

THE Hardwick Gazette

INDEPENDENT LOCAL NEWS SINCE 1889

Hardwick • Cabot • Calais • Craftsbury • Greensboro • Marshfield • Plainfield • Stannard • Walden • Wolcott • Woodbury

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

Volume 134 Number 21



Groundbreaking

The Jeudevine Memorial Library in Hardwick held an official groundbreaking ceremony May 25. Holding ceremonial shovels are (left to right) Diane Grenkow, library director; Lisa Sammet, former library director from 2001-2022; members of the Library Board of Trustees: Kathleen Sampson, Daphne Kalmar, Andrea Brightenbach, Milo Tandy, Brendan Buckley, Ross Connelly and Chairperson Jodi Lew-Smith. Construction by the ReArch Construction Company Inc. of South Burlington will begin digging out the foundation for the addition Tuesday, May 30.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

June 5 Deadline for Reviewing Plans for Downtown Park

by Gazette Staff

HARDWICK – The Downtown Park steering committee has posted the design plans and related information about the proposed park on the Daniels Block side of the Lamoille River in downtown Hardwick. The plans are posted in the display case on Main Street near the Clip Joint. The display will be up for viewing through Monday, June 5. Residents are encouraged to review the posting and provide their feedback to the committee as soon as possible.

The park design is being developed in tandem with the pedestrian bridge project. The aim is to develop a downtown Hardwick gathering space that will welcome locals and visitors alike. The park project steering committee has been working with landscape architects SE

See PARK, 3



courtesy photo

The staff at Buffalo Mountain Market includes (left to right) front row, Pam Stonier, Ellen Bresler, Emily Hershberger, Valeria Angelo, Milly Pino and Sue Barclay; back row, Regina Troiano, Kathy Castellano, Heidi Patria, Jade Morrison, Anni Gaillard and Jessie Zeigler.

Buffalo Mountain Market Celebrates its First-year Anniversary

HARDWICK – The Buffalo Mountain Market will celebrate their one-year anniversary of being in their new location on Mill Street for a year on June 17 at Atkins Field 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. There will be live music, food, beverages and activities. Everyone is welcome.

As one of the oldest food cooperatives in Vermont, Buffalo Mountain Food Co-op has a strong history in the village of Hardwick. Originally founded as a buying club, the co-op first opened a physical store in 1975 on Wolcott Street. After several years it outgrew that space and moved to the Jeudevine Mansion on North Main Street, renting a section of the main floor and barn space.

The co-op experienced a growth spurt as a result of the move to a storefront on Main Street. Then, in March of 2022 the co-op bought a market around the corner with the space needed to support a growing customer base. Originally called Hall's Market, the store was

See ANNIVERSARY, 2

Select Board Works Through Community Forest Plan Details

by Gazette Staff

WOLCOTT— At its May 17 regular meeting, the Board covered a number of issues, including a detailed discussion of issues regarding the community forest.

The first order of business was communications received. The board received a report from the Treasurer that the delinquent tax total is \$144,522. That is down about \$25,000 from last year. The Treasurer will continue efforts to collect past due taxes.

Bob Hoadley was hired as the town's maintenance man. Project ideas can be referred to board Vice Chair Kurt Klein, who can place them on the work list.

In the health officer report, Bernard Earle reviewed with the board the various tasks he undertakes as health officer. Klein noted the role requires a lot of communication with state

See FOREST, 2



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Hardwick American Legion Post #7 Honor Guard (from left): Bradley Slayton, Matthew Greaves, Todd Manchester and Barry Cadorette march in the Hardwick Kiwanis Annual Spring Festival Parade May 27. In the back is Sergeant at Arms Ivan Menard.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Senator Bernie Sanders held an hour-long Youth Town Hall Meeting at Hazen Union on May 24 to answer any questions students might have to ask him. The Senator spoke about and answered questions on climate change, healthcare, not taking drugs, technology and bullying.

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Forest

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officials, and documentation. Earle will continue to update with the board regarding his activities.

Next, the board voted to appoint Michael Paradee to serve as a member of the Development Review Board and Planning Commission. Seconded by Klein with all in favor.

The community forest was next on the agenda. Kate Wanner, senior project manager at the Trust for Public Land, addressed the board. Wanner noted that, as part of the *Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative* (VOREC) Community Grant, the board must guarantee public access to the bridge that will be constructed on the recreation property. The board voted to submit a letter guaranteeing public access to the bridge as part of the VOREC Community Grant. Wanner also discussed the deeds that will be drawn up for the Bourne property. Brownfield studies are being conducted in two spots. Wanner is also working with County Forester Emily Potter regarding acreage that is in the Current Use program.

Gordon Young, community forest committee chair, reviewed with the board the draft stewardship plan that was developed following several public opinion polls. The plan will provide an overview of the forest, and what

the town wants to do with it. Work will continue on the plan prior to a public hearing. Board approval of the plan may occur by fall. It is anticipated there will be a standing committee in the future to address changes over time. The forest committee meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. The board thanked Young and Wanner for their work.

In the project manager report, Klein stated that it appears the Department of Corrections work program may be discontinued in July, resulting in no helpers for the transfer station attendant. Klein reminded that the public is not allowed beyond the chains in front of the roll offs, or to enter the bins, for liability reasons.

Klein reported that the town's insurance company has retained a law firm to represent the town in a lawsuit. There will be no charge to the town unless negligence is found.

Work continues on leasing state land to provide space for snow removal along Railroad Street to access the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) in winter, and for a Port-o-let. E-911 signs are starting to be ordered for town-wide installation, and a road study will be conducted to monitor trailer truck traffic on North Wolcott Road.

The board also discussed the need for a shed to hold outdoor items. Ideas and quotes will be presented at the next meeting, on June 7.

Anniversary

Continued From Page One

owned by the Hall family from May 1994 to November 2013 when they sold to the Trags and it became Hardwick Village Market.

The process of moving the co-op was collaborative, with community involvement and much discussion. During those conversations, the voice of the market community was heard. With their new name, Buffalo Mountain Market (BMM), they would expand into both a larger and more inclusive community grocery in Hardwick.

"Working with all employees to merge both stores, I saw the heart and soul they put into their work and knew that, even with our differences, we could work together to create a more inclusive community shopping experience. It has been so inspiring to see the crew become a cohesive team and increase the diversity of shoppers of Buffalo Mountain Market over the past year," said BMM General Manager, Emily Hershberger.

For a few months, both stores remained open with both sets of staff retained. After the major renovations were done,

the stores merged, along with the staff, shoppers, and goods of both locations.

In 2022 the co-op launched a capital campaign that provided the funding to make the move happen. They exceeded the original goal of \$500,000 by raising \$966,500. The fundraising efforts brought in the support of the community with \$167,000 in donations, \$523,000 in loans from Vermont residents, \$276,500 in grants through Healthy Food Finance Initiative, Efficiency Vermont, and Working Lands Enterprise. Their successful capital campaign allowed the co-op to take out less in loans and keep more money in the community.

There is additional renovation to complete yet, including the parking lot, and a redesign of the storefront. The goal for Buffalo Mountain Market is to become a net-zero grocery store over the next five years.

Since the new store opened there has been a 189% increase in new members. The market seeks to provide local and regional food choices and security, keep money in the community and to education for a sustainable future.



May 31 - June 6

New to Willey's Chaco Footwear. Men's, women's and youth-size sandals		Check Out Our Swimming Accessories	
Ocean Spray Cranberry Drinks 2/\$6 64 oz.	Poland Spring 8 Pk. Sparkling Water \$2.99 135.2 oz.	Post Golden Crisp Honeycomb or Pebbles Cereal 2/\$7 11-14.7 oz.	
Rotel Tomatoes 2/\$3 10 oz.	Bush Baked Beans 2/\$4 16 oz.	Food Club Salad Dressing 2/\$4 16 oz.	
Brianna's Salad Dressing \$2.99 12 oz.	Sweet Baby Ray's BBQ Sauce 2/\$4 18 oz.	Pam Cooking Spray \$4.29 5-6 oz.	
Teddies Old Fashion Peanut Butter 2/\$6 16 oz.	Nabisco Saltines or Oyster Crackers \$3.49 9-16 oz.	Keebler Town House or Club Crackers 2/\$7 13.7-13.8 oz.	
Planters Dry Roasted Peanuts 2/\$5 16 oz.	Planters Cashew Halves & Pcs. \$4.99 8 oz.	Tide Laundry Detergent \$13.99 92 oz.	
Tropicana Orange Juice \$3.49 52 oz.	Stonyfield Smoothie 3/\$5 10 oz.	Green Mt. Greek Yogurt 5/\$5 5.3 oz.	
Food Club Butter \$2.99 16 oz.	Hood Ice Cream \$3.79 48 oz.	Klondike Bars \$4.29 27 oz.	

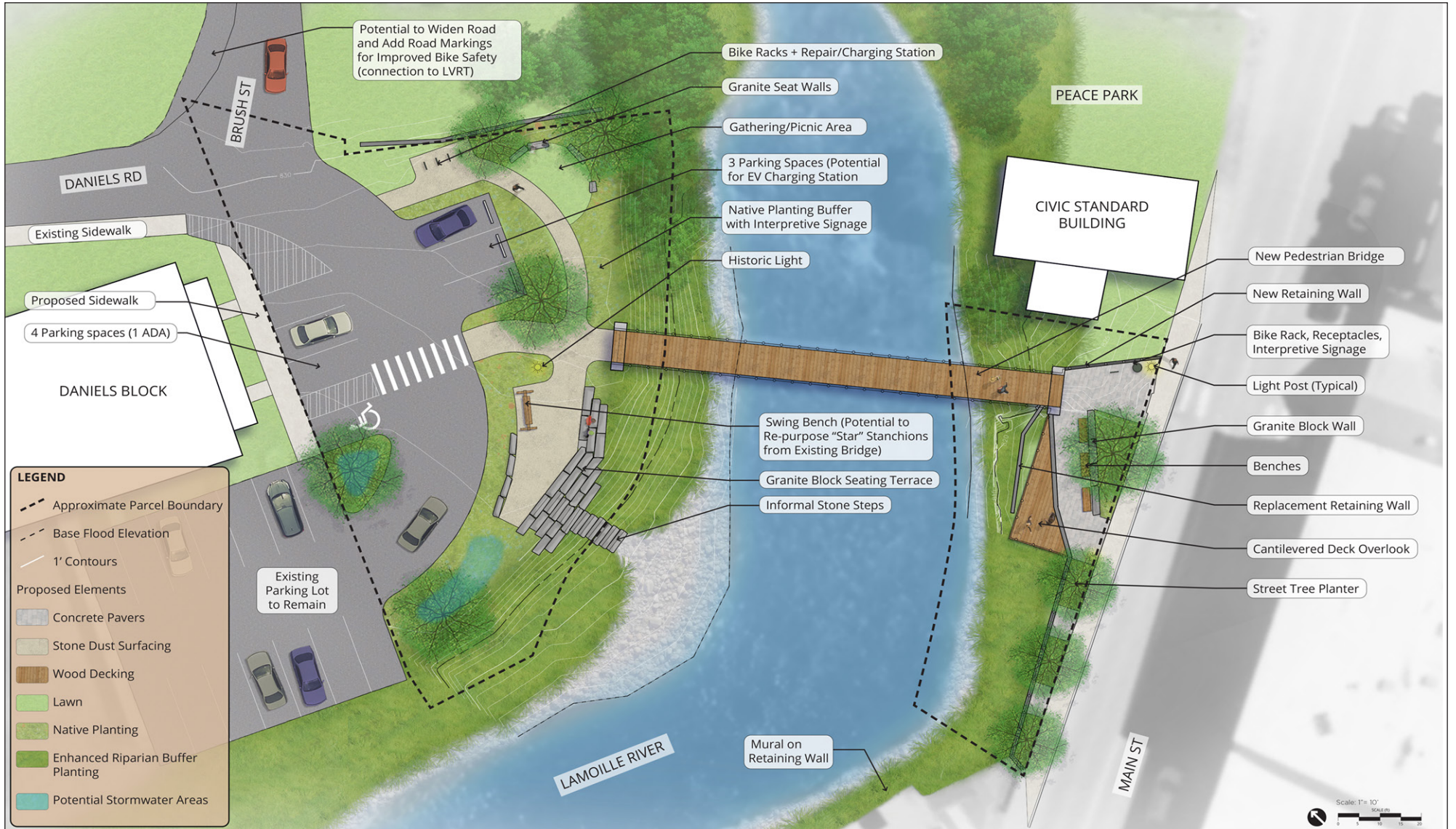
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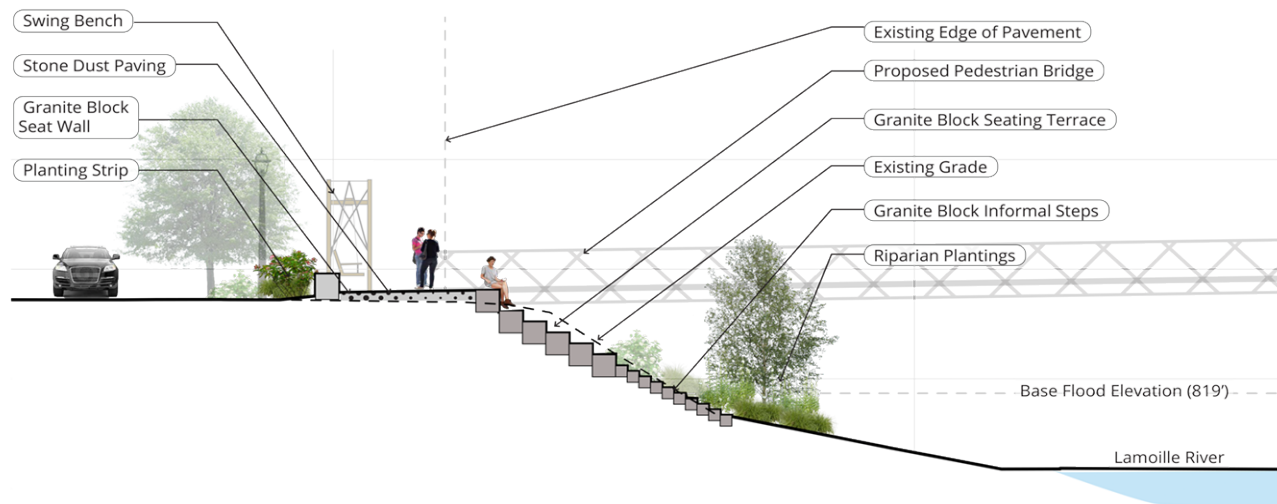


HARDWICK RIVERFRONT PARK SCHEMATIC CONCEPT

Concept Imagery - Daniels Block Side



Concept Imagery - Main Street Side



Section-Elevation Through Proposed Seating/Steps

Scale: 1"=10'

HARDWICK RIVERFRONT PARK SCHEMATIC CONCEPT

Key Benefits - Main Street Side

- New retaining wall along Civic Standard Building creates space for interpretive historical sign, waste receptacles, and bike rack
- Buffer planting of grasses, perennials and street trees creates screening and separation from traffic
- Granite seat wall uses local material of historic significance
- Deck extension of park space creates more useable pedestrian space
- Street tree planters, with grasses and perennials adds green space to Main Street
- Paved area between street tree planters allows places to overlook the river

Key Benefits - Daniels Block Side

- Swing bench with downtown and river views. Potential to incorporate the "star" stanchions from the existing bridge into this features
- Stepped granite block terraces and wall match main street material and provide seating
- Stone steps provide informal access to river
- Open lawn space surrounded by native plantings provides sheltered space for informal play, picnicing, and resting
- Bike access provided at entrance off Brush Street, with bike parking, repair station, and wayfinding information
- Riparian buffer enhanced with native plant species to stabilize bank, while allowing key views
- Balance of parking and park space, and potential for electric bike and vehicle charging

Park

Continued From Page One

SE Group (segrou.com). They have incorporated the feedback expressed on Town Meeting Day and are getting close to the final design.

