

# THE Hardwick Gazette

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Wednesday, September 1, 2021

Volume 132 Number 34

## Schools React to Relaxed State COVID Guidelines

by Doug McClure

MONTPELIER – Last fall, the state issued a forty-page document with policies and procedures as a playbook for re-opening schools. This year, the Agency of Education (AOE) has provided a one-and-a-half-page memo that primarily says people should not go to school sick and recommends a brief opening period during which masking should be required for those old enough to be vaccinated. For those under twelve, masking is recommended year-round.

The state suggests schools discontinue

masking for those twelve and over once the school reaches an 80% vaccination rate, a number which Caledonia Central Supervisory Union Superintendent Mark Tucker called “arbitrary.”

In justifying the state’s approach, the Scott administration continues to cite the 75% vaccination rate among school-age children old enough to be vaccinated. According to Vermont’s own numbers, though, NEK counties have far lower vaccination rates for students. Caledonia County had a vaccination rate of 58% for kids 12-15 and 64% for those aged 16-17. Orleans

County’s vaccination rate among those 12-15 was 50% and 48.1% for those 16-17. Essex County still had vaccination rates for kids that were below 40%.

NEK schools often contain a wide range of age groups. Some schools have students ranging from kindergarten and elementary all the way up to through high school, meaning children too young to get vaccinated would be on the same campus as vaccine-eligible kids. Tucker said the Caledonia Central Supervisory Union has schools that are K-6, some that are K-8, and

See GUIDELINES, 2

## Three Twinfield Elementary Grades In Quarantine

by Doug McClure

PLAINFIELD – Caledonia Central Supervisory Union Superintendent Mark Tucker said that multiple students in grades two and six, as well as the kindergarten, at Twinfield Elementary, are in quarantine due to exposure at a daycare center. Principal Mark Mooney said that all K-6 classes at Twinfield Elementary were kept at home on Monday as a precaution and to prevent confusion. Twinfield started school last Thursday.

“For parents [saying] ‘why is my kid there?’ we wanted to bring some clarity, [for this to happen] so early in the school year,”

said Mooney. “So that was why K-6 was out. In theory, the only grades that need to be out are K, two, and six. [All elementary students were sent home] out of an abundance of caution, because we knew that there were some other kids that were getting tests, and the results would be coming in.”

Mooney said that the school operates in pods if the class sizes are big enough, and only one pod of the second grade is in quarantine. The entire sixth grade, as well as the kindergarten, are in quarantine. Under state guidance, those students must remain in quarantine for two weeks.

See QUARANTINE, 3

## Hazen Union Almost Normal Again, After Almost Two Years

by Doug McClure

HARDWICK – It was a sweltering ninety degrees out last Thursday when Hazen Union held its open house for students new to the school. It almost felt like it did two years ago, before COVID disrupted the school’s routines and turned things upside down.

Everyone wore masks, as the school requires, but other than that the usual features of orientation for new students were the same: Epic battles with locker combinations, parents asking teachers questions that embarrass their

kids, entire families lost in the maze of hallways trying to find classrooms.

One person was drafted to wear a Wildcat costume for the event, and Principal Jason Di Giulio asked students to wear the school colors of red and blue on Monday.

It almost just felt normal. That was a word lots of people used: normal.

By any metric, it could be said that this orientation was a very big deal. As Di Giulio put it, “we get to be together. This is the first time [in], what, almost two years, eighteen months,

See NORMAL, 3



photo by Vanessa Fournier  
Greensboro community volunteers Hugh Knox (left), Jenny Bayles (center) and Meghan Wayland (right) harvest vegetables from the community garden located on the green in front of the Town Hall. Volunteers will be harvesting every Saturday until the first week of October. There are 25 Greensboro Community Garden volunteers. The vegetables go to the Hardwick Area Food Pantry for distribution.

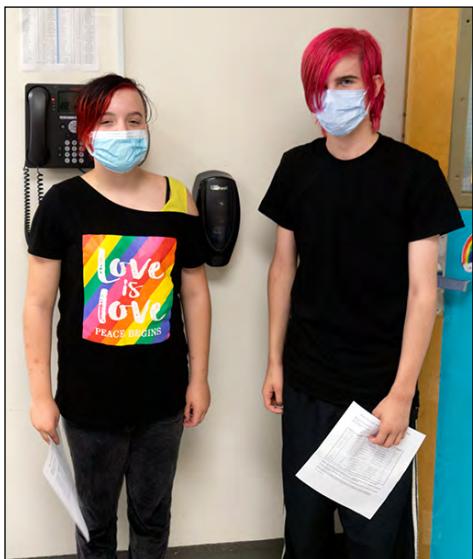


photo by Doug McClure  
New students Lotus and Jaimey Ferrand at Hazen’s new student orientation last Thursday.



photo by Doug McClure  
Principal Jason Di Giulio (center) gives a tour to incoming student Nikau Tei (right). Tei has transferred to Hazen from New Zealand.

## AWARE To Run Fall Craft Fair

by Doug McClure

HARDWICK – AWARE is taking over running the Fall Foliage Craft Fair this year from the Hardwick Area Chamber of Commerce (HACC). Executive Director Anna Pirie and board member Paulette Brochu-Colburn said that while AWARE has had a fundraising presence through most of the craft fair’s over-thirty-five-year history, the change was prompted by HACC’s merger with the Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce.

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**Guidelines**

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some that are K-12. He doubted that in K-8 schools reaching the 80% vaccination threshold will be possible because those schools would have eleven-year-olds that turned twelve, and, if not vaccinated, would lower the rate below 80%.

Vermont's Speaker of the House Jill Krowinsky and Senate President Pro Tempore Becca Balint both issued statements expressing concern about the Scott administration's approach as schools return. Balint said, "As a parent of a child under 12, I know parents across Vermont are, like me, excited about schools reopening, but many are also anxious about sending their unvaccinated children into bustling schools and classrooms. It is unclear and confusing to thousands of parents across Vermont why students, faculty, and staff are not being required to wear masks in schools at a time when we have community spread of the virus and our youngest children don't have the protection that adults have available to them."

Krowinsky said, "Students, teachers, and staff are returning to school this week, and all Vermonters should be confident that everything is being done to protect everyone in these congregate settings."

Ninety-one employees from Vermont's health department expressed their own concerns about the administration's approach in a letter to the department's administrators that was shared with media.

In local schools, all supervisory unions are mandating masking for the foreseeable future at this point.

At the national level, Dr. Anthony Fauci said on Sunday, "I believe that mandating vaccines for children to appear in school is a good idea."

Both Tucker and Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union (OSSU) Superintendent Adam Rosenberg say that they do not believe the Supervisory Unions can mandate vaccinations. Elsewhere in Vermont, Harwood Union has issued a mandate for staff to be vaccinated.

Tucker said he believed that the authority to issue vaccines lies with the state, as it does with the vaccines for measles, mumps, rubella, and polio that students must have before going to school. Vermont statute explicitly states that vaccines can be mandated by the state, though not specific as to who can mandate it.

The OSSU board met Monday night with an agenda item of "Safety & Health Protocols: ceding authority to superintendent or board assuming it; masking as attendance requirement; mandatory staff vaccinations; mandatory staff & student proof of vaccination sharing."

Several factors complicate

mandating vaccines for staff and students. As of press time, the OSSU representative to the teachers' union had not responded to a request for comment about mandating staff vaccinations.

When it comes to mandating vaccines for students, the issue becomes thornier, since certain people have politicized vaccination, and others have spread disinformation.

Other factors contribute to complicating the question.

One factor is that in Vermont, children under 18 require parental permission to get a vaccination. Another factor, which some board members have cited, is that the Pfizer vaccine (now branded Comirnaty) is the only vaccine that is FDA-approved for non-emergency use. That full approval is only for those sixteen and older.

The FDA has given "Emergency Use Authorization" (EUA) for non-Pfizer vaccines. Children aged 12-15 are eligible for Comirnaty under the emergency authorization. An FDA statement says that "Clinical trials are evaluating investigational COVID-19 vaccines in tens of thousands of study participants to generate the scientific data and other information needed by FDA to determine safety and effectiveness. These clinical trials are being conducted according to the rigorous standards set forth by the FDA."

Both Moderna (now branded Spikevax), and Comirnaty were granted emergency-use approval for adults in December 2020. Johnson & Johnson's vaccine (now branded Janssen), was approved at the end of February. Comirnaty was approved for those 12-15 years of age in May.

369 million doses of the vaccines have been administered in the U.S., with 900,000 of them in Vermont. According to the FDA, out of all the shots given in the U.S., two serious events have been reported in adults related to Comirnaty, both of which it attributed to the physical injection itself, and no serious events in those 12-15. Three serious events were reported with Spikevax, two which the FDA considered to be related to cosmetic fillers, and the others potentially related to physically getting the shot exacerbating a pre-existing condition.

While the debate over vaccines continues, case counts continue to rise. As of Monday, Caledonia and Orleans counties combined have reported over a hundred COVID cases in the past two weeks. As of Monday, nearly twice as many cases were reported in those nineteen and under as in those 20-29. Until recent weeks, Orleans County's cases tended to be in much older populations. The 10-19 age group is the third highest as of Monday.



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# POLICE REPORT

## State Police Report Trespassing, Retail Theft, Negligent Operation

On August 19, at approximately 4:26 p.m., the Vermont State Police received a report of trespassing on a Brook Road property in Plainfield. Subsequent investigation indicated that Robert Dipasquale, of Plainfield, had unlawfully trespassed on land owned by Edward Fowler, of Barre Town. On August 28, Dipasquale was issued a citation to appear at a later date and time.

On August 27, at approximately 5:30 p.m., a Trooper with the Vermont State Police conducted a motor vehicle stop on Rte. 15 near Willow Crossing in Johnson, after observing a vehicle traveling 72 mph in a 50 mph zone. The operator was identified as Megan Draper, of North Wolcott. Draper was found to have a misdemeanor warrant for retail theft out of Lamoille County. Draper was arrested without incident and lodged at Chittenden

Regional Correctional Facility.

On August 30, at approximately 3 p.m., Troopers responded to a crash in East Montpelier involving a passenger car and a roadside mower. Troopers identified the operator of the passenger car as Dakota Dunham, of East Calais. Dunham was showing indicators of impairment. Dunham was transported to the central Vermont Medical center for an evaluation. He was ultimately issued a citation to appear in Washington County Superior Court – Criminal Division to answer to the offenses of DUI #1 and Negligent Operation.

