

THE Hardwick Gazette

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Argument Precedes Greensboro Fatal Shooting

by Doug McClure

GREENSBORO – A dispute at the Hardwick Convenience and Deli (formerly the Kwik-Stop) early last Thursday between forty-eight-year-old Darryl Johnson of Greensboro, a store clerk, and twenty-seven-year-old Robert Chaplin of East Hardwick culminated Thursday evening with a fatal shooting, according to the Orleans County Sheriff's Department (OCSD) and Vermont State Police (VSP).

The Hardwick Police Department (HPD) assisted at the scene and was also the agency

first involved earlier at the convenience store. Chaplin is the deceased. VSP "assumed the lead role" on Thursday evening at the request of the OCSD.

VSP said it had established a timeline Friday evening and elaborated on the few details OCSD first provided. Police say Chaplin was at the convenience store "at about 6:50 p.m." and tried to purchase alcohol. The clerk "deemed [Chaplin] too intoxicated" and "denied service to purchase" the alcohol, at which point police say a "dispute" occurred between Chaplin and the clerk and Johnson "intervened."

Police say HPD was called, but by the time officers arrived Chaplin had left the store. A resident posted to the station's Facebook that they were at the store when HPD spoke with Johnson, and "the man at the store [Johnson] stayed and made a statement because he was afraid the cashier would be harmed later in the night. He made it very clear that not only he, but the cashier were threatened several times."

Citing the ongoing investigation, HPD Chief Aaron Cochran said he could not release police reports or anything else from the afternoon

See SHOOTING, 4

New Owners Operating House of Pizza



by Doug McClure

HARDWICK – Hardwick's oldest continuously operating restaurant is transitioning to new owners. The Hardwick House of Pizza was started in 1986 by Artemis and Nick Vasiladis, who now plan to retire. Michelle and Tyler Demers began partnering with the Vasiladis' last April and will take over full operations next April.

The Demers are Hardwick residents with children in both Hazen Union and Hardwick Elementary. Michelle worked at House of Pizza during her own Hazen Union days in the early 2000s.

"It was a good high school job," she said.

The Demers know the history, loyalty, and appreciation the community has for the thirty-five-year-old restaurant. They have no plans to change any recipes or ingredients. Some new toppings such, as banana peppers are available now.

"One of the first things that people say is 'please don't change

See OWNERS, 4

Wolcott Board Talks Infrastructure, Broadband

by Doug McClure

WOLCOTT – At its October 20 meeting the Wolcott Select Board had a slew of updates from chair Linda Martin and Lucien Gravel regarding road work in progress. The board also discussed broadband, both in terms of what it could offer the NEK Broadband Communications Union District (CUD) and in terms of a new option

being tested by the town for its own broadband needs. The Lamolle County Planning Commission's (LCPC) Alec Jones asked for and received support for a childcare study. As budget season nears, the town also heard from Animal Control Officer Dean Mercier on a small request, as well as a request from the Athletic Association.

Martin began discussion of

See BOARD, 2



courtesy photo

Jane Johns (left) and Nancy Hill, treasurer and vice president of the Bend Revitalization Initiative, pictured in The Bend park.

Rail Trail Brings New Opportunities for Greensboro Bend

by Sophie Oehler, UVM Community News Service

GREENSBORO BEND – Greensboro Bend is a quiet town. There's one street, one stop sign, one bend in the road that winds past a few houses, a playground, a general store, and an old church with peeling paint and a staircase that appears to be slowly sinking back into the ground. It would take about forty-five seconds to drive from one end of

See OPPORTUNITIES, 5



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Hardwick Elementary students Adam Stratton (left) and Madison Colpron (right) hold the pumpkins they carved during art class. Pre-K-6 grade students carved around 400 pumpkins for the annual Pumpkin Walk held recently on Hardwick Trails.

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Board

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progress of roads projects in process by noting "things have been quiet for months and all of a sudden they're exploding." The roads in question all sustained damage in the Halloween 2019 storm and flooding. Federal funds have come from two sources, either from FEMA or the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The FEMA aid received to date totals \$80,569.48. Work on Elmore Pond Road "has been done for quite a while" and there was no town match required, with FHWA funds paying 100% of its \$25,751 cost.

Martin presented a breakout of expenses on the five active projects in terms of labor, equipment, and materials, as well as the percentage of that paid through federal and state sources at 75% and 7.5% respectively, and the town's 17.5% match.