The steering committee has been meeting regularly for over a year. Its members include Town Manager David Upson, Tracy Martin, and select board members Elizabeth Dow and Shari Cornish.

Select board chair Eric Remick and ecological planner Lydia Menendez Parker have joined some of the committee's meetings. After public engagement assisted in the selection of a final bridge design, the park committee began work to develop a park design. On Town Meeting Day, three options for the park design were presented for feedback. The result was the current proposal, which combines

elements of the earlier three plans. Now, the committee is asking for feedback from the public to arrive at a final design.

The park project is supported by a portion of a grant awarded by VOREC (Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative) for a proposal that included the pedestrian bridge and the park. Financial support to complete the design, engineering and construction will

be sought from public and private sources.

Residents can submit their thoughts, ideas, and questions via email at hardwickdowntownpartnership@gmail.com. They can also stop in at the Memorial Building to write a note and drop it in the big box placed inside the lower-level entrance. A PDF file of the proposed plans can also be requested at the email address.

POLICE REPORT

Hardwick Police Media Log

May 14, Bike Patrol, High St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Rte. 15.

May 15: Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Accident – LSA, Vt. Rte. 15 W; Suspicious Event, Mackville Road/Scott Road; Suspicious Event, S. Main St.; Information, Main St.; Accident – LSA, Vt. Rte. 15 W; Juvenile Problem, N. Main Street/Mill Street; Suspicious Event, Porter Brook Road; Suspicious Event, Vt. Rte. 14 S;

May 16: Directed Patrol, S. Main Street; Assist – Other, Wolcott St.; Assist – Other, Wolcott St.; Assist – Other, Wolcott St.; Assist – Other, Wolcott St.; Fingerprints, High St.; Assist – Agency, Little Deer Drive.

May 17: Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Suspicious Event, Mill St.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Rte. 16.

May 18: Traffic Stop, Vt. Rte. 14; Accident – Property Damage Only, Lamoille

Ave.; Suspicious Event, Hazen Union Drive; Citizen Dispute, Cedar St.; Assist – Agency, Vt. Rte. 16; Threats/Harassment, Hazen Union Drive; Citizen Dispute, Mini Mart Drive.

May 19: Suspicious Event, Mill St.; Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Accident – Property Damage Only, Wolcott St.; Trespassing, S. Main St.; Traffic Hazard, Vt. Rte. 15 E; Fingerprints, High St.; Assist – Agency, Vt. Rte. 16; Assault, Hazen Union Drive; Foot Patrol, Granite St.; Assist – Agency, Brown Farm Road; TRO/FRO Service, Mini Mart Drive.

May 20: Animal Problem, Brown Farm Road; Accident – Property Damage Only, Vt. Rte. 15 W; Directed Patrol, Camp Road.

May 21: Fire Alarm, Blizzard Way; Traffic Hazard, Craftsbury Road; Suspicious Event, S. Main St.; Accident – Property Damage Only, Mill St.

Hardwick Police Two-Vehicle Collisions

On May 19, at 7:46 a.m., Police were dispatched to a two-vehicle collision at the intersection of Rte. 15 and Industrial Park. Matthew Goldrick, of Danville, was heading east driving a 2023 Freightliner school Bus when Khristin Brown, of Peacham, pulled out of Tops Market parking lot and hit the driver's side rear quarter panel. There was minor damage to the bus and Brown's 2013 Dodge Journey sustained moderate front damage. There were no students on the bus at the time of the crash.

Peter Dealmeada, of Cabot, reported that someone had backed into his vehicle, a 2012 Toyota Camry, and left the scene while he was at Tops Market, causing minor damage. This was reported after the fact and no other information was given.

On May 21, at 12:45 p.m., Police were dispatched to a two-vehicle accident in front of the Village Laundromat at 9 Mill Street. Daniel Abbott, of Cabot,

was driving westbound and lost control of the 2019 Kia Sportage he was driving. Abbott hit a parked vehicle, a 2012 Honda CRV owned by Elizabeth Cate, of Hardwick, in front of the Village Laundromat. Major damage to both vehicles. Abbott's license was under suspension and was issued a ticket. Erin Gibbs, of Cabot, was a passenger in Abbott's vehicle and tried to say she was the operator. Witnesses on the scene stated that Abbott was driving and when confronted admitted to being the operator. There were no injuries.

On May 20, at 2:44 p.m., Police were dispatched to a two-vehicle crash at the intersection of Rte. 15 and Junction Road with no injuries. The vehicle driven by Julie Holcomb-Gravel, of Hardwick, a 2017 Ford Focus, was stopped to turn onto Junction Road when it was rear-ended by Dennis Bishop, of Albany, driving a 2019 Toyota Yaris. Minor damage to both vehicles.

AWARE Report

HARDWICK – AWARE served 26 people from May 14 through May 21. 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.

Vermont State Police Vehicle Crashes, Resisting Arrest

On May 26, at approximately 12:17 a.m., troopers responded to a report of a single vehicle crash off of County Road in the area of Martin Road in the town of Calais. The operator, Jack McCarthy, of Calais, showed signs of impairment and was taken into custody. McCarthy was transported to the Berlin Barracks for processing and later released with a citation to appear in the Washington County Superior Court – Criminal Division to answer to the charge of DUI.

On May 22, at 2:15 p.m., troopers from the Berlin Barracks were advised of a single vehicle off the road on U.S. Rte. 2 in Marshfield. Subsequent investigation led to Joann Stone, of Lyndon, being placed under arrest for suspicion of DUI. Stone was issued a citation to appear in court on a later date and time.

On May 25, at approximately 8:40 p.m., the Vermont State Police responded to a report of a two-vehicle crash with entrapment on Island Pond Road in the town of Newark near the intersection of River Lane. Preliminary investigation revealed Ian Cunningham, of Walden, driving a 2008 Toyota Tacoma, was traveling north and Rene Morse, of Charleston, driving a 2006 Chevrolet Silverado, was traveling south. Cunningham crossed left of center and began traveling north in the southbound lane, striking Morse head on. Both vehicles sustained heavy front-end damage.

Cunningham succumbed to his injuries sustained in the crash and was pronounced deceased at the scene. Passengers in his vehicle were Marvin Johnson, of Walden and Mackenzie Kirby, of Walden. Kirby remains hospitalized but in stable condition. Morse was transported from North Country Hospital

to Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center where he is also in stable condition. The investigation into this crash remains ongoing. Anyone who may have witnessed the crash is asked to contact Sgt. Joshua Mikkola at joshua.mikkola@vermont.gov, or call (802) 334-8881.

On May 22, at 11:31 hours, trooper from the Berlin Barracks were notified by neighbors of a dispute on Vt. Rte. 14 in Calais. Troopers were advised a male was heard screaming and then neighbors heard a gunshot. Troopers responded to the scene and investigated.

Throughout the course of the investigation, Michael King, of Calais, was uncooperative with troopers and attempted to stop troopers from investigation the incident. King resisted arrest and kicked a VSP cruiser door injuring the hand of a trooper while being taken into custody. Subsequent investigation led to the discovery of a firearm located in King's possession. A child in the home was also found to be endangered. King was arrested and transported to the Berlin Barracks for processing. King was issued a criminal citation and released. He has a court date of July 13, at 8:30 a.m., in Washington County Superior Court, Criminal Division.

On May 29 at approximately 2:54 p.m., troopers responded to a report of a two-vehicle, head on collision on U.S. Rte. 2 in the area of Beaver Meadow Road in the town of Marshfield. Subsequent investigation led to the discovery of Ilyana Valadakis, of St. Johnsbury crossing the center line and colliding into the vehicle operated by Tricia Scribner, of Marshfield. Both Scribner and Valadakis were transported to CVMC to be evaluated for injuries sustained.

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Community Partners Celebration



courtesy photo
At Hazen Union's Community Partners celebration on May 16, Reeve Basom, Bethany Dunbar, and Peggy Thompson braid together colored ribbons representing joy, meaning and struggle.



courtesy photo
Hazen Union work-based learning teacher Jennifer Olson and Hazen Union student Caitlyn Davison listen as Hazen student Sawyer Slayton recounts transferable skills he learned through his work-based learning experience at the Community Partners celebration held May 16.



courtesy photo
Amy Rosenthal, Rose Friedman, Helen Sher, Chayse Newell, and Lynn Patenaude listen to guest speaker Beth White's message about the components of powerful learning at Hazen Union's Community Partners celebration held May 16.

WEEKEND SERVICES

Hardwick

UNITED CHURCH OF HARDWICK. 216 South Main Street. 802-472-6800 for information. Sunday Service, 10 a.m. In person, Zoom or Livestreaming. Communion Service first Sunday of month. Rev. Dr. Evelyn Lavelli, pastor (parsonage 472-6353). Jean Hackett, Music Director. We are an Open and Affirming Congregation. All are welcome. Masks optional.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH. 39 W. Church St., 802-472-5979. Office hours Wed. 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. All invited; all welcome. Sunday 10 a.m. Rite II Service with music. Coffee hour immediately following service. **ST. NORBERT CHURCH,** a part of Mary Queen of All Saints Parish, S. Main St., PO Box 496, Hardwick, VT 05843; mary_queenofallsaints@comcast.net; 802-472-5544. Office Hours: Thurs. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:00 p.m. and Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Confessions before Masses.

HARDWICK BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH, 296 S. Main St. Sunday Services: 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and noon; Thursday 6:30 p.m. For transportation or information call 802-472-5294.

East Hardwick

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, (NACCC). Worship led by Jim Casavant, Interim Pastor, 11:00 a.m. **TOUCH OF GRACE ASSEMBLY OF GOD,** corner of Rts. 15 and 16, E. Hardwick; Sunday a.m. worship, 10 a.m. (incl. 11:20 a.m. children's church); 9 a.m. adult Sunday School (Sept. thru June); Tues. evening Bible study (call to confirm); Wed. youth group, 5 p.m. dinner, 6 p.m. activity. Pastor Anthony Ford. Information: touchofgraceagvt@gmail.com

Greensboro

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, 165 Wilson St. 802-533-2223, (Office hours: Tues. - Thurs. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.) Weekly 10 a.m. Sunday Services. Also offered online. Communion Service first Sunday of the month. Rev. Dr. Ed Sunday-Winters, Pastor. Hal Parker, Music Director. Coffee hour following service. We are an Open & Affirming Congregation. All are welcome. Website: guccvt.org.

Greensboro Bend

GREENSBORO BEND UNITED METHODIST. Minister Kirk Thompson. Service of Worship and Praise 10 a.m. Fellowship after service. Information: 802-533-2637 or 802-533-2263. **ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,** a part of Mary Queen of All Saints Parish, 802-472-5544. Mass - Sunday 10:30 a.m. Confessions before Mass.

Craftsbury

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CRAFTSBURY; an Open and Affirming Congregation; Affiliated with the United Church of Christ. Sunday services at 10 a.m. Handicap accessible. No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome. Church Phone: 802-586-8028. Information: www.unitedchurchofcraftsbury.com. Find us on Facebook, or e-mail unitedchurchcraftsbury@gmail.com. **OUR LADY OF FATIMA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.** 21 Creek Road, Craftsbury. Our Lady of Fatima is part of Mary Queen of All Saints Parish in Hardwick. Please call 802-472-5544. email: Mary_queenofallsaints@comcast.net. Christmas Eve Mass, Dec. 24, 6:30 p.m. **EAST CRAFTSBURY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.** 1773 East Craftsbury Rd., Craftsbury, VT 05856. Sunday Service, 11 a.m. (Handicapped accessible.) Bible Study at 10 a.m. Masks optional. Worship led by Rev. Dr. Lawrence Jones, Interim Pastor. Tel. 802-586-7707. Email: ecpcvt@gmail.com. Website: www.eastcraftsburypresbyterianchurch.org.

Albany

ALBANY METHODIST CHURCH. Route 14, Albany, Vt. Rev. Nathan Strong 802-754-2790. "Join us in getting to know Jesus and the life He gives." Sunday services: 10 a.m. Worship and Sunday School.

Calais-Woodbury

CALAIS-WOODBURY UNITED CHURCH, Worship and Sunday School, Rt. 14, South Woodbury Church, Sundays, 10:15 a.m. Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of the month. Church Phone: 802-232-1013. Information: 802-456-1557.

Wolcott

WOLCOTT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Route 15, will have worship Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. Information: 802-888-2248.

THE HEALING STREAM CHURCH OF GOD, Pastor Peter LaBonnville, Wolcott Town Hall. Fellowship Service, Sunday 11 a.m. Everyone is welcome. Wheelchair accessible. Information: 802-635-9503.

THE WOLCOTT MENNONITE CHURCH, Rt. 15 between Morrisville and Wolcott. Services every Sunday morning. Sunday School for all ages 9 a.m. Worship Service, 10 a.m. Evening services held on the second Sunday of each month, 7:30 p.m. Call for more information about other special services. Pastors: Marlin Wadel - 802-888-5277. Stephen Groff - 802-888-9113.