This report is based on information provided by the Vermont State Police but is not a full accounting of police activity. Persons named in this report are presumed to be innocent unless they plead or are found guilty in court.

## AWARE Report

HARDWICK – AWARE served nine survivors of domestic and sexual violence from August 22 through August 29. AWARE is a nonprofit organization, established in 1984, dedicated to

resolving the causes and effects of domestic violence and sexual assault in the greater Hardwick area.

The 24-hour hotline is 802-472-6463.

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## Normal Continued From Page One

where we actually get to be a community. This is the first time the community has been allowed in our building since March of 2020.” Calling it “incredible,” he said the school has done its part to make things safe.

Last year, Hazen Union did not feel very much like Hazen Union. The hallways were one-way, there was heavy evidence of the steps taken to thwart COVID from entering the building, and there was plastic everywhere. The signs are down, the hallways are back to normal, and the ventilation system upgrades are done, Di Giulio said. No tents are set up outside for classes, though teachers have the option of taking students outside.

Di Giulio said that “knowing what we faced last year, and how we made it through the entire year without confirmed in-school spread, that says our protocols worked. And now there’s vaccines and our protocols work. We’re in a very different place. It’s a place of concern, but not a place of fear.”

Di Giulio is careful to point out that he hopes the community understands keeping things this close to pre-pandemic normal is a team sport.

“I trust our community to understand our role in the community, and they understand, I hope, the relationship between them and us in terms of staying open.”

Teacher Kay Freedy said, “It’s interesting to be back to pre-COVID ways, and at the same time, still in the middle of a pandemic. That’s different. I think that brings some different energy. I think people are more appreciative of being able to come to school than they had been. I’m excited to be back.”

Middle school science teacher Arne Hagman said, he was “not overly worried, but still a little bit nervous” to be back, but “overall, it’s a very positive year.” He said he was “really excited” to work with Di Giulio. Hagman said he was looking forward to “getting back

into the swing of things. I want to get back into the normal, that is what I really want.”

One of the students brand new to Hazen Union is also brand new to the country. Fourteen-year-old Nikau Tei is from New Zealand. It was clear that Di Giulio had done his homework on that country’s education system, because while Tei was a ninth-grader there, the curricula don’t completely align. Di Giulio gave Tei and his mom a tour while trying to gauge whether a class might be below his abilities or fit them. Tei will likely end up with classes from a mix of grade levels, and Di Giulio told him not to worry, that the school will adapt to what works for him.

One big change for Tei is having a cafeteria. His mother said that in New Zealand, he just brings his lunch, so this will be a new experience. He seemed less concerned about that, but she wanted to make sure other kids would help him navigate the new experience. While she took notes and asked a lot of questions of Di Giulio, Tei said he wasn’t really freaked out by the prospect of a new year in a new school in a new country. He was here for an art-related class for a few weeks last year. As for the adjustment he said, “it wasn’t too hard. The only hard thing was leaving friends and family.”

Jaimey Farrand, fourteen, is an incoming freshman and his sister, Lotus, “about to be thirteen,” will be in the eighth grade. She was the quieter of the two. Jaime is looking forward to “a little bit of sports” and is interested in track.

None of the students said anything about COVID and complained about masks, either. What Di Giulio said more than once is that the school is only part of the equation to keeping the school open and things normal. The community needs to do its part, which is what most of the students seemed to want: a normal school year. Di Giulio hopes the community will do its part to give the children what they deserve after nearly two years of disruption.

## Quarantine Continued From Page One

He said that as of Monday afternoon, the school knew of three positives in kindergarten, one case in one of the two second grade pods, and one in the sixth grade. Mooney said all five cases “are from the same

spot” and “there’s been no transfer,” as far as the school knows, to other elementary students.

“They were on the same bus, the same class, but there’s been no transfer, we have mitigation and procedures, but out in the community ... we have no control over that.”

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photo by Vanessa Fournier

Beth Springston of Morrisville is one of eight attendees at the yogurt and smoothie Grow Your Own Workshop held August 21 who was given a free blender to bring home. The workshop is a collaboration between the Center for an Agricultural Economy, the Hardwick Area Food Pantry, and WonderArts.



photo by Doug McClure

At last Thursday's Hazen Union new student orientation/open house (left to right): Aasha Gould in the cat suit, new principal Jason Di Giulio, incoming tenth-grader Nikau Tei, Gabe Michaud.

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## Fair

Continued From Page One

Brochu-Colburn said, “[They] aren’t in a position to organize it and run it. So, the Hardwick Area Chamber of Commerce came to AWARE and asked if we’d be interested in doing that as a fundraiser.”

She said the timing was not ideal because AWARE is looking for board members, but long-time organizer Jane Johns would continue her work this year, and some community members have also stepped up to help.

AWARE does not plan to make any changes to the fair at this time, though the ongoing uncertainty of COVID could.

Brochu-Colburn said, “the vendors have all been advised that there’s a possibility [the craft fair] might not happen. And whatever happens, we’ll be following the [COVID] protocols of the school district.”

Hosting the event outside would not be viable due to the time of the year it is held. The fair this year is slated for the first Saturday in October as it has been histori-

cally, though over the years it has scaled back some.

“At one time it was a very big two-day event. In fact, for many years it happened twice a year during the spring festival,” said Brochu-Colburn.

The craft fair is open to vendors with handcrafted items of their own making. For example, woodworkers, quiltmakers, photographers, jewelers, clothing designers, glassworkers, soap makers, candy makers, and more. Over the years, said Brochu-Colburn, the event had seen as many as sixty to seventy vendors, and this year AWARE hopes to have at least forty to fifty.

“We feel pretty confident that we should get that many.”

Some local organizations will be allowed to fundraise at the fair.

The two estimate the typical attendance of the fair in most years could be anywhere from 300 to 500. Visitors to previous craft fairs have been fed breakfast and lunch using the school’s cafeteria, which is another question prompted by COVID.

“We’re hoping to make that happen this year,” said Brochu-Colburn.

In any case, contingency plans are underway to have some food available.

The organizational change from HACC to AWARE delayed the event getting organized slightly, so at this point vendors interested in exhibiting can still get in.

“No one should be afraid to ask. It will all depend how many we get, and if there’s space. We wouldn’t want to keep anyone out.”

This year’s craft fair will be on October 2 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Hardwick Elementary School. Admission is free. Potential vendors should contact Debbie Messier at [messier4@aol.com](mailto:messier4@aol.com) and direct any other questions to Brochu-Colburn at [mpbcolburn@gmail.com](mailto:mpbcolburn@gmail.com) or (802) 472-6619.




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# A New School Year



photo by Vanessa Fournier  
Hardwick Elementary kindergartner Remick Forant (left) gives two thumbs up to the friendly dinosaur (aka Heather Wright) who was welcoming students to the first day of school Monday.



photo by Vanessa Fournier  
Cabot first grader Alice Churchill shows her tie dye t-shirt that she just made during a school-wide event Friday afternoon. Younger students were grouped with older students in Buddy Crew Groups and all K-12th graders made tie dye shirts.



photo by Vanessa Fournier  
Cabot School Principal Rebecca Tatistcheff welcomes all 157 preK through 12th grade students to an open gathering on the Common on the second day of students returning to school.



photo by Vanessa Fournier  
Hardwick Elementary third grader Atticus Metevier (front) arriving on the first day of school on Monday is greeted by the school mascot (aka Principal Patrick Pennock). At left (center) is Nicole Labbay.



photo by Vanessa Fournier  
Kindergarteners (from left to right) Nora Paquette, Tucker Marsh, Ethan LaRose, Carter Delaricheliere, (back to camera) Isabella LaCross, and Jayce Gann listen as their teacher Hollie Smith (center) introduces them to Kindergarten. Kinder Camp was held on Friday to familiarize the new students with their teachers and the school before they officially began their first day of school Monday, August 30.

**Photos by  
Vanessa Fournier**



photo by Vanessa Fournier

New staff at Hazen Union School (front row, left to right): Hannah Martin-O'Brien, French teacher; Christine Languerand, Math Interventionist; Megan Cobaugh, Special Educator. Back row (left to right): Nicholas Murphy, Global Citizenship teacher; Kirsten Hadwen, School Based Clinician; Dan Bobbett, high school guidance counselor. Missing from the photo are Cindy Camber, art teacher; Betty Stewart, school nurse; Danielle Gokey, paraeducator; Jane Allen, paraeducator; and Stephanie Lamos, paraeducator.

## New Staff Members



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Above, New staff at Hardwick Elementary School are, (front row, left to right) Natasha Beauregard, paraeducator; Logan Gifford, paraeducator; Deirdre Martin-Baker, special educator. Back row (left to right) Jessica Zehngut, music teacher; Anna Greaves, Nurse; Chrisann Aubuchon, paraeducator. Missing from the photo are Alyssa Krebs, literacy interventionist/coach; Kelly Robb, long-term substitute filling in for a second grade teacher.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

New staff at Twinfield Union School (front row, left to right): Rebecca Jackson, PK teacher; Leah Canderan, speech; Angie Barger, mindfulness; Allison Schock, MS Science. Back row (left to right): Amina Yachfine, paraeducator; Carley Elkin, AD/PE; Glen Stegner, HS math; Rebeckca Fleury, paraeducator; Emily Merrill, design tech. Missing from the photo are Jack Whalen, planning room; Fiona Zahm, Service Learning Coordinator; Halley Barnhart, paraeducator.

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# AWARE's Pirie Talks COVID's Repercussions

by Doug McClure

HARDWICK—AWARE has been working to help victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence in the greater Hardwick area since 1984, said Executive Director Anna Pirie. COVID, however, has proved a multi-front war for the organization.

As AWARE's own clients have faced myriad challenges and stressors brought on by the pandemic, the organization has itself found that much of the societal and legal fabric it depends on to help those people has been frayed by the shockwaves of COVID.

One previously tenuous thread that COVID has effectively snapped is housing. While AWARE does not operate a shelter, it partners with organizations that do. AWARE's clients have also found themselves with no way out of being stuck in a bad situation since there's no place for them to go. In those cases, said Pirie, "there's no doubt it's just making it harder. Housing used to be difficult. Now, it's nonexistent. There's nowhere to go. If there's an apartment, it's double the cost. You can't buy a house. It's just become really hard."

