alabama was one of their favorite songs. They always called each other sweetie and dear and later lived in Hinesburg and New

Haven. They'll forever be holding hands "in their own little world... ain't it wonderful?"

Valerie was known for her amazing smile, generous heart and big green eyes. She had a sharp wit and could be sarcastic. Her commitment to create a beautiful home and fun family barbeques was without fail. We'll remember her beef stew, tuna salad and all things Crock-Pot. She cherished the good times with her children and was proud to be ranked high among the "Cool Moms" by their friends. She was sweet as pie and one of the strongest women you'll ever meet.

Valerie was preceded in death by her father, Paul, and mother, Jean and her two sons, Bobby and Chris. She is survived by her husband Wayne; her daughters, Amy and Jeannie (Carol-Lynne); her brother, Darren-Paul; her grandchildren Lisha, Jesse (Aimee), Barbie, Matthew, Erin and Noah; 16 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Visiting hours will be held on Thursday, Aug. 20, at Brown-McClay Funeral Home in Vergennes from 5 to 7 p.m. A mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 21, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Vergennes. Interment will be in Evergreen Cemetery in New Haven. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Elderly Services Inc. (Project Independence) in Middlebury. To send online condolences to her family visit brownmcclayfuneralhomes.com.



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Obituaries

Agnes DeGraaf Boelens, 76, of Panton

PANTON — Agnes DeGraaf Boelens, age 76, went to be home with her Lord on Aug. 15, 2020. She passed peacefully at home, surrounded by love, after struggling with interstitial lung disease. Agnes immigrated to the greater Vergennes area from the Netherlands at the age of 14 with her family. She graduated from Vergennes Union High School.



AGNES DEGRAAF BOELENS

Agnes, her husband Ted, and family lived in New York, Vermont, Kansas, Michigan and Florida, where she worked as a purchasing agent, bookkeeper, and assistant treasurer. In 1993, Agnes and Ted returned to Vermont, where they owned and operated the Little Otter General Store in Ferrisburgh for 14 years. She poured her heart into the business and used her sharp, organized, logical brain, and her love of numbers, bookkeeping, and people to make it a success.

Agnes was a devoted member of Champlain Valley Christian Reformed Church, where she faithfully worshiped, played the organ, and sang with all of her heart. She also was an avid and passionate supporter of Champlain Valley Christian School where she

volunteered in numerous ways, served on the board for six years, and shared her gifts and talents in whatever capacity was needed.

She cherished family and was a devoted wife, mother, daughter, sister, aunt and loyal friend. She enjoyed a competitive game of cards, a good cup of coffee, and a lively conversation. Agnes will be remembered for her strong faith, her loving heart, generous giving, mind for business, sage advice, and great sense of humor.

Agnes always enjoyed sitting by the lake chatting, watching the kids, or reading a book on the deck at her favorite summer spot, Shadow Lake, in Glover, Vt. She made many fond memories there since 1979 and particularly loved the annual 4th of July family week.

Agnes is survived by her husband Ted Boelens; son Scott (Elaine) Boelens of Virginia; son Erik (Mona) Boelens of Illinois; daughter Kelly Boelens of Vergennes; and five grandchildren, Laura, Noah, Anneke, Ethan and Eli. She is predeceased by her grandson Aidan. Agnes is survived by her six siblings John (Elisabeth) DeGraaf, Robert (Joan) DeGraaf, Charlie (Vickie) DeGraaf, Gerrit (June) DeGraaf, Martha (Bert) Gosliga, Harold (Anje) DeGraaf and their families.

Her celebration of life will be at a later date in the fall. Visit Brown-McClay Funeral Homes online at brownmcclayfuneralhomes.com to leave condolences for the family.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to her beloved Champlain Valley Christian School, 2 Church Street, Vergennes, VT 05491. ◊

Scott Robert Reed, 70, of Salisbury

SALISBURY — Scott Robert Reed, son of Ernest and Evelyn (Curran) Reed, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, Aug. 10, 2020, in his home. He was born in Needham, Mass., on June 18, 1950. He moved to Addison County in 1988, when he met his wife of 30 years, Mary Quinn Reed.



SCOTT ROBERT REED

Scott attended Needham High School. While working in the field of construction, Scotty enjoyed helping multiple family members with their home renovations in his free time. He retired from Casella Waste Management, after 27 years of service, in 2016. He also enjoyed golf, carpentry, traveling and storytelling. He loved spending time with his grandchildren Wyatt,

Sienna and Sutton Rubright and Silas Crawford. He was a member of the MVAA for five years, as well as a member of the Knights of

Columbus. Scott was survived by his wife Mary; his children Amy Rubright, Tim and wife Sarah Reed, Jason Eaton, Tammy, Tracey and Tiffany; his 13 grandchildren; and great-grandchildren. His siblings Linda Bowman, Louise Howard, Laura Messer, and Paul Reed also survive him. He will be missed by his lifelong friends, Cliff and Jean Tommassian and their families.

A private family celebration of life will be held due to the pandemic. In lieu of flowers please send a contribution to Middlebury Regional EMS, an organization he was a part of and admired, at middlebury911.org/donate.html. ◊

Lessons

(Continued from Page 4A) animal products became available as well as an immediate return to the pre-war levels of deaths from these illnesses." Similar instances took place in Denmark, even going back to World War I. Unfortunately, the majority of Americans have intensified their desire to eat the SAD (standard American diet) of dairy products, eggs, meat, chicken, white flour, and processed oils on a regular basis. Thus here we are in 2020 battling for our lives against COVID-19 with growing evidence that a majority of COVID-19 patients and victims may be obese or have some of the same comorbidities that the Norwegian population had. So, is there a productive way forward? Yes, according to most of the Vegan doctors and scientists and definitely Dr. T. Colin Campbell, author of the 2006 China Study,

one of the most comprehensive works on nutrition ever written. In this carefully written study Dr. Campbell illustrated that a vegan diet was better than an animal diet — and that it indeed was a large factor in preventing cancer. But also within this study "he investigated the virus hepatitis B (HBV) and collected data on the prevalence of people having antibodies and antigens, multiple disease mortality rates, and many nutritional risk factors. Relying only on statistically significant findings, HBV antibody prevalence was highly correlated with vegetable consumption, dietary fiber, and plant protein. In short, more plant food consumption was associated with more antibodies, and people consuming more animal protein had fewer antibodies." In his continued discussion he asks, "Given that COVID-19 is also a viral disease is it possible

that this same nutrition, plant-based, could help us improve our immune response?" His answer is Yes. "Even though there is no direct proof, I am quite confident that this nutritional strategy could produce a faster, safer, more comprehensive long-term solution for coping with viral diseases like COVID-19. We already have strong scientific evidence that this diet effectively reduces comorbidities associated with severe cases of COVID-19." Fellow Vermonters, as you go forward, think about following the advice of the past with a new animal-free eating plan that indeed may give you greater protection from COVID-19!

Pat Davies
Middlebury
*Quote from Dr. John McDougall

Cooperative group talks COVID-19

We write to members of the Middlebury and Addison County communities with an update to our joint letter of March 20, 2020, to share information and let you know about our collaborations and communications between sectors of the community as we move into the fall. We are proud of the work of our state, our county and our town to keep the incidence of COVID-19 one of the lowest in country. We know that many of you are concerned that, even while Vermont rates stay low, COVID-19 outbreaks rise across the country.

In March, we formed the Middlebury Information-Sharing in a COVID Emergency (MICE), a group that currently includes Middlebury selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter; Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay; Police Chief Tom Hanley; from UVM/Porter Medical Center, Interim President Tom Thompson, Dr. Anna Benvenuto, and Emergency Management Director Mike Leyden; Addison Central School District Superintendent Peter Burrows; and from Middlebury College, President Laurie Patton, Director of Community Relations Sue Ritter, Executive Vice President David Provost, Assistant Director Amy Carlin, and Director of Business Services Matt Curran. We have been meeting on a regular basis to share information and updates.

At the moment, we are preparing for the return of students in the schools as well as the college, and the completion of the rail project in town. Many of you have shared your concerns about the spread of disease as our educational institutions and businesses open and develop plans in response to the pandemic. We are meeting and working around the clock and sharing our plans across all of our institutions to put safety first, following guidelines from the state of Vermont and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. We are in touch with state authorities on a daily basis in order to continue our low COVID-19 transmission record.

From the Town of Middlebury

Throughout the State of Emergency declared by the governor in March, all town services — including police, fire, water, wastewater, Department of Public Works, vital records, land records, elections, and land planning and zoning — continued without interruption. In the initial days of the stay-at-home order, library staff quickly pivoted to provide enhanced support for patrons seeking to access materials online, offer virtual story times, and an IT help desk for patrons needing assistance with the new, omnipresent world of virtual conferencing. In June, the library transitioned to much-appreciated and well-used curbside service, and now offers limited in-person access. Parks and Recreation ran successful summer camps and swim lessons.

With more than 90 e-mail bulletins to date, Local Emergency Management Director and Police Chief Tom Hanley has brightened our days with clever, brief, easy-to-understand summaries of the governor's executive orders, state and federal guidelines, and resources for COVID-19 testing and support. For a quick read on the latest hyper-local COVID-19 news with a dash of humor, visit

the town's website, townofmiddlebury.org, to see the complete library of bulletins or sign-up for the e-mail distribution list. As the point person for the town's COVID-19 response efforts, Chief Hanley has also led outreach and education efforts on the benefits of mask wearing; secured 2,000 masks for distribution to businesses; and confers weekly with the Vermont Department of Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Department of Public Health.

From the Addison Central School District

Addison Central School District has been working throughout the summer to prepare for the potential impacts the COVID-19 pandemic will have on Vermont schools in the 2020-2021 school year. ACSD's recent School Reentry Plan, developed by ACSD staff, students, and families, outlines

the systems and structures the district will put in place in each of the different phases of learning that we may face: in-person, hybrid, and remote. These structures will enable us to respond to changes in Vermont Department of Health guidance and be prepared for the potential transitions we will need to make between remote and in-person learning. Above all else, we realize that our biggest goal throughout the next year is supporting our students, our families, and our staff as we work together to continue learning and growing through unprecedented times.

From Middlebury College

The college is observing a phased re-opening plan, which will proceed depending on conditions. You can see all of our safety precautions and opening plans here. Students are expected to observe pre- and post-arrival quarantine and be tested twice upon arrival. In Phase One, after they emerge from room quarantine, students must observe a campus quarantine. The campus will be closed to visitors. Town and college have plans in place to address concerns about students arriving from red and orange areas of the country, particularly concerning off-campus conduct. Town leaders and the town police are working with the college and the community to ensure that safety rules that have been put in place outside of campus are enforced to minimize community transmission of COVID-19. The college has also been working closely all summer with the hospital, and the two medical staffs have established protocols for working together in all levels of COVID-19 conditions. The college is monitoring local conditions daily and is prepared to close if it is not safe to stay open.

The town, school district, college, and hospital will continue to nurture their deep and successful collaborations and communications, which existed in our community pre-COVID-19 and have only strengthened with the onset of the pandemic last winter.

We know this fall will bring challenges, and those require constant connection. We are proud of our work together and appreciate the collaborative spirit in our community that has brought us this far. The people of this community are the number-one driver of our safety, and we are grateful. We have shown that we are indeed better together.



Community Forum

This community forum is a joint effort of Brian Carpenter, chair of the Middlebury selectboard; Peter Burrows, superintendent of the Addison Central School District, and Laurie Patton, president of Middlebury College.

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Starksboro sees a 3.4% hike in its town tax rate

By CHRISTOPHER ROSS

STARKSBORO — Educational and municipal property taxes are going up in Starksboro.

On July 21 the town selectboard set the 2020-21 municipal tax rate at 62.17 cents per \$100 of assessed property value — an increase of 2.06 cents, or 3.4%.

This rate includes 0.1 cent to raise the amount granted as an exemption for disabled veterans.

The town's residential education tax rate for fiscal year 2021 increased by 11.31 cents, or 6.9%, to \$1.7544.

Starksboro's nonresidential education tax rate increased by 10.49 cents, or 6.5%, to \$1.7184.

The total property tax rate for Starksboro residents is \$2.3761, an increase of 13.37 cents, or 6%.

The total nonresidential tax rate is \$2.3401, an increase of 12.55 cents, or 5.7%.

Starksboro's common level of

appraisal (CLA), as reported by the Vermont Department of Taxes, decreased by 4.05 points to 94.74.

Residents paying on the full value of their property will see a tax increase of \$133.70 per \$100,000 of assessed value, and nonresidents will see an increase of \$125.50.

Starksboro residents who pay based on their incomes are very likely to receive prebates for a portion of their school tax bills, and some will also receive municipal tax credits.

In 2019, nearly three-quarters of Starksboro residents received education tax credits, according to the Vermont Department of Taxes.

Last year, 415 of the town's 574 house sites received credits totaling \$548,068, or an average of \$1,321.

In addition, there were 70 Starksboro recipients of municipal tax credits, which averaged \$359.

The town is planning to mail out tax bills this month.

ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

Roman Mayer of Lincoln has been named to the spring 2020 dean's list at Roger Williams University, in Bristol, R.I. Full-time students who complete 12 or

more credits per semester and earn a grade point average of 3.4 or higher are placed on the dean's list that semester.



DIGNITARIES AND A couple dozen citizens on Aug. 6 celebrated ground-breaking for the new municipal building that will be constructed on Monkton Ridge. Those holding shovels include two representatives of the building committee, the library board chair, representatives from Bellwether Architects and Naylor & Breen builders, and Town Clerk Sharon Gomez.

Photo by Buzz Kuhns

Monkton breaks ground on new offices, library

MONKTON — Over the past decade, citizens of Monkton have considered four different proposals to build new space to house municipal activities and records. After residents on this past Town Meeting Day approved a \$1.7 million bond for construction of a new municipal building, it seemed like this time it was really going to happen.

On Thursday, those citizens got more proof with a couple dozen of them, along with town officials,

architects and builders showed up at a spot on Monkton Ridge near the Friends Methodist Church to formally break ground for the new town offices and library.

The Brandon firm Naylor and Breen is overseeing construction, and they have assembled a complete team of subcontractors. Members of the Monkton selectboard on July 13 signed an update to the Naylor and Breen contract that included all of the updated construction costs. The project remains on schedule

and on or near budget, town officials report.

Actual construction was due begin Aug. 10.

The town of Monkton applied to the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank for a \$1,700,000 bond, and was given a preliminary interest rate of 1.98%. This interest rate is significantly lower than the 2.5% town officials had hoped for. As a result, the selectboard reports that rather than a bill for \$12,000 of interest due in 2020, the town

will have to pay only \$8,700. This reduction is carried forward to regular payments which start in 2021, with the initial full payment being \$112,158, which is \$8,300 less than presented in the budget in March.

Volunteers will get several opportunities to work on the project. The will include construction of dry stone benches/retaining walls, setting pavers into the patio, and various landscaping needs.

Look for a call for volunteers on the town website, monktonvt.com.

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Bristol taxes edge higher; homeowner rate by nearly 7%

By CHRISTOPHER ROSS

BRISTOL — Property owners in Bristol will see a slight increase on their tax bills this year.

The town selectboard at its Aug. 10 meeting set the fiscal year 2021 municipal tax rate at 72.72 cents per \$100 of assessed property value, an increase of 2.15 cents, or 3%.

At the same time, it set the Bristol Police District tax rate at 29.80 cents, a decrease of 1.55 cents, or 4.9%.

As a result, residents within the one-square-mile police district will pay a combined municipal rate of \$1.0252 — about a half-penny, or 0.6%, more than last year.

Bristol's residential education tax rate for FY21 increased by 11.1 cents, or 6.9%, to \$1.7206.

The nonresidential education tax rate increased by 10.29 cents, or 6.5%, to \$1.6853.

In the police district, the overall residential property tax rate

increased by 11.7 cents, or 4.5%, to \$2.7458. The district's overall nonresidential tax rate increased by 10.89 cents, or 4.2%, to \$2.7105.

Outside the police district, Bristol's overall residential property tax rate increased by 13.25 cents, or 5.7%, to \$2.4478. The overall nonresidential tax rate increased by 12.44 cents, or 5.4%, to \$2.4125.

The common level of appraisal (CLA) for Bristol, as reported by the Vermont Department of Taxes, decreased by 4.13 points to 96.6.

Bristol property owners will see the following tax increases per \$100,000 of assessed value:

- Police district residential: \$117.
- Police district nonresidential: \$109.
- Town residential: \$133.
- Town nonresidential: \$124.

Residents who pay based on their incomes are very likely to receive prebates for a portion of their school tax bills, and some will

also receive municipal tax credits.

In 2019, more than three-quarters of Bristol residents received education tax credits, according to the Vermont Department of Taxes.

Last year, 779 of the town's 1,033 house sites received credits

totaling \$1,094,619, or an average of \$1,405.

In addition, there were 199 Bristol recipients of municipal tax credits, which averaged \$734.

Tax bills are expected to go out in the middle of September.

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Sports

(Continued from Page 1A)

Certainly, the requirements will be many:

- Masks for athletes, coaches and spectators.
- No blocking and tackling in football.
- No pregame huddles or postgame handshakes.
- No spitting.
- No more than 150 spectators at a game.
- Daily temperature checks and screening questions for athletes, coaches and game officials.
- Sanitation of locker rooms and exercise equipment, and plenty of hand sanitizer.
- Social distancing enforced everywhere, from locker rooms to sidelines.

Despite all that, said Vergennes AD Peter Maneen, administrators and coaches will aim to recreate typical seasons and games for the athletes, even as new guidelines and rules crop up.

"We're going to try to offer as normal a fall season as possible and monitor and adjust and alter things accordingly as needed," Maneen said. "But we're going to try to give kids the most normal experience we can."

Wendel said education and then cooperation by all parties will be the key to making the season work, especially when, "All it takes is one kid on one team to potentially shut it down."

Wendel likened athletes responding to COVID-19 symptoms to their dealing with concussion symptoms — they will have to tell the truth.

"It's really training people to just say it, just be open. If you have symptoms, say it. Let us help you. So it's going to be the same thing this fall. If you're not feeling well, we've got to know," he said.

"This not only affects you, but it could affect maybe not just your team, but maybe your entire

school, and maybe someone else's entire school ... So our goal is to educate our kids, educate our parents, educate our community members."

The most recent Vermont Principals' Association (VPA) fall sports guidelines may be found online at tinyurl.com/y6xhswbz.

Those guidelines include three "Steps." In Step 1 schools are closed for in-person learning, and sports are not permitted.

In Step 2, schools are open "with enhanced physical distancing measures," and sports teams "may conduct conditioning activities that follow social distancing norms."

In Step 3 schools are open on the same basis, but teams "may conduct normal training and interscholastic contests."

Middlebury AD Sean Farrell said Addison County and the rest of the state's high schools are all in Step 2, and can proceed to Step 3 with it all goes well.

"Addison County can't declare themselves in Step 3. The state will declare when we're moving to the next step," Farrell said. "The position of the state right now is that we will open up in Step 2, go through two weeks of training, intra-squad scrimmages, things of that nature, no interscholastic competition whatsoever, no scrimmages, for two weeks, and then opening up the third week in Stage 3."

Or, as Wendel put it, Stage 3 depends on the success of Stage 2 and the general success of the schools' reopening across the state.

"There's always that potential if the cases explode through the roof in the first two weeks of schools' reopening and the colleges coming back in session, that definitely could change predicted start dates and that sort of thing for competition," he said.

EFFECTS ON PLAY

Assuming all goes well, the sports that might see the fewest changes

are field hockey and soccer. Masks will be required, and rituals before and after matches will certainly be different. But other than that athletes will put on their masks and play.

For those teams, Farrell said there is widespread agreement they will just pick up their schedules as they were planned on Sept 21. Teams will play 10 or 11 games before postseason competition, with VPA quality points determining playoff standings.

"I know the VPA has met with each sport's committee, and each sport's committee at this point has said they'd like to pick up the season wherever we are when we're able to play," Farrell said.

At the JV level things could change, with an eye to avoiding more crowded buses. For example, Farrell said he, Maneen and Wendel recently met to discuss playing more local JV games rather than sending the JV teams off on the road with the varsity squads.

Outside of Addison County volleyball teams will be required to compete outside, bass fishing competitors will see little effect (yes, that is a VPA-approved sport), and Otter Valley golfers will have to compress their season into a window of just a few weeks.

Cross-country running might get a little complicated, although it is the only sport that received an exemption from the mask requirement. Starts will be staggered in larger meets, big events like Thetford's annual Woods Trail Run have been canceled, and organizers must maintain lists of participants in order to perform contact tracing if someone is later determined to have run while infected with COVID-19.

Meanwhile, football will look different, according to Farrell, who is also the chairman of the Vermont Interscholastic Football League and the league's head scheduler.

Despite grumbling in some quarters and a petition from one Champlain Valley Union player, the VPA cannot allow 11 vs. 11 tackle football, per guidance from

the governor and the Vermont Department of Health and Agency of Education.

"There will be no full-contact, line-play, traditional football played in 2020," Farrell said.

Instead, athletes — including linemen vs. linemen — will play "seven-v-seven pass-skeleton type football," with one-hand touch replacing tackling, Farrell said, adding that rules should be made final before next week.

He said the basics have been established: A center will hike the ball to a quarterback, who cannot run, but will have four seconds to throw the ball to one of the other five players, all of whom are eligible receivers. Failure to throw in four seconds means a loss of down. The seven defenders cannot rush the passer, and will cover the receivers.

Linemen will have the opportunity to challenge linemen under those same rules, Farrell said. "The linemen will be playing against other linemen as receivers or as defensive backs and linebackers," he said.

Because there will be no contact, games are likely to be scheduled twice weekly, on Tuesdays and then again on either Fridays or Saturdays, thus allowing teams to play a regular eight-game schedule, plus playoffs.

Maneen confirmed VUHS players would join the Eagle-Commodore cooperative football team, and re-emphasized the over-arching theme all the ADs sounded.

"We're all crossing our fingers," Maneen said. "We'll just plan and make any alterations as we go. But everyone's on board to try to give the kids a sense of normalcy."

Salisbury Turner Fund preserves local land

SALISBURY — In 2019, the Salisbury Conservation Commission established the Turner Conservation Fund. It is named in honor of Preston and Christine Turner, who gave an initial generous donation. The purpose of the fund is to conserve Salisbury land and water for agricultural, forest, wildlife, scenic, recreational or natural area use.

There are a variety of ways this fund could be used for conservation including:

- Projects that would enhance biological diversity and protect wildlife habitat.
- Projects that would protect and enhance town water resources.
- Projects that would provide outdoor recreational opportunities.
- Matching funds for leveraging of private, state, and federal grants for conservation projects.
- The purchase of resource lands or conservation easements in cooperation with landowners or non-profit organization.

A significant number of conservation commissions in Vermont have established similar funds that are used for a wide range of purposes. For example, the Johnson Conservation Commission has established a Conservation Reserve Fund to be used for public education, land conservation and forest and wildlife habitat stewardship. Funds from the town-supported Conservation Fund in Plainfield have helped to defray costs of two conservation easements

and contributed to the acquisition of land for the Cross Vermont Trail and the Town Forest.

In Warren, the town-supported Conservation Fund has supported farmland protection projects and forest parcel transfer to the U.S. Forest Service. Additionally, the town of Warren has been able to work with the Vermont Land Trust, and the Nature Conservancy to protect important parcels. Our northern neighbor Bristol has used their Conservation Reserve Fund to construct a handicapped fishing access on the New Haven River, for public education, and for leveraging outside funds to acquire parcels for conservation purposes.

Vermont towns have funded their conservation funds in a variety of ways. Some make an annual request for a set amount from the town budget. Others take a small percentage of the town's property tax income.

The Turner Conservation Fund is currently supported by donations from interested citizens. The Salisbury Conservation Commission welcomes donations at any time. The first \$5,000 of donations will be matched by the Turners. Expenditures from the fund would be initiated by the Salisbury Conservation Commission and made with Selectboard approval. Those interested in making a donation can contact Heidi Willis (redsprings@myfairpoint.net) or Barb Karle (bkarle@myfairpoint.net).



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Entries must be home grown in the greater Addison County area - Only produce entered through one the above methods will be eligible - Weekly front runners will be listed in the "Garden Game" column until another contestant provides a larger sample of that produce category (The largest entries as of Tuesday noon deadline will be listed in that Thursday's edition) - One winner per category - Judge has final word - First place winners will be announced at sign of first frost.

Makeover

(Continued from Page 1A)
 volume of students arriving over the course of a day, that also had the air-handling capacity and parking and bathroom facilities that we would need for the operation," Director of Health Services Mark Peluso told the *Independent*.

Arriving students reported to one of the Field House's 18 testing stations, where, under the guidance and observation of trained staff, they inserted half-inch swabs into their nostrils and deposited their samples into boxes, which were shipped off to the Broad Institute, Middlebury's testing vendor in Cambridge, Mass.

Students were then allowed to move into their dorms (or into college approved off-campus housing), where they were required to quarantine until their test results came back negative. College officials estimated they'd have test results within 36 hours.

Next Wednesday, after completing their own 14-day home quarantine, 980 students will make their way to campus and get tested in the Field House, followed by up to 1,200 more students on Friday.

Seven days after their respective arrivals, all three groups of students will return to the Field House to undergo a second round of testing.

Once "Day Zero" and "Day Seven" testing are complete, college health officials will continue to maintain at least five testing stations in the Field House as they transition to the weekly "targeted dynamic testing" of at least 750 students, faculty or staff.

The Field House is the largest building on campus to get a

makeover as part of the college's plan for creating a safe and healthy campus this fall, but it is by no means the only one.

The college has so far spent more than \$2.5 million transforming campus spaces, including dormitories, classrooms, conference rooms, labs, event spaces, break areas, common spaces and lounges, all of which have been adapted to reduce density and allow for physical distancing.

HOUSING

Vermont guidelines for reopening colleges and universities suggest limiting dorm room occupancy to two students.

Middlebury's campus already has a relatively low residential density, according to college officials, who point out that more than half of student housing is singles.

At the moment, officials estimate there will be at most 2,250 students living on campus this fall — roughly 300 less than capacity — but they predict this number will decrease, as students continue to opt for remote-only enrollment or take leaves of absence.

Beds in double-occupancy rooms that had been reserved for returning students who opted out at the last minute are generally not getting filled, effectively increasing the proportion of one-person rooms, said Director of Media Relations Sarah Ray.

The college is also in the process of renovating Adirondack House on College Street for future use as student housing.

"The housing team is in close consultation with Dr. Peluso and (Environmental Health & Safety Coordinator) Jen Kazmierczak

The campus will be closed to visitors including "the portion of the (Trail Around Middlebury) that crosses the campus from South Street Extension to Weybridge Street."
 — College spokesperson Sarah Ray

Physical changes on campus

College has sought permits to alter these buildings

534 College St.	Convert Adirondack House (business use and academic offices) to student housing
135 South Main St.	Existing office space to be converted to student housing
20 Old Chapel Road	Existing office space to be converted to student housing
105 South Main St.	Existing faculty housing to be converted to student housing
118 South Main St.	Existing office space to be converted to student housing-
46 South St.	Convert faculty commons housing to office use
26 Blinn Lane	Convert faculty commons housing to office use
132 Blinn Lane	Convert faculty commons housing to office use

about the most helpful way to use unoccupied beds from a health perspective," Ray said. "Recently we took a second house offline to have in reserve for quarantine or isolation purposes."

Along with Adirondack House, the college is seeking or has already received town permission to change eight other buildings: The Service Building, DKE, Charles P. Scott Center, 118 South Main St., 105 South Main St., 26 Blinn Lane, 132 Blinn Lane, and 46 South Street. The last three are former Commons faculty leader residences.

Changes are still ongoing at Adirondack House off College Street that won't come "online" until October.

"In early September, we will assess our enrollment situation and what our student housing needs are," said David Provost, executive VP for finance and administration. "At that time, we will decide whether to continue with the permitting process for the Service Building."

CLASSROOMS

About half of the courses offered this semester will be taught exclusively or partly in-person, so one of the college's most significant projects has involved evaluating and adapting its 90 classrooms.

During the first rough pass, officials reduced room capacities based on the assumption that

each student would need a six-foot radius around them, Dean of Curriculum Suzanne Gurland explained during a phone interview.

They made further adjustments after considering entrance and exit spaces.