Marshfield

UNITED CHURCH OF MARSHFIELD. Pastor Carlyle Pierce, Tel. 802-684-2114. Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Worship Service and Sunday School.

Cabot

UNITED CHURCH OF CABOT. Tel. 802-563-2278. Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m. Light refreshment and fellowship immediately following service. All welcome.

Walden

WALDEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Noyesville. Evening Worship Service. 7 p.m. Information: 802-684-1201.

Danville/West Danville

WEST DANVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Rt. 15, (across from Joe's Pond). Pastor Pam Smith. Sunday Service 9:30 a.m. **DANVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH,** Danville Green. Rev. Henry Cheney, 802-684-3389. Sunday Service 9:00 a.m. **ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH.** Danville. Our service book is the 1928 Book of Common Prayer. For information on worship service day and time, please call 802-755-6341 or 802-472-3324.

St. Johnsbury

BETHEL SYNAGOGUE, Hospital Drive, St. Johnsbury. Meeting both in-person and on Zoom. Information: 802-748-5683 or www.congregationbeth-el.org.

Johnson

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST of Latter-Day Saints, Rte. 15 W, Johnson. Sacrament Mtg. Sundays, 9 a.m. Visitors Welcome. Bishop Erik Worthington, 802-326-3035, www.mormon.org.

Hyde Park

TRINITY ASSEMBLY OF GOD, Rt. 15 East, Hyde Park. 802-888-7326. Pastor Ron Doyle. A small church with a big heart, where the full gospel of Jesus Christ is preached. Sunday morning Worship Service, 11 a.m.

THE BOOKSHELF

JAQUITH PUBLIC LIBRARY, Old Schoolhouse Common, Marshfield, (802) 426-3581), jaquithpubliclibrary.org, Tues. - Fri., 9 a.m. to noon and 3 to 6 p.m., Sat. and Mon. 9 a.m. to noon, closed Sundays. Winter Storytime and Playgroup, Friday 10:30 a.m., outdoors, dress for the weather.

WOODBURY COMMUNITY LIBRARY, Woodbury School (802) 472-5710, woodburycommunitylibrary.wordpress.com, Mon. and Wed. 1 to 5 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

BROWN LIBRARY, Sterling College, Craftsbury Common (802) 586-7711), sterlingcollege.edu/academics/brown-library, Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Open to the public.

CRAFTSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY, Craftsbury Common (802) 586-9683, craftsburypubliclibrary.org, Mon. and Thurs. 2 to 6 p.m., Tues., Wed. and Fri. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., storytime: Fri. 10 a.m.

JEUDEVINE MEMORIAL LIBRARY, Hardwick (802) 472-5948, jeudevinememoriallibrary.org, Mon. and Wed. 1 to 6 p.m., Tues., Thurs. and Fri. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

CUTLER MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY, Rte. 2, Plainfield (802) 454-8504, cutlerlibrary.org, Tues., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wed. 3 to 6 p.m., Thurs., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

CABOT PUBLIC LIBRARY, (802) 563-2721, cabotlibrary.com, Mon., 3 to 6 p.m.;

Tues., noon to 6 p.m., Wed., 2 to 6 p.m.; Thurs., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. to noon.

MORRISTOWN CENTENNIAL LIBRARY (802) 888-3853), centenniallibrary.org, Tues. and Wed., 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Thurs. and Fri., 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

GREENSBORO FREE LIBRARY, Main Street, Greensboro, (802) 533-2531, greensborofreelibrary.org, Mon. and Wed. closed; Tues., 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Thur., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Fri., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Sun. 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

JOHN W. SIMPSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY, East Craftsbury (802) 586-9692, jwsimpsonmemorial.org. Wed. and Sat., 9 a.m. to noon; Sun., noon to 1 p.m.

WALDEN COMMUNITY LIBRARY, Walden Elementary School (802) 563-2195, waldenmimas.opalsinfo.net/bin/home, Tues., 6 to 8 p.m.

GLEE MERRITT KELLEY COMMUNITY LIBRARY, Wolcott, (802) 472-6551, Mon. to Thurs., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fri. closed; Sat., 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

HAZEN UNION SCHOOL LIBRARY, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Mon. to Fri. while school is in session. Open to the public. (802) 472-6511.

ALBANY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 530 Main St., Albany, (802) 755-6107, albanypubliclibraryvt.org. Mon. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Wed. 2 - 6 p.m.; Sat. 1 - 5 p.m. Storytime for all ages: Mon. 10 a.m. and Sat. 4 p.m.



courtesy photo

Members of the Green Mountain Technical and Career Center who recently competed in the Timbersports event at Vermont Technical College were (left to right) instructor Meghan Luther, Morgan Foster of Hardwick, Jacob Tallman of Elmore, Jake Davison of Hardwick, Cyrus Tanner of Woodbury, Matthew Langdell of Hardwick, Zach Langmaid of East Hardwick and Tyler Hopkins of Hardwick.

GMTCC Team Winners at Timbersports Event

The Green Mountain Technology and Career Center (GMTCC) of Hyde Park-Hardwick, forestry and land management program, were overall team points winners of the Timbersports competition recently held at the Vermont Technical College in Randolph. In second place was North

Country Career Center (NCCC). Eight technical schools competed in addition to GMTCC and NCCC: Randolph Technical Center, Cold Hollow Career Center, River Valley Technical Center, Canaan Career Center, Center for Technology Essex, Southwest Career Development Center.



courtesy photo

Matthew Verboncoeur competes in the tree climb at the Timbersports event at Vermont Technical College.



courtesy photo

Jacob Tallman of the Green Mountain Technical and Career Center GMTCC competed in the cookie stack at the Timbersports event recently.



courtesy photo

The bow saw competition at the Timbersports event included Margaret Foster of the Green Mountain Technical Center.



courtesy photo

Margaret Foster and Cyrus Tanner competed in the fire-build event at Timbersports held recently at Vermont Technical College in Randolph.



courtesy photo

Jake Davison and Jacob Tallman work the crosscut saw at the Timbersports competition at Vermont Technical College.



courtesy photo

Individual students who placed at the Timbersports competition recently at Vermont Technical College were (first) Cyrus Tanner of Woodbury, middle, of Green Mountain Technical and Career Center, (second) Noah Fortin, left, from Holland, of North Country Career Center and (third) Liam Beatty, right, of Derby, from North Country Career Center.

OUR COMMUNITIES

The Perils of Mr. Punch Plays June 4

EAST CRAFTSBURY – “The Perils of Mr. Punch” will be presented Sunday, June 4, at 4 p.m., at the East Craftsbury Presbyterian Church by Modern Times Theater.

This is the one and only Punch and Judy, presented live, and updated for the 21st century.

Modern Times Theater has been adapting and updating Punch and Judy puppet shows, creating vaudeville acts, and writing original novelty songs for over a decade. They pursue a divergent model of art making, creating venues in unlikely locations, and revitalizing the historic, run-down, and defunct, and working in populist theater forms that reinvents classic American entertainment.

Co-founders Rose Friedman and Justin Lander are a husband and wife duo, producers for Vermont Vaudeville and alumni of the Bread and Puppet Theater. Parents themselves, they strive to present quality entertainment that the whole family can enjoy.

The show is a melodrama of small proportions, a low-tech old-time spectacle, as entertaining today as it was 300 years ago.

The hand puppets are created from up-cycled designer trash and

performed in an eccentric itinerant puppet stage. The program is rounded out with live music played on a variety of instruments, from the cornet to the bicycle pump.

This program is sponsored by the J.W. Simpson Memorial Library, and made possible by a grant from the NEK Fund of the Vermont Community Foundation. The venue is located at 1773 East Craftsbury Road.

OBITUARIES



Michelle D. Hay

MICHELLE D. HAY

EAST HARDWICK – Michelle D. Hay, 52, of East Hardwick, passed away peacefully in the comfort of her home and family on Sunday, May 28. A complete obituary will be available soon.

Calling hours will be held on Friday, June 2, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., at the des Groseilliers Funeral Home, 97 Church Street, Hardwick. Burial will be held at the convenience of the family. Condolences and memories of Michelle may be conveyed to the family online at dgfunerals.com.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Hazen Union eighth grader Chayse Newell asks Senator Bernie Sanders a question during a Youth Town Hall Meeting held at the school during an hour long assembly May 24. At left (standing) is Will Stevens, outreach representative for Senator Sanders.

EDUCATION

Modry to lead Running Program June 1

“Let’s Talk Running!” will be presented at Greensboro Free Library June 1, at 7 p.m. Runners and anyone interested in running will learn about running as well as local training and racing opportunities with Rose Modry and Library Director Paula Davidson.

Modry began running in middle school and competed in track and cross-country for Twinfield High School and Middlebury College.

Since college she has trained and run trail and road races ranging from the 5k to the marathon. Modry can talk about running shoes, stretching, injury prevention, race preparation, and more. Modry and Davidson will highlight books, magazines, and websites about runners and running.

For more information call the library at (802) 533-2531 or email greensborofree@gmail.com.

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How Does Alcohol Affect You As You Age?



For healthy adults ages 65 and older, drinking more than one drink per day can lead to health problems.

What is considered one drink?

- 12 fl. oz. of regular beer — about 5% alcohol
- 8 fl. oz. of malt liquor — about 7% alcohol
- 5 fl. oz. of table wine — about 12% alcohol
- 1.5 fl. oz. shot of 80-proof distilled spirits (gin, rum, tequila, vodka, whiskey, etc.) — 40% alcohol

Decreased Tolerance - Aging lowers the body's tolerance for alcohol.

Increased Health Problems - Certain health problems are common in older adults. Drinking more than the recommended guidelines can make health problems worse.

Medication Interactions - Many prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, and herbal remedies can be harmful or even deadly when mixed with alcohol.

Medicine and alcohol misuse can happen unintentionally. Here are some signals that the interaction is a problem:

- Loss of coordination
- Irritability, sadness, depression

If you or someone you love is struggling with alcohol dependence - call VT Helplink 802-565-5465

This advertisement is supported by a grant from the Vermont Department of Health, Division of Substance Use Programs



Events

Thursday, June 1

MY MOTHER'S THREE MOTHERS by Erin Galligan Baldwin, 7:30 p.m., Thursday - Saturday. Sundays at 2 p.m. through June 11. Lost Nation Theater and Online. Information: lostnationtheater.org.

TAI CHI CLASSES, Thursdays, 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. Beginning Yang 24 Tai Chi, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Tai Chi for Health & Fall Prevention (no experience needed, including seated Tai Chi and remote options via Zoom), United Church of Christ, 165 Wilson St., Greensboro. Sponsored by Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging. Classes taught by Norma Spaulding, (802) 472-8724, nspauld@gmail.com and Paul Fixx, (802) 441-4599, pfixx@pfixx.net.

GAME NIGHT, at the Village Restaurant, Hardwick, Thursdays, 6 - 8 p.m., unless there is a home basketball game. A limited menu of burgers and appetizers. Hosted by Sarah Tewksbury. First come, first serve event, with room for roughly 10 teams.

Friday, June 2

STORY TIME AND PLAYGROUP, for kids birth to age 5, Fridays at 10:30 a.m., Jaquith Public Library, 122 School St., Rm. 2, Marshfield. Information: 802-426-3581.

MY MOTHER'S THREE MOTHERS by Erin Galligan Baldwin, 7:30 p.m., Thursday - Saturday. Sundays at 2 p.m. through June 11. Lost Nation Theater and Online. Information: lostnationtheater.org.

Saturday, June 3

MY MOTHER'S THREE MOTHERS by Erin Galligan Baldwin, 7:30 p.m., Thursday - Saturday. Sundays at 2 p.m. through June 11. Lost Nation Theater and Online. Information: lostnationtheater.org.

MONTPELIER CONTRA DANCE, Newcomers lesson at 7:40 p.m., regular dance at 8 p.m., Capital City Grange. Information: (802) 225-8921 or cdu.tim@gmail.com.

ALBANY LIBRARY WRITING GROUP, 2 - 4 p.m., Albany Public Library. Teens and adults are both welcome. Writing prompts provided. Information: (802) 755-6107, albanypubliclibraryvt.org.

Sunday, June 4

MY MOTHER'S THREE MOTHERS by Erin Galligan Baldwin, 7:30 p.m., Thursday - Saturday. Sundays at 2 p.m. through June 11. Lost Nation Theater and Online. Information: lostnationtheater.org.

THE PERILS OF MR. PUNCH,

a puppet show by Modern Times Theater, 4 p.m., East Craftsbury Presbyterian Church, 1773 E. Craftsbury Rd. Sponsored by the Simpson Memorial Library. Information: jwsimpsonmemorial@gmail.com.

Tuesday, June 6

TAI CHI CLASSES, Tuesdays, Atkins Field, Granite St., Hardwick. 9:15 - 10:15 a.m., Qigong & Tai Chi Forms (some experience recommended), 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Tai Chi for Health & Fall Prevention (no experience needed, including seated Tai Chi). Sponsored by Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging. Classes taught by Norma Spaulding, (802) 472-8724, nspauld@gmail.com and Paul Fixx (802) 441-4599, pfixx@pfixx.net.

Thursday, June 8

TAI CHI CLASSES, Thursdays, 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. Beginning Yang 24 Tai Chi, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Tai Chi for Health & Fall Prevention (no experience needed, including seated Tai Chi and remote options via Zoom), United Church of Christ, 165 Wilson St., Greensboro. Sponsored by Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging. Classes taught by Norma Spaulding, (802) 472-8724, nspauld@gmail.com and Paul Fixx, (802) 441-4599, pfixx@pfixx.net.

GAME NIGHT, at the Village Restaurant, Hardwick, Thursdays, 6 - 8 p.m., unless there is a home basketball game. A limited menu of burgers and appetizers. Hosted by Sarah Tewksbury. First come, first serve event, with room for roughly 10 teams.

Saturday, June 10

WRITING AND SELF PUBLISHING, with local writer and illustrator Linda Di Sante, 10 a.m., Woodbury Community Library. Information: (802) 472-5710, woodburyvermontlibrary@gmail.com

Exhibits

VERMONT SUPREME COURT GALLERY presents Liminal Arc, Paintings by Kate Burnim, through June 30. 111 State St., Montpelier. Gallery Hours: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Mon. - Fri. (closed during lunch hour). Information: (802) 279-5558.