Pirie said that her anecdotal

observation was that programs with shelters "are a little more busy, because that's at least a place for [someone] to escape and go to." But in cases where a person has a housing voucher and that was intended to be the solution, the same problem exists.

"They're not finding apartments."

In some cases, grown children are living with their parents more than before, Pirie said.

"They're twenty-something, and they were living in another state, away at college, or something, and they came back to Vermont. So they're living with their parents, and we're getting calls because they're not getting along, and things are escalating into violence, or possible violence. But are you really going to put your grown kids out on the street during a pandemic? It's just made it worse."

AWARE also works with children in schools, and in some cases such as at Hazen Union, had in-school presence. When schools were shuttered, that outreach was impossible. AWARE works to provide education to children in hopes of stopping the cycle of domestic and sexual violence. In any of its cases, and if the nonoffending parent wants, AWARE will try and work with both them and their children, Pirie said. The organization also provides an overflow valve for overloaded guidance counselors.

"[Kids are] dealing with family situations every day. And we support the adults, as well. We're not counselors, and there is a waiting list for counseling. So, we'll just go out and hike with them, take them for a walk, an ice cream, kind of be a mentor to the kids. Just a lot of emotional support."

The lack of being able to safely communicate with clients in-person due to COVID has also impacted operations, and the shift to internet-based communications has impacted both clients and AWARE.

Without the personal, face-to-face connection, isolation became a big problem, Pirie said.

"It's a pretty tough and emotional time for people," she said. "That connection has been difficult, building that trust, and frankly, I think people in this area don't seem to be reaching out as much. Our [client] numbers are down."

"That definitely concerns me, because we know that this [abuse] hasn't stopped. It's still going on, but it's just become more hidden."

For now, AWARE is back to meeting with clients in-person "a lot more than we were," Pirie said.

"But now I'm worried, with the Delta variant coming, we're going to have to go backwards

again."

The technological side of the equation has been problematic for many clients, as well. Pirie said that the organization works with people of all ages, including having a youth advocate. Pirie said the younger people usually have little trouble using technology, but in some cases, "it's pretty tough for the older people."

"They might have an old flip phone. They might not have internet, or they can't afford internet. So, we make it work. I can ask them the [intake] questions and I can fill out the boxes and print things for them to sign."

One way that AWARE helps clients is navigating the courts and understanding how the system works.

"A lot of people want to know what protection they have, really, from protection from abuse orders, sexual assault orders, stalking orders. We can help them find an attorney if they need an attorney, or at least get legal advice for them about specific questions. Some of them are going through evictions or things of that nature, or even [shortages of] resources as far as food and clothing. We can steer them in the right direction."

But COVID also upended the legal system. Orleans County Court still remains partially closed because of outdated ventilation and tight spaces. "The courts have changed all the ways they used to do business, and they were closed pretty much, though they're open now. They have a new [online] system called Odyssey, where lawyers have elevated access to things. It's a lot of technology. It's difficult. Everything's changed."

AWARE is hiring a new youth advocate. Pirie said that the job entails working with both children and parents, and is a twenty- to twenty-four-hour-a-week commitment. The organization is also looking for volunteers, which does require training, as well as additional board members. For people wanting to help in other ways, AWARE is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, so contributions are tax deductible. For information, go to [awarevt.org](http://awarevt.org) or email [aware@vtlink.net](mailto:aware@vtlink.net).

For those people who are in a bad situation, Pirie said, "I would like people to know that we have an open door. You can come back as much as you want. There's no shame. We're here to help with whatever we can. The only requirement is that you're a survivor or a victim of domestic or sexual violence, and that we're here. We're not going to judge you. We're here to help, not with what we want to help them with, but what they're seeking."

AWARE's 24-hour hotline is (802) 472.6463.

## COLLEGE CORNER

### Pandemic Rules Differ

by Joyce Slayton Mitchell

HARDWICK – When COVID-2019 swept across the USA in spring of 2020, colleges closed. After a year of disruption, and trying all kinds of living and learning situations, colleges are now working hard to get back to normal, living on campus with in-class learning. That means sitting in the classroom with a professor in front of you, eating in the college dining rooms, living in college dorms, and back to normal in sports and the arts.

In order to be back together in the classroom, many colleges are requiring vaccinations and masks in class, although not all. Some colleges offer incentives to get the shot, such as free tuition, a computer, meal plans and more. If students are not vaccinated, a few colleges are requiring students to pay for their weekly testing if they want to attend class. That is a significant bill and can add another \$1,500 to college costs.

The strength of American higher education is that the colleges are all different and can make their own rules. That means there is no uniformity in U.S. colleges' solutions for COVID-19 on campus. It's up to you to check out the status of the COVID-19 regulations on your campus.

There is, however, a history from last year that gives students and their families some idea of future solutions for COVID on your campus. You can now look into your particular campus and learn how they handled last year's students who tested positive. Was there a separate dormitory for those students? Was there on-line learning available in all their dorm rooms? Where and how did they get their meals? Or were COVID cases sent home? It's your responsibility

to ask those questions before you go on campus in August and early September.

No matter the rules in September, most colleges will make further rules regarding COVID-19 based on the vaccination rates on campus and the rate of new cases occurring as the year progresses. Students who break the rules of their college COVID-19 regulations will most likely be suspended.

Last year the academic calendar was changed significantly as colleges tried to contain the virus on campus. This year, however, the calendar is expected to return to normal for most all colleges, with typical Thanksgiving, winter, and spring breaks. That is assuming the campus does not spike in COVID-19 cases.

Sports are expected to return to their usual schedules. The athletes have been on campus for weeks, getting ready for all fall sports. College athletic events are expected to be at capacity for players and for spectators as well.

Athletics lift the spirits of the whole student body and will be a major factor in freeing students from the dread and worry of COVID-19.

Learning in the classroom, having a coffee in the student union, meetings in the school newspaper rooms, sitting in the orchestra, marching in the band, planning the campus government platforms, actions for helping the refugees at our southern border, working with political parties are all actions that will get you back to as normal as America can be on our 2,500-plus college campuses. All the new rules and regulations being used to keep up with the changes being thrown at us through COVID-19 is what will keep you safe on campus. College freshman... run with those rules!

# OBITUARIES

## SANDRA L. "SANDY" RIVERS

WALDEN – Sandra Lynn “Sandy” Rivers, 51, of Walden passed away in the comfort of her home, with family at her side.

She was born February 17, 1970, in Berlin, the eldest of three daughters born to Richard A. and Elizabeth C. (Rowell) Paton. She attended Woodbury public schools and graduated from Hazen Union School in the class of 1988. Sandy continued her education at Lyndon State College in Lyndonville.

In 1995, Sandy married, Douglas Roy Rivers at the United Church of Hardwick.

She was first employed at Tap and Die in Lyndonville. Later, she worked as a paraeducator, at both Twinfield Union School in Plainfield and Walden Elementary School.

She was a member of the Family Readiness Program for the Vermont Army National Guard in Lyndonville. Sandy enjoyed baking, crafts, dancing, vacations, concerts, but most of all, she enjoyed time with her family. She will be remembered by all who knew her as a very kind, loving lady who dedicated her life to caring for her family, children, and foster children.

Survivors include her father, Richard Paton of Woodbury; her husband, Douglas Rivers of Walden; two children: Kevin Rivers, Kayla Rivers and grand-daughter, Aaliyah Rivers, all of Walden; two sisters and their spouses, Gloria and Shawn



Sandra L. "Sandy" Rivers

Mercier and their three children of Greensboro, and Pam and Greg Allen and their two children of Hardwick; many more aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Sandy was predeceased by her mother, Elizabeth Paton.

Visiting hours will be held 3 to 7 pm., on Friday, September 10, at Northern Vermont Funeral Home, 60 Elm Street, Hardwick. Masks will be required indoors.

A celebration to honor Sandra's life will be held at 1 p.m., on Saturday, September 11, at the Walden Recreation Field, on Noyestar Road in Walden.

Dian R. Holcomb of Northern Vermont Funeral Service, 60 Elm Street, Hardwick, is assisting family with arrangements. Online condolences are welcomed at [northvermontfuneralservice.com](http://northvermontfuneralservice.com).



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Selling pottery at the Hardwick Youth Farmer's Market August 20 is Scarlett Podolin (left), 7, and her sister Ruthie Podolin, (second from left), 5, of Walden. Second from right is Elfi Goldenrose, 5, and her sister Ursa Goldenrose (right), 11, of Hardwick. They were selling cards, bookmarks and cookies.

# OUR COMMUNITIES

## E-Bike Lending Library Coming to Craftsbury

CRAFTSBURY – Local Motion's E-Bike Lending Library will be in Craftsbury from September 13 to October 8. Borrowers will be able to check out an e-bike from the Craftsbury Public House for three days to find out how these bikes can replace car trips and transform their daily transportation needs.

The fleet includes a variety of bikes at different price points, including a cargo bike with a rear rack and a standard commuter bike, all with an electric assist that helps riders get around with less effort and scale hills that previously seemed impossible.

E-bikes are a transportation option that is becoming more familiar and necessary, and the goal of this program is to introduce Vermonters to how they

can be incorporated into everyday life and replace car trips. From commuting to work to picking up groceries and carrying children to school, e-bikes provide an extra boost of power that makes miles feel shorter and cargo feel lighter. Local Motion and Lending Library volunteers are adhering to all COVID-19 related government safety regulations and recommendations. The bikes are cleaned and disinfected between users, and masks for staff and customers are required at pick-up.

For more information head to [localmotion.org/travelingebikes](http://localmotion.org/travelingebikes).

A registration is required to reserve an e-bike or contact Craftsbury Public House with any questions at [CraftsburyPublicHouse@gmail.com](mailto:CraftsburyPublicHouse@gmail.com).

# BIRTHS

## Ivie June Mayo

A daughter, Ivie June Mayo, was born to Garrett Mayo and Jasmine Caldwell, of Walden, on August 10 at Copley Hospital.