"Would it be safe for students to pass by one another and sort of 'puncture' someone else's bubble if you were on your way out to use the restroom, for example," Gurland said.

Teams then experimented with fixed- and moveable-furniture arrangements to make the best use of each space.

"The outcome of this was basically that some classrooms that are on the smaller side couldn't be used at all because they accommodate so few students that it wasn't worth holding a class in there," Gurland said. "Most of the other classrooms were reduced to a quarter or a third of their normal capacities."

Any class with an enrollment maximum of 35 or more will automatically be taught online, she said.

Rooms that are too small to host classes will be made available for other uses, such as for professors who need a space from which

to teach remote classes, or for students looking for quiet study spots.

Classrooms will have their own hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies so that students and others can clean seats, tables and desks as they arrive and before they leave.

New signs will clearly mark each room's new capacity and what traffic patterns need to be used.

And students will also have more time between classes, so they don't end up crowding doorways or each other in their rush to get across campus.

Adapting classrooms has also involved assessing and modifying heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems to increase air flow.

According to the college website, "a ventilation assessment team, which includes outside engineering and industrial hygiene resources, developed an action plan to implement corrective measures or improvements based on assessment work that began in May 2020."

Work in campus buildings has included increasing fresh-air exchange, replacing and if possible upgrading HVAC filters, and installing portable HEPA air filters.

students will only have access to their residence halls and to relevant academic buildings.

To make up for drastically reduced building capacities and provide more outdoor options, the college has erected tents around campus, especially near dining halls, where students can gather to eat, study or participate in small events.

Some buildings, such as libraries and indoor athletic facilities, will be closed entirely at the beginning of the semester, then gradually reopen as conditions allow.

The entire campus (except for the golf course) will be closed to visitors. "This includes taking walks on the college campus as well as the portion of the (Trail Around Middlebury) that crosses the campus from South Street Extension to Weybridge Street," Ray said. "We look forward to the future when we can welcome the community back to campus for recreation and events."

The most important thing for the community to understand about the college's overall strategy for transforming physical spaces "is that we are constantly re-assessing," Gurland said. "We did not make the decision on June 22 (to reopen the campus) and then fully commit to it regardless of circumstances. We're reviewing new information all the time and keeping our eye on the ball to make sure that we can do this safely."

Reach Christopher Ross at christopherr@addisonindependent.com.

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Testing Plan

(Continued from Page 1A)

At the same time, college officials say they are taking unprecedented precautions to keep students and the broader community safe from a COVID-19 outbreak. And they are joined by others in asserting that a careful return of students to campus is better than the alternative for many young adults.

“At Middlebury we know residential education reduces inequities for students and supports their mental health,” Middlebury President Laurie Patton said in a statement released over the weekend. “The question for us was, could we create the safest possible environment to do so.”

(Read Patton’s full statement on Page 10A.)

The college has set up a testing center in the Virtue Field House and taken other steps to make housing and classes safer for students, college employees and the public at large (see story in this Thursday’s edition).

Nevertheless, there are plenty of people locally and farther afield criticizing the college’s work to make in-person education possible.

Political scientist Yascha Mount, an associate professor at Johns Hopkins University’s School of Advanced International Studies, singled out Middlebury College in an Aug. 8 piece in *The Atlantic*. He suggested that within weeks of opening, American colleges and universities would need to isolate larger and larger numbers of students and then shut down their campuses on short notice, “and students, many of them infected, will spread the virus all the way home and to their families.”

Addison County, he suggested, “has virtually vanquished COVID-19 ... But (it) is home to Middlebury College, which, according to its website, hosts students from 49 states. When young people from coronavirus hot spots such as Georgia, Florida, and Texas arrive for class, Addison County’s infection rate will almost certainly grow.”



“Returning college students and summer visitors from ‘red’ areas are only a health threat if you let your guard down and suffer ambivalence to precautions.”
— Middlebury Emergency Management Director Tom Hanley

Locally, criticism of the college’s “Return to Campus” plan springs from fears that students will bring COVID-19 into Middlebury, that the college isn’t conducting enough testing, and that students can’t be trusted to follow public health guidelines.

An Aug. 13 letter in the *Independent*, signed by 60 members of the college and local communities, envisioned 18- to 22-year-olds “packed into dormitories” without enough self-control to follow the college’s public health guidelines, and faulted the college with a “failure to provide for ongoing weekly testing of everyone.”

This week one college professor alerted college officials (and cc’d the *Independent*) to a Facebook post from Pierre Vachon of Frog Alley Tattoo & Leatherworks that says students have tried to book appointments for piercings upon their arrival in Middlebury and were angry and verbally abusive when told he couldn’t pierce them because they are supposed to be quarantining. The professor said a colleague reported seeing four students without face masks walking back to campus carrying coffee they had just purchased off campus. He had also heard a rumor that a group of Middlebury students partied at a bar in Vergennes over this past weekend.

Meanwhile, Middlebury town police were called to a loud party at a Shannon Street home at 10:17 p.m. on this past Sunday. Police described participants as college students and said at least some of the partygoers weren’t complying with the state’s social distancing mandates.

“From an analysis of five schools (Bates, Bowdoin, Connecticut and Middlebury colleges and Tufts University), it is clear how much of an ‘epidemiological shock’ students’ return to campus could bring,” Renton wrote. “Of the 12,348 students, 20% (2,443) live

in states designated by the White House as in the ‘red zone.’”

A week later, James Finn, reporting in the *Middlebury Campus* newspaper, pointed out that “just 2% of students reside in the only ‘green zone’ that presently exists in the country — the Green Mountain State itself.”

But just because people are traveling from high-risk areas doesn’t mean they necessarily have the disease, Middlebury Director of Health Services Mark Peluso told the *Independent*. He pointed to early testing results from Norwich University, which on the weekend of Aug. 8 welcomed 500 students to campus for the fall semester. Three of those students tested positive for COVID-19 and were immediately isolated. All three had traveled from “high-risk” pandemic areas, according to Peluso, who had spoken with Norwich officials.

Peluso finds Norwich’s low percentage of initial cases — 0.6% — “encouraging.”

“Our 14-day pre-arrival quarantine, direct travel to campus, day 0 and day 7 testing, room quarantine, campus quarantine, off-campus travel restrictions and no-visitor policy was designed to address students coming from areas with a high prevalence of COVID-19,” he said in a statement emailed to the *Independent* by Director of Media Relations Sarah Ray.

She said the college and its public health partners are working on a policy for sharing with the local community — and not just state officials — the number of positive

COVID-19 test results. She added that it was important to protect the privacy of individual students.

“The college is developing a communications plan to share testing numbers and results, including cumulative COVID-19 positive cases,” Ray said. “Our goal is to keep the community prepared and informed while protecting the privacy of those who test positive.”

She noted that the Department of Health has ways to do contact tracing confidentially and to ensure privacy is protected.

TESTING

Critics point out that schools similar to Middlebury are testing their students more often.

“I know testing is a big issue,” Peluso said. “Some (colleges) are testing every student — or even every student, faculty and staff member — twice a week,” he said. “I would say that if that is their plan, that’s great as long as testing holds up.”

On the other hand, “we’re doing what I believe is a hybrid model that has some testing in it to look for pre-symptomatic or asymptomatic spread, but we’re also doing it in a way that matches the prevalence in our community.”

Addison County has by far the lowest number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 of any county hosting a school in Middlebury’s athletic conference, NESCAC. The vast majority of those colleges are located in counties with more than 1,000 confirmed cases, while as of Aug. 16 Addison County had only 76.

After the college conducts arrival and week-one testing on every single incoming student, it will employ what Peluso calls “targeted dynamic testing” of at least 750 students, faculty and staff per week. If COVID-19 prevalence rises locally, the college has the ability to increase its testing capacity right away, he said.

Why not just test everyone all the time?

“Because there’s a risk of false positive tests,” Peluso said. “If you do a mass screening, the likelihood of a positive test being truly positive is very low. In other words, the risk of a false positive is very high in a low-prevalence situation.”

False positives have adverse consequences, he said.

“For COVID, the adverse effect would be that once someone tests positive and (completes) their isolation — which is only 10 days if they don’t have symptoms — the

(CDC) recommendation is to not test them again for 90 days. If tested again they’d probably still be positive, and then we’d have to isolate them all over again and then have their contacts quarantined for 14 days — again. And again and again and again if you keep testing these people.

“So what a lot of schools don’t tell you is that they’re not going to test people that have tested positive,” Peluso continued. “They’re going to waive testing for 90 days. So imagine: In a low-prevalence state, you test somebody and they’re positive, but it’s a false positive, and now they’re not going to be tested for 90 days. That person then gets exposed — that person is a super-spreader event waiting to happen.”

“Low prevalence,” is a tricky concept, however, as Director of Middlebury’s Global Health Program Pam Berenbaum pointed out in Finn’s *Middlebury Campus* article. It’s not a static condition.

What does it take for a “low-prevalence” community to become a “high-prevalence” community?

“There is no standard definition of ‘low’ or ‘high’ prevalence,” Berenbaum told the *Independent* in an email. “It is characterized with respect to scarcity of resources, health inequities, the extent of suffering, communicability, whether there is a treatment, and so forth. I would say that given how infectious COVID-19 is, and how dire the consequences are for at-risk individuals, there would be low tolerance for an increase in prevalence. We have seen many states roll back their reopening plans for this reason.

“An increase in prevalence might be tolerable if it is contained and does not exhaust existing resources,” Berenbaum continued.

“There are many measures to prevent, mitigate, and contain outbreaks of far more deadly pathogens, if resources are available. In any case, protecting the public’s health requires not only policies and resources, but also buy-in and personal responsibility on the part of community members.”

RUNNING AMOK

In his Aug. 7 bulletin, Middlebury Police Chief and Local Emergency Management Director Tom Hanley seemed somewhat calm about students coming back.

“Returning college students and summer visitors from ‘red’ areas are only a health threat if you let your guard down and suffer ambivalence to precautions,” he told local residents.

A week later, however, Hanley asked for help keeping our guard up; he asked townspeople to report suspicious college students to the police.

“While college internal rules are robust and can be very effective, they cannot be enforced if the administration is not aware of potential violations,” he wrote. “Until a formal process is in place, the police are asking you to call and report noise disturbances and gatherings where the governor’s orders on the mask requirement, social distancing, and gathering size are not being complied with. The police will respond for COVID compliance purposes.”

It should be noted that most law enforcement in Addison County and the rest of Vermont over the past several months have repeatedly expressed reluctance to pursue violations of town or state public safety ordinances committed by Vermont residents or out-of-state visitors.

“Both the town and college share the community’s concern over students arriving from ‘red’ and ‘orange’ areas and we are working with the college to ensure that safety rules put in place are enforced to mitigate the risk to the community,” Hanley concluded.

On Aug. 14, when he again extended Vermont’s State of Emergency, Gov. Phil Scott announced he would be giving municipalities “additional tools” to control college students, including lowering the limit on gathering size and setting curfews for bars and clubs.

“Looking at case growth in other states, and hearing from other governors about what they saw, it appears uncontrolled parties and crowds at bars and clubs are a big part of the problem,” Scott said in a statement. “So I believe giving our towns, especially the college towns, some additional mitigation measures to work with is the right

thing to do.”

During a July 28 Middlebury selectboard meeting, Middlebury College Dean of Students Derek Doucet promised there would be swift punishment on campus for public safety infractions.

“The bar for removal from campus and/or suspension will be far lower than in a typical year, and I don’t say that lightly,” Doucet said. “The stakes are too high, and introducing elevated levels of risk to the community won’t be tolerated.”

Sanctions will be proportionate to the level of elevated risk a particular behavior has the potential to introduce to the community, Doucet said.

“We won’t wait for infection to result from a behavior to respond forcefully.”

BLAMING STUDENTS

According to Harvard Medical School epidemiologist Julia Marcus and Washington University in St. Louis psychiatrist Jessica Gold, a common narrative about the pandemic is evolving, based on an increasing number of coronavirus cases among young people that have been associated — rightly or wrongly — with bars and house parties: “Careless 20-somethings are ruining life for the rest of us.”

In their July 21 article in the *Atlantic*, “Colleges Are Getting Ready to Blame Their Students,” Marcus and Gold suggested that “relying on the self-control of young adults, rather than deploying the public-health infrastructure needed to control a disease that spreads easily among people who live, eat, study, and socialize together, is not a safe reopening strategy — and yelling at students for their dangerous behavior won’t help either.”

They pointed out that young people are at far greater risk of suffering from psychiatric disorders triggered or worsened by social isolation than they are from complications associated with the coronavirus.

Peluso agrees, which is one of the reasons he thinks college students should return to college, if it is safe to do so.

“The piece that rarely gets discussed is the impact on students that can’t return,” he said. “There’s some research being done about the impacts of isolation, particularly related to COVID, especially in young adults, who are at a stage of life where they want to learn and they’re looking at career opportunities. Social relationships are very important to them in that stage of development and students that attend colleges and universities have the expectation that they’re going to meet those needs. When those things are taken away, at best there’s demoralization; at worst it can spiral into depression or other mental health issues that will have a long-lasting effect on that individual. I think it’s not the only reason to bring people back — and certainly if we felt that the community was unsafe we would shut down — but understanding the impact on the entire community, including students, I think is important.”

Reach Christopher Ross at christopherr@addisonindependent.com.

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Rogers

(Continued from Page 1A) chuckled during an interview this past Saturday, Aug. 15.

Saturdays are always precious, and Rogers is now down to her last two as the first-ever branch librarian at Sarah Partridge. Now age 78 and dealing with a few nagging infirmities, Rogers will retire at the end of this month — much to the chagrin of the many East Middlebury residents who have come to know and appreciate her.

“They are my friends,” Rogers said matter-of-factly.

She plans to maintain those friendships, but not as a community librarian.

“Right now I need to retire for my health,” she said, then grinned. “The bottom book shelf is soooo low.”

And she’s earned her retirement.

In addition to having taught for 13 years in addition to her 17 as a branch librarian, Rogers owned and operated The Diet Center of Addison County franchise in Middlebury from 1986 to 1993. She also ran a satellite office in Vergennes during that time. She closed the Diet Center to take a job as office manager for Barry Lane at Discover Writing in Shoreham, before joining Sarah Partridge Library in 2003.

It’s clear that Rogers, now a Brandon resident, hasn’t forgotten her days with the Diet Center. She can read people like a book. The diminutive lady sized up this reporter’s height and body mass, after which she

(thankfully) assessed him to be within a “high-normal” weight range, at 140 pounds. Most folks shy away from discussing such things as age and weight with anyone other than family or a physician. But there’s something about Rogers’s personality and earnestness that makes one comfortable about sharing.

There’s been a lot of sharing at the library during Rogers’s tenure — and it’s been more than books and friendly conversation.

She helped establish an East Middlebury knitting group that met Tuesday mornings at the library, but now meets in individual members’ homes. The fabric, yarn and other craft supplies blended in naturally with the book shelves and genial, homey atmosphere of the community house, given to the community by the Partridge family back in 1924.

Twelve years ago Rogers and longtime East Middlebury resident Margot Brown created a book club called “BLTs,” which stands for Books and Lunch on Tuesdays. A core group of around six have enjoyed bringing lunch to Sarah Partridge to discuss a book they’ve all read.

Sadly, it’s been hold the mayo on BLT since the COVID-19 pandemic hit in mid-March. The library itself is currently open only on Saturday mornings, with a limit of two patrons in the building at the same time (with social distancing).

Libraries, like businesses and individuals, have persevered through the pandemic. Even though

“Those of us who are readers have survived COVID-19 better because of our books.”

— Mona Rogers



MONA ROGERS (LEFT) will retire this month as head of the Sarah Partridge Library, and pass the leadership baton to Laura Fetterolf. Independent photo/John Flowers

libraries have been closed or held to reduced hours, they’ve been able to provide patrons with curbside service and online book orders.

“I feel books have carried us right through this time,” Rogers said. “Those of us who are readers have survived COVID-19 better because of our books.”

Serving as librarian has been an enriching and satisfying experience for Rogers, who has been the face of literacy in the community. She harkened back to a specific course en route to earning her certificate of public librarianship: “The One-Person Library.” That’s the reality for small libraries that operate on a shoestring. Sarah Partridge has had the same annual \$2,200 book

allowance for the past 15 years, according to Rogers.

What lesson has she learned? “You can’t do it all,” Rogers said, voicing appreciation for the help she’s received through the years from the Ilsley.

“It’s the best job I ever had,” she added.

NEXT IN LINE

Rogers will soon pass the Sarah Partridge baton to Laura Fetterolf, who knows she’ll have some big shoes to fill. In addition to two years experience as a substitute at the Ilsley, Fetterolf has worked as an Interim Youth Services Librarian at the Bixby Library in Vergennes and currently serves as a trustee on

the Cornwall Public Library Board. She’s pursuing a certificate of librarianship through the Vermont Department of Libraries.

Fetterolf praised Rogers for the outstanding work she’s done at Sarah Partridge.

“You drive by this building and see what it looks like on the outside,” Fetterolf said of the library’s welcoming façade. “This is what I was hoping for on the inside — a home for people. That’s what I want it to be. I’m so grateful that Mona has this started and has kept it going and has such a strong connection.”

Ilsley Library Director Dana Hart voiced great appreciation for Rogers.

“Being a solo librarian — a librarian that works in a building without any other colleagues present — is a uniquely challenging job. Mona has had to wear many hats and has made it look effortless.”

— Dana Hart

“Over almost two decades she has greeted every East Middlebury resident that walked through the library doors and forged a connection with countless community members,” she said. “Being a solo librarian — a librarian that works in a building without any other colleagues present — is a uniquely challenging job. Mona has had to wear many hats and has made it look effortless. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to work with Mona, and the library staff, and I wish her well in her retirement.”

Rogers won’t have an idle retirement. She’s an avid gardener and will continue to be part of the East Middlebury knitting group. But she’ll miss the regular contact with library patrons.

“It’s been my home away from home for 17 years,” Rogers said of Sarah Partridge. “It’s the best job I ever had.”

Rogers’s many fans will be able to give her a proper sendoff at a reception on Saturday, Aug. 29, from 10 a.m. to noon, at the Sarah Partridge Library. In order to keep folks safe, this event will function like a receiving line, not a traditional reception. Rogers will be at a table on the lawn behind the library, with cookies and punch. Only one individual and or family should approach Mona at a time.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

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SCAN ME

photo by Benjy Renton

Ross letter

(Continued from Page 4A) in the middle of the school year. At this point all three of our children have experienced both elementary schools on some level. There are some significant differences between the two size schools. In our case, Cornwall has felt like the better fit as it teaches them in ways that we very much value.

While I would very much like to see Cornwall elementary (and all the schools for that matter) survive, I know that our current dynamics do not allow for this. So we search for the best possible outcome for all. Saving three to four schools sounds reasonable to me. I will not attempt to say which schools I think should stay, but I was not surprised by which ones were being promoted as the keepers, and which should be lost. I will say that I think there may be some major push back about folding the student bodies of the two smallest schools in the district into that of the largest.

I have a couple suggestions. The first is to maybe allow family choice (within reason) of which remaining district school they would like their child(ren) to attend. Obviously there

would be some logistics to work out for that option.

To me a larger concern, which I had even before that article, is to stop looking at our district by town borders. We are one district now and we should be starting to take on that mindset. However, we should be looking at potential natural barriers. To me the most obvious such barrier is the Otter Creek. It literally bisects our district and only has a handful of crossings.

This causes me to have concerns about the proposal for Cornwall students to go to Salisbury school. I can see this being an obvious choice with the two towns being right next to each other and Salisbury essentially having enough room for K-5 students from both towns. However, the primary route between the two schools includes traveling along Swamp Road in Cornwall, crossing a temporary one-lane bridge that has replaced the covered bridge that burned down several years ago, and continuing on a series of roads on the Salisbury side.

The main issue I know about

is that Swamp Road floods fairly regularly. I personally know of it happening three out of the last four spring seasons. This can be the case for weeks and even months at a time, often during a good stretch of the school year. Secondly, I expect that at some point a new, permanent bridge will be built at that crossing.

During either of those situations, the Cornwall buses will need to travel farther to alternative crossings in Whiting (which can also flood) or Middlebury. A recent trip to Google Maps tells me that the direct 8.5-mile trip between Cornwall and Salisbury takes 14 minutes. In comparison, to go through Middlebury adds nearly four miles travel each way and takes 18 minutes. I would be more than willing to bet that trip would take much more than 18 minutes during the high traffic times that Middlebury sees when school is starting and ending. Unless the district, town of Cornwall, and other affected parties wanted to work out a plan to raise the elevation of Swamp Road (and maybe Creek Road on the Salisbury side), this could lead to approximately an extra

half-hour round-trip travel time for Cornwall elementary students on an already lengthened travel/school day.

One could also consider some students from one part of a town going to one school, while students from another part of that town go to another school. I could see such an option working well for Weybridge and Cornwall in particular.

I am not trying to tell the ACSD officials exactly how to divvy up the student body. My goal is to just encourage a broader thought process while they deliberate. I would also hope that they give some time for the 6th grade move to MUMS to take effect before starting the process of actually consolidating elementary schools. That time could also be used to perform the backlog of maintenance and required upgrades for the schools that will remain to be able to fully accommodate the higher numbers on day one of the change. I also hope that discussion is starting about what can be done with the schools that don’t make the cut.

Ian Ross
Cornwall

Fall 2020 Adult Education Class Schedule – Patricia A. Hannaford Career Center

51 Charles Avenue, Middlebury VT 05753 • www.hannafordcareercenter.org

Call (802) 382-1004 to register. Space is limited.

Licensed Nurse Assistant Program (LNA)
Tue & Thu; 4:30-8:00P; Sep 10-Nov 19; \$1,920. Additional \$150 needed for LNA License application and testing fees. A non-refundable \$50 deposit is required to enroll in this class. Mandatory one-hour orientation on Sep 10. Please call to find out about financial aid options. This course will prepare the student to apply for Licensed Nurse Assistant (LNA) licensure with the State Board of Nursing. The program is targeted to individuals who are interested in entry-level skilled positions in healthcare and immediate employment. Includes classroom instruction, skills lab practice, and clinical practice. Official signed verification of immunizations/titers is mandatory and must be submitted. LNA daytime class may be available. Call for further information.

Phlebotomy Training
Scheduled to begin January 2021; \$1,200 includes textbook and workbook. PTC exam \$115 payable on-line 2 weeks prior to testing. Upon successfully completing this course, you will be eligible to sit for the national exam to become a Phlebotomy Technician (PTC) through the American Medical Certification Association. Phlebotomists perform blood collection procedures and transport and process blood samples. Course content includes anatomy and physiology of the circulatory system, lab procedures, safety, collection techniques, legal issues, and 10 hours of clinical practice. Attendance is critical and participants may miss no more than 2 classroom sessions to qualify to take the exam.

Intro to Basic Welding
Thu; 5:30-8P; Sep 17-Oct 8; \$120. In this class you will learn the basics of Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW) or stick welding. The class will primarily focus on the 7018 welding electrode but will explore other electrodes as time permits. We will be working mostly in the flat, horizontal positions with some introduction to the vertical position.

Intro to Basic Woodworking
Thu; 5:30-7:30P; Sep 17-Oct 8; \$120. Designed for those interested in learning the basics in woodworking. Each student will learn the basic techniques and tools needed to get started in woodworking. Classes will be held in our woodshop with live demonstrations and hands-on guidance. Each student will complete a simple woodworking project during the class. All materials will be supplied.

How Do You Make The Best Of A New Job?
Thu; 5:30-7:30P; Sep 17-Oct 1; \$90. Designed for anyone looking to find a career, change a career or just entering the workforce. This class teaches employment skills, knowledge of career pathways, and confidence needed to find and get on the path to a career, not just a job. Students will explore Careers, Ladders and Pathways, Effective Communication/Listening Skills, Working in Teams, First Impressions and Professional Conduct, Social Media/Reputation Risk, Resume Writing, Interviewing Skills, Setting Goals, Action Items and Next Steps.

Cooking and Eating Sustainably with the Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op
Join us each Wednesday from 5:30-7:30P September 23 to October 28, 2020 \$30 per class.
See full listings & descriptions at: middlebury.coop/participate/workshops-classes/

The Makery
Starting August 20th the Sewing Lab will reopen for member projects! Participants must pre-register online in the Events Calendar at www.MakeryatPAHCC.org due to social distancing limitations. Makery nights will be free or have a sliding scale fee for several months. The Woodworking and Computer Labs will reopen at a later date.

Due to Covid-19, seating in classrooms and labs will be physically distanced and the number of people allowed in each room will be restricted. Masks are required by all participants and staff, as well as practicing physical distancing.

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Around the bend

(Continued from Page 4A)
turkeys had gotten separated from the flock.

We had a great idea: We'd get Gobbles some poults. Sometimes, if you catch a hen in the right mood, she'll see babies and, her heart filled with joy, adopt them as her own. Then again, sometimes she will look upon them as tiny, peeping marauders and try to peck them to death. It can go either way.

Feeling optimistic, on Saturday we brought home four recently hatched Narragansett turkey poults. We took them out to Gobbles with the hope that she would look upon them with instant maternal affection.

Carefully lowering the open cardboard box before her, we watched for her reaction. Hearing them chirp, she cocked her head, fluffed her feathers and came closer.

After a glance, she checked her watch, began preening herself and then wandered away to peck at a bug.

Was she indifferent, or just hiding her true feelings?

Later, after we'd set up a brooding area in the house, I carried just one fluffy, sparrow-sized poult out to Gobbles to see if she'd reconsider. With caution, I set the baby down on the ground in front of her.

When she finally noticed it, she paid it as much attention as she might a stapler or an old shoe. Giving it a perfunctory peck on the head — at which point I snatched it away to safety — she ambled off to resume her fruitless search for full-size friends.

I respect that Gobbles has



JESSIE PROTECTS A Narragansett turkey poult from the overly aggressive "loving" offered by the adult turkey Gobbles.

chosen to postpone motherhood for the time being in order to focus on her career. True, it means we're stuck raising four pet turkeys. But once they're grown, Gobbles will have flock mates.

In the meantime, she calls plaintively for companionship. Whenever we go outside, she sits by our feet and insists that we pet her.

I know what you're thinking: "Gobbles is just a dumb bird with a walnut-size brain. Why do you always anthropomorphize your farm animals and act like they have real emotions?"

That's a reasonable question. In fact, I ran it past Gobbles just yesterday.

I don't know what I was thinking. Now she's not even speaking to me.



GOBBLES DEMANDS A gentle caress while Jessie works on her column. The female turkey thinks she's a pet dog.

Letter to the Editor

Wishing luck to the Middlebury campus to keep COVID at bay

Good luck to Middlebury College as it welcomes back thousands of students from all over the country. We can only hope that the college's long list of "safety protocols" do the trick by preventing an outbreak of COVID-19 on campus and in the wider community. Much hinges on whether people ages of 17-21 can behave more responsibly than I probably would have as a student at a similar liberal arts college (Williams) during a faraway time (class of 1956).

Three factors appear to be crucial: (1) The need for mature behavior by the students, (2) the

power of peer pressure on those who may be inclined to stray, and (3) no-nonsense enforcement by the college administration. Here's what my alma mater, which like Middlebury College is re-opening for the fall semester, has to say about it.

"It is crucial for students to feel comfortable communicating to each other about following health and safety guidelines ... We will fail even before we have a chance to succeed if students don't hold each other accountable. We expect the majority of monitoring and corrective behavior to happen among students."

New arrivals at Williams are also advised: "If we learn that students are not upholding our guidelines in regard to face covering and social distancing, we will initiate a conversation with a dean. Any continued infractions will result in removal from campus." A partial list of "egregious actions" is set forth, where a "single violation will result in immediate removal from campus."

Middlebury College also promises a tough stance on discipline as it embarks on what is probably the most important experiment since its founding in

1800. If administrators, faculty and students are successful, they will make history by showing that large numbers of young people can act with wisdom and maturity during the worst health crises of our lifetimes.

As the college's website notes: "Although the 2020-21 Middlebury experience will be unlike anything we've come to know, we can still have social interactions in a safe way."

Needless to say, we're rooting for you!