The largest of the projects by far is the work on Brook Road and the culvert, estimated to cost \$746,349.10. Martin had applied for an eighteen-month extension since the window for funding was closing and the town had only just received notification of approval. She was given a year instead.

Gravel said that the land-owners impacted by the culvert had all agreed to easements, some permanent and some temporary, so it could be installed. He said that the culvert should be purchased by the town directly instead of through a contractor to avoid markup. Only three contractors can produce a culvert that meets the design. Gravel estimated the cost would be \$325,000 - \$350,000. He said especially with the timeline getting tight, the culvert should be put out to bid as soon as possible. Gravel added that a Better Roads grant might be available to pick up some of the town's share of the project cost.

Martin said she had just signed another FHWA grant agreement with an amount "not set in stone" for North Wolcott Road.

Roads were not the only infrastructure addressed. An engineer working with the town's wastewater committee suggested that the village center be considered as a whole and a part of that would be a feasibility study to assess the old schoolhouse's disused septic system which still has capacity. It was recommended a committee be appointed to look at the proposed study with the LCPC handling staffing support. The board appointed Linda Brady, Monica Cross, select board member Allen Carpenter, vice chair Kurt Klein, Chad Roy, and Ruth Ann Demag to a schoolhouse revitalization committee, as suggested.

The board also discussed the broadband survey from the NEK Community Broadband CUD. The CUD wanted to know what town assets and resources it could use in its fiber roll-out. Klein said "we simply

don't have the kind of structures that they're looking for." Martin said the town could help in other ways, such as adding parking at the back of the town's lot, meeting space, or storage space.

On a second broadband-related matter, the board has been testing Starlink satellite internet as an alternative to the town's current provider, Consolidated Communications. Klein said that after two board meetings, testing the service had provided a "dramatic increase in quality" and proposed moving past the testing phase.

Klein said "this is the missing piece [of the hybrid meeting setup]. To get broadband [from the CUD] is five years out or somewhere in there."

Dolan Patrick, who is helping Wolcott with technical matters, told the board that he had tested the Consolidated internet's speed as the discussion was taking place, and received a speed of 1.11MBit down and 1.05MBit up. He said that on multiple occasions he had seen Starlink hit 40MBit, and as high as 120MBit. The setup costs for the system are \$600 and the monthly fee is \$100. Patrick cautioned the board that there may be a lead time involved in moving to the system due to Starlink's popularity. He added that a possibility to consider was if the satellite were installed at the town offices, a radio-based system could extend the access to the town garage.

Martin said it might be possible to pay for the set-up hardware costs using American Rescue Plan Act funds. Board member Kurt Billings wanted to know how much the current Consolidated Communications bills were, and town clerk Belinda Clegg said she would put together details. Clegg later provided the Gazette with the three separate bills for Consolidated service at the town office, the garage, and the library, as well as the town wi-fi, which work out to \$252 a month.

The board heard budget requests from Animal Control Officer Dean Mercier, the athletic department, and the cemetery association. The cemetery association asked for level funding from last year's budget. The athletic department asked for \$1,500 toward a baseball program in Wolcott, partly to replace equipment that was "very badly" needed. It noted "we think this will help the [baseball] program grow."

Mercier had a request for the board. Klein said Mercier had been in "confrontational situations" to the point where he "felt he couldn't do the job anymore," but reconsidered if the board supplied him with a body camera to "protect himself in some way." Board member Richard Lee said Mercier "deserves to have protection." The board without hesitation approved the request and will purchase a BOBLOV HD66-02, which costs approximately \$170.



October 27 - November 2

Meat Dept.: Strip Steaks - \$6.99 lb. Pastrami - \$8.99 lb.		Carhartt Vests Now in Stock
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Near East Side Dishes 2/\$3 5.25-10 oz.	Campbell's Chunky or Select Soups \$1.89 16.2-18.8 oz.	Kraft Cheese Singles \$2.99 12 oz.
Florida Natural Orange Juice 2/\$6 52 oz.	Stonyfield Yogurt 2/\$7 32 oz.	Eggo Waffles 2/\$5 12.3 oz.
Morning Star Farm Vegetable Burgers 3/\$10 8-12 oz.	Stouffer's Entrées 2/\$5 9.58-12 oz.	Hot Pocket Sandwiches 2/\$4 9 oz.
Carlson's Apple Cider Gallon - \$6.99 1/2 Gallon - \$3.99	Blueberries 2/\$5 Pt.	Baby Bella Mushrooms \$2.49 10 oz.