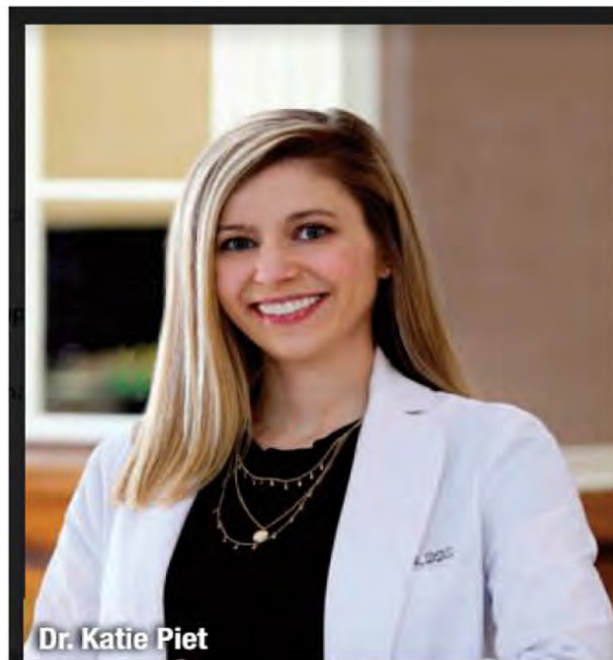
## Konnor John Barclay

Mariah and Kory Barclay, of Hardwick, are the parents of a son, Konnor John Barclay, born August 12 at Copley Hospital.

## OUR E-MAILS

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# OBITUARIES

## HAROLD G. TOLMAN

GREENSBORO – Visiting hours for Harold George Tolman, who died April 14, 2020, in Greensboro, will be held from 6 to 8 p.m., on Tuesday, September 14, at Northern Vermont Funeral Home, 60 Elm Street, Hardwick.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated, at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, September 15, at St. Norbert's Catholic Church in Hardwick. A joint burial for Harold and his late wife, Lorraine Tolman, will follow in the family lot in the Greensboro Village Cemetery.

The Town of Greensboro has established the Tolman Recreational Fund to honor Harold's Memory. The fund will be used to support the continuation of youth sports at Tolman Corners.

Contributions in Harold's Memory may be made to the Tolman Recreational Fund, in care of the Town of Greensboro, P.O. Box 119, Greensboro, Vermont 05841.

## ETCS CHARLES H. SARTELLE JR., RETIRED

EDEN-HARDWICK – Graveside services for ETCS Charles Howard "Charlie" Sartelle, Jr., (Retired), who died December 9, 2020, at the Montefiore Medical Center in Bronx, N.Y., will be held at 2 p.m., on Sunday, September 12,



Harold G. Tolman

in the Sanborn Cemetery in East Hardwick, with military honors. The Rev. Ernest Machia will officiate.

Arrangements are in the care of Dian R. Holcomb of Northern Vermont Funeral Service, 60 Elm Street, Hardwick.

## EARL M. BRUDER SR.

HARDWICK – Earl Maynard Bruder, Sr., 77, of Hardwick died peacefully, on August 23, at The Manor in Morrisville.

He was born, June 23, 1944, in Keene, N.H., the son of the late Alexander Bruder and Edwina (Clow) Bragg. He attended Keene public schools.

Earl entered the US Navy on November 30, 1961. He served his country in the Great Lakes in Illinois and was honorably discharged.

He first worked for Abbott Industries in Keene. He later was a sandblaster for Kingsbury Machine Tools, a truck driver for Keene Industrial Paper Co., and in 1982 he relocated to northern Vermont where he was employed by Hearthstone Stoves in Morrisville. He retired in 1987.

He was first married to Joyce Rockwell. He later married Jeannette Irene West at Hunger Mountain Church in Waterbury on November 17, 2007.

Earl was a member of the American Legion Post # 7 in Hardwick. He enjoyed junking and fishing.

Survivors include his step-mother, Evelyn Bruder of Keene, N.H.; his wife, Jeannette of Hardwick; his children Edwina (Bruder) Betts and husband, Joseph Betts of Morrisville, Earl M. Bruder Jr. and wife, Kimberly (Campbell) Bruder of Hyde Park, Michelle (Bruder) Hay and husband, Raymond Hay of East Hardwick, a foster son, Edwin Reed Sr. of Greensboro Bend; brothers Timothy of Masa, Ariz.; Darold Bragg of New York; Brian



Earl M. Bruder Sr.

Bruder of New Hampshire; and a sister, Victoria Tray of Winchester, N.H.; 13 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; two step-daughters, one step-son, one step-grandchild, one step-great-grandchild and one on the way; several nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was predeceased by two brothers, Richard Bragg and Michael Bragg.

A Celebration of Life will be held from 1 to 4 p.m., on Saturday, September 25, at the home of his son and daughter-in-law, Earl M. Bruder Jr., and Kim Bruder, at 2680 Garfield Road, Hyde Park.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 300 Cornerstone Drive, Suite 280, Williston, Vermont 05495.

Dian R. Holcomb, Northern Vermont Funeral Service, 60 Elm Street, Hardwick is assisting family with arrangements.

## DELBERT L. RICHARDSON

HARDWICK – A graveside service for Delbert L. Richardson, who passed away Thursday, March 18, will be held on Saturday,

September 4, at 1p.m., in Fairview Cemetery, Hardwick. Memories and condolences may be conveyed at dgfunerals.com.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

This beautiful setting is located on Goddard Lane in East Hardwick. It was created by Debbie Goddard on her property 20 years ago.

## Northern Vermont Funeral Service

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802-472-6861

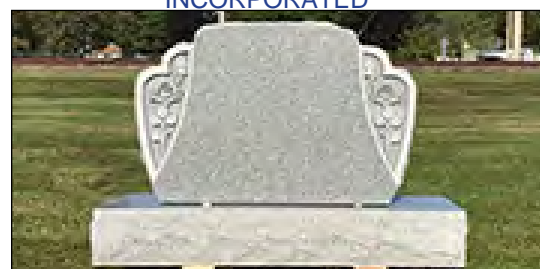
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# THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

## Thursday, September 2

**GRACE FREE VIRTUAL COMMUNITY WORKSHOP.** Free online art class every Thursday, 1 - 3 p.m. Join at <https://meet.jit.si/GRACECommunityWorkshop>. Free materials kit available for pickup or delivery. Information: [carol@wonderartsvt.org](mailto:carol@wonderartsvt.org) or 802-472-6857.

## Friday, September 3

**EVERYONE EATS PROGRAM,** free frozen meal, Fridays, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m., Wolcott United Methodist Church, 4023 Vt. Rt. 15. No pre-registration needed. Information: [ereid@capstonevt.org](mailto:ereid@capstonevt.org).

## Saturday, September 4

**TWILIGHT STARS PARTY,** 5 p.m. Eat, drink, enjoy music and learn under the night sky. Old Stone House Museum & Historic Village, Brownington. Information: 802-754-2022 or [OldStoneHouseMuseum.org](http://OldStoneHouseMuseum.org).  
**GREENSBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY** Annual Book Sale Continued - Sept. 4, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Lyles Garage, Breezy Ave.

## Monday, September 6

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY,** Mondays, 6 p.m., Touch of Grace AG Church, 104 Vt. Rt. 16, E. Hardwick. Men's Addiction Group. Information: 802-279-2185.  
**GRACE** presents free, virtual weekly art prompts. Each week GRACE will post a piece of art from their "Outsider Art" collection for people to use as inspiration for their own original creation. These will be available on Mondays at <https://graceart.org/virtual-artcommunity/virtual-art-prompts/> with responses due by Sunday evenings. Email responses to [AmeriCorpsVista@WonderArtsVT.org](mailto:AmeriCorpsVista@WonderArtsVT.org).  
**THE DADS' GROUP,** every Monday,

5-6 p.m., at the Oxbow in Morrisville. A great place to connect with other Dads. Information: Rob at [rcary@LRCVT.org](mailto:rcary@LRCVT.org) or 802-730-3000.

## Tuesday, September 7

**THE MOMS IN RECOVERY** Support Program, tailored to support pregnant and parenting mothers and their families. In person, every Tuesday, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn St., Suite 2, Morrisville. Information: [crystal.morrissey@ncvrc.com](mailto:crystal.morrissey@ncvrc.com), 802-635-0084.

## Wednesday, September 8

**EAST HARDWICK GRANGE SUPPER,** a free meal for the community, Wednesdays, 5 - 6 p.m. Caledonia Grange #9, 88 East Church St., East Hardwick. A curbside dinner for the whole family to enjoy. Information or delivery: [easthardwickgrange@gmail.com](mailto:easthardwickgrange@gmail.com) or 472-8987.

## Exhibits

**1111 COPPER NAILS:** Bread & Puppet Calendar Prints - A 36-Year Retrospective, a Dual Location Exhibition in Hardwick, through the Summer. The Hardwick Inn, 4 S. Main St., Exhibit on all 3 floors, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Mon. - Sat. Front Seat Coffee, 101 S. Main St., B&P Calendars and Art for sale, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Mon. - Fri. Information: [VtPie-GirlCo@gmail.com](mailto:VtPie-GirlCo@gmail.com), [oliveylin1@gmail.com](mailto:oliveylin1@gmail.com) or [BreadandPuppet.org](http://BreadandPuppet.org).  
**PARKER PIE GALLERY,** Vermont Green: paintings by Elizabeth Nelson, through Sept. 28. County Road, West Glover.

To get your event listed free in our weekly events calendar, please e-mail: [news@hardwick-gazette.com](mailto:news@hardwick-gazette.com).

## Cantrip plays Levitt AMP St. Johnsbury in Finale Saturday

ST. JOHNSBURY – The Levitt AMP St. Johnsbury Music Series is finishing the 2021 season with a Saturday night concert at Dog Mountain. On Saturday, September 4, Catamount Arts will present Cantrip at 5 p.m.

The name Cantrip is an Old Scots word meaning a charm, magic spell, or piece of mischief, and it aptly describes the unexpected twists and turns in the band's musical arrangements. Border pipes, fiddle, guitar and three voices blend to create an energetic sound. Echoes can be heard of trad music from the 1960s and '70s, but the years have slowly infused their music with the sounds of funk, metal, bluegrass, swing,

and even klezmer.

Levitt AMP St. Johnsbury Music Series concerts at Dog Mountain are free, family-friendly, and dogs are, of course, welcome. Parking is available on-site, including handicapped spaces, and carpooling is encouraged. Bar service will be provided by Kingdom Taproom and food served by Calex and Genuine Jamaican. Picnicking is welcome, but absolutely no outside alcohol is permitted. Patrons are encouraged to comply with evolving CDC COVID-safety guidelines.