**Dick Beamish
Middlebury**

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)
to the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Vermont Emergency Management, the Department of Health, Agency of Transportation and National Guard are helping to distribute the free masks. You can also access these free face coverings through your town, as municipalities are responsible for distributing them. To obtain a facemask, visit tinyurl.com/yyf9med6 to find your local contact. If your town is not listed, then your local officials may have not requested their allotment or provided contact information.

The Bristol Conservation Commission has put together two nature-themed Bingo games for people to play in Bristol. One involves bird spotting (aimed more toward adults) and one is for your backyard (aimed more toward families and kids). The games are intended to encourage people to get outside, stay socially distanced, and experience the outdoor beauty that is in abundance in Bristol. The games are easy to play. When you find different items on the Bingo board, check them off. When you complete a vertical, horizontal, or diagonal row you've gotten Bingo! Bring your completed board to the Lawrence Memorial Library by Sept. 7 to be entered into a raffle to win one of three \$20 Bristol Bucks prizes. Limit: one entry per household. The Bingo cards are posted on the Bristol Recreation Department and conservation

commission websites, and are being handed out in hard copy at the library with requested curbside books. Happy hunting!

The Middlebury selectboard has approved a proposal from Neighbors Together representative Nancy Malcolm to use state grant funds related to the downtown rail tunnel project to buy a series of large canopy tents. Those tents will be used for the duration of the project to support pop-up events and other community happenings that comply with social-distancing requirements. Altogether, eight tents — four pop-up and four center-pole — will be purchased with the grant funds. The tents will remain the property of the town at the end of construction

Addison County law enforcement agencies will be conducting impaired driving checkpoints and saturation patrols throughout the county from Aug. 21 to Sept. 7 as part of the Governor's Highway Safety Labor Day holiday campaign, according to

Mark Stacey, the Addison County Highway Safety Coordinator. Officers will also be vigilant for distracted driving offenders and drivers who are not wearing seatbelts. They ask all to drive responsibly by wearing seatbelts, not drinking and driving, and not using cell phones while driving. Be safe and enjoy the holiday!

Dee Gilbert has been appointed to Vermont Adult Learning's Board of Trustees. She is the assistant director for employer relations and outreach in the Center for Careers and Internships at Middlebury College. She fosters employer relationships in order to provide high quality and diverse employment and internship opportunities to students. Gilbert has a passion for helping people set and achieve goals and brings sixteen years of Human Resource experience in higher education. She is active in her church and has served as a volunteer for Vermont Adult Learning since 2013.

There are currently more than 68,000 Vermonters who receive 3SquaresVT benefits (known as SNAP nationally) to help them provide food for their families. Starting Aug. 1, Vermonters who spend some of their 3SquaresVT benefits at 28 participating farmers markets across the state started tripling their spending power by purchasing fresh, local food with Crop Cash. The Crop Cash Program is administered by the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont (NOFA-VT). Typically, Crop Cash provides a one-to-one match of 3SquaresVT/SNAP benefits, up to \$10 per day. However, for August, September, and October, NOFA-VT will double the Crop Cash match providing up to \$20 extra per day. That means Vermonters shopping with 3SquaresVT/SNAP benefits will have triple the spending power for fresh, local food at the farmers market. For more information on Crop Cash, including a list of participating markets, visit nofavt.org/cropcash.



We wear a mask... to protect people at any age.

It's a fact: Vermonters help Vermonters. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, it's never been more important for us all to take steps to slow its spread, especially for Vermonters at higher risk of serious illness. That means wearing a face mask or covering when you can't always stay six feet away from people you don't live with. Simple steps like these keep our state a safe place to live, work and play.

**What are your reasons?
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Beavers

(Continued from Page 1A)

Payea's yard had also been under water.

"This used to be meadows here," she said, indicating the westernmost end of the 120-acre pond, which empties into Lewis Creek. She pointed to a couple of cracked gray posts sticking up out of the water. "Those used to be fence posts."

Down in the water, a few yards away, beaver expert Skip Lisle of Grafton was busy assembling a custom-made system that he invented to keep the water flowing, regardless of damming activity.

He calls it the "Beaver Deceiver."

BREACHING THE DAM

When winter gave way to spring this year and Lee Kauppila discovered that his dock was under water, he paddled out to the dam to see what the problem was.

"The beavers had taken out the previous device," he said. "They had solved it. So I called up Fish & Wildlife to tell them their device wasn't working and they said, 'Well, we've done it a couple of times now and we're not going to do it anymore. You're on your own.'"

Fish & Wildlife officials provided a list of "beaver consultants" and the re-emerging Cedar Lake Association (CLA) hired Lisle to come out in May and deceive the beavers.

But before that could happen, the dam had to be breached.

Kauppila explained the process at Monkton's town meeting last March (and was interrupted several times by appreciative laughter).

"One fun thing that's going to happen is that a week to 10 days before the Beaver Deceiver shows up, it's going to be my job to breach the dam. (Lisle told me to) 'put waders on, go out there, and with a cultivator' — a tine cultivator, he said — 'start making a U-shaped hole in the dam, so the water rushes out. (Lisle) said, 'Do it in the morning, because the beavers don't like to

come out during the day. So the water will keep rushing all day. When it gets dark, the beavers will come out and attempt to patch it, but they won't be able to keep up with you... because you will go out the next day, and every day after that (and undo the patches)."

This Beaver Deceiver prep ended up getting delayed a couple of months because of the coronavirus, but by the middle of June, Kauppila was ready to proceed.

He got some much-needed help from George Parker's Boy Scout troop, which included boys and girls. The troop made two major breaches in the dam, and two smaller ones, and the water level dropped by 5 inches the first night.

For 10 days afterward, Kauppila and his wife, Melody, went out every morning to undo the beavers' repair jobs, which brought the water level down another 10 inches or so.

A drought this summer reduced the water level another 6 or 8 inches, and the CLA was ready for the final project.

BEAVER DECEIVER

Over the past 25 years Skip Lisle has installed more than a thousand Beaver Deceivers all over the country, and around the world.

"Beavers do very little deductive reasoning," Lisle told the *Independent* in a phone interview.

"That's the starting point. Most people assume animals think like people, but beavers are not capable of stepping back and taking a look at the big picture."

In fact, they're programmed to respond to the sound, feel and look of leaks in dams. Lisle is able to deceive them because they typically

will look for leaks very close to the dam itself.

A robust Beaver Deceiver system requires two things, Lisle said: a large, long pipe and a sophisticated filter.

At Monkton Pond Lisle installed 80 feet of culvert pipe through the



LEE KAUPILLA, RIGHT, and John Lavigne haul part of an 80-foot-long culvert pipe through the woods and marsh around Monkton Pond last month. The pipe now helps keep the water level in the pond constant by emptying water through a beaver dam.

Independent photo/Alexa Lapiner

breach in the dam. At the farthest point away from the dam, in a spot of deep water, he attached the pipe end to a 5-by-12-foot Square Fence Filter (also his invention), which will keep water in and beavers out. The filter's quarter-inch-gauge steel is coated with epoxy to keep it from dissolving in the acidic water.

Lisle attached a plywood roof to the filter so beavers can't dump things inside it from the top. The roof also helps prevent whirlpools, whose "sucking sounds" would draw the attention of the beavers.

"The system needs to be big and sophisticated to not give off any clues to the beavers that there is a leak," he said.

Lisle's system allows the beavers to remain in their habitat without flooding nearby properties.

"Having beavers in the system has tremendous ecological, hydrological and aesthetic value," he said.

Beaver Deceiver installations typically cost anywhere from \$2,500 to \$4,000.

"The systems tend to pay for themselves almost immediately," Lisle said. "At Cedar Lake I was protecting millions of dollars in property value for a few thousand dollars, which was a tremendous investment. Not to mention the fact that you don't have to remove the most important keystone species from the ecosystem ever again."

Lisle finished the Monkton Pond project late that Friday night and expects that with some care it will last for decades.

PROTECTING WILDLIFE

"(Installing a Beaver Deceiver) is harder than setting traps, but it's more humane," said CLA member Bev Soychak.

When the CLA decided to hire Lisle, Soychak reached out to the advocacy group Protect Our Wildlife (POW), which is based in Stowe.

POW's Management Strategy for Beavers recommends systems like Lisle's Beaver Deceivers as being the most humane and sustainable solution to various human-beaver problems, and the organization will often help fund such projects.

After discussing the Monkton Pond plan with Soychak, POW donated \$2,000 to offset the cost.

"Bev (Soychak) and Theresa (Payea)'s hearts are in the right place, and I couldn't be happier to fund this project," said POW President Brenna Galdenzi in a phone interview.

Last year POW received a grant from Lush Cosmetics, a vegetarian cosmetics company, to help with the organization's focus on solving wildlife conflicts in a humane fashion, Galdenzi explained. The bulk of those funds have been working to protect beavers.

"We're now experiencing the

very real effects of climate change, and beavers do a wonderful job of mitigating climate change, so it's money well spent."

POW's beaver management plan can be found online at tinyurl.com/ybbwf7c8.

The Cedar Lake Association maintains a page on Monkton's

town website, tinyurl.com/MonktonCedarLake. And for more information about Skip Lisle and the Beaver Deceiver, visit beaverdeceivers.com.

Reach Christopher Ross at christopherr@addisonindependent.com.

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4 weeks to go... then Main Street and Merchant's Row will be open again! If you haven't made it downtown to see the activity or pay those merchants a visit, now's the time.

And if you're looking for one more reason to shop locally and support Middlebury businesses, how about **The Big Giveaway!**? Spend \$25 at a locally owned store between August 15th and September 5th and enter to win one of five gift bundles—each valued at \$500 or more. Details at ExperienceMiddlebury.com.

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MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee members Jourdon Delorme-Brown and Ellie Thompson are shown here talking about their identities as people of color on Panther athletic teams in the first "Leaning Into Discomfort" video. The yearlong series of conversational videos will focus on issues of race, gender and identity in the college community and feature students, alumni, coaches, administrators and faculty members.



THE MOUNT ABRAHAM Eagles Senior Babe Ruth Team on Aug. 15 won the Vermont championship, defeating St. Johnsbury, 6-2, in the title game. The Eagles were made up of Mount Abraham Union High School baseball players and were coached by longtime program head Jeff Stetson.

Photo courtesy of Sydney Perlee

Athletes take on diversity

Panthers have honest conversations in new video series

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — In the first video in the weekly Middlebury College Athletic Department's "Leaning into Discomfort" series, Chinese-American swimmer Ellie Thompson talks about the conflict between her racial identity and her mostly white team's culture of conformity.

For Thompson, that tension heightened this winter when the president blamed China for COVID-19, leading to discrimination against Asian-Americans.

None of her teammates addressed the issue, she said in a 16-minute video conversation with fellow Panther student-athlete Jourdon Delorme-Brown, a Black football player, that can be viewed at tinyurl.com/yyhucrj6.

She asked herself why the conversations weren't happening.

"You want to have a sense of acceptance, and that comes from following the status quo, and that drives the types of conversations that happen on your team, and maybe the conversations that don't happen on your team," Thompson said.

"There wasn't anybody talking about how the president's rhetoric affected myself and other teammates ... It maybe felt like they didn't see me as a Chinese-American. It was almost like an invisible identity."

In the conversation Delorme-Brown spoke about what he went through on his team after the November 2016 election.

"The different views on my team were brought to the forefront on the field. People were wearing Trump-Pence gear during practice. That has a direct effect when the president is saying conjectures or misnomers about your people, your heritage,"

Delorme-Brown said.

But both ended the first episode of what is a planned year-long series — it will feature conversations on diversity among students, coaches, administrators, alumni, professors and others — on hopeful notes. They believe the videos, produced by the athletic department's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, could make an impact

"I've had excellent conversations over my four years with people who don't share ideologies with me and people who have different political views. And that is just a microcosm of what can happen at Middlebury if we can lean into this discomfort, if we are willing to actually talk and educate ourselves."

— Jourdon Delorme-Brown

in a college community that has at times struggled with the issue by normalizing the conversations they say are necessary.

"I'm extremely optimistic," Delorme-Brown said. "I've had excellent conversations over my four years with people who don't share ideologies with me and people who have different political views. And that is just a microcosm of what can happen at Middlebury if we can lean into this discomfort, if we are willing to actually talk and educate ourselves."

Thompson said she hopes the Leaning Into Discomfort series can model how people can begin to talk, listen and learn.

"This series is a really good example of how we're having inclusion, by including a variety of voices," Thompson said. "If you have an open mind and are willing to listen, the opportunities for progress are just completely endless."



ERIN QUINN

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee includes the two students, men's basketball coach Jeff Brown, women's coach Kate Livesay, lacrosse assistant women's basketball coach and chairperson Savannah Morgan, track & field coach

Martin Beatty, women's soccer coach Peter Kim, assistant football coach Dave Caputi, and Alexis Paquette, the school's assistant sports information director.

The murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police and the national protests that followed provided urgency to the committee's mission, members said.

Thompson lives near Minneapolis, and afterward she called Middlebury Athletic Director Erin Quinn to talk.

"When George Floyd was murdered early this summer it really hit me personally," she said. "That's where I get the excitement, the energy, the want to be a part of this, to start something."

Paquette said at a Zoom meeting earlier this summer that talk of promoting the committee's work morphed into modeling a video series after former NFL player Emmanuel Acho's "Uncomfortable Conversations With a Black Man."

That series can be found at uncomfortableconvo.com and (See *Athletes*, Page 2B)



JOURDON DELORME-BROWN

Mt. Abe baseball team claims Babe Ruth title

By ANDY KIRKALDY

BRISTOL — Before the COVID-19 pandemic struck this spring and canceled their season, Coach Jeff Stetson and his veteran Mount Abraham Union School team were convinced they could make a run at a Division II title.

The Eagles might have had a point.

On Saturday, their Senior Babe Ruth team — made up of 14 Mount Abe baseball players, including six who were seniors this past spring — rolled over St. Johnsbury in the Senior Babe Ruth Vermont championship game, 6-2, in a contest played in Dorset Park in South Burlington.

Nolan Whitcomb tossed a two-hit complete game in the final, Ryan Whitcomb hit a key RBI double while the game was still close, according to Stetson, and Colby Lathrop sparked the offense with three hits.

In their semifinal win the weekend before, Nolan Whitcomb tossed a four-hit complete-game win over Chittenden County team Suburban, and in their win the round before Eben Clifford went the distance on the mound with a three-hit effort.

The Mount Abraham Eagles' roster of recent alumni included Nolan Whitcomb, Clifford, Silas Burgess, Wyatt Thompson, Max Breault and Jackson Gepfert.

Undergraduates were Lathrop,

"Allowing these guys to have that kind of a season at the end, and get some closure for their senior year, was very satisfying for me."

— Coach Jeff Stetson

Neil Guy, Carter Monks, Ethan Thompson, Ezekiel Savage, Adam Mansfield, Ryan Whitcomb and Tanner Harris. Dan Guy, Doc Beaver and Jim Carter assisted Stetson.

In all, the team finished 11-6, 11-4 vs. Senior Babe Ruth competition after losing once in the five-team double-elimination tournament, and 7-3 in regular season league play. The Eagles dropped two non-league games to the Bases Loaded Bulldogs, a Burlington AAU team.

Stetson said all the Eagles were determined to succeed and enjoy their time together, and none missed

a practice or game except for family obligations.

"Anybody who was not on family vacation, they all made every event. We had 14 kids there almost every night. It was great," he said. "They were just so thankful to A, be to able share their passion for baseball, but B, also just to get together with the coaches and the players and just participate in something after such a long time of being isolated from everybody."

Stetson said watching his athletes get the chance to prove themselves — just before many were going their separate ways — "made his summer."

"I've had some pretty good seasons over the years, and I've got to say this is one that ranks right up there as one of the ones that's most satisfying, just because of all the other stuff leading into this allowing these guys to have that kind of a season at the end, and get some closure for their senior year, was very satisfying for me," Stetson said.

"To be together for the last time as a group and actually win a Babe Ruth state championship was pretty special for them."

ACTIVITIES AROUND TOWN

As many people are staying at home these days, groups and individuals have organized ways for us all to stage engaged both physically and mentally. Here are some activities offered online by both local and national organizations.

Get Sewing. The Sewing Lab at The Makery has reopened to the public and the first two sessions have already filled up. Faith and Wendy will be in the lab on Thursdays evenings, Sept. 3 and 10, so register to go in and use the machines, tools and tables for your projects. Get your questions answered and learn new skills to become a better sewer. Faith has her favorite face mask patterns ready to share with anyone who is interested or learn how to add a metal nose piece to your masks.

Due to COVID-19, pre-registration is required. Simple instructions for arriving and working safely at The Makery are included in your confirmation email. Limit of 4 participants per night to socially distance with Wendy and Faith. Select what fee option works best for you, free or \$5. Choices are confidential. For Sept. 3, go to makeryatpahcc.org/event-3944146. For Sept. 10, go to makeryatpahcc.org/event-3944153.

Bundle in the Park. Thursdays between 10 a.m. and noon in Riverfront Park in Middlebury's Marble Works near the big yellow chair, Bundle will offer a safe, socially-distanced, outside Pop-Up

of creative game play, inspirational sketchbook/journal prompts and hilarious surprises that change each week. Appropriate for all Ages and totally free. No pre-registration necessary. If you're curious, take a walk over on Thursdays. Bundle will also host a "Pop-Up Artist Market" on Saturday, Aug. 29, from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m., in Riverfront Park that will be outside in the fresh air and meet all Vermont safety guidelines. You can keep up to date on Bundle's future activities at its Facebook page.

Magic lessons for kids. Lawrence Memorial Library in Bristol is offering online sessions with Tom Verner of Magicians Without Borders through the end of August. Kids will practice magic tricks with Verner (who you might know from his many performances at Middlebury's Festival on the Green) and prepare for a magic "performance" at the end of the summer.

Each kid who signs up gets a packet of magic materials. The program is geared toward aspiring magicians ages 9 and up, but younger kids could also participate by teaming up with older siblings, babysitters, grandparents, a librarian or anyone who needs a little magic this summer.

Sign up online at lawrencelibrary.net/become-a-magician, or call the library at 802-453-2366.

Making tough decisions. The Residence at Otter Creek is offering a Zoom presentation on "What Matters Most: Making Medical Decisions for Others," on Thursday, Aug. 27, from 1-2 p.m. In this virtual presentation, Cindy Bruzzese, Executive Director and Clinical Ethicist with the Vermont Ethics Network, will focus on the importance of advance care planning, having conversations with family and friends (See *Activities*, Page 2B)

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ELLIE THOMPSON

Athletes

(Continued from Page 1B)

describes itself as “A conversation with Emmanuel Acho about race that many white people have never been able to have.”

“The way Emmanuel does it, it just makes it normal to talk about these things,” Paquette said.

Quinn echoed that viewpoint in a Zoom interview with Thompson, Delorme-Brown and Paquette that was held after he and Brown sat down to record the second video. It was released on Aug. 4 and may be viewed at tinyurl.com/y2ryxy3.

“I think that (it’s)

modeling for our

entire community,

whether it’s our

athletic community, the

Middlebury College

community, anybody

in our extended alumni

community, the local

community, who is

maybe struggling with

how can I talk about

this,” he said.

“They’re going to see

different ages, different

races, different

genders, having these

conversations, putting

themselves out there for people.”

According to Paquette, as of Aug.

6 the first Leaning Into Discomfort

video had been viewed on college

platforms about 3,000 times, and

the second about 1,500 times. Those

numbers did not include sharing or

re-posting.

CONVERSATIONS

For their video, Thompson and

Delorme-Brown discussed their

topic in advance, but the result was

unscripted. Quinn and Brown took

turns asking each other questions

prepared by the committee, but not

revealed to each other.

Brown spoke on what his

experience had been as one of the

few Black coaches in Middlebury

and individuals in his community,

and on his feelings about having two

brothers in law enforcement during

the current unrest.

Quinn fielded questions on

whether as a white male he was “equipped” to make reforms in the area or racial diversity and inclusion, and why the college had not been more successful in recruiting more coaches and athletes with diverse backgrounds.

His response, in part, to the last question: “We have work to do.”

This week’s video offers Delorme-Brown Zooming with 2020 graduate Chellsa Ferdinand, a member of the campus Black Student Union and volleyball team, and 2018 graduate

Sebastian Sanchez,

one of three non-

white players on the

baseball team his

senior year.

Quinn and

the students said

the series is not

placing an undue

educational burden

on its minority

participants.

Quinn said

identities and

discussion on the

committee extend

beyond race, as

would topics on future

videos; Delorme-Brown

said he “definitely”

felt it was a shared

burden; and Thompson

said the early response

has come from many

quarters.

“From the first episode we saw

the extent of community

engagement we had in

Middlebury and beyond,”

she said. “People are

ready to talk from all

different identities, whether

they are white, black, Asian, female,

male, they’re just ready to talk. And

we just opened up the door.”

And Delorme-Brown repeated

the optimism about the series he

expressed on the first video.

“You can’t understand the

complexities of these topics unless

you have conversations face-to-face,

until you decide to sit down and

talk about it,” he said. “So I think

the Middlebury community will be

better for it.”

“This series is a really good example of how we’re having conscious inclusion, by including a variety of voices ... If you have an open mind and are willing to listen, the opportunities for progress are just completely endless.”

— Ellie Thompson

ACTIVITIES

(Continued from Page 1B)

about what matters most and how to be an effective medical decision-maker for someone else. Register to receive ZOOM link by contacting Suzanne Bennet at sbennett@lcbseiorliving.com or 802-377-3393.

Celebrate plein air art. Middlebury’s Edgewater galleries will host a celebration of plein air on Friday, Aug. 21, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., and Saturday, Aug. 22, from 4-6 p.m., at Edgewater Gallery at the Falls on Mill Street. Enjoy art in an outdoor setting. A cocktail reception and “Wet Paint” sale will be part of the festivities. More info at edgewatergallery.com

Make some WMA art. Help celebrate 100 years of Wildlife Management Area (WMA) conservation with an art contest commemorating Vermont’s legacy of wildlife-based recreation and healthy lands and waters. Create a work of art about one or all of Vermont’s Wildlife Management Areas. The competition will be held in five age groups from August through Oct. 9. Entries may include

media such as paintings, drawings, collages, photographs, poetry, audio, video, or anything else that can be shared digitally. Prizes will include \$300 for the first, second and third place winners provided by the Vermont Federation of Sportsman’s Clubs, with additional monetary prizes from other sporting organizations, a Vermont WMA guide, Wetland-Woodland-Wildland book, Green Mountain Conservation Camp discounts, and lunch with a scientist. Winners will be announced on Nov. 13.

Anyone who would like to enter can learn more about WMA Art Contest rules and Vermont’s WMAs by going to Vermont Fish & Wildlife’s website, vtfishandwildlife.com.

Learn about Abenaki culture and history. The Vermont Humanities Council will host a digital presentation on “Democracy, Social Change, and Representation in N’dakinna (Our Homeland)” on Wednesday, Aug. 26, at 7 p.m. Deviating from the common format of solo keynote presentations, this lively discussion will include contributions from several Abenaki voices. Beginning with a greeting and historic overview of democracy in N’dakinna (Abenaki for Homeland), the panel will consider the threads of place, home,

belonging, and representation in a time of great social change.

Led by: Vera Longtoe Sheehan, Director of the Vermont Abenaki Artists Association

The event is free and will be held on the Digital Programs portion of the Vermont Humanities Council website, Facebook page and YouTube channel. The talk is part of our Fall Conference 2020.

Join a digital Democracy Knitting Circle. On Wednesday, Sept. 2, at 7 p.m., join the digital Democracy knitting circle hosted by the Vermont Humanities Council. Knit Democracy Together is a modern take on historical knitting circles like those that supported the abolitionist and suffragist movements. Knit or crochet pieces of a state capitol sculpture while discussing contemporary political issues via Zoom. Individual pieces will be assembled into a finished whole by artist Eve Jacobs-Carnahan.

At a time when people are losing confidence in government, this project creates a positive model of democracy. Discuss innovative ways to finance election campaigns, hear how cities and states are reducing candidate reliance on private campaign money, and learn how these measures reconnect elected officials with

their constituents and make government more accountable.

Use your own yarn or request a kit from Vermont Humanities. Instructions for knitters and non-knitters at knitdemocracy.org/makeblocks/

This free event will be held on the Digital Programs portion of the Vermont Humanities Council website, Facebook page and our YouTube channel. The talk is part of our Fall Conference 2020.

Support group for the divorced and separated. Surviving Divorce is a support program based on the teachings of the Catholic Church that will help bring hope and healing to those who have experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage. It is open to the newly separated and divorced and those still struggling with issues many years later.

Led by those who have walked this path, it features video presentations and group discussion that will answer questions, restore hope, and begin authentic healing. This 12-week support group will begin on Thursday evenings, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Sept. 3, through Nov. 19 via ZOOM. Call 877-6585 or email spdsleader@gmail.com for information and registration.



JOIN VERMONT FISH & Wildlife biologists to hike, paddle and explore Snake Mountain and Dead Creek Wildlife Management areas this fall.

Photo/VT Fish & Wildlife

VT Fish & Wildlife explore locally

ADDISON COUNTY — The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department is offering a series of free educational walks at its wildlife management areas (WMAs) from August through October. The walks will be led by biologists with decades of experience conserving Vermont’s fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats.

The first walk in Addison County will be at Snake Mountain WMA on Thursday, Sept. 17, (Rain date: Sept. 24), from 2 to 5 p.m., beginning at the parking area at 2514 Mountain Road in Addison.

Participant will walk to the summit of Snake Mountain with ecologist Eric Sorenson and State Geologist Jon Kim to learn about the geologic features and how they influence the unique natural communities and habitats on the mountain. This walk is recommended for adults and kids age eight and older — children must be accompanied by an adult.

A walk on the history and current management of Dead Creek WMA will be held on Saturday, Oct. 3, from 9 a.m. to noon at Dead Creek WMA in Addison.

Join biologist and WMA Manager Amy Alfieri for a walking and driving tour of Dead Creek, where discussion will include how

and why the area was developed and its current management strategies and goals. Be sure to bring binoculars to spot the migrating waterfowl that visit the WMA.

“We hope these events will raise awareness and support for our land conservation efforts, while providing a unique opportunity for Vermonters to get to know our fish and wildlife biologists and the fish, wildlife and habitats we protect and manage,” said Land & Habitat Program Manager John Austin. “WMAs are special places enjoyed by many Vermonters for hunting, fishing, bird watching, hiking and more.”

To protect the health and safety of all participants, physical distancing requirements will be in place. All participants must wear face coverings at all times, and temperatures may be taken prior to starting. Masks will not be provided, and participants are asked to bring their own. Participants are encouraged to bring snacks and water, and to dress in footwear and appropriate clothing for each event.

Pre-registration for up to 15 participants is required on Vermont Fish & Wildlife’s website, vtfishandwildlife.com, with a link on the front page.

Crumb fires ace at Ralph Myhre

MIDDLEBURY — A hole-in-one highlighted recent action at Ralph Myhre Golf Course.

Richard Crumb achieved the rare feat on Monday morning by acing Hole No. 7.

In regular competition last week, the team of Bert Phinney, Ric Wheeler, Josh Newton and Dale White prevailed in the Aug. 12 Wednesday Scramble.

In Bill Davidson Thursday Men’s Golf on Aug. 13, the threesome of

Robert Kirkpatrick, Doug Biklen and Deem Schoenfeld came out on top, with the trio of Jim Johnston, John Davis and Ken Roth taking second. Biklen shot the day’s low net score.

In the Friday Mixer on Aug. 14, two teams tied for first, the threesome of Jim Bryant, Charlene Bryant and Father Skip Baltz and the foursome of Jim Hadeka, Deb Hadeka, Bernie Andrews and Liz Andrews.

Comes, Sumner post wins at Devil’s Bowl

WEST HAVEN — Middlebury’s Austin Comes and Ripton’s Chris Sumner won races on Devil’s Bowl Speedway’s dirt track on Sunday night.

Comes scored the second win of his career and the season in the 20-lap feature for the O’Reilly Auto Parts Limited Sportsman division. He took over at lap 13 and sailed off for the victory, and then he handed his car over to his brother, Justin, to run as a backup in the Sportsman Modified race.

Shoreham’s Anthony Warren came from 10th place to take the runner-up finish on the outside lane. Salisbury’s Gary English was a career-best third, and Brandon’s Matt Bilodeau finished seventh.