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POLICE REPORT

State Police Report VSP Investigates Fatal Shooting in Greensboro

GREENSBORO – As the investigation continues into the fatal shooting in Greensboro that occurred Wednesday night, the Vermont State Police is releasing additional information about the case.

The series of events that led to the shooting began at about 6:50 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 20 at the Hardwick Convenience and Deli store located at 454 Vermont Route 15 in Hardwick. A store clerk called the Hardwick Police Department after a man, later determined to be Robert Chaplin, 27, of East Hardwick, was denied service to purchase alcohol because he was deemed too intoxicated. A second man, later identified as Daryl Johnson, of Greensboro, intervened in a dispute between Chaplin and the store clerk. Chaplin had left the store before Hardwick Police arrived.

About 90 minutes later, Chaplin arrived at the home of Johnson on Eligo Lake Road and an altercation ensued outside the residence between the two men during which Johnson fired a handgun, striking Chaplin. Hardwick Rescue subsequently transported Chaplin to Copley Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

An autopsy performed Thursday, Oct. 21 at the Chief Medical Examiner's Office in Burlington determined that the cause of Chaplin's death was a gunshot wound to the arm and chest, and the manner of death was a homicide.

The investigation into this incident remains active and ongoing, and no one is in custody. The Vermont State Police Crime Scene Search Team is continuing to process the location where the shooting occurred and is expected to conclude that work later Friday.

Along with CCST, VSP's investigation has involved members of the Major Crime Unit and Victim Services Unit. In addition, VSP worked with the Hardwick Police Department, Orleans County Sheriff's Department and Orleans County

State's Attorney's Office.

The Vermont State Police will continue to provide updates as the case develops.

DUI, Assault

On October 19, at approximately 9:55 p.m., Troopers were notified of a single vehicle crash near the residence of 2574 US Route 2 in the town of East Montpelier. There was a single white Dodge Ram 2500 that crashed through a telephone pole, landing off the side of the road. There was no one with the vehicle at the time of the initial report or when Troopers arrived on scene. The investigation proved that Cameron Moorby, of Calais, was the operator of the vehicle at the time of the crash. Further investigation led to Moorby's arrest for suspicion of DUI. Moorby was placed in handcuffs and transported back to the Middlesex State Police Barracks for processing. Moorby was issued a citation to appear in Washington County Superior Court – Criminal Division on November 4 at 8:30 a.m.

On October 22, at 1:40 p.m., Troopers with the Vermont State Police responded to Bliss Pond Road, Calais, for a report of a physical altercation. Investigation revealed Jennifer Cepeda, of Calais, had assaulted and strangled Mariana Brugman, of Wakefield, Mass., following a verbal dispute. Investigation also revealed Cepeda had prevented Brugman from contacting 911 by taking her phone and committed the assault in the presence of a child. Cepeda was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Vermont State Police Middlesex Barracks for processing. Cepeda was issued a citation to appear in Washington County Superior Court – Criminal Division on Oct. 25 at 12:30 p.m. and subsequently released.

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

AWARE Report

HARDWICK – AWARE assisted 14 victims/survivors of domestic and sexual violence from October 17 through October 24. 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.

Media Log Summary Hardwick Police

October 18: Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Found Property, Church St./N. Main St.; Burglary, Dutton Rd.; Suspicious Event, Vt. Rte. 14 S; Welfare Check, School St.; Violation of Conditions of Release, School St.; Suspicious Event, Mill St.

October 19: Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Assist – Other, Wolcott St.; Assist – Agency, Hazen Union Dr.; TRO/FRO Service, River St.; Parking Problem, Mill St.; VIN Verification, High St.; Traffic Hazard, Vt. Rte. 14; Accident – Property Damage Only, Highland Ave.; Suspicious Event, Rte. 15 E; Assist – Public, N. Main St.; TRO/FRO Service, Vt. Rte. 14; Traffic Stop, Vt. Rte. 15.

October 20: Suspicious Event, Highland Ave.; Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Directed Patrol, Vermont Ave.; Lost Property, Granite St.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Rte. 14; Traffic Stop, Glenside Ave.; Suspicious Event, Vt. Rte. 15 W; Animal Problem, Vt. Rte. 15 W; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Rte. 15 W; Assist – Agency, Eligo Lake Rd.; Deliver Message, School St.