For more information about Catamount programming visit [catamountarts.org](http://catamountarts.org).



photo by Vanessa Fournier

The Green Mountain Skillet Lickers Maia Mencucci (left) and her brother, Kellon Mencucci, of Walden perform at the Hardwick Youth Farmers' Market held August 20.

## Book Launch for Stanciu

HARDWICK – The Galaxy Bookshop will host a celebration of the publication of Hardwick author Brett Stanciu's new memoir, "Unstitched: My Journey to Understand Opioid Addiction and How People and Communities Can Heal." Stanciu will discuss her book at the Hardwick Town House on Tuesday, September 14, beginning at 7 p.m. Books will be available to purchase at the event. Those who attend should wear a mask.

During Brett Stanciu's time as the librarian for the Woodbury Public Library, it became apparent that a local man, known to be a drug addict, was repeatedly breaking into the library after hours. One night, after being surprised by a trustee, the man fled and committed suicide in his parents' house. Questioning her own role in the events leading

up to the man's death, Stanciu became determined to understand addiction. Who becomes addicted? Why? Do individuals and communities have a meaningful role in healing addiction? Her search for answers led her on a journey that became very personal even as it led to a deeper understanding of the broader context of the opioid crisis that has hit all of our communities, whether we acknowledge it or not.

Brett Ann Stanciu is a writer living with her two daughters in Hardwick. She has published one novel, "Hidden View," and writes a blog at [stonysoilvermont.com](http://stonysoilvermont.com). She is also a former Galaxy Bookshop bookseller.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 472-5533 or visit [galaxy-bookshop.indielite.org](http://galaxy-bookshop.indielite.org) for a full schedule of events.

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# IN THE GARDEN

## Starting Wildflowers from Seed

by Henry Homeyer

CORNISH FLAT, N.H. – I recently visited the Nasami Farm in Whately, Mass. This is the plant production facility for the Native Plants Trust, formerly the New England Wildflower Society. I met with Alexis Doshas, their nursery manager. The 75-acre farm produces perennials, grasses and some woody plants mainly from seed. The plants are sold at their headquarters in Framingham, Mass., and at the Nasami Farm on weekends.

If you are interested in growing wildflowers, the least expensive way to get plenty is to start them from seed. This takes some effort, but it accomplishes a number of things: if you collect seed from the wild, you are getting plants in your garden without diminishing the wild population – the way you would if you dug plants (which is prohibited anyway in most places).

Starting plants from seed also encourages genetic diversity. Many purchased plants are propagated from cuttings or by division, which means they are all clones with the exact same genes. Seeds from any given plant produce seedlings with a wide range of characteristics, making some less susceptible to environmental challenges such as global warming.

Starting wildflowers from seed can take patience. While some seeds will germinate and grow the same summer you collect

tures go below zero in winter. The greenhouses allow the seedlings to be monitored and tended easily on long tables. You could set up a table in your barn, shed or garage for a few flats of seedlings. Some wildflowers will do fine outdoors, preferably in a shady place that won't see too much of the hot, drying sun.

Lastly, you can plant seeds directly in the ground in a site where they will thrive as mature plants. The disadvantage to this is that you never know what percentage of seeds will germinate. If you plant 100 seeds in a flat indoors it will be easier to thin or transplant the seedlings than if you must do so on your hands



*courtesy photo*  
Flats of wildflowers at Nasami Farm.

and knees. And there should be no weed competition if you are using a germination mix in a flat. On the other hand, I plant things like golden seal directly in the ground as it takes two years to sprout, and I don't want to have to water and tend them so long.

Alexis Doshas gave me some tips for success when starting wildflowers from seed. First, she said, collect seed when it is easy to pull off the plant, and remove any fluffy stuff attached to it. Generally, seeds start light colored, and darken when fully ripe. If you want to store seed, make sure it doesn't dry out. Store in a cool, dark place.

Buy a very fine seed germination mix, something made of finely ground peat and perlite. A coarse mix can let seeds wash down deeper than they should be. For small seeds (the size of a grain of sand or less) just sow seeds, pat them into the soil mix and water them in. No need to cover them. Alexis suggests germinating seeds at 60 to 80 degrees, but also cautioned that many wildflowers need a 90-day cold period before they will grow.

Alexis said you may need to provide rodent protection: metal hardware cloth over the flats to



*courtesy photo*  
Golden seal fruits are ready for picking in my woods right now.

keep mice from eating the seeds. Rodents can be a problem as easily in your cold basement as in a barn or outdoors.

I asked Alexis to recommend some plants that would be easy to start from seed right now. She suggested blueberries, huckleberries and plums for fruits. Of the flowers, she listed these: milkweed, mountain mint, black-eyed Susans, wild bee balm, wild iris, asters, Joe Pye weed and all the goldenrods, which are great

similar environment.

Plants with large, fleshy fruits such as Jack-in-the-pulpit or golden seal probably will require you to remove the fruit portion before planting. Gloves are suggested, as some have strong chemicals that may irritate your skin. You can soak seeds like that to allow fermentation to remove the skin and flesh.

A good reference text for anyone interested in starting wildflower seeds is by William



*courtesy photo*  
Remove the fuzzy bits to separate seeds before planting.

for pollinators.

Woodland wildflowers, she said, often have very specific needs and are not as easy to grow as the field flowers mentioned above. Soil pH and type are important. When I plant spring wildflowers, I try to mimic the forest type of their native habitat: if they grow in a maple-beech-ash forest in the wild, I try to plant them in a

Cullina, "Growing and Propagating Wildflowers of the United States and Canada." Unfortunately, it is out of print, though I've heard it is in the process of being reprinted. It is worth its weight in gold as it gives specifics for each of hundreds of wildflowers.

So, try collecting some seeds, and schedule a visit to Nasami Farm or the Garden in the Woods.



*courtesy photo*  
Nasami Farm produces many species of wildflowers, trees and shrubs from seed.

them (Campanulas, for example), other things like lilies might take four or five years to bloom. Many require a cold period of three months, which is called cold stratification. Some planted now will grow underground next spring, but not send up any green growth until the following spring.

The Nasami Farm grows seedlings in big plastic hoop houses. These are not heated except in spring, or if tempera-

# YANKEE NOTEBOOK

## Memories of Midnight Runs

by Willem Lange

EAST MONTPELIER – During the 1950s, there was so much I wanted to do that I hated to waste daylight. So, I did my traveling at night, in vehicles with little future, and no means of communication, no AAA to call if I could, a few dollars and no credit card for backup, and road maps for guidance. With a tank of gas, a quart of cold milk, and a large package of cookies shaped like maple leaves and stuffed with maple-flavored icing, I could go all night. The AM radio picked up stations as we passed, then faded to static till I found another. WWVA in Wheeling, West Virginia, however, broadcast with 50,000 watts, and kept the country music coming all night.

Those were hardly the good old days. “Desperate” would be a better word to describe them. My mantra, every time I took off on an all-night run, was a line from the song, “Black Denim Trousers”: “He said, ‘I’ll go a thousand miles before the sun can rise.’” The sun always won.

I thought of those days as I planned this last weekend’s itinerary: a Saturday visit with a high school chum of my late wife near Albany; a get-together of the blended clans of my cousins a few miles from there; a run north to a visit old teaching colleagues on the New York shore of Lake Champlain; and on Sunday afternoon a ride across the lake on the ferry and an easy hour home. A lot like the desperate old days.

Except that the car this time – Hagar – was practically new, hybrid, and rock-solid. In anticipation of hosting a lady, I’d had him detailed; my son had suggested he smelled sort of like a wet dog. Then, there was no way I was going to Albany through Lake George again on a holiday. I’d go down Route 7 and cross the river at Troy, something I hadn’t done in over sixty years. But I’ve managed to come to an understanding with my iPhone’s GPS, and she promised to get me to the exact address. Still, I slipped a New York State map under a towel in the back seat, just in case.

It was daytime driving this time, too. Although automotive headlights have marvelously improved, I have not. Instead, Hagar, Kiki, and I trundled down the driveway just past 6:30 Saturday morning, with the GPS predicting our arrival at my friend’s house at 9:54, six minutes before my proposed time. My kids in Arkansas have kindly loaded my Spotify with some of my favorite music, so I

fired that up, too – Country Hits of the Fifties – and went bopping down the interstate and up the White River valley toward Killington, past dozens of reminders of Tropical Storm Irene’s unbelievable devastation of Vermont’s steep, narrow valleys just ten years ago.

Folks who commute on Route 7 south from Rutland once sported bumper stickers: “Pray for me. I drive VT7.” But the road’s been straightened and widened, with passing lanes, and is now a real pleasure. It’s hard not to notice the dark, beetling mountains on both sides – late sunrise, early sunset in the Otter Creek Valley – but they made it easier to notice something else.

It was the country music: an almost solid run of calamity, disaster, and heartbreak. “The news is out, all over town, that you’ve been seen a-runnin’ ‘round’ – “There was whiskey and blood run together, mixed with glass where they lay” – “In the twilight glow I see them, blue eyes crying in the rain. When we kissed goodbye and parted, I knew we’d never meet again.” Holy Toledo!

Yet they topped the charts in their day; I remember all the lyrics still. But now, as I didn’t before, I wonder why they were so popular. Was it pining for lost homelands, or the poverty of Appalachia that led to the embrace of disappointment and personal tragedy? Was it exploitation by owners (“I owe my soul to the company store.”) or the rape of their mountains? Was it the same sense of victimhood that’s been cropping out lately among evangelicals and vanishing white folks?

I turned ‘em off as the route got complicated and the GPS guidance more important. I had lovely visits, and the potluck was large and welcoming. Later, emulating the wise men to whom God spoke in a dream, I decided not to drive north on a wet, dark Saturday night, but on an empty Sunday-morning interstate, instead. Hours later, halfway across the lake, the ferry shuddered as it hit a big wave. Kiki looked up, alarmed. That was the Vermont border, I assured her. We’re home.

## MEETING MEMO

**Tuesday, Sept. 7**

•**Danville School District Board of Directors’ Regular Meeting**, 6 p.m., Danville School Library. Remote access also available.