Sumner, a rookie, dominated the 15-lap Mini Stock race for his second win. He quickly worked from fifth place at the start to lead every lap.

New York driver Jack Speshock led every circuit of Sunday’s main event, a 30-lap Pepsi Sportsman Modified feature, on his way to victory, but then saw his engine seize up in his cool-down lap. His car lasted long enough to hold off Orwell’s Tim LaDuc, who finished second.

Brandon’s Joey Scarborough finished fourth, and twin brother Jake Scarborough was seventh. Fellow Brandon driver Vince

Quenneville took eighth, and Middlebury’s Justin Stone was ninth.

In the 20-lap combined feature for the Pro Stock and Super Stock divisions, New York driver Josh Coonradt and West Rutland’s Andrew FitzGerald picked up the class wins, respectively. Orwell’s Ronnie Alger took third in the Super Stock division.

New Hampshire driver Camden Duffy won the Friend Construction 500cc Mini Sprint feature, which was halted after eight laps of a scheduled 15 were completed. The race reached a time limit after several crashes and yellow flags. Bridport’s Troy Audet finished third, and Monkton’s Kaidin White was fifth.

The night also included a Champlain Valley Vintage Dirt Modified Series, which offered a three-division, 15-lap race that combined the Modified, Sportsman, and Antique classes.

Action returns to Devil’s Bowl on Sunday at 7 p.m.

AGWAY presents the

2020 Garden Game

CATEGORIES:

- **Artichoke** (circumference)
 - **Asparagus** (length)
 - Laura Asermily, Middlebury – 17”
 - **Beets** (circumference)
 - **Broccoli** (diameter)
 - Lois Melchior, Bristol, 13”
 - **Cabbage** (circumference)
 - Ted Foster, New Haven, 24.25”
 - **Cantaloupe** (circumference)
 - **Carrot** (length x circumference)
 - **Cauliflower** (diameter)
 - **Corn** (length x circumference)
 - **Cucumber** (length x circumference)
 - Diane DaPolito, Weybridge, 15.75” x 10.75”
 - **Eggplant** (circumference x circumference)
 - **Fennel** (length x circumference)
 - **Green bean** (length)
 - Gary Miller, Middlebury, 30”
 - **Kohlrabi** (circumference)
 - **Leafy greens** (Length x width - leaf only)
 - Pam Thomas, Whiting, 25.25” x 11.5”
 - **Leek** (length x circumference)
 - **Melon** (circumference)
 - **Onion** (circumference)
 - Gary Miller, Middlebury, 13.5”
 - **Parsnip** (circumference)
- **Potato** (circumference x circumference)
- **Pepper** (circumference x circumference)
- **Pumpkin** (circumference x circumference)
- **Radish** (circumference)
 - Roger Scarborough, 13”
- **Rhubarb** (length)
- **Rutabaga** (circumference)
- **Summer squash** (length x circumference)
- **Sunflower** (diameter)
- **Tomato** (circumference)
 - Barbara Clearbridge, Middlebury, 16.25”
- **Turnip** (circumference)
- **Winter squash** (length x circumference)
- **Zucchini** (length x circumference)
 - Ella Bearor, Vergenes, 16” x 15”

This week’s edition of the Garden Game has brought several of our previous contenders back for more! **Barbara “Shulamith” Clearbridge** of Middlebury has entered a tomato with a circumference of 16 and ¼ inches, with a coconut water can for reference. **Gary Miller** of Middlebury also brought in a tomato, measuring 13 inches in circumference. Gary didn’t stop there! He has entered a green bean measuring 30 inches long, as well as an onion measuring 13.5 inches in circumference. **Roger Scarborough** has unseated the reigning radish champion, with a radish measuring 13 inches in circumference! **Ted Foster** of New Haven also submitted a cabbage measuring 24.25” in circumference. If you think you have a contender in your own veggie garden that you want to submit to the Garden Game, refer to our website for instructions on how to put in an entry!

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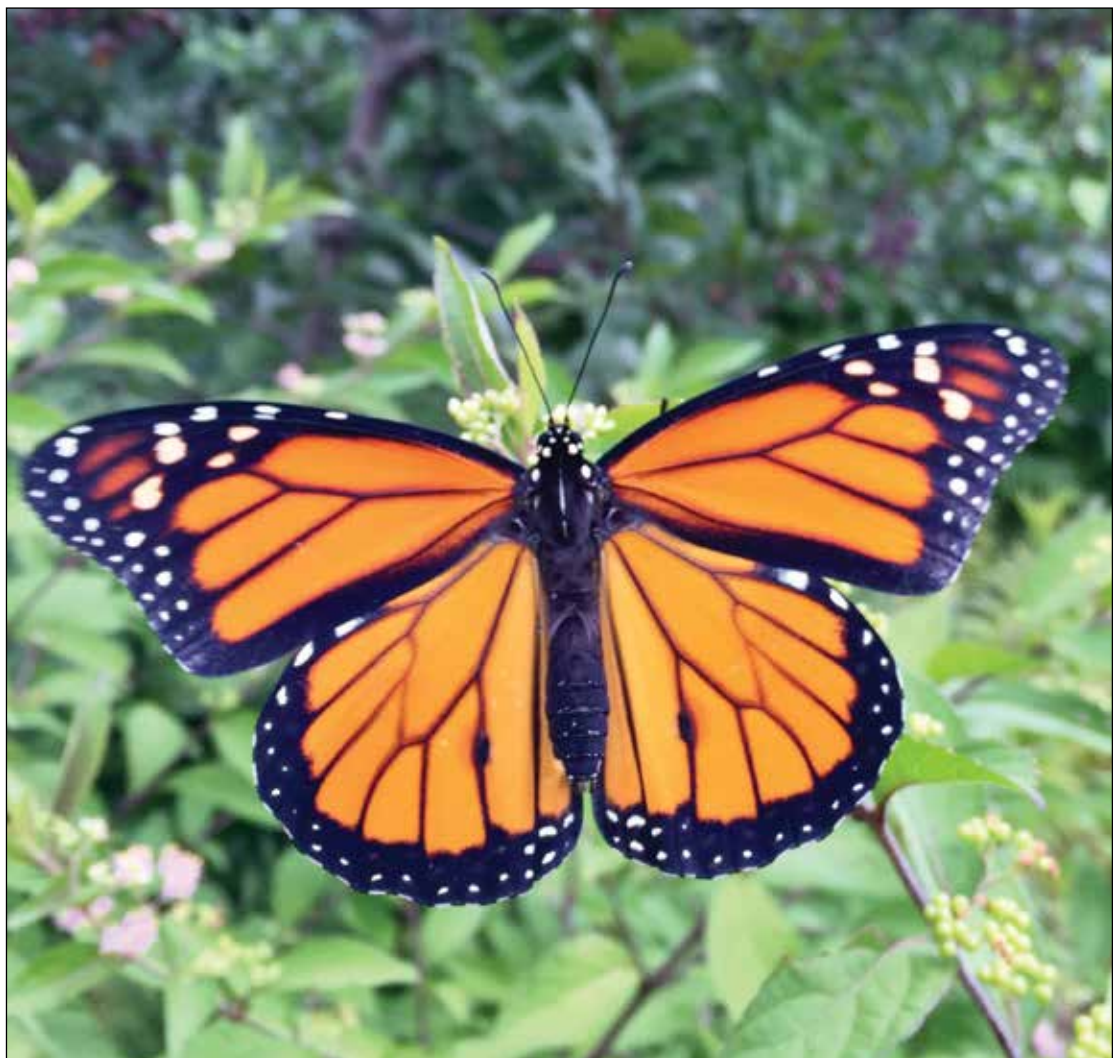
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Queen Lepidoptera

AN ALMOST PERFECT depiction of a monarch butterfly as it would appear in a children's book was captured in a local garden after a family hatched it from a teeny tiny egg.

Independent photo/Elsie Parini

Pet of the week
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TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2020 - 7:00 P.M.

The Town Offices remain closed to the public. In accordance with Act 92, the meeting will be held on the Zoom video platform.

To view and participate in the meeting:
URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86963782922>
By Phone: +1 646-558-8656 (not toll-free)
Webinar ID: 869 6378 2922

AGENDA

- 7:00 1. **Call to Order
- 2. *Approval of Agenda
- 3. *Approval of Minutes of the August 11, 2020 Regular Selectboard Meeting
- 4. **Citizen Comments [Opportunity to raise or address issues not otherwise included on this agenda]
- 7:05 5. *Approval of First Class and Third Class Liquor License Application and Outside Consumption Permit for Boho Robinson, Inc., d/b/a Swift House
- 7:10 6. **Local Emergency Management Director/Chief of Police, Update on Pandemic Response
- 7:15 7. *Fire Chief David Shaw and LeRoy Graham of the Middlebury Fire Department Truck Committee requesting approval for replacement of pumper
- 7:35 8. *Dan Werner, Director of Public Works Planning, with updates from the Infrastructure Committee Meeting of August 13, 2020
 - 8.a. Recommendation on Court Street Sidewalk Bid
 - 8.b. Recommendation on Crosswalk at Court Street and Mary Hogan North
 - 8.c. Recommendation on Change Order #2 for PD Reuse Project
 - 8.d. Recommendation on Public Works Building Bid
 - 8.e. Updates on other projects
- 7:55 9. *Dan Werner, Director of Public Works Planning, regarding Application for the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund
- 8:05 10. **Discuss Adoption of Policy on Graffiti
- 8:15 11. *Approval of Grant Agreement with State of Vermont Department of Public Safety for Updating the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
- 8:20 12. *Approval of Check Warrants
- 13. **Town Manager's Report
 - 13.a. *Discuss Mid-year Retreat/Workshop to Review & Update Board Priorities
 - 13.b. ** FY21 Year-to-Date Budget Reports and Local Option Tax results for April - June 2020
- 14. **Board Member Concerns
- 8:35 15. *Executive Session - Not Anticipated
- 16. **Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session
- 8:40 17. *Adjourn

* Decision Item ** Possible Decision

For view-only access, you can watch Selectboard meetings live on MCTV's YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/MCTVVermont> and on Comcast Channel 1071.

ADDISON COUNTY— Vermont State Police have pieced together the facts in a case that they say explains how a Winooski man ended up pulled over on the side of the road in St. George with a bullet in his leg fired from a gun in Starksboro.

Troopers from the New Haven barracks were called at 5:45 a.m. on May 29 to a reported accidental shooting. Initially, the people involved were uncooperative, police said, and told investigators that Tyler Branon, 31, of Winooski was accidentally shot in the leg by an unknown male.

After more than two months of investigation, state police said they've determined that that morning Branon had gone to the Starksboro home of 41-year-old Isaac Liberty-Hanlon, and forced his way into the residence. Branon, who was holding a cane as a weapon, forced his way through Liberty-Hanlon's bedroom door and demanded money, police allege.

Liberty-Hanlon, while in bed, retrieved a handgun and fired a single round at Branon, hitting him in the leg.

Branon retreated to a car waiting outside with three other occupants, police said. The driver attempted to go to the University of Vermont Medical Center (UVMCMC) when one of the occupants in the car called 911 for medical assistance. Hinesburg, Shelburne, and Williston police responded, along with VSP, and located the car on Route 116 in St. George. Responding officers met with occupants and provided first-aid to Branon until rescue personnel arrived. The three police agencies assisted with the investigation.

Branon was treated at UVMCMC for a gunshot wound to his leg and was released the same day.

Vt. State Police Log

Isaac Liberty-Hanlon is a convicted felon and is prohibited from possessing a handgun, according to police. VSP cited him for illegal possession of a firearm. Police cited Branon for burglary of an occupied dwelling. They are both scheduled to answer their respective charges in Addison County Superior Court, criminal division, on Sept. 21. Police announced the results of the investigation on Aug. 12.

In other recent activity, troopers:

- On Aug. 12 at 10:20 p.m. responded to a noisy disturbance off Richville Road in Shoreham. Troopers determined that Nicholas Karov, 37, of Shoreham had disturbed the public peace by making other unnecessary and offensive noise. They cited him for noise in the nighttime.

- On Aug. 13 at 12:15 a.m. received a report of a possibly impaired driver on Court Street in Middlebury. State police stopped a vehicle driven by Shane McGrath, 26, of Addison and ultimately cited him for driving under the influence, second offense.

- On Aug. 13 at 5:28 p.m. were on patrol on Route 7 near the intersection with Stage Road in Ferrisburgh, when they saw a vehicle operating in a negligent manner by passing other vehicles — including a tractor-trailer — unsafely on a blind curve. The vehicle also left its lane of travel multiple times, police report. Troopers stopped the vehicle and cited Cameron Wood, 32, of St. Albans, for negligent driving.

- On Aug. 14 at around 11:30 p.m. responded to a neighbor dispute in

Starksboro. During the investigation troopers learned that Gary Bevins, 52, of Starksboro was in the area and staying with the offender. Troopers knocked on the door to the residence where Bevins was believed to be residing. Troopers arrested Bevins, who was the subject of an active arrest warrant for disorderly conduct. Bevins was lodged at the Southern State Correctional Facility.

On that same call, troopers looked into a report of a woman — later identified as Shannon Merrick, 50, of Starksboro — being loud and damaging property. Police allege Merrick damaged a building and property including a vehicle along with sweating at the homeowner. Police cited Merrick for disorderly conduct/unlawful mischief.

- On Aug. 16 at 10 a.m. looked into a report of a man sleeping in a car parked on the side of Snake Mountain Road in Weybridge. Troopers found the man asleep in the driver seat, parked at an entrance to a cornfield. The man told police he had driven there early in the morning to sleep. They cited the man, identified as 42-year-old Michael LaFountain of Weybridge, for driving with a criminally suspended license.

Addison County law enforcement agencies will conduct impaired driving checkpoints and saturation patrols throughout the county from Aug. 21 to Sept. 7 as part of the Governor's Highway Safety Labor Day holiday campaign, according to Mark Stacey, the Addison County Highway Safety Coordinator. Officers will also be vigilant for distracted driving offenders and drivers who are not wearing seatbelts. They ask all to drive responsibly by wearing seatbelts, not drinking and driving, and not using cell phones while driving.

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- | | |
|---|---|
| Bridget Sullivan
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ADDISON COUNTY Agriculture News



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MEMBERS OF THE Sunderland Farm proudly display recognition for the Bridport operation as the 2020 Vermont Dairy Farm of the Year by UVM Extension, the Vermont Dairy Industry Association and the New England Green Pastures Program. Pictured are, back row (left to right): Larry, Harold and Margaret Sunderland; Linda Forbes; Joyce Sunderland, Steve Norris; Bob, Nancy, Vanessa and Abigail Sunderland. Middle row: Beau and Laila Sunderland; Kenadi Detillio holding Madison Ashley-Selleck and Bryan Ashley-Selleck. Front row: Owen Ashley-Selleck and dogs Dozer and Gus. Missing from photo: Bob and Nancy's daughter, Brittany.

Photo by Peggy Manahan, UVM Extension

Sunderland Farm tapped for dairy excellence

By LISA HALVORSEN
Freelance Agricultural
Journalist for UVM Extension
BRIDPORT — Sunderland Farm, a sixth-generation dairy operation in Bridport, can best be described as a farm with a future that's not forgotten its past.

Although it can trace its beginnings back to the mid-19th century when thousands of Merino sheep grazed its pastureland, the farm has never stopped moving forward. The farmers are quick to adopt new technology, including robotic milkers, to make their operation more efficient and cost-effective. Their attention to detail when it comes to their cows is

evident by their exceptional milk quality, high quality forages and ongoing measures to improve cow comfort.

So it's easy to see why this dairy farm was chosen as the Vermont Dairy Farm of the Year for 2020.

The principal owners of the 450-head Holstein operation are brothers Harold and Larry Sunderland and their nephew, Bob Sunderland. Other family members who work on the farm include Larry's twin sister, Linda Forbes, who does seasonal field work, operating the mower and hauling wagons; Harold's wife, Margaret, the farm bookkeeper who also helps clean the robotics barn; and Bob's wife, Nancy, who drives the tractor during harvest season.

The award is presented annually to an exemplary dairy farm by University of Vermont (UVM) Extension and the Vermont Dairy Industry Association (VDIA) in cooperation with the New England Green Pastures Program. A team of past Vermont Dairy Farm of the Year winners serves as judges, visiting the finalists' farms to observe their operations and select a winner.

They look for excellence in pasture, crops and herd management; quality milk production; good stewardship of the land; and innovative practices. The farmers also need to be good ambassadors for the dairy industry.

According to UVM Extension's Tony Kitsos, the state coordinator

for the awards program, Sunderland Farm demonstrates all this and more. "The judges were impressed with the family's strong commitment to dairying, their numerous efforts at improving their farmstead with water quality in mind and their ability to bring in new technology, such as through robotics, with an eye to the future," he said.

The Sunderlands will be recognized, along with the top dairy farm winners from the other New England states, in a virtual awards program on Sept. 18, hosted by Eastern States Exposition and emceed by Green Pastures Program chair Gary Anderson. They also will be honored at the VDIA (See Sunderland, Page 5B)

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Sunderland

(Continued from page 4B)

banquet at the Vermont Farm Show in January and at a special awards banquet at the next Eastern States Exposition in September 2021.

BACKSTORY

Sunderland Farm, which encompasses 835 acres of owned and rented land, was purchased in 1860 by Harold and Larry's great-grandfather, Darius Myrick, who raised Merino sheep. He left it to his son, Elwin Z. Myrick, who bought up surrounding parcels of land as they became available to expand his holdings. The switch from sheep to dairy occurred over several years in the late 1800s while Elwin owned the farm.

Earl Sunderland, husband of Olive Myrick, Elwin's only child, inherited the farm in 1920. It later passed to his son, Lyle Myrick Sunderland, who operated it until 1976 when his sons, Harold and Larry, took over, establishing Rolling Acres Farm as a partnership.

In 2015 they set up a new entity, Sunderland Farm Inc. The brothers still own the property (dba Rolling Acres Farm) and lease the land, buildings and some of the machinery to Sunderland Farm, owned by Harold and Bob, who is gradually purchasing the cows.

"It is not always easy to transition ownership from one generation to the next," Kitsos points out. "These farmers were able to work out a plan that let them ease into the transition to bring Bob into the fold, something that the judging team also noted."

The Sunderlands currently milk 210 cows, shipping their milk to the Dairy Farmers of America Cooperative in St. Albans. Their rolling herd average is 27,000 pounds, well above breed average, with 4 percent butterfat and 3.1 percent protein, all of which can be attributed to excellent herd management practices, attention to



SUNDERLAND FARM, A top-notch 450-head Holstein farm in Bridport, can trace its beginnings back to the mid-1800s.

Photo by Nancy Sunderland

detail and selective breeding for year-round calving.

They also credit their decision to build a new state-of-the-art barn with computer-assisted robotic milkers and other automated features as contributing to their high production numbers.

"We saw an increase in production when we moved the cows to the new facility," Bob says. "In the old barn they were averaging 70-75 pounds of milk a day. It's around 83 on average now though we've seen a high of 93 pounds."

They purchased four Lely Astronaut A4 robotic milking systems for the new barn, which was completed in May 2017.

"Before we switched to robotic milkers, we milked twice a day in a double-eight herringbone parlor. Each milking took four to five hours,"

Bob says. "Milking now requires less labor and frees me up to do more crop work and put up better quality feed."

He also gets to spend more time with his family, including Nancy, a former U.S. Marine truck driver, and their five children — Brittany, 21; Abigail, 16; Vanessa, 14; Laila, 12; and Beau, 8. Both Vanessa and Beau

have expressed interest in farming as a career, which may mean a seventh generation on the farm.

"When we got the robotic milkers, it transformed farm life exponentially," Nancy says. "We have more flexibility. Bob is able to be more involved with the kids and attend their birthday parties, dance competitions and other activities."

However, the transition was not without its challenges. Bob recalls that the first three days were tough as it took time for the cows to accept the new system.

The dairy farmers also say that the new facility has resulted in improved overall herd health. The 134-foot-by-264-foot freestall barn was designed for optimal ventilation and cow comfort. Cyclone fans and outside curtains automatically adjust temperature control to ensure that the cows are comfortable year-round.

The feed pusher that they purchased provides continuous access to fresh feed, which aids in increased milk production. Their mobile barn cleaner keeps the slatted floors clean as it makes its rotations, improving barn hygiene. Feeding is free-choice. The cows are fed a total mixed ration of alfalfa hay, corn silage, cornmeal and minerals. The Sunderlands purchase grain but grow all their own forages.

The cows get a pelleted grain ration when they enter the automatic milking system to be milked, which could be three or more times a day, depending on the animal. The rest of the time they can move about

the large, uncrowded facility freely, giving themselves a back scratch on the cow-activated rotary brush or relaxing under the misters before settling down on bedded mattresses.

In addition to these amenities, the Sunderlands have found a unique way to keep their cows content while also reducing their costs for bedding.

They've arranged with their town's recycling center to take the cardboard and paper that's collected each week and shred it in a large grinder on the farm. They mix it with chopped hay and sawdust for bedding for the young stock. The cows are bedded with shavings and sawdust.

Herdsmen Steve Norris, a 12-year employee, oversees the robotics and cows in the barn. He's enthusiastic about the technology, which he finds helps him manage the herd more efficiently.

"What's so great about this system is that the cows milk themselves. They enter when they're ready."

The Sunderlands consider Steve part of their close-knit family along with Bryan Ashley-Selleck, who runs the equipment and cleans the heifer and dry cow barn. This strong employer-employee relationship is just another reason why the farm has been so successful.

MANURE & SOIL HEALTH

NRCS's Environmental Quality Incentives Program covered 85 percent of the cost of a 2.1 million-gallon manure storage facility with a pump and transfer system.

The farmers plant no-till and low-till corn and seed winter rye as a fall cover crop in their cornfields, practices that not only improve soil health and prevent nutrient run-off into waterways, but help them reduce their fertilizer costs.

"Next year we plan to build a catch basin to collect the leachate from the silage bunkers," Bob says. This will prevent it from entering the groundwater. The project will be funded through NRCS.

"Sunderland Farm will continue to succeed in the future because they tackle everyday problems with conviction and enthusiasm," Kitsos concludes. "That positive attitude can make all the difference in the world between success and failure."

ADDISON COUNTY Agriculture News

University of Vermont is offering food safety courses online for processors

BURLINGTON — To help food processors and manufacturers get the necessary training and certification required for their work, University of Vermont (UVM) Extension has created a listing of available classes on its Food Safety Training for Food Processors website.

The food safety classes, including some for Spanish speakers, are offered in partnership with various agencies and institutions. Details of current classes, including fees and registration links, can be found at go.uvm.edu/fsclasses. Additional classes will be posted on the website as scheduled.

Current offerings include:

Introduction to Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP): This self-paced class covers HACCP principles, current U.S. food safety regulations, prerequisite programs and HACCP plans that meet state and federal regulatory requirements.

Advanced HACCP: In this 16-hour class, food manufacturers and state and federal inspectors will identify regulatory requirements and review prerequisite program verification, HACCP system verification, HACCP plan validation and the differences between verification and validation. HACCP certification is required before enrolling in this class.

Better Process Control School: This class is designed for food manufacturing employees who process acidified or low-acid foods and need certification to comply with current thermal processing regulations for these food products. It combines self-paced learning and group

exercises through video conferences.

Foreign Supplier Verification Program—Part 2: Food processors must complete Part 1 of the blended class through the Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance prior to enrolling in this eight-hour, instructor-led class. In the four video sessions participants will review and apply knowledge gained in Part 1 including implementation of the regulation requirements for U.S. Food and Drug Administration Foreign Supplier Verification Programs for Importers of Food for Humans and Animals.

Preventive Control For Human Foods Blended Course—Part 2: This eight-hour class will help participants review and apply the knowledge gained from Part 1 of the blended class, which must be completed before enrolling. In the four video sessions participants will review and apply knowledge gained in Part 1 and will practice designing a food safety plan. This class also is offered as a 20-hour class through video conferences.

Classes available in Spanish include:

HACCP: The class covers HACCP principles, current U.S. food safety regulations, the importance of prerequisite programs and how to create and implement a HACCP plan that meets all federal regulations.

Seafood HACCP—Part 2: This eight-hour class will provide online training in HACCP principles for seafood and fish processors. This class also is offered in English.

For more information, contact Dr. Omar Oyarzabal, UVM Extension food safety specialist, at omar.oyarzabal@uvm.edu.



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6'x5'	8'x7'	BIKE
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Call today to list YOUR ad in our
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Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Public Meetings

AL-ANON OFFERS HELP and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking. Al-Anon in person meetings are suspended until further notice. For a list of virtual meetings visit vermontalanonlateen.org. Middlebury hosts one Sundays nights 7:15 pm. If you'd like to speak to an Al-Anon member, call our answering service (866-972-5266) and an Al-Anon member will call you back.

Public Meetings

THE TURNING POINT CENTER of Addison County is temporarily closed. Due to COVID-19 we are now holding our meetings online. For up-to-date information on how to access recovery services remotely please visit <https://turningpointaddisonvt.org/covid-19-page-2/>.

VERGENNES FREE THINKERS Founded in 1935 on the principle of one alcoholic helping another to achieve sobriety, A.A. is an effective and enduring program of recovery that has changed countless lives. A.A. has always been committed to making its program of recovery available to anyone, anywhere, who reaches out for help with an alcohol problem.

Public Meetings

The Vergennes Free Thinkers meeting was created in January of this year to maintain a tradition of free expression, conduct a meeting where alcoholics may feel free to express any beliefs, doubts or disbelief they may have, to share their own personal form of spiritual experience, their search for it, and/or their rejection of it, without having to accept anyone else's beliefs or having to deny their own. Meetings are held with a high regard for compassion and inclusion without judgment or exception. If you think we can help, please join us on Thursdays at 6pm by contacting Vergennes-free thinkers@gmail.com for Zoom and in-person meeting information.

Services

C+I DRYWALL and plastering. Call Joe 802-234-5545.

CONSTRUCTION: ADDITIONS, RENOVATIONS new construction, drywall, carpentry, painting, flooring, roofing, pressure washing, driveway sealing. All aspects of construction, also property maintenance. Steven Fifield 802-989-0009.

Free
FREE CAMP WOOD. You haul away. Monday - Wednesday pick up. 453-2897.

Garage Sales

BARN SALE 1177 Swinton Rd, Bridport. Rain or shine. August 22, 9am-2pm. Great stuff. Antiques. 9x12 oriental-type rug, kitchen items, patio furniture, Stubben English leather saddle, gym equipment. DR all-terrain mower. Sundance king size quilt.

BRIDPORT TOWN-WIDE Yard Sales. August 22nd and 23rd, 9:00 - 4:00. Maps available at sales and Pratt's store.

ESTATE SALE. BRIDPORT. 2666 Hemenway Road. Saturday and Sunday, August 22 and 23. 9am-3pm. Cleaning out the house. China cabinet, old vinyl records, wooden chairs, dishes, old books, interesting collectibles, Jacobs Brothers piano and many items you just can't live without. Don't forget to check out all the Bridport Town Wide Yard Sales. We are on the map. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing. Thank you.

EVERYTHING FOR EVERYONE. 9am-3pm. Saturday, August 22. 540 Town Farm Road, Brandon. Also food sale.

GIGANTIC YARD SALE Saturday, August 22, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. 573 Monkton Road, Bristol. Huge variety and free stuff! Please wear your mask.

VERMONT HANDMADE CRAFTS 4493 VT RTE 17 W, Addison. August 29, 10-3. Baby quilts, wall hangings, table runners, bags, microwave bowls, masks and much more. Cash or checks only. Mask required.

YARD SALE 413 East Main Street (Route 125), East Middlebury. Saturday, 8/22 8am-1pm. Weather permitting.

Opportunities

STRUGGLING TO take care of your pet? Call Homeward Bound- 388-1100- for information on the HUB, our safety-net program for income-qualified owners!

Help Wanted

A & W AND GREG'S Market. To apply, call Gail at 802-989-7651.

AMERICAN FLATBREAD Middlebury Hearth is planning for our future! We're hiring a Restaurant Manager to lead and support our incredibly hard working staff, while continuing to drive our standard of excellence in customer service and quality of food and beverage. If you have experience offering stellar customer service, possess great communication skills, work well with a team, know how to motivate others and have an interest in delicious, local and organic food, please forward your resume to Danielle: Danielle@americanflatbread.com. We offer a positive and respectful work environment, competitive salary and vacation package, retirement plan and other benefits. Please, only serious candidates interested in making a long term commitment and ability to work nights and weekends. EOE.