VARIABLES - Photos by Ross Connelly, 3rd Floor Gallery at the Hardwick Inn, 4 South Main St., Hardwick. Through June. Information: oliveyin1@gmail.com.

ANN CREAVERN: Black & White & In Between; an exhibit of recent photographs, through June 27, The Parker Pie Art Gallery, County Road, West Glover.



photo by Hal Gray

Fifteen of the 25 birders, with their binoculars, who joined the early Sunday morning bird walk May 14, were led by John Schweizer (fourth from left, in red shirt) on Greensboro's Winnimere Lane where numerous birds were seen and/or heard.

LCP Hold Auditions for "The Haunting of Hill House"

HYDE PARK – Auditions will be held on June 17 and June 18 at 1 p.m. at the Hyde Park Opera House for "The Haunting of Hill House."

In the play, Doctor Montague brings his team of assistants to Hill House, each uniquely qualified to investigate the strange phenomena and supernatural occurrences for which the old empty mansion is infamous. The Players are seeking actors who can immerse themselves in the chilling atmosphere of Hill

House and captivate our audience with their performances. Find details about the roles available on our website, lcplayers.com

"The Haunting of Hill House" will run Oct. 6 - 8 and Oct. 13 - 15. Contact director Brendan Peveril by email at bpeveril@gmail.com with any questions.

The Hyde Park Opera House is located at 85 Main St. Visit LCPlayers.com to read more about the show, and sign up to audition on either day.

EDUCATION

Kimball Named Valedictorian

WAYNESBURG, Penn. – Elliott Kimball, a social science-political science graduate from Hardwick, Vt., was named one of three Waynesburg University valedictorians for the Class of 2023. He is the son of Tod and Amy Kimball.

"For me, being named valedictorian was a chance to acknowledge how fortunate I have been," said Kimball. "It was nice to be honored for my hard work academically, but I also know that it is not something I could have accomplished alone. I am very thankful for the faculty, family and friends that helped me get there."

During his time at Waynesburg, Kimball was a

Stover Scholar and served as a member of the Student Senate.

This past semester, he participated in the Scholarship and Christianity in Oxford (SCIO) study abroad experience in Oxford, England, through Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCU) GlobalEd.

Waynesburg University honored the Class of 2023 during Commencement Exercises on Saturday, May 6, and Sunday, May 7, on the Lawn of Miller Hall. More than 400 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students were honored. Commencement exercises for graduate students were held Saturday at 4 p.m., while the undergraduate ceremony was Sunday at 2 p.m.

OUR E-MAILS

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Hardwick Kiwanis Annual Spring Festival and Parade

Photos
by
Vanessa
Fournier



Mary Hall waves and throws candy from the back of the Hardwick Rescue Squad ambulance. She is an advanced emergency medical technician for the Squad.



First place float was awarded to the Buffalo Mountain Market. Riding on the float are Sue Barclay (left) and Mary Piper (right).



Spiderman is always a big hit with the kids watching the parade.



Kiwanian Anne Batten, 90, waves to the crowd as she rides with John Mandeville in his Corvette. She was one of three Senior Grand Marshalls of this year's parade with the theme of "Our Seniors are the Foundation of Our Community."



The First Annual Joe Brosseau Duck Drop was one of many activities held during Saturday's festivities. Hardwick Fire Department Second-assistant Chief Rick Sullivan drops the 380 plastic ducks from 75 feet to a target below. Kiwanis raised \$1,900 from the fundraiser and the winner, Heather Lanphear of Woodbury, received half of it.



The Hardwick Kiwanis Club was in charge of getting donations this year for the fireworks show presented by Northstar. They were set off from Hudson Field at Hazen Union and could be seen throughout the town.



Hazen Union band members marched and played in the parade this year for the first time since COVID in 2020. Walking with the banner are Abram Leveillee (left) and Sadie Gann (right).



Gracie Flanders (left), Autumn Dailey (center) and Julia des Groseilliers (right) ride on their horses.



Riding on the Kiwanis Float (from left) are: Emily Merriam, Lana Stacey, Tyler Billings and Kiwanians Audrey Billings and Connie Bellavance.



Watching, listening and dancing under the lights of the Pavilion on Atkins Field.

Below: The Kiwanis Club sponsored a free dance under the Pavilion on Atkins Field with music by the "Girls, Girls, Girls" band. Singers in front (from left) are: Grace Hain, Audrey Kiely and Silene Decivcies. In back are instrumentalists (from left): Tom Cleary, Matt Davide, Colin Craig and Andy Gagnon.



IN THE GARDEN

A Few Tips for Growing Great Flowers

by Henry Homeyer

CORNISH FLAT, N.H. – I'm a sucker for a good looking flower. Back when I was first developing my flower beds I would go to a plant nursery and grab everything and anything that was in bloom and looking great. And I believe in buying multiples: not one plant, but three or five! Needless to say, I was in trouble when I got home and looked for a place to plant them. I needed to create new beds for each truckload of perennials I brought home. Even so, I couldn't help myself.

Now I am more judicious when I go shopping for plants: I decide ahead of time what I need, and how many. I decide where they will go before I leave home. Still, a few plants seduce me with their beauty every time I arrive at a good greenhouse.

By the way, I've heard from many gardeners that some of their perennials, trees and shrubs were damaged by a hard frost in May. Leaves that turned brown will not recover but will be replaced. I am cutting damaged stems of perennials back to the ground and they should re-sprout. Trees and shrubs that have gone through the winter and leafed out are hardy here, and should send out new leaves on their stems, even if they don't bloom this year. They have dormant buds that will wake up, and plenty of energy in their roots. I won't bother taking off the dead leaves. So stop worrying if yours got frost damaged.

Peonies, primroses and barrenwort (which is usually referred to by its scientific name, *Epimedium*) are blooming in my gardens. I recommend that you buy these now, while in bloom, so you know what you are getting and if you like them as much as I do.

Some peonies are highly fragrant, others not at all. Some have blossoms with many petals (called doubles) while others have just one or two rings of petals (called singles). Doubles are magnificent but often flop when it rains, sometimes breaking their stems. So you need to tie them to stakes or support them in wire cages made for the task. If you see both kinds in bloom, you can decide what you want to buy.

Most plants have a finite lifespan, but peonies seem to last forever. I have a division of one that was my grandmother's, and she died in 1953. So plant them well: I dig a wide hole and add compost to it, along with some organic fertilizer which is naturally slow release. Full sun is best, but they will do okay with four to six hours of sunshine.

Peonies can be fussy: don't cover the little growing points beneath the soil with more than three-quarters of an inch of soil, or they probably will not bloom. If yours don't bloom, remove some soil from around them as they are probably too deeply planted.

Primroses, generally, do well in partial to full shade. Some do well in dry soil, but most like moist, rich soil. Read the plant tag carefully before planting. Sometimes I will try a plant in one place, and if, after a year or two, it is not performing well I move it. Sometimes I move a plant more than once to find the right place for it.

Arlene Perkins of Montpelier, Vt., is an expert grower of primroses. She told me long ago that all primroses like to grow under old apple trees. The partial shade is right for most, and the soil is naturally enriched by dropping leaves and fruit over time. It is under a cluster of old wild apples that I have had my best luck with primroses, partic-



courtesy photo

Peony "Festiva maxima" that my grandmother grew.

ularly the candelabra or Japanese primrose (*Primula japonica*). They have multiplied by seed and root from a few planted 20 years ago to over 500 plants, I estimate.

Last year I planted many *Primula vialii* (no common name) in the perfect growing conditions for them. They bloomed magnificently last summer but so far not one has shown up again. The blossoms are very different from any I know: like little red-topped elf caps over pink/purple bases. It said to self-sow, and it is early yet, so I might see some yet.

Lastly, I love barrenwort or *Epimedium*. I have about eight different species or varieties of *Epimedium*, and all are wonderful. *Epimedium* grow in light to deep shade and do fine under deciduous trees, despite the competition from tree roots for moisture and minerals. My resource books tell me they do best in moist soils, but I grow them routinely in fairly dry

soils. I think rich soil is the key, not the amount of moisture.

The common red one (*Epimedium rubrum*) blooms early in spring but hides its flowers under its leaves, which I don't like. But it forms such a dense shade cover with its handsome leaves that no weeds will grow under it, so I forgive it.

The colors I grow range from pure purple to red to pink to white, with others a variety of yellows. Again, I suggest buying them in bloom now so you can see if the blossoms are prominent above the leaves, or hidden below.

I like "collecting" different varieties of plants I like and seeing the differences between different kinds. If one kind does well, its cousins probably will, too. So go buy more of your favorites.

[Henry is a UNH Master Gardener and the author of four gardening books. Reach him at henry.homeyer@comcast.net. He lives in Cornish Flat, N.H.]



courtesy photo

This newly planted Epimedium, "Pretty in Pink," will develop into a two-foot wide plant.



courtesy photo

Primula vialii is not commonly sold, but is wonderful.

THE OUTSIDE STORY

How to Rescue a Baby Bird and When to Leave it Alone

by Anna Morris

QUECHEE -- This is the time of year when my yard feels bursting with life, as the neighborhood welcomes eastern phoebes, ruby-throated hummingbirds, and broad-winged hawks back from their long migrations. At the Center for Wild Bird Rehabilitation at the Vermont Institute of Natural Science, where I work, "baby bird season" is also underway.

The dedicated rehabilitation staff will spend the next few months, from dawn until dusk, caring for hundreds of injured and orphaned birds, getting them healthy and strong enough to be released back into the wild. However, rehabilitators don't have the resources to leave their current patients and go out to rescue every injured bird. They rely on the rest of us to be "first responders," able to observe a potentially injured creature and bring it in for treatment if necessary. Because it can be hard to tell the difference between a bird that is truly injured and one that is perfectly healthy, we give these creatures the best chance for survival by recognizing when help is needed and knowing exactly how to get it for them.

Nearly all of the hungry, hurt, or weakened birds treated at the Center are brought in by caring members of the public who find them. They may have flown into windows, been hit by cars, or are simply too young to be out of the nest on their own. Wildlife rehabilitators are professionals who specialize in treating sick, injured, and orphaned wild animals so that they can be returned to their natural habitats. Because all native birds and many mammals, reptiles, and amphibians are protected by law, wildlife rehabilitators are required

to hold permits allowing them to care for these creatures.

The most common interaction people have with wildlife is when a baby appears to be separated from its parents. A young bird out of the nest may indeed be in trouble or it may be on the cusp of independence. Rather than guess at what might be going on, your first step should be to call for advice. If you live in the Upper Valley, VINS' Center for Wild Bird Rehabilitation is your closest rehabilitator. If you live elsewhere in Vermont or New Hampshire, calling VINS is still a good idea, as they can provide contact information for a rehabilitator closer to you. If you are outside of these places, your state's Fish and Wildlife agency should have a list of all licensed rehabilitators in your area. (Most rehabilitators are only licensed to care for certain species, another important reason to call before transporting an animal!)

Wildlife rehabilitators are very busy people, so you may need to leave a message. Give as much relevant information as you can, including what kind of animal you have found and where you are located. If you've found a baby bird, do you see the nest or adults of the species? Is there an injury? If the bird is bleeding, is covered in flies or other insects, or was observed being caught by a cat or dog, the bird likely needs medical care. It is up to the rehabilitator to listen to these details and advise you with the next steps.

If you can't bring the bird to the rehabilitator right away, and are, for example, advised to keep it overnight, you'll want to put together a rescue kit. Get a cardboard box with a lid and a soft towel folded in the bottom, and place the bird inside the box, which should



Baby Bird

be kept in a warm, dark area. Rehabilitators will likely direct you not to give the bird any food or water. This is to prevent further stress, as the bird may get chilled from a spill or could be too weak to handle solid food.

Finally, keep yourself safe, and wash your hands. Although there are few diseases birds can transmit to humans, it is always smart to protect yourself and others in your household.

There are many, many ways that wild animals get injured, and wildlife rehabilitators have years

of experience and many resources that allow them to give the best possible care to wild animals. We, too, can make our human environments safer for wild birds in a variety of ways. Making large windows bird-safe, keeping cats indoors, picking up litter, and avoiding pesticide use are excellent ways to help birds right in your backyard and reduce the number of birds in need of rescue.

[Anna Morris is an environmental educator at the Vermont Institute of Natural Science. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol.]

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IN THE GARDEN

Communities Need to Plan for Emerald Ash Borer Now

by Ginger Nickerson, Forest Pest Education Coordinator, University of Vermont

BURLINGTON – The week of May 22-28 has been designated National Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week to help increase public awareness of this tree-killing beetle and the damage it can cause to all species of native ash trees within the Fraxinus genus.

The emerald ash borer (EAB), a native of southeast Asia, was first detected in Michigan in 2002. It was initially confirmed in Vermont in 2018 in Orange County and has now been confirmed in all counties except Essex County.

We have learned from municipalities in the American Midwest that have been dealing with EAB for two decades that the more time a town or city has to plan for the removal or treatment of ash trees on municipally managed lands, the better they are able to manage the financial costs and impact of the beetle.

Towns may choose to treat some public ash trees with pesticides, which is costly, but may be the only viable option to save a tree. However, this must be done before the beetle is well-established in the tree. If not treated, ash trees will die and potentially create a hazard along roads and other public areas.

Once an adult EAB starts laying eggs in an ash tree, it can take three to five years for enough larvae to build up under the bark for the tree to start showing symptoms. Because of this EAB can be hidden in plain sight, and ash trees in an area with confirmed infestations may still look fine.

It can take up to 10 years from when EAB first arrives in an area before ash trees begin dying off at a large or landscape scale. That is why communities throughout Vermont should start planning now for how they will deal with ash trees on municipal lands.

The first step for any municipality to establish an ash management strategy is to inventory the ash trees on municipal lands. This includes shade trees on streets, parking lots and green spaces, town forests and municipal rights-of-way. Inventories can range from simple paper-based tally sheets to using GIS software to create digitized maps.

The Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program provides resources and direct technical assistance to design and conduct ash inventories. Its website



photo by Stephen Ausmus/USDA–ARS

The emerald ash borer, which has been confirmed in 13 Vermont counties, is an invasive pest that infests and kills trees of several native ash tree species.

go.uvm.edu/eabpests) has many resources including templates for writing ash management plans, tools to calculate the costs of different management scenarios, case studies from other municipalities and examples of documents, such as letters to residents and contracts with tree removal companies.