August 21: Alarm, Vt. Rte.

14 S; Assist – Agency, Cemetery Rdg.; Suspicious Event, Vt. Rte. 15 W; Alarm, Vt. Rte. 15 W; Juvenile Problem, Hazen Union Dr.; Assist – Agency, High St.; Suspicious Event, Mill St.; Juvenile Problem, Hazen Union Dr.; Directed Patrol, Glenside Ave.; Assist – Agency, School St.

October 22: Property Damage, High St.; Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Alarm, N. Main St.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Rte. 15.

October 23: Found Property, Rte. 14/Town Gravel Pit, Calais; Assist – Public, High St.; Directed Patrol, Glenside Ave.; Traffic Stop, Cedar St.; Alarm, Wolcott St.

October 24: Accident – Property Damage Only, Vt. Rte. 16; Traffic Stop, Vt. Rte. 14/Vt. Rte. 15; Alarm, Wolcott St.; Directed Patrol, Glenside Ave.

October 25: Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Assist – Public, Vt. Rte. 15; Assist – Agency, Bridgman Hill Rd.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Rte. 14; Directed Patrol, Riverside Ter.; Directed Patrol, Glenside Ave.; Foot Patrol, S. Main St.; Alarm, Wolcott St.

Hardwick Police Car Collision, Speeding

On October 19, at 2:23 p.m., Hardwick, Michael Forrest was backing a Ford Escape at 209 Highland Ave. and hit Cheyen Johnson's car that was parked and unoccupied. Damage to Forrest's vehicle was to the passenger rear bumper. The damage to Johnson's vehicle was to the passenger front corner.

On October 23, at 10:20 p.m., Aidan S. Billings, of Hardwick, was stopped on Rte. 16 in Hardwick. Police issued a \$287 ticket for traveling at 75 mph in a 50 mph zone.

On October 24, 12:02 p.m., at 2390 Vt. Rte. 16 in Hardwick, Hope Lakus said someone hit their camper while they were gone. Police arrived to find that the camper had been hit and there was some red paint transfer. The septic connections were broken off.

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

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POLICE REPORT

Orleans County Sheriff's Department Fatal Shooting

On October 20, at approximately 8:14 p.m., a 911 call was received for a citizen dispute on Eligo Lake Road in Greensboro. A dispute between Daryl Johnson and Robert Chaplin had started earlier in the day in the town of Hardwick. A firearm was involved in the

dispute and Chaplin is deceased. There is an active ongoing investigation. This is an isolated incident, and the public can be assured the residents are safe. The Orleans County Sheriff's Department is working closely with the Orleans County States Attorney's Office.

St. Johnsbury Police Failing to Stop

On the afternoon of October 21, State Police responded to a 2-vehicle crash on Hospital Drive in St. Johnsbury. Investigation revealed that Kolby Blair, of Lyndon, ran a stop sign on Old Center Road and proceeded to collide with Dale Newton, of Marshfield, who was driving down Hospital Drive. Both operators were uninjured. Blair was

issued a ticket for failing to stop at the stop sign.

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

Owners

Continued From Page One

the pizza.' I'm not going to change the pizza. People love it. Everybody loves the spaghetti, it's a hit. Everything will be the same," Michelle Demers said. "We make our own dough every day. A lot of people don't know that. The dough is made daily, fresh from scratch, and the sauces. We cut our own cheese, slice our own meats, so we're keeping all of that. We don't want to change too much, and we don't want to add too much at one time."

She said that since the partnership began, they've added some new specialty pizzas that "have been a crazy hit," wings, additional types of beer, and bottled soda. The fountain soda machine is gone to simplify the role of the cashiers so they don't need to also be filling up drinks. Michelle said that "once the winter lull hits" the two will begin experimenting with some new menu items, such as fried dough.

Other ideas the two are working on include updating the creemee room. Michelle said that "my hope is to have it open year-round with hard ice cream so people can still get dessert when they want to eat out."

A pre-pandemic tradition the two hope to bring back is recognizing the central role high-school

sports plays in the Hardwick community.

"We're a very sports-oriented family," she said. "Any championship teams in the future from Hazen will definitely be welcome here. It used to be a place when teams won the championship they would come here after, and Nick would open it up with free pizza for the teams and their families. We want to keep those traditions alive."