**Town Websites, Town Clerks**

Cabot: cabotvt.us  
Calais: calaisvermont.gov  
Craftsbury: townofcraftsbury.com  
Greensboro: greensborovt.org  
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Marshfield: town.marshfield.vt.us

Plainfield: plainfieldvt.us  
Stannard: Stannard town clerk: (802) 533-2577, open Wed., 8-noon, townofstannard@myfairpoint.net

Walden: Walden town clerk: (802) 563-2220, fax: 802-563-3008, open Mon. - Wed., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thurs., 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. www.waldenvt.gov. waldentc@pivot.net

Wolcott: wolcottvt.org

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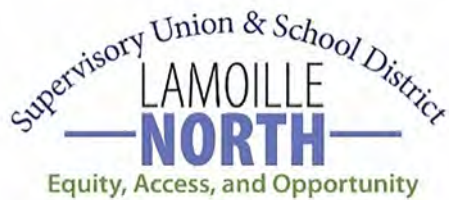
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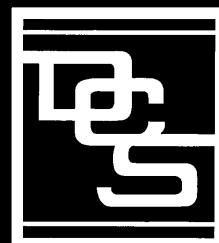
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# SPORTS

## Lady Cats Look to Reinvent Themselves after 2020 Cinderella Run



by Ken Brown

HARDWICK – The Hazen Union girls’ soccer team will have a new look this fall after graduating four key seniors from an underdog squad that won three playoff games last season before narrowly falling to an undefeated Proctor team in the Division IV state title match.

Head coach Harry Besett enters his third season at the helm and will have some holes to fill this fall after losing his top goal scorer the last two years in Macy Molleur and star goalkeeper Alleigh Gabaree. Both were all-state selections, with Molleur being named to the Vermont Lions Twin State squad this past summer as one of the top seniors in the state. Madison Bartlett and Natalie Geoffroy were also pivotal seniors for Besett, earning All-Mountain League honors. He does return a talented core of underclassmen, however, with five returning juniors who he calls the “spine” of the team.

“Lily Castle and Beth Conway are back to anchor our defense and that should allow Maverick Murphy, Alexis Christensen, and Gabby Stanciu freedom to play creatively in the center of the field. They were all part of the playoff run last season and with no seniors on the squad this season we’ll be lacking a little experience, but our stalwart defense should take a lot of pressure off our freshman goalkeeper,” said Besett.

Besett also returns a group of talented sophomores and freshman, including Caitlyn Davison, who rejoins the program after a year at Division II Spaulding. With no seniors on the team this season, Besett admits they might be lacking in physicality against more veteran squads, but he believes they will be up to the challenge after having last season under their belt.

“Caitlyn has already developed strong chemistry from her attacking midfielder position with returning forwards Tessa Luther and Natalie Michaud. This connection will be key as we attempt to replace the wealth of goals scored and assisted last year by Macy and Madison. Last year was a dream Cinderella run and we will be hoping for another successful season, but we will need to figure out how to do so with a reinvented squad,” added Besett.

The Lady Cats will kick-off the season at home against Oxbow on Saturday before traveling to Blue Mountain for their first road test next Tuesday.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

Ladycat Maverick Murphy (right) beats Lyndon’s Bri Allegra (left) to the ball Friday during a scrimmage at Hazen. Lyndon won 2-1.

## Craftsbury Academy Continues to Build Soccer Programs

by Ken Brown

CRAFTSBURY – The Craftsbury Academy’s girls’ and boys’ soccer programs both have reason for optimism this fall as they’ve seen an uptick in participation numbers early on in practice.

Tom Silva enters his third season as head coach of the Lady Chargers as he continues to rebuild a program that was brought back from the dead with eighth graders and freshmen three years ago. He lost only two seniors to graduation in Ashley Princ and Lilly Williams and returns an athletic core that now has varsity experience under its belt.

“We have fourteen to fifteen multi-sport athletes this year who are just a great group of girls, come to practice with great attitudes, and they know they are improving every day. We don’t feel like we are in survival mode anymore like we were the first two seasons as we tried to get this thing off the ground. They are a hungry group who want to make the playoffs again and advance this year. We are extremely fit and athletic, and

our defense is solid. We just have to continue working on the art of getting the ball in the back of the net,” said Silva.

Silva will look to seniors Ida Eames and Maggie Royer for leadership as they anchor the backfield and midfield and sophomore Sadie Skorstad is showing signs of being that elusive goal scorer upfront, finding the back of the net in their first scrimmage against Burke Academy last week. Freshman Rachel Bailey will replace Princ in net, with Ella Gillespie serving as the backup when she’s not patrolling the midfield.

“I was impressed with the girls’ fitness in our first scrimmage. We have athletes all over the field who can run all day and as a team our skills on the field have definitely improved. We have a challenging schedule ahead of us in the new Mountain League this year, but the girls are ready for the challenge, and we are excited for the start of the season,” added Silva.

Sam Jay will take over head coaching duties for the boys’ program this fall, replacing Tyler Blais. Jay coached the middle school program last season and has been

involved and coached the game for several years. He takes over a program that is rebuilding and has struggled with participation numbers and results the last few seasons. The program only lost Logan Lanphere to graduation, however, and fifteen athletes have come out for the team so far this fall. Jay hopes to recruit more with school starting this week.

“Soccer has a big presence within this community, and it was great to see so many lads come out for the team. We are young and athletic, and a lot of these kids have great qualities and we’ll build the program on that. We have a lot of different skill levels, and we’ll work extremely hard with each individual to teach and develop their soccer skills. If we can set some goals and meet them individually, I think it will eventually lead to team success. It is a long and hectic season, but each game lends us an opportunity to work hard and improve as a team,” said Jay.

The Lady Chargers kick-off the season at Stowe on Saturday and the boys’ squad will host Richford on Friday in their season opener.

# SPORTS

## Lady Trojan Soccer Program on the Rise

by Ken Brown

PLAINFIELD – On the heels of hosting their first playoff game in nine years, the Twinfield-Cabot girls' soccer team return big numbers this fall in head coach Seth Wilmott's fifth season at the helm.

Wilmott took over a Lady Trojan soccer program in 2017 that was struggling with participation numbers and had tallied just two wins in three years, but the tide began to turn last season with a 3-5 record and a heartbreaking loss in the first round to perennial power Long Trail. With 19 girls coming out for the team this fall and a talented returning core, Wilmott's program is on the rise.

"We graduated two senior captains in Kayla Green and Delaney Fowler, but we've had an

amazing turnout early on with most everyone back from last year's team. Mastery of fundamentals is still a key for this program to progress, but we are definitely in a different place as far as technical ability than we were a few years ago. Our numbers will give us depth and some fresh legs we haven't had in the past and tactically we are going to be able to go further into teaching the style of soccer I envision us being able to play. Collectively we are going to be a stronger team back to front," said Wilmott.

Senior scoring leaders Eva Hebert and Nicole Gouge return for the Lady Trojans and will provide leadership to a young and talented squad. Fowler will be sorely missed in net on the defensive end in a season that will see Twinfield-Cabot join the newly-configured and challenging Mountain League.

"We are still figuring out the goalkeeper position. We have some really good athletic options to try and replace Delaney, but it takes a special person to sit back there and be the last defense. It's going to be a much different schedule this year with some teams we haven't seen before, but that can work both ways. We have a lot more girls playing now in the off-season and it's great to see them buy into the program. The large numbers we have give us so many more options to run game-like situations in practice and the girls are pushing each other as much as I push them. There is a lot of untapped potential on this team, it's a great group of girls, and we are excited for the challenges of the season," added Wilmott.

Twinfield-Cabot will open the season on the road against Blue Mountain on Saturday.

## 6th Annual Sons of the Hardwick American Legion Squadron 7 Golf Tournament



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Sixty-nine golfers registered for the 6th Annual Sons of the Hardwick American Legion Squadron 7 Golf Tournament held at the Woodbury Golf Course August 29. Seventeen teams participated in the tournament, sponsored by 24 area businesses. Proceeds from the event benefit the Hardwick American Legion for programs and scholarships.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

The winning team of the 6th Annual Sons of the Hardwick American Legion Squadron 7 Golf Tournament held on Sunday at the Woodbury Golf Course are (from left) Pat Hussey, Mike Nixon, Mike Clark, Gary Brochu and Dave Burnham. They won with a score of 7 under par.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Team Strong was one of 17 teams in Sunday's 6th Annual Sons of the Hardwick American Legion Squadron 7 Golf Tournament held at the Woodbury Golf Course. Pictured (from left) is Jack Strong, his sons Jay and Jeff, and his grandson, Jackson.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

One of the 17 teams that participated in the 6th Annual Sons of the American Legion Squadron 7 Golf Tournament fundraiser (from left): Kurt Aschenbach, Christian Churschman, Isaac Marsh and Tim Higgins.

# SPORTS

## Coaches Hold High Hopes for Local Harriers

by Jim Flint

**HARDWICK/CRAFTSBURY** – The roads and trails of Hardwick and Craftsbury are alive again with the rhythmic beat of young runners' footsteps. The promising group of high school and middle school athletes turned out in mid-August for the first practices of the fall cross country season. Returning coaches are Netdahe Stoddard for Hazen Union and Mike Levangie for Craftsbury Academy.

Stoddard and Levangie are well known in Vermont for their skills in developing passionate young runners. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, both teams strengthened their rosters during the 2020 season. The Craftsbury Academy boys' team won its first-ever Division-III state title.

Coach Stoddard hopes that the Wildcats will "have a blast, get injured as little as possible, and start-continue a lifelong loving relationship with running." Coach Levangie hopes that the Chargers will "travel to races in New York, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts this season to test their growth against the best teams in New England."

### Craftsbury Charger Boys

Cormac Leahy ran for Hazen Union as a middle schooler, from sixth to eighth grade. Nurtured under Stoddard's wing, Leahy was the boys' 2018 middle school state champion. Midway through his 2019 freshman season, Leahy transferred to Craftsbury Academy. He went on to finish second at the Division III state meet. In 2020, under Coach Levangie's guidance, Leahy was the Division-III boys' champion.

Joining Leahy on the Chargers boys' team are a talented group of juniors and sophomores, along with two incoming freshmen transfer students.

Junior Charlie Krebs was the D-III runner-up to Leahy at the 2020 state meet. After spending four weeks hiking the 273-mile Long Trail during July and August, Krebs is sure to be a scrappy mountain goat pushing his Craftsbury teammates to new heights.

Alan Moody, Linden Stelma-Leonard, and Aiden Mofatt complete the core of experienced eleventh-grade boys. Moody

finished 12th at the 2020 D-III state meet.

Sophomore twins Alex and Matt Califano placed ninth and 16th respectively in last year's D-III state meet. Tenth grader Dillon Cox is a newcomer to the team.