Program staff Ginger Nickerson (ginger.nickerson@uvm.edu) and Joanne Garton (joanne.garton@vermont.gov) are available to give presentations on EAB and provide technical assistance to municipalities, including

assistance to conduct ash tree inventories.

Community members can do their part to scout for this pest and report any trees suspected of being infested with EAB by uploading photographs via the “Report It!” button at vtinvasives.org. To learn how to identify ash trees and the signs and symptoms of the pest at go.uvm.edu/ash-borer.

This website also links to a map of EAB infestations, created by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, which shows a 10-mile radius around each confirmed

infestation. Areas marked in yellow indicate a high likelihood of other ash trees being infested with EAB. The areas in orange and red have a more established EAB infestation level.

Over time, the EAB infestation in Vermont will continue to spread. State agencies and conservation organizations are helping manage this pest, but more needs to be done to avoid accelerating its spread and unnecessary management costs. Recommendations can be found at https://go.uvm.edu/ash-borer-spread.

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IN THE GARDEN

Create a Biodiverse Vegetable Garden with Companion Planting

by **Nadie VanZandt, Extension Master Gardener, University of Vermont**

PANTON – When planning this year’s vegetable garden, consider companion planting with flowers and herbs. It’s a rewarding way to attract pollinators, manage pests and promote biodiversity in your garden.

The practice will improve your soil’s health and the quality of your harvest. As an added benefit, you might enjoy gathering bouquets of fresh-cut flowers throughout the growing season. In addition, flowers, which have more abundant and colorful blooms than vegetables, will attract more pollinators and beneficial insects to your vegetable plants.

While some flowers and herbs repel insect pests, others attract them and may serve as trap crops to divert these pests away from your vegetables. Flowers and herbs also can act as a natural weed barrier to fill empty spaces. By knowing their beneficial characteristics, you can strategically place companion plants where they are most useful in your garden to see if they repel pests.

Consider using a variety of flowers and herbs to entice pollinators early and throughout the growing season. Good choices for early spring pollination are sweet peas, pansies and other cool-season flowers.

After the danger of frost has passed, many easy-to-grow annuals can be direct sowed outdoors. Simple choices include zinnias, cosmos, marigolds, calendulas and nasturtiums.

After clearing faded spring crops, sow the seeds directly into the ground following the depth and spacing recommendation on the

seed packet. Alternatively, planting nursery seedlings is a good idea to achieve faster bloom time.

Zinnias are known to attract predatory insects and may deter tomato worms and cucumber beetles. Cosmos attract many beneficial predatory insects such as lacewings, parasitic wasps, tachinid flies and hoverflies that feed on insect pests. Some zinnias and cosmos can grow tall, so choose varieties that don’t cast shadows where sunshine is needed.

Although not proven, there is some scientific evidence that marigolds are helpful at controlling nematodes. The French marigold (*Tagetes patula*) may offer protection against several types of nematodes. Its scent also may deter rabbits, so for this reason some experts suggest planting marigolds around the perimeter of your vegetable plot.

Calendula (*Calendula officinalis*) is an excellent companion plant. While the flowers will invite aphids and whiteflies, they mostly attract beneficial predatory insects. There is anecdotal evidence that they repel tomato worms and nematodes. You can plant them near your tomatoes, carrots, cabbage, beans and asparagus.

Nasturtiums make a colorful ground cover that deters weeds and are a magnet for aphids. They are best planted away from vegetables targeted by aphids such as cabbage and green beans to drive the pests away from these crops. Nasturtiums are edible with delicate blossoms that can brighten up salads or cold drinks.

As for herbs, bees and butterflies love mint, oregano and thyme. Parsley, dill and coriander attract beneficial insects, and chervil may deter slugs from leafy greens.



photo by Nadie VanZandt

Nasturtiums, which can act as a magnet plant for aphids, should be planted away from cabbage, green beans and other vegetables that are prone to aphid infestations, to drive these pests away from these crops.

Borage draws both pollinators and beneficial insects to the garden. Consider planting mint and borage in pots to control their aggressive growth habit, or plant them where you have plenty of space.

To keep plants blooming throughout the season, harvest some herbs and flowers and leave the rest for pollinators. Be sure to deadhead annuals to encourage more blooms.

As a word of caution, before you select a trap crop, consider the risk

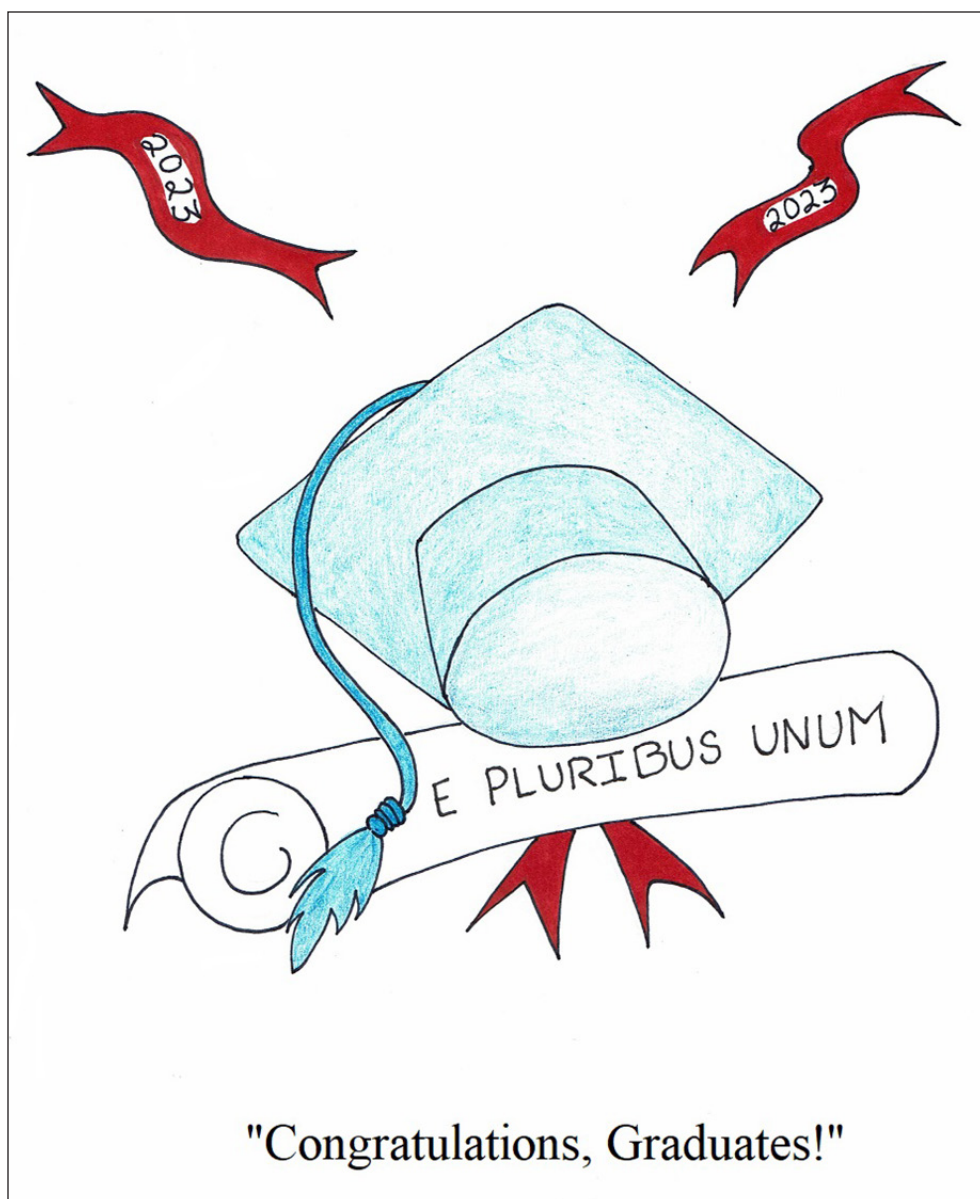
of attracting a particular insect pest that was not a problem in the past to your garden.

There is no magic formula for choosing flowers to mingle with your vegetables. The main goal is to build a healthy, biodiverse garden.

Experiment, try other combinations and enjoy the charming cottage-style garden that you create.

[Nadie VanZandt is a UVM Extension Master Gardener from Pantton.]

Woodsmoke by Julie Atwood



Greensboro Development Review Board Warning

The Greensboro Development Review Board will conduct a virtual hearing on Monday, June 26, at 7 p.m., on ZOOM. The Board will consider a Boundary Line Adjustment/Subdivision request by John and Janice Guilmette and Maureen Roianov at 918 and 1043 Eligo Lake Road. This application will be considered under the following by-laws: 2.5 Rural Lands, 2.7 Shoreland Protection District, and 5.1 Zoning Permits (D). The virtual hearing is open to the public.

To join the ZOOM hearing, sign in through the Calendar on the Town of Greensboro’s website at greensborovt.gov. The meeting number is 864 864 0504. There is no password. You may phone into the ZOOM meeting at: 301 715 8592 (this is not a toll free number).

The application is available for review at the Greensboro Town Hall or at the Greensboro Town website, www.greensborovt.gov. Participation in the proceeding, either in person or in writing, is a prerequisite to the right to make any subsequent appeal. Interested persons may join the ZOOM hearing or send a letter or email (zoning@greensborovt.gov) to the Development Review Board at the Greensboro Town Clerk’s office to comment on the proposed plan.

Greensboro Development Review Board

Further instructions for joining a ZOOM meeting and finding the link are on the Greensboro Town website greensborovt.gov under town calendar.

YANKEE NOTEBOOK

Sort of a European Lake Placid

by Willem Lange

EAST MONTPELIER – On paper, the Connecticut River and the Rhone don't look all that different. Each of them is about three hundred miles long from the town nearest its source (Pittsburg and Chamonix) to its debouchement into the sea (Long Island Sound and the Mediterranean). Their latitudes are only a couple of degrees apart. Each passes through progressively larger towns and cities and various styles of architecture (Avignon and Hanover; rustic to classical). Both have been the scenes of battles, massacres, and cultural disruption.

Gazing heavenward toward the looming snow and ice-clad Alps from any of the many plazas in Chamonix, however, is vastly different from looking upward toward the pine, spruce, and fir trees from in front of the general store in Pittsburg. You know you're in a special place. The first winter Olympic games were held here, in 1924. The prevalence of chalet style is absolute, almost kitschy – sort of a European Lake Placid. But the mountains both overwhelm and justify it. In imagination, my eyes climbed castellated ridges and narrow couloirs toward towering, snowy peaks; my feet, steady beneath me (if I lean on my cane), have aged beyond yearning to be up there. The town and its mountains are spectacular enough.

Our first morning we all climbed aboard the electric-powered rack-and-rail tramway to an overlook and coffee shop high up in the valley of the Mer de Glace. We dined spectacularly that evening at a local restaurant and, still weary from our overnight flight from Boston, slipped early away to bed.

Our bus driver, a lovely young lady named Ombeline who soon became like one of the group, had a serene air about her that, sitting right behind her, I found very comforting. During the next two days she took us on a tour to Annecy, the most spectacular town you never heard of, and Montelimar, the reputed nougat capital of the world. It was also the scene of a fierce battle in late August of 1944 when Allied tank and infantry units attacked retreating German forces, trying to block their escape from coastal France. We traveled down the same road that the Allies barricaded several times and between the hills where they positioned their artillery. We toured a nougat factory. I sat out front with a collection of ancient Renaults and Citroëns and

chatted with a Dutchman on a huge BMW motorcycle who was reprising his father's odyssey through France 55 years earlier.

That afternoon we met a cheerful young guide at the Palace of the Popes in Avignon. Life in Rome in the 14th century had become a little parlous for the popes, so the papacy decamped to some land it owned overlooking the only bridge over the Rhone and built a little country place, actually a gigantic fortified palace commanding the only bridge over the river. Some of our group knew the charming children's round, "Sur le pont d'Avignon," and regaled us with it. Some of us had beers while the others toured the palace.

(All the way from Chamonix to our last hotel in Aix-en-Provence I wrestled daily, gamely, and dangerously with the most outstanding triumph of French domestic design over common sense: the obscure and deadly shower control. It delivered blasts of water either icy or boiling for no apparent reason. I finally solved the problem by letting my companion take the first shower and asking her to leave it running.)

And so, finally, to Arles, the Rhone delta, and the Mediterranean Sea. At Cassis, a former fishing village and limestone quarry, limestone is everywhere. The water must be hard enough to cause a bruise: we dined al fresco in hazy sunshine that later removed a layer of skin, and took a boat ride along the coast (another layer of epidermis) to see the so-called "fjords of France." Fjords they ain't; fjords are formed by glaciers. But they are quite impressive: solution canyons (limestone again) indenting the cliffs of the south shore. Winston Churchill went there once in retirement to paint a view of the boldest headland. Here and there, rock climbers worked their way up the crags while their boats waited below.

Ombeline had become so much a part of us that we'd gladly have taken her home with us. But sadly, the morning after our farewell dinner and goofy awards ceremony, she dropped us off at the Marseilles airport (under construction, naturally). A long walk to the entrance dragging bags, and back to our old friend, British Airways, which had adjured us to show up three hours early in order to wait an hour for the agent to arrive. We were once again in the embrace of the civilized world. Our now-bonded family of 30 formerly disparate souls was about to be shattered and scattered. I hope that some of the friendships formed between Chamonix and Marseilles will continue, over delicate meals in French restaurants, perhaps.

THE Hardwick Gazette Since 1889

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MEETING MEMO

Thursday, June 1

•**Hardwick Select Board**,
first Thursday of month, 6 p.m.'

Monday, June 5

•**Walden Select Board**,
every other Monday.

Tuesday, June 6

•**Cabot Select Board**, first
Tuesday of month, 7 p.m.

•**Craftsbury Select Board**,
first Tuesday of month, 7 p.m.

•**Marshfield Select Board**,
first Tuesday of month, 5:30 p.m.

•**Plainfield Select Board**,
first Tuesday of month, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, June 7

•**Wolcott Select Board**, first

Wednesday of month, 6 p.m.

Town Clerks

Cabot: cabotvt.us
Calais: calaisvermont.gov
Craftsbury: townofcraftsbury.com
Greensboro: greensborovt.org
Hardwick: hardwickvt.org
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. waldenvt.gov. waldente@pivot.net
Wolcott: wolcottvt.org
Woodbury: woodburyvt.org

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photo by Hal Gray
 Birders start gathering on May 14 at 7:15 a.m. at the Greensboro Free Library as guide John Schweizer (red shirt on right) introduces the walk.