Being an owner of the busy and popular restaurant has proven a steep learning curve, since neither of the Demers have restaurant experience. That was a reason for transitioning ownership over the course of a year.

"Friday nights are insane here," with the restaurant serving over a hundred large pizzas on a typical Friday night, Michelle said.

The House of Pizza was caught by surprise when earlier this year most every restaurant in the area decided to close on Mondays.

"Even in Morrisville [restaurants] are closed Mondays. So, this summer we got hit really hard on Mondays. Mondays turned into Friday. I think the first Monday it happened, Artemis was here and we had to shut it down because it was just overwhelming. Everybody comes in on Monday, [because] it's the only place open for miles."



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Jake Barton (center) of the Craftsbury Outdoor Center (COC) teaches bike skills to first and second graders during a COC Community Outreach Program held at Hardwick Elementary School. The COC bike workshop was made possible through a grant from the Northern Forests Center. Pictured (from left) are students Adrianna Ellis, Ryder Marckres, Kevin Hayden and Ayden Marsh.

Shooting

Continued From Page One

confrontation. The resident also wrote about "destruction [they] saw at the store and the description the cashier gave." The store said it had been instructed by VSP not to speak to the press or release video.

VSP said "about 90 minutes later" Chaplin showed up at Johnson's house on Eligo Lake Road (Route 14 between Craftsbury and Hardwick) and "an altercation ensued outside the residence." Police say that Johnson fired a handgun, striking Chaplin. The initial OCSO release said a 911 call was received at 8:13 p.m. Thursday night for a "citizen dispute on Eligo Lake Road [Route 14] in Greensboro." The address is listed in Greensboro town records as owned by Johnson. The OCSO initial release stated "a firearm was involved in the dispute and Chaplin is deceased."

According to village residents' accounts and VSP, at approximately 9 p.m. Wednesday, Hardwick Rescue ambulances raced through Hardwick Village with a police escort to meet what residents say was a Dartmouth-Hitchcock Advanced Response Team (DHART) helicopter transport that had landed at Hazen Union. The helicopter ended up not being able to be used, and despite lifesaving efforts, Chaplin was pronounced dead at Copley Hospital.

A subsequent determination of homicide was made by the Chief Medical Examiner's Office in Burlington. The M.E. found "the cause of Chaplin's death was a gunshot wound to the arm and chest." A medical examiner's determination of homicide as cause of death does not convey motive that investigators would use to determine if a crime was committed. The designation of homicide only states that the fatal injuries were intentional.

What remains for VSP is to

determine what exactly transpired at Johnson's property. Chaplin's School Street home in East Hardwick is almost twenty minutes away.

VSP said that the investigation is still "active and ongoing, and no one is in custody" and has not said whether it has conducted an interview with Johnson. The agency said the Vermont Crime Scene Search Team (CSST) was working Friday to gather more evidence. The scene was apparently left unsecured Thursday before VSP took the lead, with no OCSO presence on site at one point, a situation which had been rectified by Friday.

A resident who said they lived nearby described the events they heard Wednesday night.

"I was letting one of my dogs out and I heard three shots back-to-back then I heard two more shots back-to-back. For some reason, I decided to count how many times I heard the gun go off. It wasn't a normal gunshot sound, and I ran inside and told my husband I just heard a gun go off five times and it sounded like a semi-automatic gun, not a rifle, and I said to him 'I think someone just got murdered.'" They added "I don't know much about guns but something about those five shots stuck out and it being dark. It just gave me a bad feeling and today I learned that someone did lose their life." They said they were used to gunshots in the daytime, due to hunters, but this one struck them as unusual because it was night.

VSP said that along with its Major Crime Unit, OCSO, HPD, CSST, the Orleans County State's Attorney's Office is involved. HPD has declined to comment as the investigation is ongoing. Since Greensboro is under OCSO jurisdiction, the 911 call would have gone to the Newport dispatch, which is different than the Lamoille dispatch HPD and Hardwick Rescue use.

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Opportunities

Continued From Page One
the main drag to the other.

The Bend Revitalization Initiative (BRI) is working to ensure that you spend a little more time here.

