



photos by Vanessa Fournier

Peniti Foster holds her Hazon Union Key Club turkey, and Sarah Colby rights. Key Club members dressed as a variety of colorful characters Saturday for the annual OSSU/Key Club turkey challenge. As part of the OSSU Challenge Turkey Drive in Marshfield, which began 20 years ago, contestants collected at the local Village Market will be required to purchase turkeys for the Hazon Union Food Pantry and Woodbury/Galois Food Shelf.

## Food Drives for Those in Need During Holiday

by Michael Bielawski

**HARDWICK** — The Hardwick Area Food Pantry, along with the Food Venture Center and several other organizations, are leading an effort for a big food drive this holiday season, including bringing Thanksgiving meals to those in need.

Bethany Dunbar, Community Program Manager for the Center for an Agricultural Economy (CAE), said this will be the 11th year that the CAE has participated in the Plea for Regional Support along with Sterling College. She credits all the regional support they get.

"High Moving [High Moving Seeds, based in Wolcott] is very generous about giving us the squash to make the pies," she said. "About 300 pounds of squash come in here and they actually bring them over with this year, which was a big help."

"The squash is initially parmed out then frozen. It will be thawed in time for making the pies. The next step in the process is rolling out the crusts, which is scheduled for Thursday at the Sterling College from 6 to 9 p.m. The rolling provides coffee and dessert for those who volunteer."

Dunbar said about half the pies will be baked at Sterling and the other half will be baked at the Venture Center. She said usually about 25 volunteers help with the pie crust rolling. The target is to put into pizza boxes donated by Positive.

See FOOD, 2

## Police Still Investigating Woodbury Murders

by Michael Bielawski

**ST. JOHNSBURY** — A community forum held at St. Johnsbury Middle School on Monday evening to discuss drug abuse, Vermont State Police detective Thomas Randall said the department continues to investigate a double homicide that occurred in October of last year in Woodbury.

"There's still an open investigation and we're continuing to get leads and tips on that and we encourage the community to continue to contact us and give information," Randall said. "We are definitely actively working on that investigation."

Shortly after 11:00 p.m. on October 30 of last year, Woodbury firefighters responded to a report of multiple fires originating from homes on Blue Road. The fire was extinguished, but firefighters discovered the bodies of David Thompson, 46, and Carol Frette, 29.

Investigations revealed that Frette died from a gunshot wound and blunt force trauma and Thompson died from multiple gunshot wounds.

It was widely reported that Thompson and Frette were suspected drug dealers and had dated each other for approximately 10 years. The couple's killer or killers are still at large and the case remains open.

Neighbors were reluctant to speak to police and media on the scene, Randall said anyone with information about the crime is welcome to provide an anonymous tip.

"We have an anonymous tip line on our state website and they can go on it and it's anonymous and they can provide information and it stays anonymous," she said. "Neighbors provided several details to police and the police said the department is working in need of additional information."

"Oh, absolutely," she said. "Neighbors asking not to be named shared with the Gazette last year that they heard the sound of gunshots on the night in question. At least one neighbor observed two miscocking, light-colored sedans parked at the properties around the time of the murders."

See MURDER, 2



photos by Vanessa Fournier

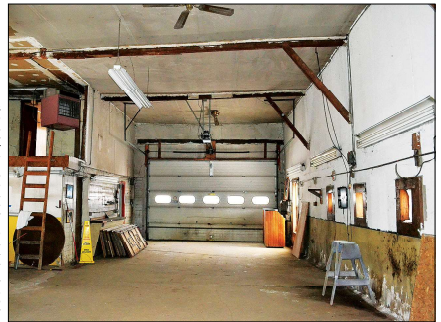
**HARDWICK** — Cabot Creamery and Jasper Hill Farm announced plans to set up tenants in the Yellow Barn once the planned renovation of the site is completed.

Previously the home of Greensboro Garage, the historic 3,400 sq-ft structure was purchased by the town in October as part of the "Yellow Barn Business Accelerator and Corporate Campus" project.

The project consists of the refurbished Yellow Barn and a new two-story 40,000 sq-ft industrial facility, at a combined cost of \$8.6 million.

"According to the Yellow Barn website, the project is expected to bring more than 100 new jobs to the area over the next five years. Construction is set to begin in June 2020 and the buildings will be ready for occupancy in June, 2021."

While the Town of Hardwick will own the site, the Center for an Agricultural Economy (CAE) will manage the property and



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A peak inside the historic Yellow Barn, on Route 125 in Hardwick, which will undergo renovation this summer to prepare for occupancy by food businesses, including confirmed tenants Cabot Creamery and Jasper Hill Farms.

## Cabot Creamery, Jasper Hill Farm Announce Plans for Yellow Barn

by Mara Brooks

**HARDWICK** — Cabot Creamery and Jasper Hill Farm announced plans to set up tenants in the Yellow Barn once the planned renovation of the site is completed.

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While the Town of Hardwick will own the site, the Center for an Agricultural Economy (CAE) will manage the property and

renovate tenant houses, said CAE executive director Jon Ramsay.

"The CAE has been a partner since the early development," Ramsay said. "CAE paid a consultant who helped move along a lot of the permitting."

According to Ramsay, Jasper Hill Farm expressed early interest in becoming a tenant.

"Jasper Hill has been involved since the very early stages," Ramsay said.