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 If you take pride in your work, enjoy variety, and are a team player, we want to hear from you!
 Pay range is \$20.32 to \$22.86, dependent upon experience, and may be up to \$23.54 following successful probationary period.
 The Town of Stowe currently offers an excellent benefit package including health plans with a 5% or 10% employee premium share, dental insurance, generous paid leave including 13 holidays, 10.6% employer contribution to VMERS pension plan, life insurance and more. Job descriptions and employment application can be obtained at: www.townofstowevt.org.
 Submit letter of interest, resume and employment application to: Town of Stowe, c/o HR Director, P.O. Box 730, Stowe, VT 05672 or by email recruit@stowevt.gov. Applications will be accepted until position is filled.
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SPORTS

Seniors Power Wildcats to Second Straight Top Seed

by Ken Brown

MONTPELIER – A special group of program-building seniors were honored last week by their Hazen Union baseball team and the Hardwick community as they helped lead the Wildcats to a pair of wins to clinch the top seed in Division III and a school record 14 regular season wins.

Senior ace Lyle Rooney delivered a complete game masterpiece under the lights to lead Hazen to a 6-0 road win over Montpelier last Monday night. Rooney struck out 13 Solons, allowing only a soft single in an eighty-nine-pitch effort. Tyler Rivard was a perfect 2-2 at the plate, including a triple and fellow senior James Montgomery drove in three runs to power the offense. Freshman Owen Skorstad also had a single and scored a run in the win. Andrew Tringe struck out six over four plus innings in the loss for Montpelier, as they fell to 8-8. With the win, Hazen Union secured the top seed in the upcoming Division III tournament for the second time in school history, matching their own feat from 2022.

“It was great to see the kids get to experience a game like this on a field like this under the lights,” said head coach Spencer Howard. “Lyle threw one of his best games of the year, throwing his breaking ball for strikes and working ahead in the count. The guys were engaged and we had great local support from the community at the game, which made it even more special,” added Howard.

Junior Andrew Menard twirled a gem of his own on Tuesday, striking out seven and allowing just two hits in a complete game effort to help the Cats hold down Thetford Academy 1-0 on Senior Night. Rivard and Montgomery supplied all the support Menard needed, combining for four hits and a pair of doubles in the win. Nolan Pepe and Liam Brooks had a hit apiece and Xander Oshoni was the hard luck loser for the Panthers as they wrapped up the regular season at 9-6. Seniors Jadon Baker, Rooney, Rivard and Montgomery were honored before the game for their spectacular high school careers on the diamond that has helped turn a spiraling baseball program at Hazen into a perennial power. They led the program to their first state title appearance in 15 years last season and will enter the upcoming postseason as the team to

beat once again, sporting a 41-12 record with the four of them on the field the last three years. That is the best three-year stretch in the history of Hazen Union baseball.

“That was Andrew’s best game of the season, changing speeds, working ahead, and battling through some high-pressure moments. It was great to see him link together some things that we’ve been working on and building towards all season. This is a special team made up of some special kids, who turned around and played a tough baseball team in less than 24 hours without complaint. They just show up and do their jobs and it starts with the leadership from this group of seniors. Ethan Shopland, Aasha Gould, and Tyson Davison helped lay the blueprint for how we wanted to approach practices and games and these four seniors have continued to preach and show that same team first unselfish attitude. Lyle literally wants to pitch every day, Tyler can do anything in so many ways at different positions for this team, Jadon is just a special outfielder and leads the defense out there, and James’ growth as a catcher for this team has been amazing and he has full command over this pitching staff. Thetford has had our number a couple times in the postseason over the years, so this was one the guys wanted to get and it was a great team win,” said Howard.

Wyatt Mason struck out 13 in a complete game effort to help



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Hazen Union Wildcats Tyler Rivard (left), Jadon Baker (center), and Brendan Moodie (right), come off the field after a recent home game. The team is seeded in first place with a record of 14-2. Hazen will play in quarterfinal action Friday, June 2, at 4:30 p.m., on Hudson Field.

Lyndon Institute end the Wildcats seven game win streak 3-0 at home on Thursday. Austin Wheeler led the Vikings with a pair of hits, including a two-run double and Logan Wheeler added an RBI triple in the win. Andrew Menard had a single for Hazen and Tyler Rivard took the loss, allowing two earned runs over six innings. The Vikings will enter the division II playoffs with a 12-4 record as the third overall seed.

“Wyatt threw the ball well and I was impressed with his breaking ball. We struggled to pull the trigger against him, striking out seven times looking, but it’s just

another good prep for us against a good pitcher with the playoffs coming up. Tyler pitched a hell of a game, we just didn’t support him with any runs. We’ll practice hard this week and take the earned days off to heal some nicks and bruises, but the guys are locked in and focused on the next game in front of them,” said Howard.

Hazen Union will have a bye in the first round of the Division III state tournament and will host the winner of the Vergennes-Woodstock matchup on Friday. If they advance, the Wildcats will also be at Hudson Fields in the semifinal round next Tuesday.

Tournament Pairings

High School Baseball

DIVISION II

Tuesday, May 30, 4:30 p.m.

Game 2: No. 13 Windsor (2-13) at No. 4

BFA-Fairfax (9-6)

Game 3: No. 12 Oxbow (2-14) at No. 5 White

River Valley (11-5)

Game 4: No. 10 Randolph (5-11) at No. 7

Richford (8-6)

Game 5: No. 14 Mill River (2-14) at No. 3

Thetford (9-6)

Game 6: No. 11 Springfield (4-11) at No. 6

Bellows Falls (8-8)

Wednesday, May 31

Game 1: No. 9 Woodstock (7-8) at No. 8

Vergennes (6-10), 4:30 p.m.

Quarterfinals, Friday, June 2, 4:30 p.m.

Game 7: Winner Game 1 at No. 1 Hazen (14-2)

Game 8: Winner Game 2 vs. Winner Game 3

Game 9: Winner Game 4 at No. 2 Green

Mountain (15-1)

Game 10: Winner Game 5 vs. Winner Game 6

Semifinals, Tuesday, June 6 (Games at 4:30 p.m.)

Game 11: Winner Game 7 vs. Winner Game 8

Game 12: Winner Game 9 vs. Winner Game 10

D-III championship at Centennial Field

Game date, time TBD

Game 13: Winner Game 11 vs. Winner Game 1

DIVISION IV

Tuesday, May 30, 4:30 p.m.

Game 1: No. 9 Danville (4-11) at No. 8 Rivendell

(7-8)

Game 2: No. 13 Twin Valley (0-9) at No. 4

Stratton Mountain (4-4)

Game 3: No. 12 Poultney (1-14) at No. 5 Mount

St. Joseph (9-6)

Game 4: No. 10 Northfield (2-12) at No. 7 West

Rutland (8-8)

Game 5: No. 11 Williamstown (1-14) at No. 6

Arlington (7-7)

Quarterfinals, Friday, June 2, 4:30 p.m.

Game 6: Winner Game 1 at No. 1 Blue Mountain

(15-1)

Game 7: Winner Game 2 vs. Winner Game 3

Game 8: Winner Game 4 at No. 2 Proctor (12-3)

Game 9: Winner Game 5 at No. 3 Leland &

Gray (10-6)

Semifinals, Tuesday, June 6, 4:30 p.m.

Game 10: Winner Game 6 vs. Winner Game 7

Game 11: Winner Game 8 vs. Winner Game 9

D-IV championship at Centennial Field

Game date, time TBD

Game 12: Winner Game 10 vs. Winner Game 11

High School Softball

DIVISION II

Tuesday, May 30 (Games at 4:30 p.m.)

Game 1: No. 9 Milton (6-9) at No. 8 Rice (7-9)

Game 2: No. 12 Harwood (4-11) at No. 5

Middlebury (9-6)

Game 3: No. 15 Peoples (0-13) at No. 2 Mount

Abraham (13-3)

Game 4: No. 10 Spaulding (6-10) at No. 7 U-32

(9-7)

Game 5: No. 14 Lamoille (1-13) at No. 3 Lyndon

(13-3)

Game 6: No. 11 Lake Region (6-10) at No. 6

Otter Valley (10-6)

Wednesday, May 31

Game 7: No. 13 Springfield (3-13) at No. 4

Enosburg (13-3)

Quarterfinals, Friday, June 2 (Games at 4:30 p.m.)

Game 8: Winner Game 1 at No. 1 Hartford (13-3)

Game 9: Winner Game 2 vs. Winner Game 7

Game 10: Winner Game 4 vs. Winner Game 3

Game 11: Winner Game 6 vs. Winner Game 5

Semifinals, Tuesday, June 6 (Games at 4:30

p.m.)

Game 12: Winner Game 9 vs. Winner Game 8

Game 13: Winner Game 11 vs. Winner Game 10

D-II championship at Castleton University

Game date, time TBD

Game 14: Winner Game 12 vs. Winner Game 13

DIVISION IV

Tuesday, May 30, (Games at 4:30 p.m.)

Game 1: No. 9 Craftsbury (5-9) at No. 8 Long

Trail (3-4)

Game 2: No. 10 Northfield (3-11) at No. 7 Twin-

field/Danville/Cabot (9-6)

Quarterfinals, Friday, June 2 (Games at

4:30 p.m.)

Game 3: Winner Game 1 at No. 1 West Rutland

(13-3)

Game 4: No. 5 Leland & Gray (11-5) at No. 4

Poultney (12-4)

Game 5: Winner Game 2 at No. 2 Richford (13-3)

Game 6: No. 6 Proctor (9-5) at No. 3 Blue

Mountain (12-3)

Semifinals, Tuesday, June 6 (Games at 4:30

p.m.)

Game 7: Winner Game 4 vs. Winner Game 1

Game 8: Winner Game 6 vs. Winner Game 5

D-IV championship at Castleton University

Game date, time TBD

Game 9: Winner Game 7 vs. Winner Game 8

SPORTS

Lady Trojans Earn Home Playoff Game

by Ken Brown

MARSHFIELD – The Twinfield-Cabot-Danville (TCD) softball team flipped a switch the last three weeks, winning seven of their last nine to close out the regular at 9-6, earning them a home game this week in the first round of the Division IV playoffs.

Aydyn Paige and Aleacya Moshinskie powered the Lady Trojan offense with four hits each and a pair of doubles as they outlasted Division III Thetford Academy at home last Monday 14-11. Austin Roos added two hits of her own, including a double and winning pitcher Maddi Duke struck out four over six innings of work. Maddy Mousley paced the Lady Panthers with a 3-5 performance at the plate, including a double, Taylor West went 2-5 with a triple, and Makayla Stanley struck out six in suffering the loss in the circle. Thetford Academy finished up the season at 8-6 and will be the second seed in the upcoming Division III tournament.

“We had a great game against Thetford, with some strong defensive plays, minimal errors, which kept them from capitalizing on some rallies. We ran the bases well and did a good job of capitalizing on their mistakes. Summer and I were really proud of how the girls played both offensively and defensively against a team like that and limiting our errors allowed us to continue building on our lead each inning,” said co-head Coach Christin Martin.

Abigail Langlois went 3-3, with



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Twinfield coaches Christin Martin (front, left) and Summer Haverick (front, right) talk to their team during a huddle before taking to the field. Pictured in back (from left) are: Sophi Mancini, Ella Marshia and Kim DeBona.

a double, and two walks to help BFA-Fairfax snap TCD's five game win streak at home Thursday 17-4. Melissa Hall added a pair of doubles for the Lady Bullets and Anna Villeneuve earned the win, striking out eight in six innings of work. Aydyn Paige kept her bat hot for the Lady Trojans with a 4-4 performance at

the plate and Aleacya Moshinskie and Hannah Haverick combined for four more hits and a pair of doubles in the loss. Kendall Hale took the loss, striking out four in four plus innings.

“This was a tough game and we had a harder time figuring out Villeneuve in this one. They drove

the ball well with some solid line drives and were hitting gaps all day. The girls did a good job of hanging in there and battled to get runners on base, but just didn't string together enough hits to create big innings,” said Martin.

Aleacya Moshinskie strung together five more hits, including a triple and Austin Roos belted a home run to lead the Lady Trojans to a 16-12 road win over Randolph on Saturday. Kendall Hale and Aydyn Paige combined for six more hits to lead a balanced attack and Maddi Duke struck out eight over seven innings to pick up the win. The senior hurler ended a late seventh inning rally with a punch out to end the game. Shiloh Lake allowed 10 hits and struck out six over five innings in the loss for Randolph as they fell to 1-13.

“Randolph was an awesome game and the girls played one of their best complete games of the season. There were a lot of pressure moments throughout the game and we were excited to watch the girls execute and battle through it. The girls kept their energy up, were raring to play from the start, and also kept calm when it counted. Summer and I are super proud of this team and how well they've been working together all year and all the time and effort spent in practice is showing through in games,” said Martin.

TCD's hot play to end the regular season earned them a home playoff match-up with tenth seeded Northfield on Tuesday. If they advance they will travel to second-seeded Richford on Friday in the quarterfinals.

Lady Chargers Enter Playoffs with Momentum

by Ken Brown

CRAFTSBURY – The Craftsbury Academy (CA) varsity softball team had a pair of huge wins over Division III BFA-Fairfax and Division II Lamoille last week and will hit the postseason running this week with three wins in their last four games.

Ella Gillespie's walk-off single capped off three runs in the bottom of the seventh for CA in a thrilling come-from-behind 14-13 home win over BFA-Fairfax last Monday. Jessalynn Gravel went 2-3 at the plate, including a double and executed a crucial late game double play to stamp out a BFA rally. Ade Gillespie drove in three runs

for CA and Savannah Boyce earned the complete game win in the circle, striking out eight Lady Bullets. Melissa Hall led BFA-Fairfax with a 2-2 effort, Peyton Niles had an RBI double, and Abigail Langlois added an RBI single. Anna Villeneuve suffered the loss, striking out eight over six plus innings, as the Lady Bullets fell to 8-6 on the season.

“What a great back-and-forth game against a very good team and the girls kept battling, had each other's backs, and never gave up. It was a great way to start the week, setting the tone and giving the entire team positive vibes,” said head coach Ashley Gravel.

See **PLAYOFFS**, next page



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Craftsbury softball players Savannah Boyce (left), Ade Gillespie (center) and Ella Gillespie (right) walk off Dustan field after a recent game.