Help Wanted

ANTICIPATED OPENING. HOPE is accepting applications for the position of resale warehouse associate. Full time, with benefits. Must be self-directed, able to complete assigned tasks correctly and on time. Duties include pickups and deliveries, answering phone calls, helping people bringing donated goods, cleaning, and preparing items for our store. Must be able to work as a team, have good communication and observation skills, and lift up to 25 pounds. If you have these skills, are enthusiastic about working and want a job that allows you to make a positive difference in our community, send a resume and note of interest to receptionist@hope-vt.org. EOE.

FULL-TIME CARPENTERS & Carpentry help wanted. \$16-\$22/hr. Frame to finish. On the job training! Mon-Fri w/ option to work overtime. Valid drivers license & background check req. Call 802-355-8136 or apply online! tinyurl.com/scaplyonline.

Help Wanted

ADDISON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT CUSTODIAN
Addison Central School District is seeking a full time Custodian, Monday through Friday second shift. Experience is a plus, but not required.
Apply through Schoolspring or by sending a letter of interest, resume, and three current letters of reference to:
Dr. Peter Burrows, Superintendent
Addison Central School District
49 Charles Avenue
Middlebury, VT 05753
Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled. E.O.E.

FIND IT HERE! ADDY INDY CLASSIFIEDS

NOW HIRING!

Full time, experienced help needed for commercial lawn mowing and landscaping. Must have valid drivers license. Excellent pay.
Please call to apply. 802-388-4529.
TOM BODETTE
Excavating & Landscaping, Inc.
6 Lower Plains Rd, Middlebury, VT 05753
Call 388-4529



Positions Available
Accounts Receivable Specialist
Full Time Position. Previous experience in billing is preferred. Excellent references and Background Check Required.
Bar Soap Maker (Apprentice)
Full Time Position. Attention to detail and accurate record keeping is essential. Must be able to lift, bend, kneel and stand for long periods at a time.
Shipping & Receiving Clerk Must have strong computer skills. Attention to detail is crucial. Lifting, bending, kneeling and standing for long periods is required. Previous experience is a plus.
Production Team Members Needed
Must be reliable and have a great attitude. Must be able to work well both independently and as part of a team. Lifting, bending, kneeling and standing for long periods are required.
Purchasing Assistant
Full Time position. Candidate must be detail oriented, possess strong computer skills as well as excellent written and verbal communication skills. Basic math skills required.
Private Label Account Manager (Sales): Must have excellent written and verbal communication skills. Self-motivated, creative, and dedicated personality is a must! Attention to detail is crucial as well as strong computer skills. Previous sales experience a plus.
If interested in any of these positions, please email resume and cover letter to nichole@vermontsoap.com.

It's GARAGE SALE Season...

Let us get the word out for you!

ONLY \$7 PER RUN (up to 30 words) - includes a FREE internet listing.
Additional words are 25¢ per word / per run.

YOUR AD INFORMATION

TOWN: _____

DATES & TIMES: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

DESCRIPTION: _____

YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

\$7 x _____ # of runs _____

of additional words _____

x # of runs _____ x 25¢ _____

Total Payment Enclosed \$ _____

Deadline:
Mondays at 5pm
for the Thursday paper

Mail in your classified ad with payment to:
58 Maple Street, Middlebury VT 05753
OR Email your ad to: classifieds@addisonindependent.com

Garage Sales can be COVID Safe!
Add info to your ad about precautions you are taking and asking others to follow.

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Red Cross Volunteers & Donors Needed

Volunteer
Help volunteer at blood drives in Middlebury, Vergennes or Brandon. Red Cross has COVID-19 protocol in place to keep donors, staff and volunteers safe. If you would like to help, please contact RSVP of Addison County at 388-7044 or rsvpfgp@gmail.com.

Give
Help fill the need by donating blood. Go to www.redcrossblood.org and enter 05753 to schedule an appointment at these upcoming drives:

Tuesday, September 8th, 2020
10:00 – 4:00
American Legion Post 27, Middlebury

Wednesday, September 9th, 2020
8:30 – 1:30
American Legion Post 27, Middlebury

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An ad placed for consecutive issues (Mondays & Thursdays) is run 4th time free!

Name: _____
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- Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted
- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notices | <input type="checkbox"/> Work Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Att. Farmers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Card of Thanks | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personals | <input type="checkbox"/> For Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Cars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Meetings** | <input type="checkbox"/> Trucks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free** | <input type="checkbox"/> For Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> SUVs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lost 'N Found** | <input type="checkbox"/> Want to Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sales | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Heat | <input type="checkbox"/> Boats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn & Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate | <input type="checkbox"/> Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Animals | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption | | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Rentals |

RATES

DEADLINES: Thurs. noon for Mon. paper
Mon. 5 p.m. for Thurs. paper

• 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad
• \$2 internet listing for up to 4 issues • minimum 2 insertions

** no charge for these ads Spotlight with large ✓ \$2

PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

Number of words: _____
Cost: _____
of runs: _____
Spotlight Charge: _____
Internet Listing: **\$2.00**
TOTAL: _____

The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error occurred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.

Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



Bridge School

PRESCHOOL TEACHER WANTED

Bridge School Preschool is looking for a teacher 2-3 days per week, from 8:00-3:30. More hours are available. We are a small preschool with an emphasis on nature, community, and interpersonal relationships. Experience and degree in early childhood or related field preferred. Helpful to have flexibility to be able to do different shifts. Strengths in curriculum planning, collaborative teaming and an interest in emergent curriculum are welcomed. Hourly position. Position starts Aug. 31. *We are also looking for substitutes.*

Send resumes with three written letters of reference to jenne@bridgeschoolvermont.org or by mail to Jenne Morton, Bridge School Preschool, 1469 Exchange Street, Middlebury, Vermont, 05753. Contact Jenne for more information, 388-3498.



Addison County Parent/Child Center

Join the Parent/Child Center Team

Kitchen Program Coordinator

We are seeking a Kitchen Program Coordinator to work with our community to create meals for young children, parents and staff. Strong candidates must have knowledge of teaching others to cook and work in a kitchen, meal planning, mentoring young adults, child-friendly meal making and working with a greenhouse and composting, as well as excellent communication skills and want to work in community. Flexibility and collaboration are a must. Total hours are negotiable.

Please contact Donna Bailey at d Bailey@addisoncountypcc.org
Deadline August 21, 2020



Addison County Parent/Child Center

Join the Parent/Child Center Team

Early Childhood Teacher/ Parent Educators

We are seeking Early Childhood Teacher/ Parent Educators to work in our 5 STAR childcare center. We are a therapeutic childcare program that supports children birth through 5 and their families. Strong candidates must have knowledge of child development, family systems, excellent communication skills, and want to work with young families. Flexibility and collaboration are a must. Total are hours negotiable.

Please contact Donna Bailey at d Bailey@addisoncountypcc.org
Deadline August 21, 2020

Help Wanted



DENTAL HYGIENIST Busy general practice in Vergennes, seeking licensed dental hygienist for full time position. Competitive compensation and benefits available. Please email info@drcongalton.com to request an application.

MENTAL HEALTH PEER support worker part-time, night shift. See <https://www.alyssum.org/> for more information.

Help Wanted

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS Community Associates is a developmental services arm of the Counseling Service of Addison County. As we gradually open our services, we have an immediate need for staff to provide direct support to adults with developmental disabilities. In a community or job setting, help individuals achieve personal goals toward increasing independence, and build communities to which they belong. Come join our team to help them achieve full potentials! Those with experience in human services fields are encouraged to apply. Seeking professionals with compassion, patience, dependability and flexibility. Monday through Friday. Excellent benefit package. To apply, go to <https://www.csac-vt.org/careers>.

HOPE IS LOOKING for a temporary, half time office assistance. This position will help us to deliver our holiday programs, as well as our self and other programs. We are organized through the community to be able to lift up our hands and be familiar with basic Office computer programs. If you have these skills, and want a job where you can make a positive difference in our community, send a resume and note of interest to receptionist@hope-vt.org. EOE.

HOPE SEEKS an electronics tester and mender. 25 hours a week, test and do minor repairs to used electronics and small appliances to be sold in our resale store. Must be very well organized, have relevant experiences, and able to work efficiently. If you have the skills, and want a job where you can make a difference in our community, email your resume and note of interest to receptionist@hope-vt.org. All profits from our store go to support our poverty relief programs. EOE.

SHARED LIVING PROVIDER sought for a woman in her 40s who experiences mild intellectual disability. She would love to continue to live in Middlebury. She has many interests that keep her busy, including arts & crafts, knitting, puzzles, hiking and gardening. Also, enjoys cooking healthy meals and takes joy in trying out new recipes! This fairly independent woman is currently working toward an early childhood education certification. Best match would be able to provide a structured home environment with routines. Generous tax-free stipend, annual room & board payment of \$8,780, as well as a respite budget. Contact Donna Quesnel at Community Associates. (802)388-4021.

Help Wanted



PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT for child. Family looking for support with special needs child, a few days a week. Schedule is flexible, but 2-4 hours depending on need. Successful candidate; trained in LSCL, CPI or other deescalation techniques. Ability to move 100 lbs alone. Comfortable with supporting feeding, changing, diapers and clothes. Professional and timely. Fun, playful and happy demeanor. Preschool experience. Comfortable delivering medication. Able to take feedback and give feedback. Openminded with working in a relationship based model without use of punishment or behavior programming. Facilitates independence at times and supportive as needed. Uses talker and nonverbal tools with fidelity. Able to drive safely and have a clean driving record. Ability to take walks and enjoy other community activities. Engaged with play after training with caregivers. Competitive pay, supportive family. 802-343-3023.

SHARD VILLA IS HIRING overnight caregivers, 11 pm-7 am shift. Full-time or part-time, including every other weekend. Candidate must be patient, compassionate, and reliable. LNA not required, but caregiving experience a plus. Non-sleeping shift. Competitive wage based on experience. Call 802-352-4369.

TOWN OF PANTON Clerk-Treasurer. FT with excellent benefits. Handles all financial aspects of the town and runs the town office. BA or (equivalent work experience) and 3 years or more experience in accounting or related field required. For more information and to apply, go to www.pantonvt.us.

YEAR ROUND WAIT-STAFF needed for busy family restaurant. Apply in person to Rosie's Restaurant, Rte 7 South, Middlebury.

For Sale

52" BRONZE CEILING fan with light. Two years old. Brand new, still in the box. Valued at \$109, sale \$35.00. 802-877-3725.

ROOF RAKE, \$30. Two sets of steel auto ramps, \$10 each. Bottle capper, \$10. Electric, apartment size heater- \$25. 802-468-0278.

SEARS CRAFTSMAN 10 inch radial saw, contractor's series with manual. Stand included. \$225.00. Call or text 802-989-6052.

Vacation Rentals

ADDISON: LAKE CHAMPLAIN waterfront camp. Beautiful views, gorgeous sunsets, private beach, dock, rowboat and canoe included. \$800 weekly, or call for weekends. 802-349-4212, no texts.

For Rent

2 BEDROOM APARTMENT in New Haven. Washer/Dryer. No pets. No Smoking. Call Ralph at 802-453-2275.

2 SINGLE APARTMENTS available. Downtown Middlebury. \$1350. all inclusive. Washer, dryer. 802-349-8544.

25 CLIMATE CONTROLLED STORAGE units and bike storage ranging in sizes from 6'X5' to 11'X5' starting as low as \$10 a month. Call Nikki to set up a showing or to learn more. 802-651-6888.

BEAUTIFUL OFFICE above Bristol Cliffs Cafe, 16 Main Street. Available September 1st. This second floor, 375 sq. ft. space is comprised of 2 rooms separated by a door. Windows, high ceilings and shared bathroom in hallway. Rent is \$550/month, includes heat/electric. Please call Barbara at 802-989-3132.

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.

For Rent

BRANDON: PARK VILLAGE apartments is currently taking waitlist applications for 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. Senior 62+ housing available. Minimum occupancy requirements for affordable units. No smoking/No pets. Income limits apply- rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

MIDDLEBURY 8,000 SQ.FT. light industrial including a store front approved for retail. Exchange Street, industrial. 802-388-4831.

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.

IN-TOWN STORAGE UNIT. 6' wide x 20' long x 10' high. Easy access. \$125/month. Text Baba, 802-373-6456.

MIDDLEBURY - ONE BEDROOM, ground floor. Very nice, very convenient. Free satellite, on-site laundry. No smoking, no pets. \$750 plus utilities. 802-388-5474.

BRISTOL 2 BEDROOM HOUSE Private with views. Extra storage, lots of closets, hardwood floors. Under cover parking. Security deposit, credit check and references required. No pets. Available September 1. \$1250/month. 802-352-4266, leave message.

STOREFRONT LOCATION downtown, 56 College Street. Commercial use, lots of opportunities. Approved seating for 24. Text Baba 802-373-6456.

Addy Indy Classifieds are online:

addisonindependent.com/classifieds

FOR RENT BATELL BLOCK

150 SQ. FEET- PRIVATE OFFICE
everything included • shared bath
no parking • window and mailbox
1-802-651-6888
Call Nikki to set up a showing or to learn more!

Real Estate

BRIDPORT, COUNTRY FARM HOUSE. Located on 2 acres, 8 miles to Middlebury on a quiet dirt road. 1-1/2 story, 4 bedrooms, 1 bath. Kitchen has butternut wood T&G walls. Living room has wainscot and hardwood floor. Laundry room. 2 separate upstairs, storage, small deck with handicap ramp, municipal water. Lovely open lawn with mature maple and evergreen trees. Perennial flower beds, garden area. Beautiful Champlain Valley views. Circular driveway. The house does need some work. Built in 1850. Reduced to \$140,000. OBO. email: vnolette@yahoo.com or text 802-349-6579. Serious inquiries only, please.

Att. Farmers

CORRAL PANELS, CATTLE gates and round bale feeders. Call Brian's Farm Supply 802-355-2076.

FOR SALE: SAWDUST delivered. 50 cubic yard loads. Call Paul for pricing. 802-623-6731.

HAY FOR SALE. Small square bales, first cut + mulch. 802-349-9281. 802-453-4481.

WHITNEY'S CUSTOM FARM WORK Pond agitating, liquid manure hauling, drag line aerating. Call for price. 462-2755, John Whitney.



Andy Kirkaldy



Matthew Dickerson



Karl Lindholm

SPORTS

WE'VE GOT IT COVERED!

Don't miss a beat
Read the Addy Indy online, in print, or on the go!

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. Talk to our sales professionals.



ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

VERMONT'S TWICE-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

58 Maple Street • Middlebury, Vermont 05753 • (802) 388-4944

Looking for something different?

Your local newspaper is your BEST RESOURCE for local job opportunities!

Also available online: addisonindependent.com

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT
VERMONT'S TWICE-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

58 Maple Street • Middlebury, Vermont 05753 • (802) 388-4944



ANWSD BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS AUGUST 2020

The following schedule of the Board of School Directors' meetings is announced for the month of August 2020:

Monday, August 17	5:00 PM	Policy Committee Meeting Virtual Open Meeting- link will be provided with agenda
Wednesday, August 19	6:00 – 9:00 PM	ANWSD Board Retreat Virtual Open Meeting- link will be provided with agenda
Monday, August 24	6:00 PM	ANWSD Board Meeting Virtual Open Meeting- link will be provided with agenda

ADDISON NORTHWEST SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL NOTICE OF IDENTIFICATION

The Addison Northwest School District has a duty to provide a free and appropriate public education to all qualified handicapped persons who, because of a handicap, require special education and/or related aids/ services.

The Addison Northwest School District is seeking to identify and locate every handicapped child residing within their jurisdiction who is not receiving a public education. If you know of any person who may be a qualified handicapped person, and is not receiving a public education, please write or call your building principal (Local Section 504/ADA Coordinator), or the Director of Instructional Support Services, (District Section 504/ADA Coordinator), 11 Main Street, Suite 8100, Vergennes, VT 05491 (phone: 802-877-3332).

Addison Northwest School District Annual Notification of Rights of Parents and Eligible Students Concerning Educational Records

CHILD FIND NOTICE

The Addison Northwest School District (ANWSD) wish to inform interested parties that all people with disabilities from birth through the age of 21 , who are in need of special education and related services, need to be identified, located and evaluated. Also, any person between the ages of 3 and 21, who resides in the district and is in need of special education and related services, is entitled to a free and appropriate public education. Eligible students who reside in other towns but attend approved independent schools within ANWSD district may receive services at the discretion of the school district in which the independent school is located. Therefore, any person who has information about disabled people, who fit these descriptions, should contact the school district in which the person resides or attends school.

In accordance with the policies of the ANWSD and with 34 CFR Part 99, which is the Family Educational Rights Privacy Act of 1974, this public notice informs all parents within their jurisdictions about how information is cared for when it is collected during the identification, location, and evaluation of all people with disabilities.

- Each school possessing personally identifiable information will protect it. Personally identifiable information is kept on people eligible, referred, or considered for special education services.
- Parents have the right to know what types of information has been designated as directory information. "Directory information" means information contained in an education record of a student which would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy, if disclosed; it is the student's name (unless the parent requests otherwise), address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height, membership in athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous school attended.
- Parents have the right to know the types and locations of educational records kept by the school and the titles and addresses of officials responsible for the records.
- A list of the names and positions of employees within the school district who have access to personally identifiable information shall be available for public inspection.
- If anyone other than an authorized employee of the ANWSD looks at the educational record of a child, that person shall so indicate by signing his/her name, date and purpose for which (s)he entered the record on a form which shall become part of the educational records.
- Parental permission will be obtained prior to disclosing confidential information to anyone who is not an authorized employee of the school district. Information relevant to a child's specific disability (example: medical information, intelligence test results, social or developmental history, comprehensive evaluation report and the individualized educational program) will be part of the educational record.. Personally identifiable information will be gathered from screenings, qualified diagnostic centers and other sources, as deemed necessary, to complete a comprehensive evaluation.
- Parents or an eligible student will be able to access personally identifiable information and inspect and review their educational record(s) no later than 45 days after the request is made.
- Parents have the right to a response to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of the educational records.
- Parents may obtain a copy of the educational record without a fee for copying, if a fee will be a financial burden and/or will prevent them from obtaining the records.
- Parents have the right to request the educational record be amended. The school district will decide whether to amend the records within a reasonable time of the request. If the district decides to refuse to amend the record, it shall inform the parent of its decision and advise the parent of the right to a hearing. If, as a result of the hearing, it is found that the educational records must be amended, the school district will amend the records and inform the parent in writing. If as a result of the hearing, it is found that the disputed information is not inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of a child, the school district will inform the parent of his/her right to place in the educational record a written statement commenting on the information or stating any reasons for disagreeing with the results of the hearing. This written statement will become part of the educational record and will always be included whenever contents of the educational records are properly viewed or requested.
- Parents have the right to a hearing to challenge the educational record of their child.
- Parents will be notified prior to the school district's destruction of personally identifiable information about their child.
- The parent has the authority to inspect and review records relating to his/her child unless the school district has been advised that the parent does not have the authority under applicable State Law governing matters such as guardianship, separation and divorce.
- Parents have the right to file a complaint with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school district to comply with this policy. Note: If there are parents within the school districts who should have this information interpreted or written in other languages, please notify the school district. The District's detailed policy and procedures describing and implementing legal and policy requirements concerning educational records is available upon request from Superintendent of Schools, 11 Main Street, Suite B 1 ~O, Vergennes, VT 05491. Telephone: 802-877 -3332.

Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found in this **ADDISON INDEPENDENT** on **Pages 3B, 10B & 11B.**

Addison Northwest School District (4) • Addison Central School District (1)
Bridport (1) • Lincoln (1) • Middlebury (1) • Panton (1) • Shoreham (1)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Full Passport Service Addison County Courthouse

The Addison County Clerk is available to accept passport applications and provide passport photos.

REGULAR HOURS Monday-Friday 9am to 1pm

APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED.
FACE MASKS REQUIRED.

802-388-1966

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lincoln Planning Commission will hold a Final Hearing for Application #20-030 for a 2-lot subdivision proposed by Stephen and Judith Harris for Parcel #01070132.000 located at 156 Beaver Meadow Brook Road (West River Road). Said hearing will be held Thursday, September 3, 2020 at 7:05 PM. The hearing will probably be held remotely by GoToMeeting and/or at the Lincoln Fire Station. For more information please contact zonin-gadmin@lincolnvermont.org.

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MARKET REPORT ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
Sales for 8/13 & 8/17, 2020

BEEF	COST LBS. /LB	\$
Vorsteveld Farm	1725	.72 1242.00
Nop Bros + Sons	1695	.705 1194.98
P. Livingston	1525	.72 1098.00
Danyow Farm LLC	1770	.70 1239.00
Wilcon Farm	1410	.655 923.55
Blue Spruce Farm	1905	.65 1238.25
Allendale Farm	1740	.65 1131.00

CALVES	COST LBS. /LB	\$
A. Morrill	105	2.125 223.13
Gosluga Farm	120	1.80 216.00
Quarry Road Farm	95	1.80 171.00
Barnes Bros.	97	1.70 164.90
Woodnotch Farm	91	1.70 154.70

Total # Beef: 193 • Total # Calves: 438

We value our faithful customers.

Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.

For pickup and trucking
call 1-802-388-2661

ADDISON NORTHWEST SCHOOL DISTRICT

Model Notification of Rights under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary Schools

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's educational records. These rights are: (

1) The right to inspect and review the student's educational records within 45 days of the day the School receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the School principal [or appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The School official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student's educational records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA. Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the School to amend a record should write the School principal [or appropriate school official], clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the School will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) The right to consent to disclosures without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the School has contracted as its agent to provide a service instead of using its own employees or officials (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

[Optional] Upon request, the School discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. [NOTE: FERPA requires a school district to make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or student of the records request unless it states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request.]

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-5920

[NOTE: In addition, a school may want to include its directory information public notice, as required by §99.37 of the regulations, with its annual notification of rights under FERPA.]

Legal Basis for School Districts' Responsibility for Child Find for Birth to Age Three

Vermont has aligned child find responsibilities in both Vermont State Board of Education Rules adopted on August 24, 2006, and the Part C Interagency Agreement dated July 27, 2006 (Part C IAA). V.S.B.E. Rule 2360.3.5(a)(1) states: School Districts are responsible for establishing and implementing a comprehensive child-find system from birth through twenty-one years of age." The Part C 1M states: Pursuant to V.S.B.E. Rule 2360.5, the child find responsibility for children birth to age three lies with LEAs."1 See Part C 1M, page 7.

The 2006 V.S.B.E. Rules and the Part C 1M alignment of child find with schools is not new. The preceding Vermont Part C 1M, dated 1997, also identified Part C child find as a responsibility of school districts. Every version of the Vermont State Board of Education Rules dating back at least to June 5, 1991, has also identified school districts as responsible for Part C child find: "Comprehensive Child Find System (a) Local Procedures. Each responsible agency shall establish written procedures for the identification and evaluation of children with disabilities, birth through twenty-one years of age, residing within the jurisdiction of the responsible agency who are in need of special education." V.S.B.E. Rule 2360.3, adopted June 5, 1991. The 1991 rules defined "responsible agency" as: "the school district, pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 11 (1), that is responsible for providing education and the school district responsible for providing or arranging for the provision of special education and related services to the student. V.S.B.E. Rule 2360.2.2, adopted June 5, 1991.

Tasks Necessary for Fulfill the Birth to Age Three Child Find Responsibility

What exactly must school districts do to meet their child find responsibility for the birth to age three population and maintain their eligibility for IDEA funding? School districts are responsible for undertaking activities to locate and identify children birth to age three who may require early intervention services. The Part C child find system must employ specific elements of evaluation and assessment, including a comprehensive, multidisciplinary evaluation and assessment in all developmental areas. School districts are responsible for the costs of the evaluation and for ensuring that the evaluation process complies with the requirements of V.S.B.E. Rule 2360.5 through 2360.5.3. This includes the responsibility for ensuring that the assessment is completed using approved assessment instruments and eligibility is determined within 45 days of receipt of a referral. School districts can fulfill their child find responsibility by performing the child find activities or by contracting with the regional Family, Infant and Toddler Program or with other qualified entities.

Allowable Funds based on Part C IAA

The June 27, 2006 Part C 1M enumerates the available funding sources that school districts may use to fulfill their Part C child find responsibilities. The child find funding sources listed in the Part C IAA are: Part B funds; Part C funds at the discretion of AHS; Medicaid through OVHA; private insurance; Early Head Start to the extent permitted by the 2005 Interagency 1LEA means local education agency or school district.

Agreement for Supporting Children with Disabilities and Their Families. To the extent that all school district Essential Early Education (EEE) responsibilities are fulfilled, the EEE state grant may be used for child find activities. It has also been determined that school districts may use their state educational spending dollars to meet their child find obligations for children birth to age three. As school districts must perform the child find requirements for children from birth to age three to meet federal and state law requirements, it is an allowable use of state education spending dollars. Because the LEAs are responsible for the costs associated with Child Find, AHS and their contracted host agencies will no longer absorb the costs of implementing the child find requirements under Part C.

Contacts for Further Information

We hope that this memorandum answers any questions that you might have regarding your district's child find responsibilities for children from birth to age three, and the allowable use of funds for that purpose. The Part C 1M should be used as a guide for local school districts and regional host agencies to work together in formulating a regional plan which clearly defines each entity's specific roles and responsibilities in the implementation of child find activities. Technical and ongoing assistance will be available to your district and regional host agencies by DOE and AHS staff to assist local efforts in the formulation and implementation of regional plans. It is our shared goal to beUser identify and coordinate services for young children and their families participating in Part C services. If you need technical assistance in carrying out any of the obligations described above, please contact Kate Rogers, the Department's Essential Early Education Consultant, at 828-5115, or at kate.rogers@state.vt.us, or Helen Keith, Vermont's Part C Director, at 241-3622, or at helen.keith@ahs.slate.vt.us.

**TOWN OF BRIDPORT - INVITATION FOR BIDS
Mountain Road Culvert Replacement
Bridport, Vermont**

Sealed Bids for the construction of the Town of Bridport – Mountain Road Culvert Replacement will be received by Town of Bridport at Bridport Town Hall, 82 Crown Point Road, Bridport, VT 05734, until 3:00pm local time on September 11, 2020. Bids received will be "publicly" opened and read. Bidders providing bids by mail shall allow for delivery time. The Project consists of removal of existing embankment material, removal of the existing metal culvert, and installation of a steel circular pipe culvert (50 feet long with 8 feet diameter) with cast-in-place concrete cradle headwalls and replacement backfill.

Bids will be received for a single prime contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum and unit price basis as indicated on the bid schedule.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Otter Creek Engineering, Inc., P.O. Box 712, 404 East Main St., Middlebury, VT, (802) 382-8522. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office.

A pre-bid conference will be held at 1:00pm local time on August 28, 2020 at the Bridport Town Hall at the address listed above. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is highly encouraged but is not mandatory.

The complete bid advertisement is posted on the Vermont Bid Registry website. You may also contact the Issuing Office for an emailed copy.

Owner: Town of Bridport
By: Tim Howlett, Selectboard Chair
August 20, 2020

**TOWN OF SHOREHAM
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Clerk's office to consider a request for a waiver of setbacks of application (#20-017) in accordance with provisions of the Town Zoning Regulations. The project involves construction of a new garage structure at 167 Duffany Road. The applicant (Amanda and Timothy Gould) requests a waiver of front yard setback. The application is available at the Town Office for review, by appointment only. Participation in this proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to make any subsequent appeal.

The hearing will be held outside, weather permitting, to accommodate State guidance. Attendees are expected to comply with current State of Vermont guidance regarding the Executive Order No. 01-20, Declaration of State of Emergency in Response to COVID-19, including maintaining a physical distance of at least six feet with others, and wearing a facial covering.

For those who prefer to attend the meeting remotely either by videoconference or by phone, please contact the Town Office or email johnk.zbshoreham@gmail.com prior to 4 p.m. on the date prior to the hearing (August 26, 2020) to obtain a web conference link or phone number to call-in.

John Kiernan, Chair

**TOWN OF PANTON
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Development Review Board will convene the following public hearing online via a Zoom session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 10, 2020.