Cabot Creamery Cooperative Director of Communications Doug DiMento said the creamery is "looking forward" to having a retail store in the Yellow Barn.

"We thought it was an opportunity to support the community and we wanted to be part of it," DiMento said. "We're trying to give back to the community."

Along with bringing new jobs to the region, Hardwick town manager Shaun Fidler said the project will help attract local tourism.

"We do expect more tourists in the area as the development of the visitor center," Fidler said,

noting that the project location is directly adjacent to the Lamotte Valley Trail (VRT).

"With improvements to various sections of the VRT over the next couple years, we expect that recreational tourist numbers will increase, as well," Fidler said. "Tourists will have an opportunity to visit the Yellow Barn, Business Accelerator and Corporate Campus and also visit any number of other businesses located in Hardwick," Fidler said.

Space at the proposed new facility is already 70 percent occupied and management is actively seeking proposals from prospective tenants. According to the Yellow Barn website, occupants will be chosen "based on the applicant's ability to grow the business over a specified period, use the CAE's Business Advisory Services." Proposals are due by close of business December 31, 2019.

For more information, visit the Yellow Barn website at [yellowbar.vt.gov](http://yellowbar.vt.gov).

## Cabot's Big Yellow Vision for Vermont Cheese

by Mara Brooks

**CABOT** — As part of ongoing efforts to support Vermont communities and farmers, AgriMark Corp will open a new Cabot Cheese retail store in the refurbished Yellow Barn building in Hardwick, AgriMark Director of Communications Doug DiMento said.

The historic 3,400 sq-ft Yellow Barn, formerly the Greensboro Garage, was purchased by the town in October. The Center for an Agricultural Economy (CAE) will operate the re-purposed space, which will be ready for occupancy in June 2021.

The Yellow Barn presented a unique opportunity for the town for many years and we thought this was a chance to partner with the community and the farmers," DiMento said.

The research and development opportunities at the Yellow Barn retail store will be critical to the creamery, DiMento said.

"What was particularly exciting about it was not just the store, but the research and development opportunities that are part of it," DiMento said.

"Research and development is very important to our industry in terms of coming up with just formulations and products," he added. "When you're making new products there's a lot of time, research and money put into it before it gets to the market."

DiMento said Cabot is currently pursuing for a possible new location in Marshfield, but "we haven't found anything suitable there yet, we're still trying to find the best location. We may find a location elsewhere," DiMento said.

Opening a new Cabot store also brings multiple benefits to the community, DiMento said.

"New stores bring jobs and they bring multiple benefits to the community because we get very involved in the community. We've been here for 100 years, so we've got involved in the local charities," DiMento said.

"We've invested millions of dollars in the Cabot plant over the last several years just so we can make the best of that facility." The popular Vermont cheese cooperative, now has a plan to relocate its primary facilities from Cabot to Hardwick.

"The rumors [of a move] are completely false," DiMento said. "We've invested millions of dollars in the Cabot plant over the last several years just so we can make the best of that facility."

The popular Vermont cheese cooperative, now has a plan to relocate its primary facilities from Cabot to Hardwick.

Mark Corporation in 1992. All AgriMark products are made in Vermont. See CHEESE, 2



courtesy photo

Alice Day, nurse at Inverfield Union school, has been named Vermont School Nurse of the Year by the Vermont School Nurses Association.

## Alice Day Named 2019 Nurse of the Year

**MARSHFIELD** — Twinfeld Union School nurse Alice Day was named 2019 School Nurse of the Year by the Vermont State School Nurses Association. Day was formally recognized for her accomplishments and contributions at the Vermont State School Nurses Association Fall Conference on November 2.

Day's community efforts include organizing a year-round collection of new and used children's clothing and books to benefit underprivileged children.

Day thanked the school community and administration for their continued support of her health and wellness initiatives.

## Bend Committee Discusses Signs, Cameras, Ordinance

by Emmett Avery

**GREENSBORO** — The Greensboro Bend Revitalization Committee meeting on November 12 included an update by Greensboro Select Board chair Peter Romans on the town's recently implemented "Junk and Dangerous Buildings" ordinance, signage issues, plus planning in the Bend and possible security issues at the Romans Our Community Park.

Bend committee members said that both new stencils have gone into effect and that both Greensboro 2nd Consultant Mark Snyder and the committee's buildings that are falling down and have now sent the owners official letters notifying them that they may be in violation of the dangerous buildings ordinance and that Snyder and Romans intend to inspect the buildings.

Romans said the junk ordinance applies not only to cars, but to any junk visible to the general public. "The thing is though, it's not universally enforced," Snyder said. Romans said the junk ordinance is drawing the most objections from the community. "I want this junk in my front yard," Romans said by way of illustration. "You see this, do you know?"

A pair of signs used by an Eagle Scout last spring to welcome visitors to the Bend have not yet been put in place, Romans said. One plan for the signs, according to Romans, is to mount them back to back to create a double-sided unit, similar to one in the park by the Willow's Store. Romans added that the select board allocated \$12,600 of the town's early budget for signs in the Bend.

The committee is looking to plant trees in the Bend. There was discussion of conducting a survey of those who determine who in the community is interested in having trees, and

See BEND, 2



In Sports, 8  
AREA  
DEER REPORTS

In Towns, 2  
WALDEN  
CRAFT FAIR

In Arts, 6  
OSBORN  
PHOTOGRAPHY REVIEW