SPORTS

Gravel Shines for Chargers at North Country

by Ken Brown

NEWPORT – The Craftsbury Academy (CA) varsity and middle school track and field teams were both in action last week at North Country High School and the Montpelier Invitational.

Senior Dalton Gravel captured the first title of his career for CA in the shot put, besting North Country's Zander Johansson with a throw of 10.74m. Teammate Cormac Leahy finished tenth. Gravel capped off his stellar day with a runner-up finish in the discus event behind Watson Laffoon of North Country, with Cole VanWinkle finishing sixth for the Chargers. Alan Moody finished third in the 800m and fourth in the 400m, with Alan Esposito (North Country) and Richford's Avery Choquette taking home first place honors.

Senior Calvin Cucciamani finished eighth for CA in the 1500m behind event winner Mason Porter of Lamoille.

Leahy finished off a solid day for the boys' squad with a tenth-place finish in the javelin behind Adler Lahar of Lake Region.

Adelina Augsberger led the Charger girls' team with a third-place finish in the 400m, with Madison Pelletier of Lamoille claiming the title. Augsberger also placed tenth in the 200m, with Molly Dearborn of BFA-Fairfax besting the field.

Senior Rachel Bjerke had a strong third place finish in the 300m hurdles, with reigning state champion Sabine Brueck of North Country taking home first place honors.

Alan Moody also had a solid showing over the weekend for the Chargers at the New England Qualifiers in Essex with a tenth-place finish in the 800m.

"Our team had a great meet this week. Dalton and Roean McLellan have been training with a throwing coach about once a week and we're really starting to see the results! Alan broke the school record in the 400m with a time of 55.23s and Adelina had a personal best in her 400m to qualify for the Essex Invitational. New England qualifiers were over the weekend, but overall as a team we're focusing on getting prepared for the State Meet coming up both mentally and physically," said head coach Jess Barber.

Playoffs

Continued from previous page

Richford swept the season series from the Lady Chargers on Tuesday night with a dominate 20-4 road win. Talia McCray earned the win and Kyrielle led the Lady Rocket offense for their thirteenth win of the season and will enter the division IV tournament as the No. 2 seed. Jessalynn Gravel, Ella Gillespie, Arian VanDyk, Alexis VanDyk, and Alana Ulrich were honored in their last home game on senior night. Savannah Boyce took the loss in the circle for CA.

"Richford is a tough match-up for us, they are a good squad, and are definitely one of the teams to beat in the division. It was an emotional night for our seniors and those five girls helped restart this program here at CA as eighth graders with me back in 2019. Having those high emotions on and off the field that night I'm sure played into our focus against a tough team like that," said Gravel.

The Lady Chargers capped off their impressive week with a comeback for the ages on Friday, erasing

a 10-run first inning deficit to edge Lamoille on the road 21-19. The Lady Lancers jumped out to a quick 10-0 lead after one inning, before CA strung together several two out rallies to make it 13-12 after four innings. CA executed one last late rally to break an 18-18 tie to escape with the improbable win. Lamoille finished up the regular season at 1-13.

"This is the team we've been building towards all season and this is the kind of ball these girls are capable of playing. It was an emotional

week with some hard-fought wins and Savannah was a workhorse for us pitching all three games. We are definitely heading into the post-season with some momentum and we are looking forward to bringing these positive vibes into the tournament," said Gravel.

The Lady Chargers will enter the Division IV playoffs as the ninth seed and traveled to Dorset to take on Long Trail on Tuesday. If they advance, they will travel to top seeded West Rutland on Friday in a quarterfinal match-up.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Seniors on the Craftsbury Track and Field Team are, front row (left to right) Calvin Cucciamani, Cormac Leahy, Alan Moody, Cole Van Winkle; back row (left to right) Linden Stelma-Leonard, Ella Gillespie, Dalton Gravel, Rachel Bjerke and Verna Stoddard.

The middle school team competed in their biggest event of the season over the weekend at the Montpelier Invitational.

Kosmos Gletos had a strong third-place finish for the Chargers against 32 competitors in the discus event and bested more than half of the field in the shot put with a fifteenth-place finish. Folsom's Forrer Watson took home first place honors in both events.

Olive Garulio placed seventh in the long jump for CA, with Fair Haven's Leigha Kretzer beating 50 other competitors. Garulio also finished fifteenth in the 75m hurdles, with Kretzer capturing her second title of the afternoon.

CA's Ada Allen also had a solid fifteenth

place finish in the 1500m and teammates Amelia Terrone (16th) and Emma Stout (19th) had strong showings in the 400m event.

Theo Alexander posted top 20 finishes for CA in both the 200m and 400m, with Seamus Dumas of Brown's River capturing both titles.

Seventeen middle school teams from across the state competed over the weekend, with Montpelier winning the girls' overall and Folsom capturing the overall on the boys' side. Peoples Academy posted runner-up finishes for both the girls' and boys' overall.

CA's varsity team will be back in action this Friday at the Division IV State Meet in Manchester, where the boys' team will defend their 2022 title.

SPORTS

Hazen Union Track Teams Back in Action

by Ken Brown

MONTPELIER – The Hazen Union varsity and middle school track and field teams were back in action last week in Montpelier as both teams near the end of their regular seasons.

The varsity squad competed at U-32 High School last Tuesday, with several members of the girls' team coming away with solid results. Sophomore Aster Watkevich placed sixth in the long jump event, with Olivia Thomas of Milton besting the field. Watkevich also joined teammates Lily Castle, Ella Considine, and Chloe Dyer to finish their first relay of the season in the 4X400m. U-32's Maia Pasco, Madison Beaudoin, Greta Little, and Isabel Moustakas took home first place honors.

Castle was also strong in the javelin event, posting a tenth-place finish, with teammate Finn Burgess following close behind in eleventh. Hazel Stoddard of Mount Abe was the event winner. Considine (18th) and Watkevich (20th) were also respectable against a field of 40 competitors in the 100m, with Milton's Thomas capturing her second title of the afternoon.

"With just one week left in the season, it is amazing to see how much each one of these athletes have improved. I am always amazed at how much they are able to handle during practices and how they come to meets with a goal

of attaining a personal best. There are many, many lessons that the student athlete can learn during a track and field season, but the two I am most concerned with are the art of communication and resiliency. Communication is a key trait that allows us to take an active and effective role in our society. My hope is that each of these athletes walk away from this season with a better understanding of how a successful sharing of information can help them succeed in each of their future endeavors. Resiliency is the ability to recover from difficulties. I have pushed all of these athletes hard during practice. Running straight is hard and most of the time your main competition is yourself. You need to be able to overcome what your mind is telling you, you cannot do. These athletes have walked away from many practices knowing that they are stronger than they thought. They now know they can handle more than they ever thought they could. I look forward to this last week of our season and the future of Hazen track and field," said head coach Kathy Fortmann.

The middle school team competed in their largest event of the season over the weekend at the Montpelier Invitational. Colin Gray and Hunter Martin led the way for the Wildcats with a pair of sixth place finishes against huge fields in the 200m and 1500m events. Seamus Dumas



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Hazen Union Track & Field seniors are Ella Considine (left) and Lily Castle (right).

of Brown's River and U-32's Cole Page were the event winners. Martin also had a strong eighth place finish in the 400m, with Dumas capturing his second title of the afternoon. Gray and Martin capped off their afternoons with top 25 finishes in the 100m, with Dumas winning his third title against 65 competitors.

The Wildcat varsity team was back in action on Tuesday at St. Johnsbury Academy and the middle school team will wrap up their season on Wednesday at North Country High School.

KEN BROWN'S HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP

Bears Hit the Road for Playoffs

FAIRFAX – The Danville baseball team sandwiched a dominant win against Williamstown around a pair of nail-biting losses to BFA-Fairfax and Lake Region to narrowly miss out on hosting a playoff game in the upcoming Division IV playoffs.

Dylan Sicard ran the count full before ending the game with a bases loaded strikeout to extinguish a late Bear's rally, helping BFA-Fairfax escape with a 4-3 win at home last Monday. Sicard was also 2-2 at the plate for the Bullets and Reagan Baumeister earned the win, striking out eight, while allowing just two hits on the day. Cooper Calkins suffered the loss for Danville.

Sebastian Eldred twirled five innings of no-hit ball to lead the Bears to a 12-0 home win over Williamstown on Thursday. Hunter Horne was a perfect 3-3 at the plate with three runs and Kohl Guinard belted a run double to lead the offense. Williamstown ended their regular season

at 1-14.

Cotter Stevens laced a two-run homer and Gabe Gardner connected on the game-winner in the sixth inning to lead Lake Region to a 10-9 road win over the weekend. Senior Hunter Horne had an RBI single and walked three times and Twinfield's Meles Gouge added a double and three walks in the loss. Thomas Edgar, Denver Lindstrom, Dusty Laura-Bumps, John Morgan, and Horne were honored before the game on Senior Day. The loss dropped Danville to 4-11 and traveled to eighth-seeded Rivendell Academy on Tuesday in the first round of the Division IV tournament. If they advance, they will travel to top seeded Blue Mountain on Friday for a quarterfinal match-up.

Bullets Surge to Fourth Seed

FAIRFAX – The BFA-Fairfax baseball team under head coach and Hazen Union alum Mike Brown, won their last four games of the regular season to move up

three spots to fourth place in the Division III standings, setting up a potential late round match-up with Brown's alma mater.

Brown graduated from Hazen Union in '86 and has won over 300 games and captured four state championships in 27 seasons at Fairfax. The Bullets hosted thirteenth-seeded Windsor on Tuesday and if they advance would host the winner of the White River Valley/Oxbow match-up on Friday in the quarterfinal round. If Fairfax and Hazen both hold serve at home in the first two rounds of the Division III tournament, they would meet at Hudson Fields next Tuesday in the Final Four.

Lady Wolves Drop Two to End Regular Season

MORRISVILLE – The Peoples Academy (PA) softball team fell to divisional powers Blue Mountain and Lyndon Institute last week, leaving them one last chance in the upcoming Division II playoffs to capture

their first win of the season.

Lauren Joy smacked a double and bases clearing triple to lead Blue Mountain to a 12-0 road win last Tuesday. Kaylee Hamlett allowed three hits and struck out seven to earn the win in the circle. The Lady Bucks improved to 12-3 and will be the fourth seed in the upcoming Division IV tournament. Hazen Union's Haley Michaud, Sarah Collier, Royelle Crown, and Gracie Crown are on the PA roster and Michaud was honored before the game for Senior Night.

Ashleigh Simpson and Abby Fillion each smashed a home run and combined to drive in five runs to lead Lyndon Institute to an 18-0 home win last Thursday. Jaydin Royer tallied nine strikeouts and gave up one hit to earn the win as the Lady Vikings finished the regular season at 13-3 and will be the third seed in the upcoming Division II playoffs. PA traveled to second seeded Mount Abraham on Tuesday to open the first round.

SPORTS

JIM FLINT'S RUNNERS' ROUNDUP

Queen City Shines for Vermont City Marathon

BURLINGTON – Runners numbering in the thousands took to city streets Sunday for the 33rd Vermont City Marathon and Relay. Clear skies at sunrise foretold a morning of rising temperatures. The temperature was 60 degrees F for the 7:15 a.m. start and climbed to near 80 degrees F for the later finishers. A cool breeze off Lake Champlain, intermittent shade, and neighborhood garden hoses kept runners comfortable as they wound their way through city streets and along the Burlington Bike Path.

Ellen Emers was the fastest marathon finisher with ties to the Hardwick Gazette's coverage area. Emers grew up in East Hardwick. A 2015 Hazen Union grad, she competed in cross country and track and field for the Wildcats. Emers continued her athletic career at St. Michael's College, in Winooski. She was a four-year member of the women's cross country team and the Nordic ski team.

During high school and college, Emers was known for a strong work ethic. Emers, now 26, tested

her fitness Sunday at her first 26.2-mile marathon. She completed the first half of the two-loop marathon course in 1:50:13. Her second half time was 1:58:17. She crossed the finish line at Waterfront Park in 3:48:30. Emers placed 328th overall and 25th in the competitive F25-29 age group.

Anna Milkowski, 48, from Montpelier, ran the Boston Marathon on April 17, finishing in 3:39:54. Less than three weeks later, she completed the Adamant Half Marathon on May 7. Her time on the hilly dirt road course was 1:49:06. Three weeks after Adamant, she was back on the starting line at the Vermont City Marathon.

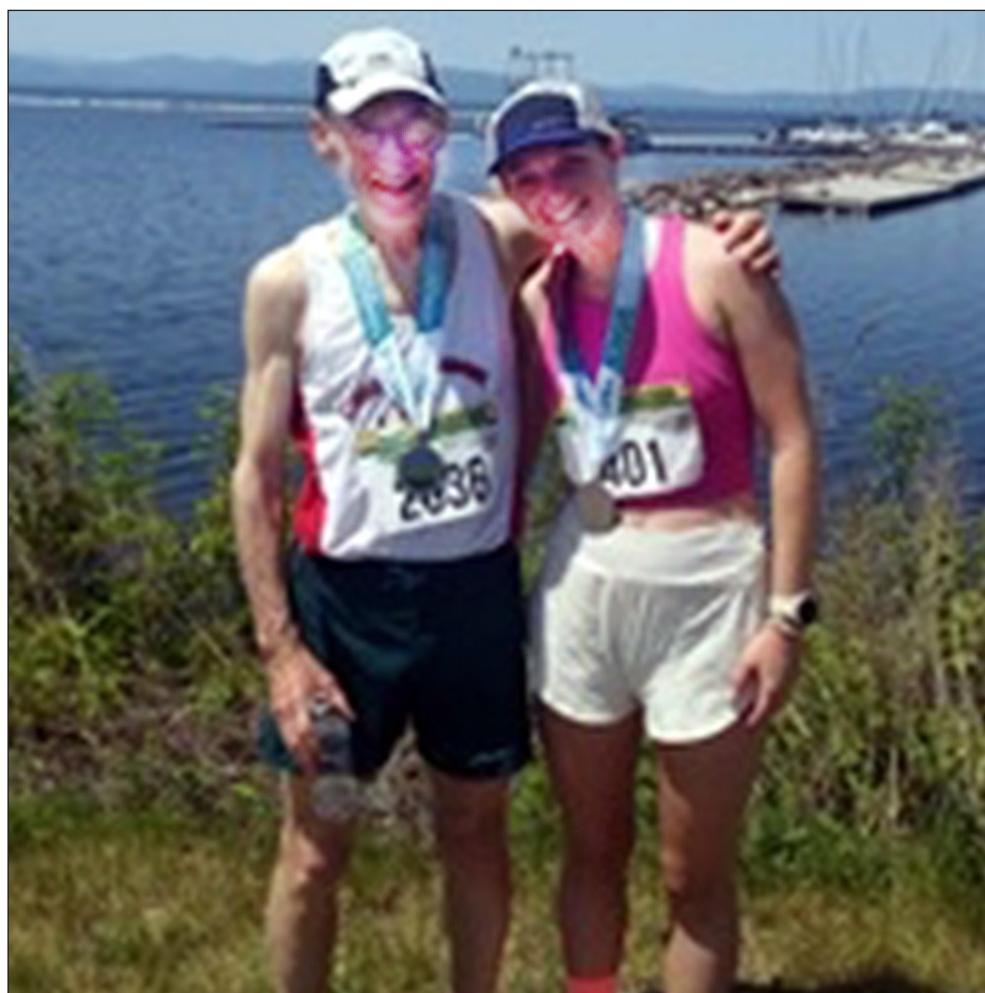
"I signed up to race VCM as a fitness and training experiment," said Milkowski. "Not having run much in the last six weeks, I went into the race curious about how it would go and quite relaxed. I ran even splits, but the final trip up Main Street and Church Street was slow, and the last few miles on the bike path dragged on. I came away thinking the marathon is just a tough event, even when you are well prepared."