To consider an application from Kevin Cooke and Mike Gingras (#20-501) for a review of their proposal to modify the location of the building envelope on lot 7 (assigned 9-1-1 address # 1378 Hopkins Road) totaling 5± acres (parcel ID# 071130000) in accordance with the provisions of the Town's Zoning Regulations. These applications are available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office. Interested parties who wish to appeal or be heard at the hearing may do by attending a Zoom session, and may also be represented by an agent or an attorney. (Please contact the Assistant Town Clerk at 475-2333 option 2 for the Zoom session login information.) Communications relating to the application may be filed in writing with the Board either before or during the hearing.

N.B.: Participation in the hearing is necessary to establish status as an 'interested person' and the right to appeal a decision rendered in that hearing, according to the provisions of 24 V.S.A. 117 §§4465(b) and 4471(a). Participation consists of offering, through oral or written testimony, evidence or a statement of concern directly related to the subject of the hearing.

OPINION?

news@addisonindependent.com

**ADDISON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BUS ROUTES 2020-2021**

Please note: All times are approximate. Times for bus routes can vary by several minutes depending on traffic, construction, weather, and ridership. Students should be at their bus stop at least 5 minutes earlier than the published time. For safety reasons, drivers will not wait for students to come to the stop. If you have questions about a route, please contact your school.

<p>CORNWALL SOUTH BUS</p> <p>AM</p> <p>7:10 Rt. 30 7:19 Delong Rd. 7:20 Douglas & Delong Rd. 7:22 Carothers Lane & Delong Rd. 7:28 South Bingham & Cutting Hill Rd. 7:32 South Bingham St. 7:40 North Bingham St. 7:45 At Cornwall School</p> <p>PM</p> <p>2:50 At Cornwall School 2:55 Rt. 30 South 3:14 Delong & Galvin Rd. 3:15 Carothers Lane & Delong Rd. 3:17 Douglas Rd. 3:19 South Bingham St. 3:21 North Bingham St. 3:30 Mary Hogan - Drop 3:32 MUHS P/U MUMS & MUHS 3:35-3:45 Rt. 30 South 3:45 Delong Rd./Douglas Rd. 3:50 Park Hill Rd. to Barnes Rd. 3:52 Wooster Rd. 3:58 South Bingham Rd. 4:00 North Bingham Rd./Sperry Rd.</p> <p>NORTH BUS</p> <p>AM</p> <p>7:08 Clark Road 7:10 Rt. 74 7:12 South end of West St. 7:17 Cross Rd. 7:20 West St. and Rt. 125 7:22 Snake Mountain Rd. 7:23 Rt. 125 7:27 Ledgement & Lemon Fair Rd. 7:30 Rt. 125 & Cider Mill Rd. 7:32 - Cider Mill Rd. & Ridge Rd. 7:34 - Rt. 30 North to <i>tumaround</i> 7:36 - Rt. 30 South 7:45 - At Cornwall School</p> <p>PM</p> <p>2:55 Depart Cornwall School 3:00 Rt. 30 North 3:01 Ridge Rd. 3:05 Lemon Fair Rd. 3:10 Cider Mill Rd. 3:12 Rt. 30 South 3:20 Rt. 74 3:22 West St. 3:27 Snake Mountain Rd. 3:29 Rt. 125 - To MUHS <i>Drop Students in town</i> 3:35 Load MUHS/MUMS 3:40 Rt. 30 South 3:42 Ridge Rd. 3:44 Lemon Fair Rd. 3:47 Cider Mill Rd. 3:50 Rt. 30 South 3:53 Clark Rd. 3:55 West St.</p> <p>SALISBURY EAST BUS</p> <p>AM</p> <p>6:50 Lake Dunmore Rd. 6:55 Smead Rd. 7:00 Maple St. & Smead Intersection 7:03 West Shore Rd. 7:06-7:18 Upper Plains Rd. 7:22 Wildlife Lane 7:25 Lower Plains Rd. 7:30 Rt. 7 North 7:40 At Salisbury School <i>Load MUMS & MUHS Students</i></p> <p>PM</p> <p>2:45 At Salisbury School 2:50 Rt. 7 2:52 Maple St. 2:55 Smead Rd. 2:58 Sullivan Ct. 2:59 Lake Dunmore Rd. 3:02 Upper Plains Rd. 3:05 Beaver Pond Rd. 3:08 Lower Plains Rd. To MUMS 3:20 Rt. 7 South to Rt. 53 3:25 Lake Dunmore Rd. 3:30 Smead Rd. 3:33 Maple & Smead Rd. 3:40 Maple St. 3:45 West Shore Rd. 3:50 Upper Plains Rd.</p> <p>WEST BUS</p> <p>AM</p> <p>6:45 North on Middle Rd. 6:47 Columbus Smith Rd. 6:49 Shard Villa Rd. 6:51 Creek Rd. 6:54 Dewey Rd. 7:00 W. Salisbury Rd.-Dewey-Leland Rd. 7:10 Morgan Rd. to West Salisbury Rd. 7:15 Rogers Rd. 7:20 Town Hall - North on Maple St. 7:25 Rt. 7 North to W. Salisbury Rd. to Kelly Crossroads</p>	<p>CORNWALL - continued</p> <p>7:34 Holman Rd.- Cemetery to W. Salisbury 7:40 At Salisbury School</p> <p>WEST BUS</p> <p>PM</p> <p>2:45 At Salisbury School 2:50 Kelly Crossroads/Middle Rd. 2:53 Columbus Smith Rd./N. Shard Villa Road 2:59 West Salisbury Rd. 2:57 Dewey Rd. 2:59 West Salisbury Rd. 3:05 Leland Rd. 3:09 Morgan Rd./West Salisbury Rd. 3:12 Maple St. to West Shore Rd. Rt. 7 to MUHS 3:25 Rt. 7 South 3:30 Kelly Crossroads/Middle Rd. 3:35 Columbus Smith Rd./N. Shard Villa Road 3:38 West Salisbury Rd. 3:40 Dewey Rd. 3:43 West Salisbury Rd. 3:47 Leland Rd. 3:50 Morgan Rd./West Salisbury Rd. 3:55 Maple St. to West Shore Rd.</p> <p>BRIDPORT</p> <p>BUS 1</p> <p>AM</p> <p>6:50 Swinton Road 6:53 Basin Harbor Road 6:55 Crown Point Road 6:59 Heitman Road 7:05-7:17 Lake Street 7:21 Middle Road 7:24 Basin Harbor Road 7:26 Middle Road 7:29 Lovers Lane 7:30 At Bridport School 7:35 Depart for MUHS</p> <p>PM</p> <p>3:15 At MUMS 3:20 At MUHS 3:35 At Bridport School 3:40 Swinton Road 3:43 Basin Harbor Road 3:44 Crown Point Road 3:47 Heitman Road 3:54 Lake Street 4:02 Middle Road 4:05 Basin Harbor Road 4:06 Middle Road 4:09 Lovers Lane</p> <p>BUS 2</p> <p>6:53-7:03 Rt. 22a from Pratt's Store to Town Line Rd. 7:02 Town Line Rd. 7:07 Fiddlers Lane 7:17 Intersection Rt. 125/ W. Market Rd. 7:19 Rt. 125 7:22 Basin Harbor Road 7:30 Lovers Lane 7:30 At Bridport School 7:35 Depart for MUMS</p> <p>PM - Elementary</p> <p>2:50 Basin Harbor Road 2:54 Rt. 125 3:00 Rt. 125/ West Market Rd. 3:04 Rt. 22a to Rattlin Bridge Rd. 3:08 Fiddlers Ln. 3:15 Town Line Rd. 3:21 East St. 3:23 High St. 3:27 Market Rd. 3:33 Snake Mountain Rd. 3:35 Mountain Rd. 3:40 Back at Bridport School</p> <p>PM - High School</p> <p>3:45 Rt. 22a - Pratt's Store 3:49 Lovers Lane 3:54 Basin Harbor Rd. 4:05 Rt. 125 4:08 Fiddlers Lane 4:12 Rt. 22a</p> <p>BUS 3</p> <p>AM</p> <p>6:40 Market Road 6:44 Market & Payne Dr. 6:48-6:50 Snake Mountain Rd. 6:52 Forest Rd. 7:00 East St. 7:06 High St. 7:11 Rt. 22a 7:16 N. Cream Hill Rd. 7:30 At Bridport School</p> <p>PM - Elementary</p> <p>2:50 Rt.22a North 2:55 Lovers Lane 2:57 Rt. 22a South 3:10 Basin Harbor Rd. 3:12 Crown Point Rd. 3:15 Lake St. 3:25 Middle Rd. 3:35 Back at Bridport School</p>	<p>BRIDPORT - continued</p> <p>PM - High School</p> <p>3:40 Market Road 3:44 Market & Payne Dr. 3:45-3:55 Snake Mountain Rd. 3:58 Forest Rd. 4:05 East St. 4:10 High St. 4:16 Rt. 22a 4:25 Hemenway & Orchard Dr.</p> <p>SHOREHAM</p> <p>BUS 1</p> <p>AM</p> <p>7:02 Rt. 22a North 7:04-7:20 Rt. 74 East 7:26-7:29 Main St. 7:30 At Shoreham School</p> <p>PM</p> <p>2:45 At Shoreham School 2:50 Main St. 2:52-3:05 Rt. 74 East 3:15 At MUHS 3:35 Quiet Valley Rd. - Meet other 2 buses 3:44-3:50 Rt. 74 West 3:50 D/O Tottingham Rd. 3:55 Main St. 4:00 Smith St. 4:05 Rt. 74 - By the ferry</p> <p>BUS 2</p> <p>AM</p> <p>6:40 Rt. 74 West- Champlain Orchards 6:45 Rt. 73 South- <i>Tumaround</i> Sampson Rd. 6:55 Smith St. 6:57 Watch Point Rd. 6:57 White Face Ranch- <i>Tumaround</i> 7:00 Lake St. 7:05 Torrey Lane 7:10 Bay View Ln.- Lapham Bay Rd. 7:15 Half Way Rest. 7:23 North Cream Hill Rd. 7:27 Basin Harbor Rd. 7:29 Watch Point Rd. 7:30 At Shoreham School</p> <p>PM</p> <p>2:45 At Shoreham School 2:50 Watch Point Rd./Basin Harbor Rd. 2:55 Rt. 74 West-Champlain Orchards 3:00 Rt. 73 South -<i>Tumaround</i> Sampson Rd. 3:10 Smith St. 3:12 Basin Harbor Rd. 3:14 North Cream Hill Rd. 3:17 Lapham Bay Rd. 3:21 Torrey Lane 3:23 Lapham Bay Rd. 3:25 Right on Rt. 22a South Rt. 74 East to Quiet Valley Rd. 3:40 P/U MUMS & MUHS students 3:47 Doolittle Rd. to Lapham Bay Rd. 3:49 North Cream Hill Rd. 3:51 Lapham Bay Rd. 3:56 Lake St./Torrey Lane - Bay View Lane 4:00 Lake St. to White Face Farm 4:10 Lake St. to Smith St./Basin Harbor Rd. 4:15 Watch Point Rd.</p> <p>BUS 3</p> <p>AM</p> <p>6:40 Rt. 22a 6:50 Barnum Hill Rd. 6:55 Brown Rd. 7:00 North Orwell Rd. 7:05 Shoreham Depot Rd. 7:10 Webster Rd. 7:15 Cutting Hill Rd. 7:19 Richville Dam Rd. 7:22 Buttolph Rd. to intersection with Wooster Rd. 7:28 Richville Dam Rd. 7:29 Rt. 22a 7:30 At Shoreham School</p> <p>PM</p> <p>2:45 At Shoreham School 2:50 School St. to Barnum Hill Rd. 2:53 Rt. 22a - Woods farm - <i>Tumaround</i> 2:55 Rt. 22a North 2:57 Brown Rd. 3:00 North Orwell Rd. 3:06 Richville Dam Rd. 3:09 Shoreham Depot Rd. 3:13 Richville Dam Rd. 3:15 Webster Rd. 3:20 Cutting Hill Rd.. 3:30 Richville Dam Rd 3:45 Buttolph Rd. to Wooster Rd. to Rt. 74 to Quiet Valley Rd. Get MUMS & MUHS Students 3:45 South Bingham Rd. 3:50 Cutting Hill Rd. 3:55 Richville Dam Rd. to Webster Road 4:00 Shoreham Depot Rd. 4:05 Richville Dam Rd. 4:09 Buttolph Rd. 4:12 Richville Dam Rd. 4:15 Rt. 22a South</p>	<p>SHOREHAM - continued</p> <p>4:20 Brown Rd.</p> <p>WEYBRIDGE</p> <p>BUS 1</p> <p>AM</p> <p>7:10 Snake Mountain Rd. 7:14 Prunier Rd. 7:16 Weybridge Rd. 7:18 Thompson Hill Rd. 7:20 Snake Mountain Rd. 7:24-7:40 Quaker Village Rd. 7:45 At Weybridge School</p> <p>PM</p> <p>2:50 At Weybridge School 2:50 Right on Quaker Village Rd. Left on Rt. 17 3:10 Left on Rte. 23. Left on Prunier Mountain Rd. 3:22 Right on Rt. 23 3:27 Center of town 3:35 Left on Sheep Farm. Right info/out of Terrace Heights. Left on Hamilton Rd. 3:42 <i>Tumaround</i> at Cave Rd. Left on to Hamilton Rd. 3:49 Left on Morgan Horse Farm Rd. <i>Tumaround</i> at bridge 3:57 Right on Pulp Mill Bridge Rd. 4:00 Left on Perkins Rd. Right on James Rd.</p> <p>BUS 2</p> <p>AM</p> <p>7:00 Morgan Horse Farm Rd. 7:06 Stop - Pulp Mill Bridge Rd./Otter Creek Rd. 7:10 Weybridge Rd. 7:12 Sheep Farm Rd. 7:13 Terrace Heights Rd. 7:14 Sheep Farm Rd. 7:15 Hamilton Rd. 7:20 Cave Rd. 7:25 Weybridge Rd. 7:30 Perkins Rd. 7:36 Weybridge Rd. 7:45 At Weybridge School</p> <p>PM</p> <p>3:15 At MUMS-To MUHS- To Weybridge 3:25 Weybridge St. 3:27 Morgan Horse Farm Rd.-<i>Tumaround</i> Harrison Rd. to Sheep Farm Rd. 3:32 <i>Tumaround</i> 3:35 Harrison Rd. to Cave Rd. <i>Tumaround</i> 3:40 Harrison to Weybridge St. 3:45 Prunier Rd. to Snake Mountain Rd. To Thompson Hill Rd. 3:48 <i>Tumaround</i> at Waterman's Farm Snake Mountain to Weybridge Rd. 3:55 Quaker Village Rd.</p> <p>MIDDLEBURY BLUE BUS</p> <p>AM</p> <p>7:08 Start Rt. 116 N & Cady Rd. 7:10-7:12 Rt. 116 N - P/U East side 7:13 <i>Tumaround</i>- Top of hill on right past North 40 lane 7:14 Rt. 116 S- P/U West side 7:18 Right on Mead Lane - onto Butternut Ridge 7:25 Right on Rt. 116 7:30 Right on Quarry Rd. 7:33 Munger St. 7:36 Rolling Acres 7:50 Mary Hogan 7:55 MUHS 8:00 MUMS</p> <p>PM</p> <p>3:00 Mary Hogan 3:10 MUHS 3:15 MUMS 3:25 Rt. 116 N. & Cady Road 3:25-3:40 D/O East side Rt. 116 3:40 <i>Tumaround</i>- Top of hill on right past North 40 lane 3:42 Rt. 116 S- D/O West side 3:42 Right on Mead Lane- onto Butternut Ridge 3:47 Right on Rt. 116 3:48 Right on Quarry Rd.</p> <p>ORANGE BUS</p> <p>AM</p> <p>From Rt. 7 N & Elm St. 7:00-7:08 P/U East side to River Rd. Right on River Rd. to Right on Halpin Rd. 7:08 Halpin Rd. 7:10 Left on Painter Rd. 7:14 Left on Munger St. (<i>tumaround</i>) 7:17 Right on Painter 7:20 Left on Painter Hills to Grey Ledge Road. 7:22 Left on Painter Rd. 7:25 Left on Washington St. Ext. to intersection of Peterson Terrace/ Gambrel Court</p>	<p>MIDDLEBURY - continued</p> <p>7:26 Colonial Dr. & Washington St. Ext. 7:28 Happy Valley Rd 7:35 Left on Rt. 7, P/U West side 7:43 Woodbridge/Pine Meadows Apartments 7:45 Otterside & Seymour St. Ext. 7:46 Corner Lucas Shaw & Seymour St. Ext. 7:55 Mary Hogan 7:58 MUHS 8:05 MUMS</p> <p>PM</p> <p>3:00 Mary Hogan 3:10 MUHS 3:20 MUMS 3:25 Woodbridge/Pine Meadow Apartments 3:30 Corner of Otterside & Seymour St. Ext. 3:31 Corner of Lucas Shaw & Seymour St. Ext. 3:32 Corner of Colonial Drive & Washington St. Ext. 3:34 Peterson Terrace/Gambrel Court (Sugarwood) 3:36 Road 18 3:38 Onto Painter Rd. - Left on Munger St. (<i>Tumaround</i>) 3:45 Right on Painter Rd. 3:47 Left On Painter Hills /Grey Ledge Rd. 3:56 Happy Valley Rd. 4:00-4:10 Rt. 7</p> <p>GREEN BUS</p> <p>AM</p> <p>7:05 Start South St. Ext. & Morse Rd.- head north on South St Ext. 7:10 Onto South St. 7:17 Weybridge St. 7:19 Weybridge & Jayne Court 7:20 Weybridge & Gorham Lane Left on Main St-onto Rt. 7 N- right on Seminary St.- to Seminary St. Ext. 7:30 Seminary Ext. & Valley View Drive-Brianwood 7:34 Foote St. 7:38 Lower Foote St. Right on Rt. 7 N 7:45 Stonegate Dr. 7:47 Left on Creek Rd. 7:48 Village Green Circle 7:49 MUMS 7:50 Corner of Meadow Glenn & S. Ridge Rds. 7:55 Mary Hogan School 8:00 MUHS</p> <p>PM</p> <p>3:00 At Mary Hogan 3:10 MUHS 3:15 Right on Creek Rd/Village Green Circle 3:17 Corner of Meadow Glenn & S. Ridge Rds. 3:20 MUMS 3:25 Stonegate Dr. 3:35 Lower Foote St. 3:37 Foote St. 3:40 Seminary St. Ext. 3:42 Valley View-Brianwood 3:50 Weybridge & Gorham Ln. 4:00 South St. onto South St. Ext. <i>Tumaround</i> at Morse Rd. 4:10 Corner of South & Chipman Park</p> <p>PURPLE BUS</p> <p>AM</p> <p>7:00 Stonehill Apartments (428 Court St.) 7:05 Rt. 7 - P/U West Side 7:06-7:09 Left on Rt. 125 7:10 Right on Lower Plains - <i>Tumaround</i> 7:22 Left on Rt. 125 7:24 Fire Station 7:26 Right on Rt. 116 N (Case Rd.) P/U East Side - Airport Rd. 7:35 <i>Tumaround</i> at Carrara's - P/U West Side. Right on Rt. 125- P/U at Post Office. Right on Rt. 7 N. 7:41 P/U East Side 7:55 Mary Hogan 7:58 MUHS 8:05 MUMS</p> <p>PM</p> <p>3:00 Mary Hogan 3:10 MUHS 3:15 MUMS 3:17 Stonehill Apartments 3:18 Rt. 7 S. - D/O West Side 3:21 Left Rt. 125- Lower Plains 3:25 Right on Lower Plains - <i>Tumaround</i> 3:35 Right on Rt. 125 to Upper Plains Road 3:45 Left on Rt. 125 - Fire Station 3:50 Right on Rt. 116 N. (Case Rd.) 3:52 D/O East Side- Airport Rd./ <i>Tumaround</i> at Carrara's 4:00 D/O West Side 4:05 Right on Rt. 125 - Right on Rt. 7 N.</p> <p>YELLOW BUS</p> <p>AM</p>	<p>MIDDLEBURY - continued</p> <p>7:10 Munson Rd. 7:15 Burnham Rd. 7:16 Birch & Oak Dr. 7:17 Left on School House Rd. 7:18 Forest Ridge Dr. & Fred Johnson Cr. - <i>Tumaround</i> 7:20 Corner Rt. 125 & School House 7:22 Right on Rt. 125 - Maple Ct. 7:24 Left on Ossie Rd. 7:26 Left on Rt. 7 S.- Right on Three Mile Bridge Rd. 7:30 Left on Blake Roy Rd. -<i>Tumaround</i> 7:33 Shard Villa Rd. 7:35 Creek Rd. 7:40 Halladay Rd. 7:50 MUMS 7:55 MUHS 8:00 Mary Hogan</p> <p>PM</p> <p>3:00 Mary Hogan 3:10 MUHS 3:15 MUMS 3:18 Right on Halladay Rd. 3:20 Left on Middle Rd. S. to Rt. 7 to Rt. 116 3:29 Right on Munson Rd. to Burnham Dr., Oak Dr., Birch Dr. 3:39 Left on Schoolhouse Hill Rd. Forest Ridge Dr. & Fred Johnson Cr. - <i>Tumaround</i> 3:54 Corner of Rt. 125 & Schoolhouse Rd. 3:55 Right on Rt. 125 to Maple Ct. 3:59 Left on Ossie Rd. 4:04 Right on Three Mile Bridge Rd. 4:06 Left on Blake Roy Rd. 4:08 Left on Three Mile Bridge Rd. <i>Tumaround</i> 4:10 Left on Halladay Rd.</p> <p>RIPTON</p> <p>AM</p> <p>7:00 Bridge West of Dugway on North Branch Rd. 7:02-7:08 North Branch to Lincoln Rd. <i>Tumaround</i> at border 7:10 South on Lincoln Rd. 7:15 Left on Robbins Crossroad 7:20 Left on Natural Turnpike 7:25 Intersection- Four Corners 7:28 Right on Peddler's Bridge Rd. 7:30 Maiden Lane out to Rt. 125. West to Rt. 125 - Right on Natural Turnpike 7:35 Right on Natural Turnpike. Left on Robbin's Crossroad 7:45 At School</p> <p>Students residing in the center of Ripton or on Lincoln Rd. between Rt. 125 and the school will be picked up and dropped off by the Hancock/Granville Bus</p> <p>7:50 Ripton Bus will depart with the MUMS Students Hancock/Granville Bus will depart with the MUMS Students</p> <p>PM</p> <p>3:00 Depart school elementary students Robbin's Crossroad- Natural Turnpike. Left on Rt. 125 - left on Maiden Lane out to Peddler's Bridge Rd. Left on Natural Turnpike Robbin's Crossroad- Right on Lincoln Rd. <i>Tumaround</i> at border - down North Branch Rd. 3:40 Back at Ripton School Meet Hancock/Granville bus MUMS/MUHS students take home HANCOCK/GRANVILLE/ ROCHESTER</p> <p>AM</p> <p>6:45 Rochester Post Office 7:00 At JD Sunoco- Rt. 100 7:06 D's Doghouse 7:10 Granville Store 7:10 Bowl Company- <i>Tumaround</i> 7:15 Hancock Inn- Right on Rt. 125 7:19 Fassett Hill Rd. 7:40 Rt. 125 West of Natural Turnpike 7:45 At School 7:50 Depart to MUHS</p> <p>PM</p> <p>3:10 At MUHS 3:15 At MUMS 3:40 At Ripton School 3:45 Rt. 125- West of Natural Turnpike 4:00 Fassett Hill Rd. 4:05 Hancock Inn- Right on Rt. 100 4:06 JD Sunoco- <i>Tumaround</i> 4:16 Rochester Post Office 4:25 D's Doghouse 4:30 Granville Store 4:35 Bowl Company</p>
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City police keep eyes on signs, flagpoles

VERGENNES — Vergennes police have stepped up what they refer to as directed patrols, including many on foot, in areas of the city where they have received complaints about stolen and or vandalized signs and flag poles.

Police said the damaged or missing signs and flags espoused different points of view, and they are investigating complaints of theft and vandalism as well as hoping to discourage both with a heightened presence.

In all, between Aug. 10 and 16, city police conducted 26 directed patrols, five regular foot patrols and five property watches, and also:

- On Aug. 10: Cited Kristilyn L. Arrendondo, 49, of Middlebury for simple assault. Police allege Arrendondo grabbed another woman by the hair

and attempted to punch her during a dispute on Green Street over a boat owned by one of the two women.

- Went to the Kennedy Brothers parking lot to look into a report of an Amazon package found there; the package was later picked up by a FedEx delivery vehicle.

• Were told a wallet containing \$165 cash and a credit card had been lost near Vergennes City Hall and had been picked up, with the credit card used to make unauthorized purchases; police said the incident is under investigation.

- At a Monkton Road traffic stop cited a truck driver for an overweight vehicle violation (by 9,400 pounds) and failure to show

an overweight permit.

- Received a report via e-mail of someone entering an apartment unlawfully and stalking the occupant; police offered immediate assistance, but the complainant wanted to meet the following day. Police said the complainant had been experiencing

orders to two family members of the tenant, who had been allowing them to stay there.

- Responded along with state police to a Main Street location after a report of a woman and a man yelling loudly near Monkton Road. Police said they were told a woman yelled, "No, stop," and the male yelled, "I'm going to kill him/them." Police could not find anyone there.

On Aug. 15 accepted a wallet found near Olsen's Ice Cream on Main Street.

- On Aug. 16 responded to a road-rage incident on Monkton Road in Ferrisburgh. Police said one driver got out of his vehicle and exchanged words with the other driver. Police cautioned both drivers about their driving and discussed courtesy on the road.

Vergennes Police Log

emotional duress.

- Responded twice to reports of vandalism to a Victory Street flagpole rope.
- At the city station assisted Vermont State Police with a Drug Recognition Expert evaluation of a suspected impaired operator.
- On Aug. 13: Intervened in a family dispute at a Monkton Road apartment; police ended up issuing no-trespass

Middlebury man stopped for speed, cited for DUI

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police cited Joshua J. Litch, 22, of Middlebury for driving under the influence, second offense, following a stop for speeding on Court Street Extension on Aug. 16. Police alleged Litch was clocked at 70 miles per hour, 20 mph above the posted limit.

Litch declined to submit to an evidentiary breath test, according to police.

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Received a report of a person allegedly following another person in a Court Street Extension store on Aug. 10. Police have a photo of a suspect and are investigating the matter.
- Interviewed a woman on Aug. 10 who said she'd been approached twice in recent days by a man who had inquired about one of her friends who he said he "likes watching."
- Successfully revived a

woman who had overdosed on opiates at a Court Street location on Aug. 11. Police administered the pharmaceutical Narcan, and Middlebury Regional EMS took the woman to Porter Hospital.

• Were informed on Aug. 11 that someone had stolen a Black Lives Matter sign from a Case Street property sometime the previous weekend.

- Investigated the alleged theft of cash from an unlocked vehicle on Gorham Lane on Aug. 11.
- Received a report of a vehicle leaving the scene of an accident on Court Street on Aug. 11.
- Served a temporary restraining order on Aug. 12 on a person not wanted at a North Pleasant Street home.
- Tended to a juvenile problem

on College Street on Aug. 12.

- Cited Daniel Devoid, 27, of Bristol for driving under the influence, following a stop on Court Street on Aug. 13.

Middlebury Police Log

Received a complaint about customers allegedly not wearing masks inside a Macintyre Lane store on Aug. 13.

- Interviewed a local man who on Aug. 13 said he's been getting prank calls from people alleging his cows are loose on Quarry Road.
- Served a no-trespass order on Aug. 14 on a man who was barred from a Munson Road home.
- Assisted an East Middlebury resident who reported having been the victim of online credit card fraud on Aug. 14.
- Investigated a traffic accident, with minor injuries, on East Main

Street on Aug. 14.

- Received a report of someone writing graffiti on the Addison County Transit Resources bus shelter off Academy Street on Aug. 14.

• Received a report of a vehicle leaving the scene of an accident on Court Street on Aug. 14.