The initiative to redevelop "The Bend" began in 2018, after residents raised concerns at the annual select board surrounding the appearance and livelihood of the town. Soon after, Dan Predpall, the current president of the program, began the initiative to respond to that concern, and transform Greensboro Bend from what he calls "a sleepy little village" into an economic and social hub.

The goals are simple: start an affordable housing initiative to welcome new families, improve the appearance of The Bend, encourage and increase community involvement and connection, and draw much-needed economic development to the single business street.

But the biggest opportunity is the arrival of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, which is set to come to The Bend sometime next summer. The Bend used to be home to a railroad that transported goods like potatoes, milk, and timber. Up until 1956, it was partially a passenger train.

The Rail Trail runs 93 miles across the northeast of Vermont, all the way over to Lake Champlain, where it ends. Thirty-four of those 93 miles are currently open year-round for bikers, walkers, skiers and snowmobilers. Greensboro

Bend remains one of many towns that has yet to get access to the recreation route.

The Rail Trail is more than just a fun afternoon out in the sunshine. For towns like The Bend, it can bring welcome pedestrian traffic and out-of-town visitors looking to explore the area.

In preparation for the trail's arrival, BRI is using the municipal plan developed in cooperation with state agencies to lay out the five-year path that the town will take towards "developing The Bend into a more prosperous community," as stated by Predpall. It includes plans to draw new businesses to town, laying out affordable housing parcels, and defining ways to beautify the main street through town.

"Once that plan is finished," Predpall says, "it becomes about the leverage to take the next step."

According to Predpall, the next step is using the plan to convince businesses in Greensboro, such as Jasper Hill Cheese and the Hill Farmstead Brewery, to collaborate with The Bend to bring shops down the hill. It also means breaking through the bureaucratic red tape to get approved as a federal 501(c)3 so that the program can start accepting tax free donations.

But the road to change is paved with many potholes and the BRI has already run into a few obstacles. One of the biggest is the lack of resources. The Bend is a small village with just one store front and a population of a little less than 80 people.



courtesy photo

The main street through Greensboro Bend, with Smith's Store in the background.

"We're talking about a very small community that has very little resources. It has a general store... and that's about it." Predpall said, "It's going slower than I would like to see it, but we are making progress. It will take time, but it will happen."

Predpall is the president of the BRI; Nancy Hill the vice president and Jane Johns is the treasurer. The one thing that all three wanted to drive home was the idea of community involvement.

All three have a deep love and appreciation for the area that they live in. Nancy Hill and Jane Johns grew up in the area and still live close by with their families. That love for the community has

further pushed them to get the rest of the town involved in the BRI initiative. In an attempt to get residents excited about the changes coming to The Bend, Hill and Johns distributed books about the history of the Greensboro area, including a handmade bookmark that indicates the section in the book in which The Bend's rich history is recounted. They handed out over seventy copies.

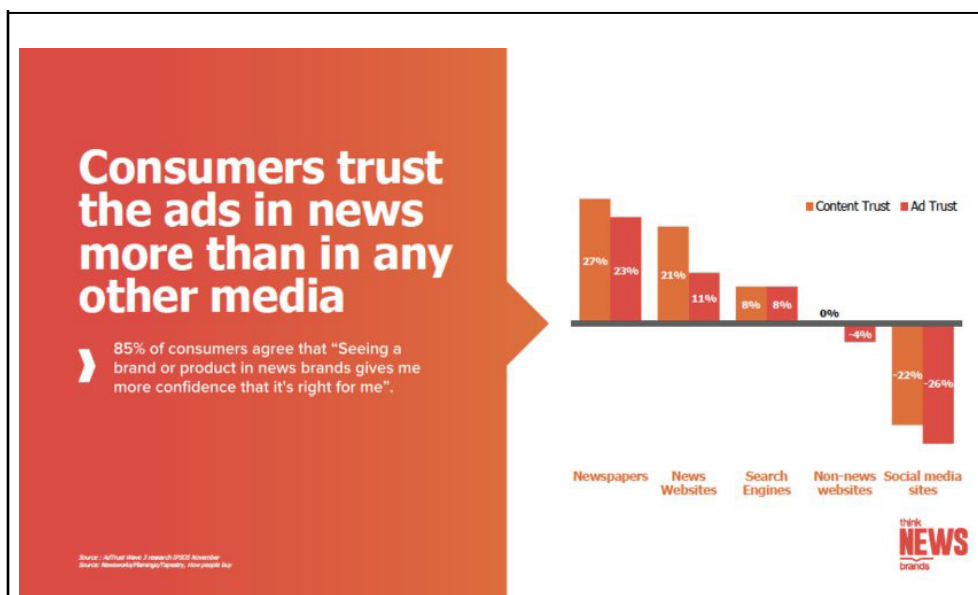
Their hope is to expand the network of volunteers from the 15 people who currently help out to a higher level of engagement by the community and surrounding area.