Milkowski completed the first half of the marathon in 1:47:44. As the temperature rose, she ran



courtesy photo

Dot Helling, from Adamant, was inducted into the Run Vermont Hall of Fame at a Vermont City Marathon weekend celebration.



courtesy photo

Tim Noonan, 67, from Montpelier, and his daughter Theresa Noonan, 23, both completed the Vermont City Marathon in under four hours.

through sprinklers and took a bag of ice from neighborhood residents. Although the exposed parts of the course were hot, she found welcome relief and time to recharge in the wooded shady areas. She enjoyed the fan support and musicians along the course, the beautiful views, and friendly fellow competitors.

"My focus in marathon running is on the personal challenge of trying to improve and the puzzle of putting together a good race on race day," said Milkowski. "I enjoy the strategy associated with trying to make good on your fitness through tactics like pacing well, drafting when it matters, running the shortest line through a corner, and eating and drinking strategically."

Milkowski paced the second half of the marathon at 1:49:55, just two minutes slower than her first half. Her finish time of 3:37:39 earned fifth-place honors in the

F45-49 age group.

Tim Noonan, 67, from Montpelier, coached the Montpelier High School cross country team for many years. Noonan completed the 2023 Boston Marathon in 4:03:22. He ran in the inaugural Vermont City Marathon in 1989, finishing in a personal best time of 2:55. This was his 22nd time running the storied Burlington race.

"I liked the new two-loop format for the marathon," said Noonan. "It combines the best of the old course and allows you to prepare for what to expect in the last difficult miles."

Noonan knew that the warm and sunny conditions would have an effect on his time, particularly during the second half of the marathon. He felt that even though he was in shape to finish between 3:53 and 3:55, four hours was a more realistic goal. He ran the first half comfortably, in 1:56:43.

See RUNNERS', next page

SPORTS

Golf League Restores Safety Mirror



courtesy photo
Dan Rogers, left, assembles the new mirror to its cedar pole as (left to right) Dave Rogers, Jeremy Kaufman and Brad Ferland look on. In the background is Steve Parker.

by Patrick Hussey,
Community Journalist

GREENSBORO – On Memorial Day morning, May 29, the Tuesday Night Golf League restored a safety measure at Mountain View Country Club (MVCC).

A small group of league members got together Monday to install a new lookout mirror on the tee box of the third hole. There used to be a mirror there before, but inclement weather over the years finally did it in and it's been missing for a few years.

Last fall, with profits building from the Tuesday Night League's barbecue fund, food managers Brad Ferland and Dan Gauthier thought it would be a good gesture for the league to revitalize the mirror on the third hole. It was a little too late in the fall for the project to take shape then.

However, the idea survived the winter and league member Dan Rogers went to

work on assembling a new mirror this month. The league got a boost from Jason Brochu of Portland Glass in St. Johnsbury, who donated the 30-inch by 28-inch mirror glass.

Rogers built a frame to hold the mirror and devised a method of being able to tilt the frame to the proper degree. In the meantime, course superintendent Steve Parker cut down a new cedar pole from the grounds at MVCC.

When the old pole was removed, it was discovered it was sitting in a round concrete form. So Parker took measurements and cut the new pole to the exact diameter. Rogers finished his design and Monday a group of league players arrived at the third hole to hoist the new mirror into place.

The mirror was mounted about 22 feet in the air, so standing up the 25-foot pole and lifting it into place took some thought and



courtesy photo
The view from the mirror to the bottom of hole three at Mountain View Country Club.



courtesy photo
The new mirror is safely lifted into place by Dan Rogers, Steve Parker, Mike Clark and Jeremy Kaufman as Dave Rogers mans the safety rope.

proper execution. There to help were Parker, Dan Rogers, Dave Rogers, Jeremy Kaufman, Brad Ferland, Mike Clark and Pat Hussey.

It took a little bit to come up with what they thought was the proper angle, but Dan Rogers got it just about perfect on the first try. Getting a 25-foot pole with a 30-pound mirror on the top lifted into a 12-inch diameter hole was no small task, but the group safely dropped it into place.

The mirror allows golfers to verify there are no players near the bottom of the hole three's steep hill before teeing off. There is a blind spot near the bottom of the hill. It will also allow players to see where their golf balls landed that don't quite reach the green.

The Tuesday night league now plans to buy a plaque to mount on the pole and possibly have it in memory of all Tuesday Night participants past and present: a perfect gesture on Memorial Day weekend.

Runners'

Continued from previous page

As expected, Noonan ran the second half about five minutes slower than the first half. He finished the marathon in 3:58:23. "We were helped by low humidity and a cooling breeze coming off the lake," said Noonan. "The race was well-run and the spectators were very supportive."

While Noonan notched runner-up honors in the M65-69 division, his race was not the main highlight. "I reveled in my 23-year-old-daughter, Theresa, running her first marathon," said Noonan. "She had an impressive debut, finishing in 3:44 and pacing very well in tricky conditions (she ran the

second half only three minutes slower than the first half)."

Louis Serafini, 31, from Cambridge, Mass., was the fastest male finisher, in 2:17:55. Maegan Krifchin, 35, from Cambridge, Mass., topped the women's division, in 2:33:40. She broke Heidi Westering's 2009 course record of 2:35:02.

Jennifer Moltz, 34, from Roxbury, and John Stanton-Geddes, 41, from Burlington, were the first Vermont woman and man to finish. Their respective times were 3:05:40 and 2:36:57.

Run Vermont Honors Ellerson and Helling

BURLINGTON – At a

marathon weekend event, two long term Central Vermont Runners club members entered the Run Vermont Hall of Fame. Darragh Ellerson, from Montpelier, and Dot Helling, from Adamant, were honored for their service and leadership in the Vermont running community.

Ellerson, 92, was one of the four original members who formed Central Vermont Runners. Ellerson ran in high school, took time off for family, and returned to running at age 45. She played a key role starting the Leaf Peepers Half Marathon and served as co-director of the race for many years. Ellerson can still be found volunteering at local races and fun runs.

Helling, 73, completed dozens of marathons during her running career, with her favorites being Boston, Vermont City, and the Green Mountain Marathon. She was one of the first women ultra marathoners, completing several 100-mile races. She has run the Mount Washington Road Race multiple times, often placing first or second in her division.

In addition to her running longevity and age group records, Helling is an active volunteer with Central Vermont Runners. She serves as a running coach for elementary school children, a race coordinator, and as a board member of the Vermont Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

SPORTS



photo by Alan Ward

In the Memorial Day Classic 125 victory lane were (left to right) Marcel Gravel, third, winner Nick Sweet and Derrick O'Donnell, second.



photo by Alan Ward

In the Street Stock victory lane at the Memorial Day Classic were (left to right) Juan "Paco" Marshall, third, winner Josh Lovely and Jeffery Martin, second.



photo by Alan Ward

In the Second Annual Granite City 100 Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series victory lane were (left to right) Adam Skowryra, car owner and winner Ronnie Williams.

King of Barre Returns to Memorial Day Classic Victory Lane

BARRE – The Memorial Day Classic proved to be one of the most spectacular in the iconic event's illustrious career. One-hundred-and-twenty-four cars flooded the Thunder Road pit area ranging from the top oval track masters of the Green Mountain State to some of the most nationally recognized names in Tour-type Modifieds. In the end, five drivers took down wins to be crowned on Memorial Day Weekend headlined by the victorious return of the "King of Barre" to Thunder Road victory lane and a longtime racer from Ellington, Conn., getting his second major Modified win of 2023.

The Street Stocks kicked off the afternoon feature racing action with 30 four-cylinder masters taking to the high banks. Williamstown's Josh Lovely proved he was the class of the field with a nearly half-a-track lead until the lap 21 caution, which ruined a strong run on the outside for defending champion Dean Switser Jr., after lapped traffic had been plaguing the top-10 runners. The final restart set up a dogfight between Lovely and former Street Stock champion Jeffrey Martin with time running out. Although Martin had put the outside groove to good use, Josh Lovely's rocket was the first across the line with fan-favorite Juan "Paco" Marshall rounding out victory lane. Patrick Tibbetts and Kyle Gravel would complete the top-five finishers.

Twenty-three Late Models jumped in for a chance to win the iconic Memorial Day Classic and have their name etched in granite at Thunder Road. Second-generation drivers Scott Dragon and Chris Roberts led the field to green, quickly leading a top-seven breakaway at the front of the pack. Dragon's early run came to an abrupt end after his rear-end grenaded leaving the lead to Nick Sweet. Sweet, the multi-time

Thunder Road champion, had only made the snap decision the night before to join the event after crew-chiefing for Eric Chase and Bryan Wall Jr. at White Mountain Motorsports Park on Saturday night and was now fending off defending Memorial Day Classic winner Stephen Donahue.

Donahue would better his position on the lap 70 restart following a scuffle between Cooper Bouchard and Darrell Morin. Rim-riding the Widomaker frontstretch wall, Stephen Donahue would lead from the outside lane over Sweet until lap 90 with Sweet regaining the top spot once again. Marcel Gravel would join the top-three picture after methodically battling his way up to take on Sweet, but time and laps ran out.

Nick Sweet earned his second career Memorial Day Classic and his 25th career late model win at Thunder Road after pulling an all-nighter to prepare the car, including an engine swap that they had first fired at 6 a.m., Sunday morning. The "King of Barre" returned to victory lane followed by his old rival, fellow former King of the Road Derrick O'Donnell, the "Black Night of the White Mountains." Marcel Gravel was able to pull off his second-consecutive third-place finish of the young 2023 season with Brooks Clark coming home fourth followed by Stephen Donahue for fifth.

The Flying Tigers once again showcased their position as the Number One Support Division in North America for their Memorial Day feature event. Ty Delphia showed his rear bumper to the rest of the field through the early goings, but it was Jason Pelkey who would take over the lead just before the halfway point. The big-one hit on lap 20 when cars went all sorts of ways in turns three and four, including Brandon Gray, Mike MacAskill and others collected in the melee.

Jason Pelkey would regain the lead and never looked back to take down the holiday weekend victory followed by defending Flying Tiger champion Sam Caron for his second-consecutive runner-up finish in 2023 and Mike Billado to round out the podium. Logan Powers and Cameron Ouellette bounced back to complete the top-five.

To kick-start their tenth anniversary season, the Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series returned to Thunder Road for the second annual Granite City 100. Leading NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour rookie Austin Beers and east coast Modified stand-out Anthony Nocella led the field to green. The duo began the charge until the first caution on lap seven saw longtime New England stand-out Les Hinkley slam hard into the Widomaker to come to a standstill at the flagstand, on his side. On the restart, six-time NASCAR champion Doug Coby took over the lead followed by Ronnie Williams, inaugural Granite City 100 winner Chase Dowling, Brian Narducci and Beers.

Williams, winner of the Icebreaker 125 at Thompson Speedway in April, took the lead away just after lap 30 and kept the pace at the front of the field until a lap 70 caution for Beers' flat right-rear rubber. The leaders flew pit-side for their change tires with almost everyone electing to switch out their hard-used right-rear Hoosier Racing Tires for the final 30-lap sprint. Brian Narducci would call the final yellow flag in the iconic Boehler Racing Ol' Blue No. 3 with unresponsive steering, leaving Williams to fend off Coby, Mike Christopher Jr., Woody Pitkat and Ron Silk. In the final charge, Ronnie Williams would best the field for his second \$10,000 win of the 2023 season with Doug Coby able to take second followed by Woody Pitkat in third. Chris Pasteryak successfully

came back from his lap-seven caution to take fourth with Matt Swanson rounding out the top-five.

To wrap up the holiday events on Memorial Day weekend, the Road Warriors entered the arena led by longtime campaigner Jason Kirby and young Ryan Sayers. Kirby would get the jump in his Bobby Dragon-inspired scheme but the pressure was on from Mini-Milk Bowl winner Taylor Sayers. The final caution on lap 23 set up a green-white-checkers between the two as they battled hard side-by-side to the very end. Milton's Jason Kirby would take his first career Thunder Road win on Memorial Day Weekend followed by Taylor Sayers and Tyler Wheatley earning his first podium at the Speedbowl.

The season of stock car racing at Thunder Road continues in less than two weeks with Vermont's Career Technical Education Centers and the Agency of Education Night on Friday, June 9. The annual Friday Night Special will feature the New England Supermodified Series as these open-wheeled rockets return to the Barre highbanks. The Late Models, Flying Tigers, Street Stocks and Road Warriors also join in to kick off the weekly summer racing series.

Memorial Day Classic UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

(local competitors)

Late Models

3. 86VT, Marcel J. Gravel, Wolcott
9. 94VT, Brendan Moodie, Wolcott

Flying Tigers - (40 Laps)

6. 36VT, Joel Hodgdon, Craftsbury Common
26. 5VT, Tyler Austin, East Calais

Street Stocks - (25 Laps)

4. 34, Patrick Tibbetts, Plainfield
5. 5, Kyle Gravel, Wolcott