- Helped a man who was having mental health issues near the intersection of Route 7 North and Exchange Street on Aug. 15.
- Responded to a domestic disturbance at a Peterson Terrace home on Aug. 16.
- Investigated a report of a loud party at a Shannon Street home at 10:17 p.m. on Aug. 16. Police said at least some of the partygoers weren't complying with the state's social distancing mandates.
- Assisted a disoriented man on Schoolhouse Hill Road on Aug. 16.
- Responded to a loud family argument at a Weybridge Street home on Aug. 16.



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Open for Business

Location	Restaurant	Address	Hours	Website	Phone	Notes
Addison	The Bridge Restaurant	8013 VT Rte 17	W - Su 12-8pm	thebridgerestaurantvt.com	802.759.2152	Social distance marking, separate order and pick up windows, ice cream window is open
	Bobcat Cafe	5 Main St.	W-Su 4-7:30pm	thebobcatcafe.com	802.453.3311	Order and pay by phone for curbside delivery
	Bristol Cliffs Cafe	16 Main St.	M - F 6:30am-2pm Sa - Su 8am-2pm	bristolcliffscafe.com	802.453.3280	Curbside takeout + Ordering at cafe- no seating
Bristol	Cubbers	8 Main St.	M-W 11am-9pm, Th-Su 11am-10pm	none	802.453.2400	
	Hatch 31	31 Main St.	Closed until further notice	visit Facebook page for offerings	802.453.2774	
	Inn Baldwin Creek/Mary's Restaurant	1868 N 116 Rd.	F - Su 5-7pm	baldwincreek.net	802.453.2432	Curbside pickup. Order via email or by phone and pre-pay. Indoor and patio dining available by reservation.
	Snaps Cafe	24 Main St.	M-Sa 7am- 8pm,, Su 7am- 3pm	snapsrestaurantvt.com	802.453.2525	Indoor and outdoor seating by, reservation only, updates on Facebook
	Wokky's	17 Main St.	M -Th 10am-9pm F-Su 11am-9pm	wokkyschinesebristol.com	802.453.4888	Curbside pickup
	7 South Sandwich	1396 US-7.	M-Sa 7am-6pm, Su 10am-4pm	7southsandwich.com	802.388.3354	Go in and order or call ahead, go inside to pick-up. Limit of 3 people inside at a time.
Middlebury	A&W	1557 US Rte. 7.	Tu - Thu, Su 10:30am-8pm, F - Sa 10:30am-9pm,	visit Facebook page for details	802.388.2876	Social distancing markers in the lot help keep everyone safe!
	American Flatbread Middlebury Hearth	137 Maple St.	W -Th 4-8pm, F-Sa 4-9pm	americanflatbread.com	802.388.3300	Online ordering coming soon, credit card payments over the phone only, outdoor dining now available by reservation only.
	Arcadian	7 Bakery Lane	Tu - Sa 2-8pm	thearcadianvt.com	802.989.7026	Curbside pickup/delivery; online menu/order, indoor dining, by reservation only
	Costello's Market	99 Maple St.	Tu - F 10-6 Sa 10-5	costellosmarket.com	802.388.3385	
	Fire & Ice Restaurant	26 Seymour St.	W - Su, 4-8pm, Lunch Sa-Su starting at noon	fireandicerestaurant.com	802.388.7166 802.388.0361	Order by phone after 2pm; takeout, indoor and outdoor dining now available
	Grapevine Grille	610 Rte. 7 South	M - W 11am-3pm, Th - Sa 11am-6pm	grapevinegrillevt.com	(802) 382-1060	Daily specials on Facebook; delivery available
	Green Peppers	10 Washington St.	M - Su 10:30am-7pm	greenpeppersrestaurant.com	802-388-3164	Dine in or take out! Order ahead by phone.
	Haymaker Buns	7 Bakery Lane	Tu-Sa, 7:30am-2pm, Lunch from 11am-2pm	haymakerbuns.com	774.563.8273	Order online for curbside pickup/takeout, patio dining available
	Jessica's at Swift House	25 Stewart Lane	W-Su 5-8pm	jessicasvermont.com	802-388-9925	Dine in or take out available
	Juice Amour	1396 Rte. 7 South	M - F 8am-4:30pm, Sa 9am-3pm	juiceamour.com	802.989.7271	Order online; free delivery and curbside pickup; limited outdoor seating
	Mad Taco	3 Mill St.	M-W, Fr-Su. 12-8pm	themadtaco.com/middlebury	802-382-9070	Curbside pickup
	Magic Wok	1499 Rte. 7	M. - Thu. 11. am - 10. pm, Fr. & Sa. 11. am - 10:30 pm, Su noon - 9:30 pm	magicwokmiddlebury.com	802.388.0339	Curbside pickup
	Middlebury Bagel & Deli	11 Washington St	M - Su 6.am-1pm	visit Facebook page for specials	802.388.0859	Full menu available. Order and pay in person or over the phone
	Mister Up's	25 Bakery Lane	M-Th 11:30am-11pm, F-Sa 11:30am-midnight, Su 11am-11pm	misterupsvt.com	802-388-6724	Call and pay by phone for pickup, deck and indoor seating now available
	Ninos	21 MacIntyre Ln.	M-Sa 11am-6:30pm	ninosmiddlebury.com	802.388.7755	Takeout and curbside pick-up
	Noonie's Deli	137 Maple St.	Mon - Sa 10am-4pm	nooniesdeli.com	802.388.0014	Curbside and delivery service available - closed 8/16 through 8/23
	Otter Creek Bakery	14 College St.	Tu - Sa 7:30am-4:30pm	ottercreekbakery.com	802.388.3371	Curbside service with delivery available in Middlebury and Bristol
	RICE	20 1/2 Seymour St.	M-Th: 11am-9:30pm, F-Sa 11am-10pm	http://ricemiddlebury.com	802.388.3883	Curbside pickup
	Rosies	886 Rte. 7	M - Su 7am - 8pm	rosiesrestaurantvt.com	802.388.7052	Order by phone, full menu online; indoor/outdoor dining
	Sabai Sabai	22 Merchants Row	M, W, Th, F: 11:30-2:30, 4:30-9, Sa - Su 12:30-3, 4:30-9	sabaisabaithai.com	802.989.7376	Curbside service, no sushi available at this time.
	Shafer's Market	54 College St.	Su-Th. 7.am-10.pm, F-Sa 7.am-11.pm	Visit Facebook page for offerings	802.388.6408	Open for in-person shopping; also can place orders ahead for pickup
	Taste of India	1 Bakery Ln	Tu-Su 11:30am-2:30pm, 4:30pm-9.pm	none	802.388.4856	Curbside pickup only; order and pay by phone
Two Brothers Tavern & Notte	86 Main St.	Tu - Sa 4:30-8:30pm	twobrotherstavern.com	802.388.0002	Take out, indoor and outdoor dining, reservations preferred	
Waybury Inn	457 East Main St.	W - Sa 4:30-7:30pm, Su 11.am-1.pm	wayburyinn.com	802.388.4015	Take-out menu online; call after 3pm; indoor/outdoor seating; cocktails at 4:30, dining at 5	
New Haven	Porky's Place	7404 Ethan Allen Hwy	Tu - Th, 11am - 7:30pm; Fri & Sat, 11am - 8pm	visit Facebook page for offerings	802.877.2600	
	Tourterelle Restaurant & Inn	3629 Ethan Allen Hwy	Temporarily closed	tourterellevermont.com	802.453.6309	Recovering from recent fire. Be back soon!
Salisbury	Paddlers Pub	937 W Shore Rd.	M-F 4pm-9pm, Sa-Su 11:30am-9pm	paddlerspubvt.com or Facebook page for specials	802.352.4382	Call or order online for pickup
Shoreham	Shoreham Inn	51 Inn Rd.	Th - Su 5-8pm	shorehaminn.com/dining/	802.897.5081	Order online or call for curbside pickup. Limited indoor & outdoor dining, reservation required
	3 Squares Cafe	141 Main St.	M - Su, 8am-7pm	threesquarescafe.com	802.877.2772	Curbside pickup, online ordering, in-person dining
Vergennes	Black Sheep Bistro	253 Main St.	Tu - Sa, 4-8pm	blacksheepbistrovt.com	802.877.9991	Orders & payment for curbside by phone. Limited indoor/outdoor dining, reservation only
	Hired Hand & Antidote	35 Green St.	Tu-Sa, 4-7:30pm	hiredhandbrewing.com	802.870.7191 802.877.2555	Takeout, beer, & cocktails available for curbside pickup or outdoor dining, call ahead. Assorted beers available online.
	Park Squeeze	161 Main St.	Tu - Sa, 4-8pm	parksqueeze.com	802.877.9962	Orders & payment for curbside by phone. Limited indoor seating by reservation only.

THIS INFORMATION MADE POSSIBLE THANKS TO A GENEROUS DONATION AND WITH SUPPORT FROM THE ADDISON INDEPENDENT

ARTS+LEISURE

The Addison Independent

August 20, 2020



Tahlia and her friend Westley were on a walk through the Marble Works property on Thursday when they found this whimsical bridge to play on. It was one of four bridges built on dry land in Middlebury that will be auctioned as a fundraiser for Town Hall Theater. A fifth bridge is also in the works.

INDEPENDENT PHOTO/JOHN S. MCCRIGHT

Handcrafted bridges span the gaps downtown

W

BY **POLLY**
HEMINWAY

andering around the Marble Works District, or other spots in downtown Middlebury, you may have noticed five whimsical bridges that are open for exploration. Go ahead and walk across. Put down your things and play awhile; crack a smile, have some fun.

The bridges are part of an outdoor architecture exhibit, dubbed "Bridge 20/20,"

put on by Town Hall Theater (THT) as a fundraising event with a timely theme. "This project came together as a public art project that is inspired by Town Hall Theater's tradition of public engagement and art auctions, such as our big chairs and painted pianos," explained Lisa Mitchell, executive director of THT.

"The thought of bridges was born out of the idea that we have this bridge project happening downtown. We planned this before COVID-19 and our goal was to help drive downtown foot traffic. In the wake of COVID-19, it has allowed us to continue moving forward with community engagement."

Like earlier THT public art projects, the five bridges will all be auctioned for people to have delivered to their home after the exhibit ends at the end of October — proceeds will benefit the theater. The bridges were generously donated by five area teams: Goosewing Timberworks and Smith & McClain; Vermont Integrated Architecture and Nop's Metal Works; Silver Maple Construction; Salamander Construction; and TruexCullin. Each had their own reasons for participating, but all were eager to not only donate to THT and give something to the community, but also because this particular art project speaks specifically to the built environment.

SEE BRIDGES ON PAGE 3

TRAVELING THE PAST:

VERMONTERS ON VACATION

August is traditionally vacation month, but many of us will not be traveling this year. **The following article explores how Vermonters of the 19th and early 20th centuries travelled to places far and near** and is based on the archival collections found in the Sheldon Museum's Stewart-Swift Research Center.

BACK WHEN THE LEISURE INDUSTRY WAS YOUNG

The grand tour became popular among prosperous Americans in the late 19th century as they sought to experience and appropriate European high culture. Among those making an extended European visit were the Columbus Smith family of Salisbury. The archives of the Henry Sheldon Museum preserve a range of materials — letters, a diary, tickets, programs, brochures, menus, bills of sale — giving a window into the Smiths' grand tour experience.

BY **GLENN ANDRES**

Columbus Smith amassed a fortune practicing international probate law, claiming European estates for American descendants. In the 1870s he built a stone mansion, Shard Villa in West Salisbury, to house his wife and two children in idyllic style. The tragic death of his 14-year-old son Willie in 1881 threw the household into prolonged grief. Three years later, partly to escape the gloom and partly to focus attention on their surviving child, the then-teenaged Mary Elizabeth, the Smiths decided on a European finishing trip, during which Mr. Smith would manage his business affairs by



Elizabeth Smith was a teenager when she traveled with her parents around Europe. The Smith family build Shard Villa in West Salisbury in the 1870s.

correspondence with his agents back home.

They set sail in 1884 from New York on the Cunard liner Catalonia for Liverpool. Following a period of residence in London, they moved

to the continent. They traveled through Germany, taking a Cook's Tour down the Rhine and making stops in Bonn, Cologne, Wiesbaden and Frankfurt. Sojourns in France and Italy, where Mary Elizabeth learned both French and Italian, were followed by a lengthy stay in Switzerland in the fall and winter of 1885-1886 as Mr. Smith recuperated from an illness contracted in Florence. They stayed in elegant establishments — the Grand Hotel Victoria in Interlaken, the Hotel d'Angleterre in San Remo, the mountaintop Chateau Gütsch in Lucerne (reached only by its own funicular), the Hotel de Paris in Montreux, Aix-les-Bains — and dined on elaborate multi-course meals.

They soaked up culture. There are tickets and programs for a play, "The Seven Deadly Sins" in Paris, "William Tell" in Geneva, and a season of symphonic concerts in Montreux. From Rome there is a "Visitors Diary" listing the galleries and villas to visit, along with information on permits, and a pass to the Vatican Museums.

They purchased luxuries: furs in Geneva, gentlemen's tailoring in Wiesbaden, pearls in Rome, porcelains in Limoges. And they bought

SEE VACATION ON PAGE 7

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One of the hotels the Smiths stayed at during their grand tour of Europe was the Hotel de Paris in Montreux, France.

BRIDGES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I often think of the craft of timber framing as a sort of bridge between the past and the future," said Will

Gusakov, owner of Goosewing Timbers, while reflecting on the inspiration behind the bridge he built with Oakley Smith and Kevin McClain, of Lincoln-based Smith & McClain. "The past, because timber frame structures have been built for centuries in Vermont, and the future, because I hope locally derived, durable and resilient shelter will be a larger part of our built environment in the near future, just as it was in the past."

Gusakov said he named their bridge the "Back to the Future Bridge" to emphasize that in "transitioning toward a just and sustainable future, people can look toward the past for examples of viable solutions for the economy as well as vernacular architecture." The "Back to the Future Bridge," which can be found at the Marble Works in Riverside Park, is constructed from European larch, eastern white pine and black cherry. Smith & McClain added the floor, roof and interior bench.

Gusakov said that he can imagine the "Back to the Future Bridge" turning into a great playhouse or picnic pavilion in someone's backyard. He is hopeful, however, that a supporter of Town Hall Theater will buy the bridge and leave it for the community to enjoy.

"It's an honor to join with other local designers and builders to support the performing arts and the vibrant community space that is THT," said Gusakov.

Ashar Nelson is one of the lead architects and co-founder of Middlebury-based Vermont Integrated Architecture (VIA). He said when Via got Mitchell's call asking if they'd participate, his firm didn't hesitate. "THT is such a linchpin organization in the community, drawing people together and bridging our communities in so many ways, we knew immediately we'd want to be in. It's a project about community support, but it's also about having fun in these heavy times."

VIA's project is called "Bridge-ette," which spans the rain garden in the Marble Works just outside the firm's Marble Works office. Nelson said the bridge is designed with portals that look out on various landmarks in the town and represents a connection to all the reasons Middlebury was founded: the steeple of the Congregational Church, the waterfalls, Main Street and the business community, and the natural surrounding of the river and mountains around us.

Noting the challenging times THT is facing in light of the pandemic's closure of many of its events, and of the struggles many downtown retailers are



Silver Maple Construction built "Oona's Bridge," above left, next to the Stone Mill Building in Frog Hollow, and Salamander Construction made "Bridge to the Outdoors," above right, in Storrs Park near the college's Twilight Hall. These fun creations were designed to get people downtown and into a community space.

INDEPENDENT PHOTOS/JOHN S. MCCRIGHT AND ALEXA LAPINER

facing in light of COVID and the rail bridges tunnel project downtown, Nelson said art projects like this give the community something positive and fun to focus on, while looking forward to better times.

"We are confident that the Middlebury community will not only make it through this unprecedented time, but emerge stronger and more prepared for new challenges," THT wrote in its recent newsletter. "So many examples of kindness, support and generosity bolster our hope for light at the end of the literal and figurative tunnel!"

The other three bridges are "Oona's Bridge" built by Silver Maple Construction and sitting next to the Stone Mill Building, "Bridge to the Outdoors" by Salamander Construction and sitting in Storrs Park near Middlebury College's Twilight Hall, and "Terra Caelum," which is due to be built by TruexCullins on the town green.

THT LOOKS AHEAD

Town Hall Theater opened the Jackson Gallery on July 22, Wednesdays to Sundays, 10 a.m.–2

p.m., to exhibit the design inspirations and layouts presented by each firm. "It's an opportunity to come and check out the inspiration and also pick up a map before you head out. Maps are also accessible at a number of downtown businesses," Mitchell said.

Bridges 20/20 is supported by Neighbors Together, the Marble Works Partnership, Stone Mill and Middlebury Underground. Karen Duguay, executive director of the Better Middlebury Partnership, spoke for the citizens program Neighbors Together, which is the presenting sponsor of Bridges 20/20. "When the idea came to fruition, we felt like it was a complement to what Neighbors Together does — getting people downtown and together in a community space," Duguay said.

Neighbors Together worked with Town Hall Theater to market the campaign and helped promote the structures with activities such as their hidden gems contest for kids. "It's great to see kids running around and playing on the bridges and enjoying the downtown space,

SEE THEATER ON PAGE 12



"Bridge-ette" crosses over the water outlet from the rain garden in the Marble Works park in downtown Middlebury. Leaders of Vermont Integrated Architecture said they were happy to build the whimsical bridge to aid the fundraising effort for Town Hall Theater.

INDEPENDENT PHOTO/ALEXA LAPINER

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Join other concerned Vermonters by coloring the poster and mailing or dropping it off at the Middlebury Town Offices, 77 Main Street, Middlebury where it will be displayed!

Deadline - Wednesday, Sept.9, 2020

IN TOWN

Thespians get cue for Scotland's Fringe Arts Festival



BY LEE J. KÄHRS

Otter Valley Union High School's Walking Stick Theatre group is planning to make a return appearance at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. And thanks to the coronavirus pandemic, they have plenty of time

for fundraising. OV Theater director Jeff Hull said the group would pursue plans to attend the 2021 Fringe

Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland, next August. Walking Stick Theatre was first invited in 2015 and is keen to return. Since then, the group has performed at the New England Drama Festival four times, winning their class in 2016 with their original production of "Inevitable."

Hull said there are roughly 40 students interested in attending the Fringe, so fundraising is paramount. The cost for the 14-day trip, including airfare, room and board, is about \$6,500 per person. "It's an excellent deal to travel to Europe," Hull said. "We spend two days in London and 10 days in Scotland. It's the biggest theater festival of the year."

With the help of proactive and organized parents, the students have started a bottle drive to kick off fundraising. For the month of August, supporters can drop off cans and bottles for deposit at Union Street Grocery in Brandon. "Tell them it's for Scotland and they will save the receipts," said parent and organizer Laurie Bertrand. On Aug. 15, the

group will also make the rounds to each town served by OV to pick up cans and bottles. To arrange for a pickup, patrons can call Bertrand at 989-2365 or parent Darlene Kelly at 398-7026.

Hull said the group had a whole year to raise money before their first trip to the Fringe, and are glad to have the time yet again. "We were just about to start the fundraising in March and then all hell broke loose," he said, referring to when the pandemic began nationwide. "We haven't done much since. Hopefully, we'll get to go. If not, then we'll go the following year."

Asked what was involved in applying to the festival, Hull said he had to outline the group's philosophy, the education and classes offered at OV, and the awards the Walking Stick has received. Hull said his students have done some performing since the pandemic hit. This spring they performed a series of monologues online. They also have a YouTube channel, Otter Valley Union High School Theatre, and have presented a few short films and a virtual showcase of performances in the past two months.

The annual OV musical presented each November has been pushed to May 2021, and Hull is hoping it can be performed before a live audience. However, should the pandemic persist, the drama teacher is prepared to either film the musical and screen it for audiences that way, or live stream the performance.

Hull also said he thinks the musical will

be an original piece this year, with help from OV Middle School music teacher Kenny Cifone, who writes his own music. "I want to write some original songs and do our own musical," he said. "It'll be exciting."

Other fundraising ideas included a dinner theater, which is currently not possible with social distancing restrictions, car washes and other town events. They also hope to hold a 50/50 raffle at the drive-in theater being erected at Estabrook Field in Brandon.

Students are currently selling flower bulbs as a fundraiser as well. Hull's wife, Stephanie, works in fabric and has been making Walking Stick Theatre face masks that will be sold for \$12-\$15 apiece to also raise money for the trip.

Hull said the parents of his students this year are very helpful and motivated, and he's hoping fundraising will go well. In the end, he said the Fringe represents an opportunity for students to literally expand their worlds, and the parents see that.

"I have a great group of parents this year," he said. "They saw the kids who went (to Fringe) the last time and the experience they had and how the trip changed their perspective on theater and the world, and they want their kids to have that experience, too."

To make a donation to the Walking Stick Theatre group, mail to OVUHS Theatre Dept., 2997 Franklin St., Brandon, VT 05733.



Otter Valley's Walking Stick Theatre performed its original production of "Inevitable" at the 2016 New England Drama Festival, winning their class. The group made its first trip to the Fringe Festival in 2015.

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PETS IN NEED HOMEWARD BOUND

Addison County's Humane Society



Chi Trio: Alright friends, we have a trio challenge for you! These beautiful chi's are all looking for a new home after their owner passed away. They are senior ladies and have lived together many years. This trifecta of cuteness needs your help finding their happy ending. **Laura Ray (10), Tiara (10) and Drusilla**

(8) are all super affectionate, not at all nippy, mellow, and easy to handle. They are friendly to strangers and are very attached to humans – where you go, they go. While we could split them up, our ideal home would keep these lil' ladies together. After losing their human, we'd love them to not lose each other too.

Poppit: Meet Ms. Poppit! At 12 years old you would never know. This miss thang loves to play, nap, and sneak up on you when you least expect it and give you a nice swat (no nails included) it's all play! However she likes to be miss independent at times too. She's full of personality and spunk! She was surrendered to the shelter after her owners could no longer keep her. She would do well being the only cat in the home and with older children that are cat savvy. Pop on by and meet Ms. Poppit.



Saber is an eight year old handsome neutered male. Though he can be shy at first, once he warms up to you he is a delight! Saber would prefer a quiet home with no children and no dogs. He would prefer to be the only animal in the home.

Zoe is a ten year old mixed breed lady desperately seeking her happy ending. Zoe has been in foster care for about 4 months working on socialization and being exposed to the world. She had a challenging start in life, but has blossomed under the care of her foster mom. She is doing really well and her foster mom just adores her! She desperately wants to be friends with the kitty in the home, but the kitty is having none of it. Zoe hasn't had any issues with other dogs and enjoys meeting other pups. She struggles a bit with meeting new people and requires patience and a period of adjustment to new faces and environments. She walks well on leash, enjoys going for rides and exploring new destinations. Zoe would love a quiet home with an adult, or couple, who enjoy long walks outside and can shower her with love and attention. Zoe would benefit from a fenced in yard as it will allow her to have space while she gets used to her new family. Zoe has allergies and currently does require some medication. Zoe is fully house-trained, non-destructive, quite spunky for her age and gets adorable cases of zoomies! She is an incredibly strong chewer and loves her marrow bones and deer antlers... bully sticks only last about 10 minutes. We are seeking experienced owners for Zoe who are willing to learn proper handling and can read dog body language as Zoe does best with people who can understand her needs. She is such a sweet girl and deserves the world. **Dogs:** Yes! **Cats:** Yes! **Kids:** No



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pet TIPS

FOR SUMMER

Dog owners often find that having a fenced-in space gives pets an opportunity to run around off-leash and enjoy time outdoors and can make it easier for pets to go out on bathroom breaks. Still, pet owners must recognize that inquisitive dogs can get into trouble even in seemingly safe yards. One potential danger is ingestion of potentially toxic mushrooms. It is essential for homeowners to check their yards for mushrooms all year long, but especially during wet springs and in the fall. Mushrooms can pop up overnight. Depending on the type of mushroom and the size of the dog, ingesting even a small amount can result in gastrointestinal distress or more dire circumstances, like liver failure. Certain mushrooms give off a fishy smell and they may entice dogs who are prone to indiscriminate eating.

According to the animal care resource Preventative Vet, signs of mushroom toxicity include vomiting, salivating, yellowing of the skin and "whites of eyes," coma, seizures and loss of balance. Other dogs may experience diarrhea or refuse to eat. Any pet owner who has suspected a dog has eaten wild mushrooms should consult a veterinarian. Early treatment can help prevent more serious organ damage or death. Pet owners who cannot trust their dogs unattended in the yard

should bring their pups out on leashes or keep careful watch on them while they're outdoors.



— MetroCreative

VACATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

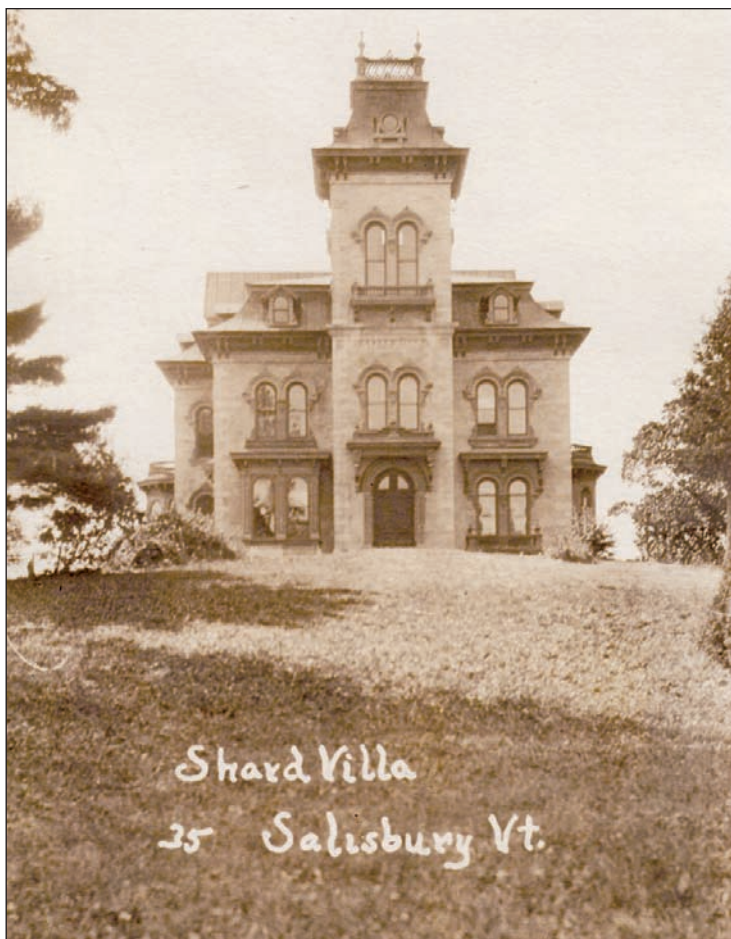
art and antiques in Venice and Florence. Smith wrote back to Vermont: "I visited the studios of several American painters, and the studios of the sons of [Hiram] Powers, our American, or rather I should

say our Vermont sculptor. They have some very fine pieces of their father's work still unsold. I treated myself to several pieces of statuary made from Carrara marble... I also bought several old paintings, and copies of Guido's, Van Dyke's, Rembrandt's and Madame LeBrun's portraits by themselves."

Smith felt constrained in his art purchases, however, by the cost of shipping and the high duties imposed at that time on art imports into the United States. Instead, to further fill his mansion with souvenirs of his grand tour, before his return to Vermont in 1886 he arranged to import an artist who practiced an Italian decorative style that he had come to appreciate. He paid the passage and board for Silvio Pezzoli, a muralist trained in Venice, Florence and Rome, to come and spend the next two years painting the interiors of Shard Villa — walls, ceilings, floors, monumental portraits and scenic window screens — quoting works from antiquity through the likes of Raphael, Caravaggio and Fra Angelico.

Some 130 years later a remarkable number of the objects bought abroad still can be found within the villa, surrounded by perhaps the most amazing mural paintings in Vermont — memorials, along with the Sheldon Museum ephemera, of one Vermont family's grand tour.

Contributed by Glenn Andres, Sheldon Museum's Research Center Committee member, Professor Emeritus of the History of Art at Middlebury College, and long-time beneficiary of the local history lore found in the Sheldon archives.



Shard Villa was build in the 1870s by the Smith family. They furnished it with treasures from their grand tour of Europe.

Cosmic Forecast

TAURUS: April 21-May 21. Taurus, if you have been seeking a romantic partner you may fall in love over the next few days. For those who are in relationships, the bonds of love only grow stronger.