Freshmen Charlie Kehler and Leo Circosta add depth to the Craftsbury boys' squad. Kehler transferred to the Academy from Hazen Union, where he competed for four years on the Wildcats' middle school team. He finished second at the 2020 Vermont Middle School state championship race. Circosta is new to competing in cross country, but is not new to running. A home-schooled student from Greensboro, Circosta has trained at the Craftsbury Outdoor Center for several years.

### Craftsbury Charger Girls

Coach Levangie is looking forward to fielding a complete girls' varsity team for the first time. Junior Rachel Bjerke is the sole varsity veteran on the Craftsbury girls' team. Bjerke brings two years of cross-country running experience to the young Craftsbury team.

Junior Sadie Skorstad, sophomore Ava Purdy, and sophomore Daisy Roianov are new to cross-country. Skorstad and Purdy competed in multiple events on the Chargers' track and field team last spring. Roianov is a transfer student who competed in multiple events on the 2020 Hazen Union track and field team.

Ninth-grader Ruth Krebs is a veteran of four middle school cross country seasons. She got her start in 2017 as a Craftsbury Academy fifth-grader running for Coach Stoddard at Hazen Union.

Craftsbury Academy started its own middle school cross-country team in 2018; Krebs was a charter member. She finished 24th in the 2020 Vermont middle school state championship race. Hiking the Long Trail this past summer is likely to provide Krebs with extra strength to conquer the hills.

Ninth-grader Anika Leahy is poised to lead the talented Charger girls in their pursuit of a state Division III title. From 2017 to 2019, Leahy competed for Hazen Union on Coach Stoddard's middle school team. In 2020, she transferred to Craftsbury Academy and ran on Coach Levangie's middle school team. Leahy

placed seventh in the 2020 Vermont middle school state championship meet.

The Chargers open the 2021 varsity season at the Essex Invitational on September 4.

### Hazen Union Wildcats

Seven varsity runners and four middle schoolers turned out for this year's cross-country team. Coach Stoddard hopes to add a few more runners to the ranks as the season progresses.

Jessica Royer and Carter Hill are the senior leaders for the girls' and boys' varsity squads. Royer is in her sixth year as a Wildcat runner. She placed 33rd in the 2020 D-III state championship race. Hill is a newcomer to the Hazen Union cross-country team. He is well known as a standout player on the Wildcats' basketball team.

Junior Ella Considine is also in her sixth year running for the Wildcat girls. Considine placed 44th in last year's D-III state championship meet. She is joined

by junior newcomer Marta Mas.

Cassandra Royer, Khamden Luangrath, and Tobias Benson are the team's sophomores. Royer is in her fifth year of cross country running and is often the first Wildcat girl across the finish line. She placed 13th among D-III varsity girls at the 2020 state championship meet. Luangrath and Benson are first-timers for the Wildcat boys' varsity team.

Seventh-grader Thomas Kehler returns to anchor the Hazen Union Middle School cross country team. As a sixth-grader, Kehler placed 31st in the 2020 Vermont middle school state championship race. Eighth-graders Finn Burgess and Damian Morrison, along with seventh-grader Manny Fliegelman, are newcomers on the Hazen Union squad.

"The kids seem pumped and ready to go," said Coach Stoddard. The Wildcats plan to open their season at the Essex Invitational on September 4, followed by the U-32 meet on September 7.



photo by Vanessa Fournier  
Hazen Union's Eliot Rosendahl (right) controls the ball ahead of Carter Houghton (left) of Lyndon during a scrimmage held on Hudson Field August 27. Hazen won 2-0.

# SPORTS

## JIM FLINT'S RUNNERS' ROUNDUP

### Craftsbury Runners Win Race to the Top

STOWE – Craftsbury athletes excelled at Sunday's 13th Annual Race to the Top of Vermont. The rigorous event involved biking or running up the 4.3-mile Mount Mansfield Toll Road. A field of 215 runners and 73 mountain bikers conquered the 2,564 vertical feet climb.

Adam Martin and Caitlin Patterson climbed through the clouds enroute to wins in the men's and women's divisions. The Craftsbury Green Racing Project (GRP) team members reprised their 2019 victories, the last time that the race was held in person.

This year's race was run with a wave start and COVID-19 protocols. Rain showers eased as the first wave of runners toed the starting line. After the first mile, athletes experienced the surrealness of ascending through fog and mist to the summit.

"I've run the Race to the Top in many previous years when it was extremely hot," said Patterson. "I was appreciative of the relatively cool weather, which was nice for running without overheating. The fog made the race feel isolated, as we couldn't see very far ahead or behind us at any point. This made it a race against the clock -- a time to dig in with mental toughness and keep moving forward."

Patterson, 31, placed among the top five women for the sixth time since 2011. The 2018 Winter Olympian had her fastest finish ever for the event. She reached the summit in 41 minutes and 14 seconds, which averaged out to 9:36 per mile.

Patterson ran with GRP teammate Alex Lawson for the first three miles of the race. Lawson took home runner-up honors in the women's division, with a time of 41:42. Craftsbury's Margaret Freed (43:09) and Hallie Grossman (45:25) placed third and fourth in the women's division.

"I had an idea that Alex would be fast today," Patterson said. "I gradually pulled ahead in the last mile, but Alex was not far back at all. In an uphill race like this, I think we were just enjoying company in suffering, keeping moving, but not doing anything drastic. My race strategy was to run smooth

and efficiently, to breathe well, and be ready to dig in and make it hurt especially towards the top."

Martin, 26, won the men's division by more than two minutes. His time of 34:12 averaged out to 7:58 per mile. GRP teammates Raleigh Goessling (37:10), Luke Brown (37:45), Akeo Maifield-Carucci (38:28), and Carsen Campbell (39:14) placed third, fourth, seventh, and eighth in the men's division.

"Going up the first steep quarter-mile pavement section, a big group ran (and biked) at a controlled pace near the front," said Martin. "After we crested the initial incline, I increased my effort and started grinding my way to the finish. From that point on, I ran by myself. A group of five or so runners (mostly my GRP teammates) formed behind me, eventually breaking up closer to the top."

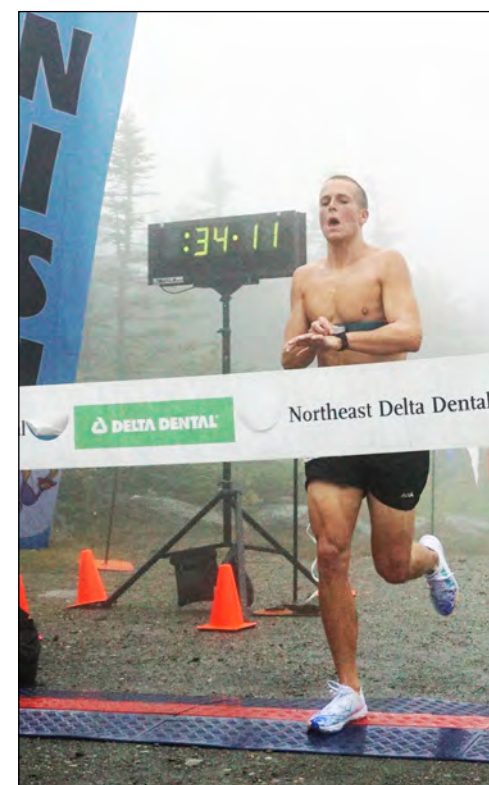
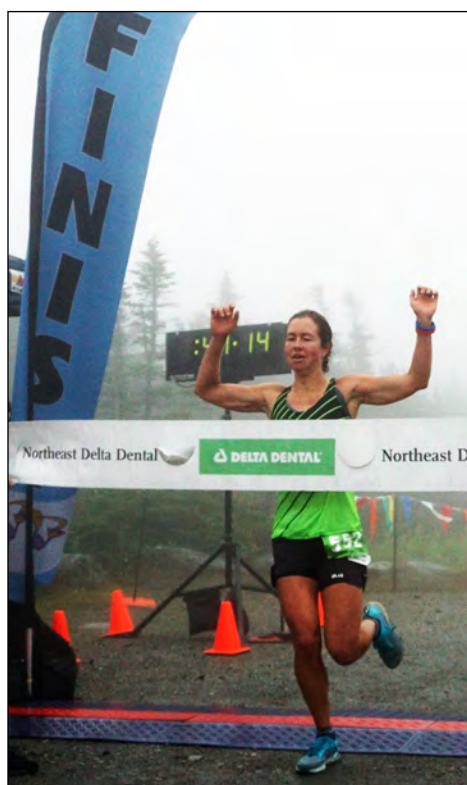
Philip Mason of Norwich was the fastest biker in the race. He reached the summit in 32:46, less than two minutes ahead of Martin. Among the women cyclists, Jane Vigneau of Williston placed first in 44:32. Vigneau finished a little more than three minutes after Patterson, the top female runner. Kelsey Dickinson of Craftsbury placed third among women bikers. Dickinson's time was 47:35.

### Tuesday Trails Series Winners Crowned

CRAFTSBURY – The 2021 Tuesday Night Trail Series wrapped up on August 17 at the Craftsbury Outdoor Center. Thirty-one runners and nine mountain bikers turned out on the hot and humid summer evening. The race was the finale for the 13-week series which began on June 1.

Ollie Burruss blitzed the 5k course to win his sixth 5k trail race of the summer series. Burruss easily outdistanced runner-up Ethan Dreissigacker (26:20). Adrian Owens (26:47) and Eric Remick (27:19) were the top Masters men (age 40 and over). They placed third and fourth overall. Stig Linck placed fifth in 28:24. He was the fastest boy under age 16.

Ashley Nunnery was the



photos courtesy of Granite State Race Services

Caitlin Patterson (left) and Adam Martin (right) were the fastest runners in the 13th Annual Race to the Top of Mount Mansfield on August 29. The Craftsbury athletes won the grueling 4.3-mile race for the second time in a row. Patterson and Martin previously topped the women's and men's divisions in 2019. The 2020 race was not held due to the pandemic.

top woman to finish. She crossed the line in 31:31 to place ninth overall. Masters runners Jessica Bolduc (31:43), Cydney Terrone (31:46) were the second and third female finishers. Caroline Lawlor (33:23) placed fourth for the women. Aemilia Terrone was the fastest girl under age 16. She placed fifth in the women's division in 34:07.