To learn more about how to support the Bend Revitalization Initiative, visit thebendvt.org/.



courtesy photo

Hazen Union's middle school graders walked ten miles from Hazen Union to the Greensboro ballfield recently to raise funds for clean water in the Sudan.



Study reveals that advertising carried by news publishers (like the Hardwick Gazette) outperform ads distributed on social media platforms like Facebook and YouTube.

Ads with news, it found, are significantly more memorable than a six-second YouTube video and "on par" with 15-second video ads on YouTube. Despite the billions in advertising business Facebook does in a year, the effectiveness of those Facebook ads is questionable, based on the group's analysis. "Irrespective of the Facebook ad type, ads in news outperform Facebook by up to 4x," ThinkNewsBrands found.

Advertising, especially with news (like the Hardwick Gazette) continues to be accessible (always in our digital archives) and simply more effective than digital ads on social media platforms. "Social media is simply no alternative to news," the ThinkNewsBrands authors concluded. "News has strong reach, superior trust, memorability and business impact."

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photo courtesy Sterling College

Volunteers accepting a steady stream of donations at Sterling College's Clothing Drive (left to right): Jimmy Clark, Sterling staff and event volunteer; Penelope Doherty, local volunteer who helped to coordinate the event; Elizabeth Faling, Sterling student and ReUse Room assistant; and Daniel Solomon, local volunteer.

Textiles Diverted from Landfill During Clothing Drive

CRAFTSBURY COMMON – Sterling College, working with HELPSY, the largest clothing collector in the Northeast, hosted a clothing drive on October 16 that collected 7,656 pounds of clothing and other textiles.

A steady flow of people brought bags to the volunteers working the drive. The event was set up as a fundraiser for the College's ReUse Room, but it also served to divert thousands of pounds of unwanted clothing from becoming trash and filling up local landfills.

"This started because we were looking for a way to keep surplus textiles from the Sterling College ReUse Room out of the landfill. When we heard about HELPSY, we decided to turn it into a community-wide event. We were

amazed at the turnout; we counted over 80 cars, with some coming from as far away as Montgomery and Newport. It's clear there's a demand for textile recycling in the Northeast Kingdom, and we'd like to continue working with HELPSY to offer more events in the future. The funds we raised will go toward the ReUse Room's ongoing work of reducing waste and meeting local needs through secondhand goods," said Emily Brodsky, Drive Organizer and Faculty in Ecology at Sterling College.

For more information about Sterling College's ReUse Room contact Reuse-room@sterlingcollege.edu or visit sterlingcollege.edu. For more information about HELPSY or to learn how to set up a fundraising drive, contact info@helpsy.co.

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Greensboro Development Review Board Warning

The Greensboro Development Review Board will conduct a hearing on Monday, November 15, 2021, at 7 p.m., in the Greensboro Town Hall, Collier Room, and via Zoom. The Board will consider a request by the Highland Center for the Arts to amend Condition #5 in HCA's Conditional Use Permit of 2021.

Condition #5 states: "Performances and events on the site will not utilize sound outside of the structure."

The hearing is open to the public.

To join the ZOOM hearing, sign up for a free ZOOM account anytime (zoom.us), then at 7 p.m., on Monday, November 15, 2021, go to ZOOM and click on: join a meeting. The meeting number is 892 6658 1004. There is no password. You may phone into the ZOOM meeting at: 646 876 9923 (this is not a toll free number).

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

Greensboro Development Review Board

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EDUCATION

Wadsager Named to SNHU President's List

MANCHESTER, N.H. – Eva Wadsager of Marshfield has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's summer 2021 President's List. Eligibility for the President's List requires that a student accumulate an academic grade point average (GPA) of 3.7-4.0 and earn 12 credits for the term.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Saturday was the Woodbury Community Ice Rink workday. Volunteer Alex Peltz (front) makes repairs to the liner as Cindy Gordon, Laura Murphy and Elizabeth Stratton (in back from left) work on and paint the side boards. Six volunteers spruced up the 32 x 64-foot rink, getting it ready for its 6th season. Not pictured are Michael Gray and Steve Freihofner.