GEMINI: May 22-June 21. Several powerful events have the potential to improve the positive energy surrounding you, Gemini. Bask in this warmth and the good news it is likely to bring.

CANCER: June 22-July 22. Cancer, you may meet some new people who can introduce you to some other new and influential people. It is always beneficial to expand your network.

LEO: July 23-Aug. 23. Some exciting experiences are coming your way this week, Leo. You may discover a talent you didn't know you had, or you may involve yourself in a creative endeavor.

VIRGO: Aug. 24-Sept. 22. Virgo, you usually approach situations rationally and scientifically, but sometimes you need to throw caution to the wind. You might be surprised with the results.

LIBRA: Sept. 23-Oct. 23. Libra, this week you may be feeling more intuitive than ever before. It may seem like you have psychic abilities. Pick up on the feelings and bits of information coming.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24-Nov. 22. Scorpio, now is the right time to be more idealistic. Embrace that mood. Put your energy toward being sensitive to social and political conditions and get your voice heard.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23-Dec. 21. Business and money are going well for you, Sagittarius. You might be thinking in terms of making a big career change or even starting your own business.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22-Jan. 20. You may be inclined to be more spiritual or metaphysical in the days to come, Capricorn. Explore all avenues of higher thinking, especially if you find it calming.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21-Feb. 18. Aquarius, you tend to be sensitive to the feelings of others, and this is a good approach that will serve you and others in various ways. Maintain this sense of compassion.

PISCES: Feb. 19-March 20. You tend to see those people closest to you in their best light, Pisces. Encourage them to do the same if a situation arises that requires it.

ARIES: March 21-April 20. Aries, you feel a desire to be of service to others. Humanitarian tendencies are a trait that you should be proud to display. Keep up all of the good work.

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FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

AUG. 20 — Al Roker, actor, writer, meteorologist, journalist (66)
 AUG. 21 — Usian Bolt, Olympic athlete (34)
 AUG. 22 — John Lee Hooker, singer-songwriter (d)

AUG. 23 — Kobe Bryant, basketball pplayer (d)
 AUG. 24 — Ava DuVernay, director (48)
 AUG. 25 — Althea Gibson, tennis player (d)
 AUG. 26 — Branford Marsalis, saxophonist (60)



This week's puzzle is rated



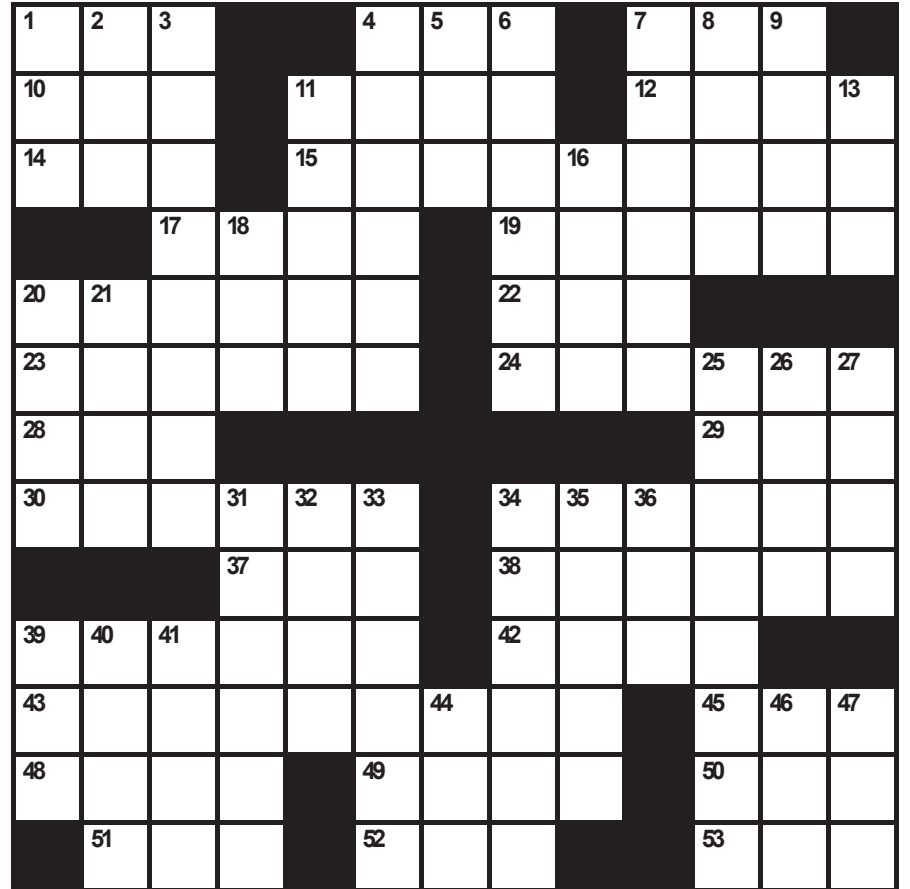
ACROSS

- 1. "Breaking ____" TV show
- 4. "___ In Black" Tommy Lee film
- 7. British fliers
- 10. Regret
- 11. Artificial bait
- 12. Heaps
- 14. Life measurement
- 15. Engineer type
- 17. Massages
- 19. Variety of leaf bug
- 20. Mortarboard attachment
- 22. Small bill
- 23. Acid neutralizer
- 24. Trafalgar winner
- 28. Hawaiian necklace
- 29. A sentence starter
- 30. Population counter
- 34. Takes the gun
- 37. Pray
- 38. Frequenter of some beaches
- 39. Chewy candy
- 42. Hoof beat
- 43. Veronica family plant

- 45. Frigid
- 48. Marshy material
- 49. Falcon in training
- 50. Before, in verse
- 51. Ironic
- 52. Lobsterlike
- 53. Colorful rug

DOWN

- 1. Victoria's Secret item
- 2. Mid-summer
- 3. Hunter's trophy
- 4. Breakfast cereal
- 5. Blow it
- 6. Right-winger
- 7. Mountaineering term
- 8. Regrettably
- 9. Centers of attention
- 11. Pigeonhole
- 13. Rocker Nugent
- 16. Levelheaded
- 18. Newspaper, with today
- 20. Bottom duster
- 21. On the calm side
- 25. More zebra-like
- 26. Electrical resistance units



- 27. __ egg
- 31. Protection
- 32. Took advantage of
- 33. Shishkabob holder
- 34. Like a painter's model
- 35. Cancels
- 36. Flurry
- 39. Coffee stirrer, for short
- 40. Newspaper page
- 41. Feeling of impending danger
- 44. Ball in a socket
- 46. ___ wolf
- 47. Pro vote

1	7		3					5
		5						7
		9				3	6	8
	9		6		1	8		
	2							4
		3	9		5			1
9	1	4					7	
	3						4	
7					8		9	3

Sudoku

Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3x3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium and difficult.

Level: Medium

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 13.

Stay Wise!

Keep up to date with all the news happening in your community. The Addy Indy has just what you need. Check it out every Thursday.



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Jesse Brooks
Director of Prevention

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Get Educated About Safe Driving

- Drivers must never drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs. This not only means refraining from drunk driving, but also from drug-impaired driving.
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- Something as simple as cold medication or an over-the-counter sleep aid could impair driving.
- If you are taking a new prescription drug or a higher dose of a current prescription drug, do not drive until you know what effect it has on your judgement, coordination, and reaction time. Any effect could impair your driving ability.
- If your doctor writes you a new prescription or increases a current dosage, be sure to discuss with the doctor whether you should drive while taking the medication, or be sure to ask the pharmacist when you pick up the prescription.
- Always tell your doctor of any drugs you are taking so they may accurately counsel you on whether it is safe to drive while taking them.
- Certain medications may not impair you on their own, but if taken with a second medication or with alcohol, they may cause impairment.

Have a Prevention Mindset

- If a driver has ingested an impairing substance, they should not drive.
- Passengers should never ride with an impaired driver. If you think a driver may be impaired, do not get in the car.
- If you are drug-impaired, pass the key to a sober driver who can safely drive you to your final destination.



Tim O'Toole
Prevention Coordinator



Jessica Hellyer
Prevention Coordinator



Sean Davison
Youth Prevention
Coordinator



Olivia Brooks
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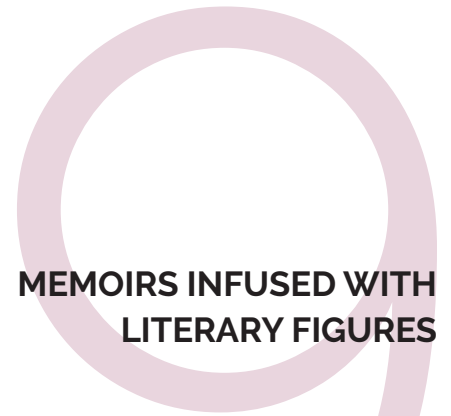
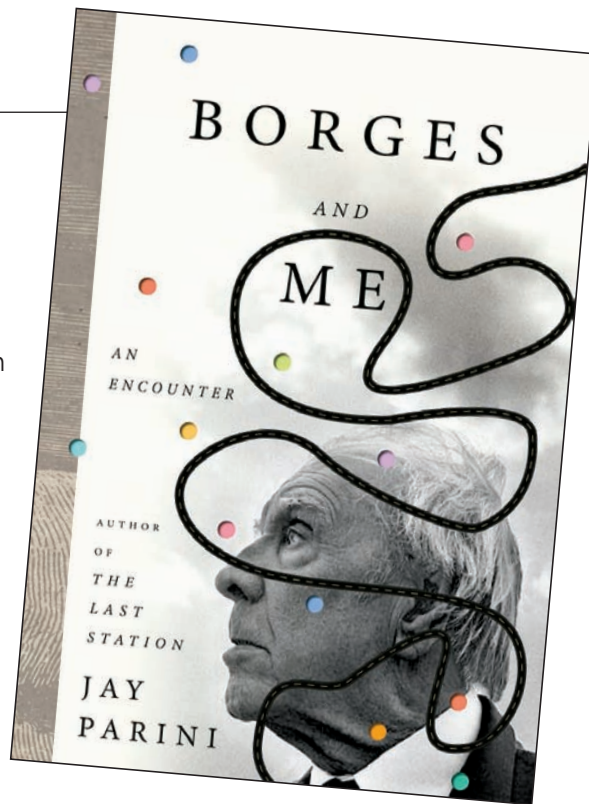
the book

BORGES AND ME — BY JAY PARINI

(Doubleday Books)

As a young man, Jay Parini decided to make a profession of writing. His decision to “live deliberately” as Thoreau put it, started with graduate studies at St. Andrews in Scotland, which also effectively kept him out of Vietnam. Once in Scotland, Alastair Reid, a writer and professor who takes Parini under his garrulous wing, requests he look after Reid’s impetuous houseguest, Jorge Luis Borges, the inimitable Argentinian writer, for a week. And Borges wants to see the Scottish highlands, except, in addition to being deliberately obscure, he is also quite elderly and blind. It’s a decidedly delightful adventure. Parini, tasked with being Borges’ eyes, describes what he sees as best he can, “fetching images and metaphors, noting the bright lakes, the fertile land...” and Borges imparts his wisdoms about life, love, literature and marauding writers. Parini’s characterization of himself as a young person is so astute, he brings his younger self to life on the page — a sheltered young man, beset by anxiety, but determined, opening himself up to new experiences. This memoir, that records this transformative journey of the local Weybridge author, is rife with literary references and is just a joy to read, full of very humorous anecdotes I will not spoil for you here.

— Reviewed by Jenny Lyons of The Vermont Book Shop in Middlebury.



MEMOIRS INFUSED WITH LITERARY FIGURES

Begin Again, by Eddie S. Glaude Jr.

The Real Lolita, by Sarah Weinman

How to Live, by Sarah Bakewell

Looking for Lorraine, by Imani Perry

Minor Characters, by Joyce Johnson

Austen Years, by Rachel Cohen

What Is the Grass, by Mark Doty

In Faulkner’s Shadow,
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<p>MCTV Channel 1071</p> <p>Friday, Aug. 21</p> <p>5:15 a.m. Gov. Phil Scott</p> <p>7:30 a.m. Congregational Church Service</p> <p>10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p> <p>4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church Service</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Energy Week</p> <p>7 p.m. Selectboard, Green Mountain Care Board (GMC)</p> <p>Saturday, Aug. 22</p> <p>7 a.m. (GMC) Board</p> <p>10 a.m. Selectboard</p> <p>4 p.m. Mem. Baptist Church Service</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Eckankar</p> <p>7 p.m. Catholic Mass</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Energy Week</p> <p>9 p.m. Gov. Scott</p> <p>Sunday, Aug. 23</p> <p>9 a.m. Catholic Mass</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Judge Ben</p> <p>11 a.m. Mem. Baptist Church Service</p> <p>1:30 p.m. Selectboard</p> <p>4 p.m. Cong. Church Service</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Eckankar</p> <p>6 p.m. Vote for Vermont</p> <p>7 p.m. Catholic Mass</p> <p>Monday, Aug. 24</p> <p>6 a.m. Energy Week</p> <p>7 a.m. Gov. Scott</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Eckankar</p> <p>10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Catholic Mass</p> <p>7 p.m. GMC Board</p> <p>Tuesday, Aug. 25</p> <p>6 a.m. Vote for Vermont</p> <p>10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p> <p>4 p.m. Cong. Church Service</p>	<p>6:30 p.m. Judge Ben</p> <p>7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p> <p>Wednesday, Aug. 26</p> <p>7:30 a.m. Mem. Baptist Church Service</p> <p>9 a.m. Catholic Mass</p> <p>10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p> <p>5:15 p.m. Energy Week</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Selectboard</p> <p>9 p.m. GMC Board</p> <p>Thursday, Aug. 27</p> <p>8 a.m. Cong. Church Service</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Vote for Vermont</p> <p>11:30 a.m. Judge Ben</p> <p>12 p.m. Selectboard, Press Conf.</p> <p>MCTV Channel 1091</p> <p>Friday, Aug. 21</p> <p>12:30 a.m. VT Board of Education</p> <p>6 a.m. Yoga</p> <p>6:30 a.m. Yoga for Kids</p> <p>7:30 a.m. Quaker Coffee House</p> <p>8 a.m. Local School Boards</p> <p>12 p.m. Taconic Summer Concert Series</p> <p>4 p.m. Slow Living Summit</p> <p>6 p.m. O’hAnleigh Concert</p> <p>8 p.m. Slow Living Summit</p> <p>10 p.m. Festival on the Green</p> <p>Saturday, Aug. 22</p> <p>6 a.m. Yoga</p> <p>7 a.m. Local School Boards</p> <p>11 a.m. All Things LGBTQ</p> <p>12 p.m. Education & Enrichment for Everyone</p> <p>2 p.m. O’hAnleigh Concert</p> <p>4 p.m. Slow Living Summit</p> <p>7 p.m. O’hAnleigh Concert</p> <p>9 p.m. The Fourth National Climate Assessment</p> <p>10:06 p.m. Slow Living Summit</p>	<p>Sunday, Aug. 23</p> <p>6 a.m. Yoga</p> <p>6:30 a.m. Yoga for Kids</p> <p>7 a.m. Local School Boards</p> <p>2 p.m. Slow Living Summit</p> <p>4 p.m. O’hAnleigh Concert</p> <p>6 p.m. Quaker Coffee House</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Festival on the Green</p> <p>8 p.m. Slow Living Summit</p> <p>Monday, Aug. 24</p> <p>6 a.m. VT Board of Education</p> <p>1:30 p.m. Taconic Summer Concerts</p> <p>5:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Local School Boards</p> <p>10 p.m. Education & Enrichment</p> <p>Tuesday, Aug. 25</p> <p>7 a.m. Education & Enrichment</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Yoga</p> <p>11 a.m. Yoga for Kids</p> <p>12 p.m. All Things LGBTQ</p> <p>1 p.m. Local School Boards</p> <p>7:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ</p> <p>8:30 p.m. Festival on the Green</p> <p>Wednesday, Aug. 26</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Slow Living Summit</p> <p>10 a.m. O’hAnleigh Concert</p> <p>12:30 p.m. The Story Matters</p> <p>4 p.m. Quaker Coffee House</p> <p>4:30 p.m. Yoga for Kids</p> <p>5:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Education & Enrichment</p> <p>Thursday, Aug. 27</p> <p>6 a.m. Yoga for Kids</p> <p>7 a.m. Fairytale Storytime</p> <p>9 a.m. Slow Living Summit</p> <p>12 p.m. All Things LGBTQ</p> <p>1 p.m. Local School Boards</p> <p>6:30 p.m. The Story Matters</p> <p>7:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ</p> <p>8:30 p.m. O’hAnleigh Concert</p>



1078 DOOLITTLE RD, SHOREHAM

\$695,000

THE HOME

A LOOK INSIDE ADDISON COUNTY HOMES FOR SALE

1787 brick federal home with modern twist

Set back on a 10-acre knoll, stands the Colonel Ephraim and Sarah Doolittle Farm. This historic 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home has been lovingly restored and upgraded by the current owners — restoration specialists by trade. From the brick floored mudroom to the large kitchen and intact beehive oven, you will be thrown back in time. Period woodwork, pine floors, vintage lighting and fireplaces throughout. In addition, the property includes a lovely carriage barn that serves as the farm's certified-organic produce store, the original English barn, horse paddocks and a sheep's barn. A newer heated garage and workshop has its own 2-bedroom septic for a potential accessory apartment.



This home is listed & marketed by Chris von Trapp (802-343-4591) of Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman. For more information visit HickokandBoardman.com.





Youngsters make use of the "Back to the Future" bridge by Goosewing Timberworks and Smith & McClain, which is on display through October in the Marble Works. If you like it, you can bid on it in a Town Hall Theater fundraiser.

INDEPENDENT PHOTO/ALEXA LAPINER

THEATER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

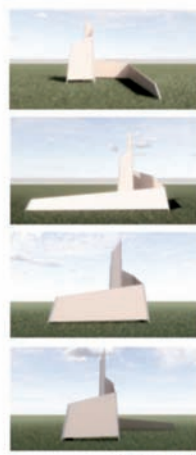
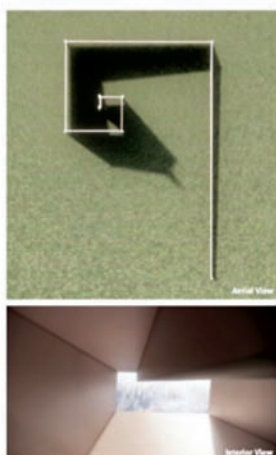
despite the ongoing construction," she said.

The bridges are all up for auction. The auction is going on now — though with proper social

distancing. Each bridge has a sign with a number to text. The "Better United" website, accessible by texting the number on the signs, features each sculpture and its bidding activity. Winning bidders will be determined in October.

"We are incredibly fortunate that all the design build firms have donated the sculptures to us, so 100 percent of the proceeds will benefit Town Hall Theater and will help us get through this difficult time," said Mitchell, noting the economic hardship the pandemic has caused THT and everyone in the performing arts community.

"In a normal year, Town Hall Theater brings more than 20,000 people through its doors, patrons who also frequent area restaurants and shops," Mitchell said. "We are an important economic driver and bridge to the community, and an organization that has also been hit hard by the double challenge of COVID and construction. We are looking forward to the day when we can safely reopen. But for now we're working to connect with our community online and live through exhibits like Bridges 20/20."



This architect's drawing of the fanciful "bridge" called "Terra Caelum" will soon be built by TruexCullins on the Middlebury town green. It is part of a public art and auction project kicked off by Town Hall Theater.

real estate

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Leicester - Fantastic opportunity to develop 21 acres in mixed zone area with Route 7 frontage, good septic soils, power & access road in place!
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P U Z Z L E



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4	8	3	9	2	5	6	1	7
9	1	4	5	3	2	7	8	6
8	3	2	7	9	6	4	5	1
7	5	6	4	1	8	2	9	3

solutions

Aug. 20,
2020



IPJ
Real
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FARMSTEAD

MIDDLEBURY PRICE REDUCTION!
4863 Case Street

MLS #4802466 | **NOW \$699,000**
4BR | 3BA | 3592SF | 109.20 AC

Exceptional farmhouse built in 1840 with tasteful updates, surrounded by fields, forest, streams and ponds. Agri-business, hobby farm or country retreat allowing for self-sustainability; an incredible farmstead mins to Midd.



MULTI-FAMILY

NEW HAVEN NEW LISTING!
143 North Street

MLS #4821427 | \$250,000
2 UNIT | 2010SF | 0.49 AC

Great westerly views from this 2-unit property conveniently located between Bristol & Middlebury. Each unit offers 2 bedrooms and plenty of windows facing the sunsets. A well-maintained investment!



CONVENIENT

MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
54 Otterside Court

MLS #4821458 | \$169,900
2BR | 1.5BA | 1272SF | common AC

Affordable corner unit at Otterside Condominiums, with a special bonus: a beautiful, private sunroom. Units share fenced, in-ground pool and large lawns. Assigned carport/storage and plenty of additional parking.



IN-TOWN

MIDDLEBURY PRICE REDUCTION!
70 Maple Street

MLS #4818699 | **NOW \$349,000**
1BR | 1BA | 1024SF | common AC

Single-level living on the ground floor at the Marbleworks condos. Beautifully maintained unit w/cherry & granite in the kitchen, maple & tile floors, huge windows and covered patio. Be in the middle of it all!



HISTORIC

BRANDON PRICE REDUCTION!
23 High Street

MLS #4798934 | **NOW \$375,000**
5BR | 2.5BA | 2206SF | 0.98 AC

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Jeff Olson



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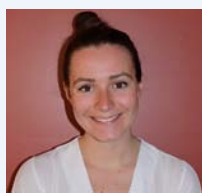
Nikhil Plouffe



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Spacious Penthouse suite at the Marble Works complex.
MIDDLEBURY, VT | \$425,000 | MLS#4821703



Thoughtfully restored and modernized 1825 home.
WHITING, VT | \$336,000 | MLS#4771671



Recently updated home at the end of a private road.
RIPTON, VT | \$329,000 | MLS#4821337



Classic Vermont Farmhouse in convenient location.
CORNWALL, VT | \$309,000 | MLS#4818845



Private, four bedroom, two bath home with two decks.
BRANDON, VT | \$250,000 | MLS#4818270

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MLS # 4822440 \$325,000



SOLD IN JULY!
795 Torrey Lane, Bridport, \$195,000, MLS 4777357
1692 West River Rd, Lincoln, \$210,000, MLS 4807061
49 East Street, Bristol, \$223,800, MLS 4802451
526 Hardscrabble Rd, Bristol, \$252,000, MLS 4793112

211 Creek Rd, Middlebury, \$270,000, MLS 4795297
316 Sleepy Hollow Lane, Ferrisburgh, MLS 4808276
599 Grandy Rd, Addison, \$365,000, MLS 4748965
436 Dan Sargent Rd, Starksboro, \$442,000, MLS 4809719

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A NOTE OF THANKS from the IPJRE Team

As we contemplate the events of the last five months there are so many stories, anecdotes, examples, outcomes, negotiations, starts and stops, tears and laughter! But one thing stands out for us and that is the value of community.

As members of the community, you might know that in addition to strong business practices, IPJRE cares deeply about the community we serve. We volunteer at Community Suppers, we coach kids sports teams, we sit on boards of churches, hospitals, care facilities and associations and we financially support a myriad of organizations. We feel it an honor to give back!

You give back too! Our success is largely due to your support as professionals - we rely on electricians, plumbers, builders, architects, septic professionals, photographers, surveyors, attorneys and lenders, to name a few. The relationships we've built with you are paramount to our success, and to the success of our clients and their real estate goals.

Although we can't list all of you, we wanted to provide just a small taste of our gratitude, along with why, here...

When a client has any questions about water testing and treatment, John Beauchamp of **Vermont Water Treatment** has proven to be a wealth of knowledge on many occasions. John always takes the time to discuss options for treatment of water quality issues, as well as explain the ins and outs of water test results, to help a buyer make decisions on what makes sense for them. ~Sarah

During a walkthrough the buyer of a property discovered a leak in the boiler room, hours before closing. With a quick text to **Dead Creek Plumbing and Heating**, and just one hour later, Logan came to save the day! ~Courtney

Adam Ginsburg of **A. Ginsburg Architects** has been a wonderful resource when a buyer is looking at a home and trying to envision what to do with a space. Adam once drew up a sketch for a prospective buyer to illustrate how the home could look with a front porch, and it turned out it was just what it needed! ~Sarah

No matter how big or small the electrical job **East View Electrical Services** is always able to handle the project, get it done in a timely manner, and provide the detail needed on the invoice. ~Courtney

My seller-client discovered, after 17 years of owning his home, that it didn't have a compliant septic system. Jason Barnard, of **Barnard & Gervais, LLC**, visited the site and had a new septic designed and permitted in record time. **DeBisschop Excavating** then squeezed the install into their busy schedule. This all transpired before the scheduled closing date! ~Amey

Often, people deciding to sell their large homes and move to smaller ones have the same dilemma - "what do I do with all this stuff?!" Peter Conlon of **Vermont Move Management** helps folks decide what to keep, what to sell and what to donate. He has helped countless numbers of downsizers prepare for their moves, and really takes the stress out of what can be a mountain of decisions. ~Beth

Many of our clients are planning for their last move. Perhaps they're moving from a large home where they raised a family, or maybe they're moving back to their "college town" to retire. In conjunction with real estate sales, estate planning becomes very important. On many occasions, we've had the benefit of working with the attorneys at **Langrock, Sperry & Wool, LLP**. They've got a knack for estate planning, and dovetailing that planning with the sale or purchase of real estate. ~Amey

We recently sold a large farm for out-of-state sellers to one of the neighboring farmers. It was somewhat complicated because of the equipment and livestock being sold along with the real estate, but thanks to **Yankee Farm Credit, Deppman Law** and **Brennan, Punderson & Donahue, PLLC** it closed without a hitch and even before the scheduled date! Everyone was thrilled with the level of diligence and professionalism exhibited in the transaction! ~Amey

Always professional and with an eye for detail, Gary Perkins of **Electrical Power Solutions** consistently provides timely service for electrical needs that arise from an inspection, or during preparations for a home sale. I always know that clients will be happy with Gary's work. ~Sarah

Inspections can be such an integral part of the transaction. It's important for both parties to get detailed information about the condition of the home. Dan Brett of **Brett Inspections** has, on several occasions, accommodated tight timelines and provided detailed inspection reports (usually within 24 hours of his site visit!) accompanied by photos and commentary. We appreciate Dan's style in presenting the information as factual so the parties involved are better able to make their own judgement calls! ~Amey



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*You make IPJ Real Estate great.
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THANK YOU.



Thank you, Norton

MASKS ON THE LINE!

Celebrating Vermont's resilience and health

Sewing for Change is a community, non-profit sewing collective, started in Middlebury, VT in 2019 to make cloth bags to support the single-use plastic bag ban, which became law on July 1, 2020. We used recycled fabric to make hundreds of reusable bags to give away to our community.

In March 2020, as the pandemic spread around the world, and masks became important for everyone's health, Sewing for Change made over 1000 masks to give away to local organizations, including Helen Porter Nursing Home, HOPE, the Open Door Clinic and others.

In June, we saw an opportunity to celebrate Vermont's resilience and health during the continuing pandemic. We brainstormed together, and came up with **Masks On the Line!** We wanted Middlebury to have color, creativity and whimsy during the trials of the rail project and pandemic. We sewed over 150 masks, hung them on clotheslines at 14 locations around the downtown, to support the local merchants and businesses.

We're all in this together, and wearing masks shows that I care for you, and you care for me – and it's how Vermont became No. 1, with lowest spread of COVID. Each mask is sewn individually, and we invite you to look

for some of the details on specific masks! Which one has books and cats? A golden fringe? Fish? A brown teapot? Which ones are woven? Show us what interests you!

Come visit downtown Middlebury, for lunch, shopping and browsing. See if you can find all of our 14 community art installations. Snap a pic, and tag us on Instagram hashtag **#Masksontheline**

Want to join us, and learn more? Visit our website at www.sewingforchange.net and read the Blog about the mask project.



150 MASKS
hung around Middlebury

Snap a pic and tag us on Instagram
#MASKSONTHELINE

CAN YOU FIND THEM ALL?