Joe Krebs (20:27) and Scarlett Podolin (20:29) were the fastest finishers in the 3k running race. Gavin Jolly won the 5k mountain bike race in 22:45. Chris Burnham placed first in the 10k mountain race. His time was 34:14.

Adrian Owens edged out Robert Linck, 896 to 842 points, to win the men's title in the 13-week series. Both runners competed in 11 races, with their top ten races counting in the scoring. Stig Linck placed third in the series with 711 points. He competed in nine races. Ethan Dreissigacker was fourth for the men, with 661 points in seven races. Ollie Burruss scored a perfect 600 points in six races to place fifth overall. The top five male runners are from Craftsbury.

Cydney Terrone of Craftsbury won her first women's 5k series title with 774 points. Terrone

competed in all 13 trail races, along with Paula Davidson of Craftsbury and Caroline Lawlor of West Glover. Lawlor was the series runner-up for the women with 728 points. Jessica Bolduc of Craftsbury moved into third place with 720 points. She competed in 11 races. Anna Schulz of Craftsbury scored 702 points in eight races to place fourth. Aemilia Terrone finished fifth with 653 points earned in ten races.

### Flying Pig Race Kicks off Labor Day Weekend

NORTHFIELD – Online registration is open for the 42nd Annual Northfield Savings Bank 5k Flying Pig Race. The 5k race begins at 9:30 a.m., on September 4, in downtown Northfield. A one-mile children's run follows at 10:30 a.m. The event is also the Vermont Senior Games 5K State Championship Road Race.

The race has an uphill start. The rest of the course is flat and fast, with paved streets and a dirt road out-and-back section. The entry fee for adults is \$25. The children's race fee is \$20. Registration includes an NSB commemorative race t-shirt. A link to the registration form is available at [cvrunners.org](http://cvrunners.org).

# SPORTS

## Two Champions Crowned, Followed by an Emotional Salute

by Patrick Hussey

GREENSBORO – It was another perfect night of golf that crowned two champions last Tuesday night at Mountain View Country Club, followed by an emotional salute to one of the league’s longtime members.

A total of 40 golfers came out on a sunny and humid evening for a scramble that crowned both a net and gross champion. After the scramble competition, the league paid their respects to Dona Bessette, a dedicated and popular league member who passed last fall.

It was week three in the league’s Legacy Series, in which they have saluted league members who have passed on. Dona Bessette, and his son Bear, who was on hand to join in the remembrance, were active league members for years.

Dona Bessette was a well-known businessman who spent much of his career in Hardwick. He ran a car dealership, Barcomb Motors, for many years and later took ownership of Dona’s Car Store and was in charge of Wildcat busing for Hazen Union. He was very supportive of the town and was a very colorful character around Hardwick.

Last November, both Dona Bessette and his wife Pat were infected with COVID and passed within 47 hours of each other. Pat was 88 when she passed on Nov. 28, and Dona, who was 93, passed on Nov. 30. Mike Clark delivered the eulogy Bear had written for Bessette’s service and Bear Bessette presented former



courtesy photo

The Tuesday night golfers at Mountain View Country Club raised their glasses again last week in their Legacy Series, saluting Dona Bessette, a longtime league member who passed, along with his wife Pat, last November due to COVID. Their son, Bear Bessette (with cowboy hat on) was on hand to join in on the remembrance evening.

Hazen Union coach Dan Hudson with Dona’s longtime putter. After the presentation, the league tipped a glass in their memory.

Out on the course, the foursome of John Stone, Andy Hunt, Carl Edwards and Bill Jenkins put on a show, shooting a five-under par 30 to blaze their way to first place in a scramble format. After paring the first three holes, Carl Edwards hit a 30-foot birdie putt on the tough fourth hole to get them started.

They parred the fifth hole, but then birdied in from there in an impressive run. Hunt hit a long putt on six for birdie, then John Stone hit an approach to seven that landed just over two feet from the cup and he buried the putt. Bill Jenkins nailed a birdie putt on eight and Hunt sealed the deal with a long birdie putt on nine.

Two teams tied for second place

with a three-under 32. The first was the foursome of Nate Brown, Dan Gauthier, Tim Bellavance and Brad Ferland. Bellavance had a hot putter all night and hit a 22-foot birdie putt on one and an 11-footer on five. Gauthier chipped in on three for their other birdie.

Tying them for second was the foursome of John Sperry, Dan Hudson, Mike Nixon and Dan Mencucci. Sperry made a 13-footer on one, Hudson hit an approach to four feet on seven and made the putt, and then Nixon hit a seven-footer on eight.

The league also crowned a net champion, which was won by Karl Ferland, Richard Coolbeth, Dave Campbell and Dennis Pudvah. They shot an even par 35 and netted out

at a 17.5 to capture first place. Ferland had chip ins on both five and eight to help the cause.

Back in second place net was the fivesome of Dan Rogers, David Rogers, Doug Allen, Reg Allen and Jeremy Kaufman. They plowed out a one-over 36 and netted an 18.

There was closest to the pin competitions on every hole. Richard Brochu got closest on one, Dan Gauthier won it on two, and Mike Clark got it on three. Carl Edwards won two holes, the fourth and fifth, no one reached six, but Stone won on seven, Sperry got it on eight and Kip Doyon won nine.

The league wraps up its Legacy Series next week with tributes to both Rian Fried and Roger Brochu.



courtesy photo

The foursome of (left to right) John Stone, Carl Edwards, Andy Hunt and Bill Jenkins, shot the best gross score in a scramble played last Tuesday night, shooting a five-under 30.



courtesy photo

The foursome of (left to right) Richard Coolbeth, Karl Ferland, Dave Campbell and Dennis Pudvah, won the net title in the scramble played by the Tuesday night golf league last week, posting an even-par 35 that netted them a 17. Ferland chipped in twice for the team.

# SPORTS

## No Slowing Down for Deep Twinfield-Cabot Boys' Squad

by Ken Brown

PLAINFIELD – After back-to-back winning seasons and their first playoff victory in eleven years last fall, the Twinfield-Cabot boys' soccer team looks even deeper and just as talented heading into the 2021 season.

Head coach Peter Stratman enters his third season at the helm of the Trojan program and the proof is in the pudding. He took over a boys' soccer program three years ago that was on life support, struggling with participation numbers and results. Two seasons and 17 wins later, the Trojans enter the 2021 season and their challenging new Mountain League schedule with nothing but confidence.

"We lost four really good seniors to graduation in Gavin Fowler, Aiden Morse, Blue Christensen, and Henry LoRe from last year's team. That is usually a huge setback for small school programs, but we had the fortune of having such a deep and talented freshman and sophomore class last season and they all played well and have playoff experience under their belt. We have a collective group of highly skilled soccer players from Twinfield and Cabot that have bought into each other and the program. In a time where



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Twinfield/Cabot soccer players Declan O'Connor (left) and Meles Gouge (right) attend practice on the Cabot Rec Field on Friday. Their first home game is scheduled for Sept. 3 at Twinfield against Danville at 4:30 p.m.

small school athletic programs are falling by the wayside, this collective between the two schools has resurrected this soccer program and formed relationships between two commu-

nities," said Stratman.

Stratman will have speed, skill, and leadership all over the field this fall with seniors Alec Moran, Lucas Roberts, and Brody Moran leading the way. Junior Rowan Cleary will also be a handful for opponents in what Stratman calls one of his deepest and most collectively talented squads he's ever coached.

"I love soccer and the connections that are created through teaching it. I've always been a teacher first and I've had the privilege of watching these guys develop from freshman to where they are now. They helped build this program from where it was and they believe in the philosophy and the formula. "Foundationally skill-wise, this is one of the most broadly talented groups across the field I've ever coached and it is a lot of fun to be a part of. We still take it one day at a time whether it's practice, scrimmages, or games. We're proud to have won a playoff game last season and push Proctor to the limit, but these guys believe now that they could've won that match as easily as Proctor did and they are ready to go to start the season," added Stratman.

Twinfield-Cabot will host crosstown rival Danville in their season opener on Friday.

## SPORTS CALENDAR

### Friday, Sept. 3

4:30 p.m., Twinfield boys' soccer vs. Danville, at Twinfield.

4:30 p.m., Craftsbury Academy boys' soccer vs. Richford, at Craftsbury.

### Saturday, Sept. 4

11 a.m., Twinfield girls' soccer at Blue Mountain.  
11 a.m., Hazen Union girls' soccer vs. Oxbow, at Hazen Union.

4:30 p.m., Craftsbury Academy girls' soccer vs. Winooski, at Craftsbury.

### Tuesday, Sept. 7

4:30 p.m., Twinfield girls' soccer at Northfield - Williamston.

4:30 p.m., Hazen Union girls' soccer at Blue Mountain.

4:30 p.m., Hazen Union girls' soccer at Fairfax.

### Wednesday, Sept. 8

4:30 p.m., Twinfield boys' soccer at Oxbow.

4:30 p.m., Hazen Union boy's soccer vs. Fairfax, at Hazen Union.

### Thursday, Sept. 9

4:30 p.m., Craftsbury Academy boys' soccer at Enosburg.

### Friday, Sept. 10

4:30 p.m., Twinfield girls' soccer vs. Craftsbury, at Twinfield.

4:30 p.m., Hazen Union boy's soccer at Harwood.

4:30 p.m., Hazen Union girls' soccer at Fairfax.

4:30 p.m., Craftsbury Academy girls' soccer at Twinfield.

### Saturday, Sept. 11

11 a.m., Twinfield boys' soccer vs. Blue Mountain, at Cabot.

### Monday, Sept. 13

4:30 p.m., Hazen Union girls' soccer vs. Peoples, at Hazen Union

### Tuesday, Sept. 14

4:30 p.m., Hazen Union boy's soccer vs. U32, at Hazen Union.

4:30 p.m., Craftsbury Academy boys' soccer vs. Blue Mountain, at Craftsbury.

### Wednesday, Sept. 15

4:30 p.m., Craftsbury Academy girls' soccer at Richford.

### Thursday, Sept. 16

4:30 p.m., Twinfield girls' soccer vs. Danville, at Twinfield.

### Friday, Sept. 17

4:30 p.m., Twinfield boys' soccer vs. Christ. Covenant at Twinfield.

4:30 p.m., Hazen Union boy's soccer vs. North Country, at Hazen Union.

4:30 p.m., Craftsbury Academy boys' soccer vs. Danville, at Craftsbury.