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Dr. Katie Piet

Halloween Witches in East Hardwick

Photos
by
Vanessa
Fournier

Seventeen creatively decorated witches have appeared recently in East Hardwick village. The East Hardwick Neighborhood Organization came up with the very successful and entertaining idea. Pictured are just a few of the creations.



OUR COMMUNITIES

Halloween Festival in Greensboro Oct. 31

GREENSBORO – A Hafta-Have-a-Halloween Festival in Greensboro will be held on Sunday, October 31, from 4 to 6 p.m. Modern Times Theater is working with area organizations and individuals to create a fun, safe, outdoor event for the whole family. There will be trick-or-treating throughout the walkable downtown and hot food available by donation. The entire village will be transformed into a curiosity walk, featuring small performances, music, and exhibits.

Participants include Circus Smirkus, the Highland Center for the Arts, Wonder Arts, the Greensboro United Church, the Greensboro Free Library, Caspian Critters 4-H Club, and many local artists and volunteers. This event is free, but donations are welcome.

All attendees are asked to follow the state safety guidelines: stay home if you're sick and maintain distance from others. For more information, see modern-timestheater@gmail.com.

Book Discussion on Nov. 18

HARDWICK – The memoir "Lab Girl," by Hope Jahren, will be the book for the next book discussion at Jeudevine Library. The discussion will be on Thursday, Nov. 18 at 5:15 p.m.

"Lab Girl" is a book about work, love, and the mountains that can be moved when those two things come together.

Copies of the book are

available for check-out now at the library. At this moment the library intends to have the discussion at the library, which has recently purchased air purifiers for the building. However, depending on the number of COVID cases in the area, the discussion might be changed to an online discussion. For more information call the library at (802) 472-5948.

Hardwick Children's Holiday Project Donations Sought


HARDWICK – The Hardwick Children's Holiday Project kicked off its 21st year of providing donated gifts of toys, games, books and hats and mittens to area families, according to Lee Ann Lee, project coordinator.

Items for children birth to 17 years in need of assistance will be given for the holidays. A small group of volunteers will collect and distribute these donations to families from throughout the OSSU (Hardwick, Craftsbury, Greensboro, Greensboro Bend, Stannard, Wolcott, Woodbury) and

Walden.

Eight years ago, the holiday project found a home at the United Church of Hardwick, but due to COVID-19 boxes will be put together by a small number of volunteers. Families will be given a time to pick up their box (location to be determined) between the end of November and Sunday, Dec. 13. Parents need to be specific in what they ask for for their child.

Donations will be collected to distribute to families. Call Lottie at (802) 793-9131, or Lee Ann at (802) 274-3741.



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The annual election period for UVM Health Advantage Medicare Advantage health plans is Oct. 15–Dec. 7, 2021. MVP Health Plan, Inc. is an HMO-POS/PPO/MSA organization with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in MVP Health Plan depends on contract renewal. Other physicians/providers are available in the MVP Health Care network. Virtual care services from MVP Health Care are provided by UCM Digital Health, Amwell and Physera at no cost-share for members. (Plan exceptions may apply.) Members' direct or digital provider visits may be subject to co-pay/cost-share per plan.

OBITUARIES

PENNY LYNN (BAKER) DURANT

HARDWICK – Penny Lynn (Baker) Durant passed away at age 61, on Oct 14, surrounded by family. She battled cancer for many years, but is now resting.

Her life began on January 4, 1960, born as a fraternal twin, to her parents Delbert Baker and Janet LaCoss.

She was predeceased by her father Delbert, his wife, Jackie Baker and her stepfather, Richard LaCoss.

She grew up in the Hardwick area until she was a teenager, then spent her young adult years in Worcester and Barre. She enjoyed being young, free, and beautiful.

She had two sons, Shawn and Glenn, whom she loved very deeply, along with her three beautiful granddaughters, and great-grandson.

As an adult, she rooted on a dirt road back in Hardwick, and shared her life with her partner, Guy.

Penny was very close with her Native American heritage and spent a lot of time outdoors in her bare feet. She was creative and crafty.

Cooking, canning, making chocolates, holiday crafting, wreath making, gardening, landscaping, fishing, or hanging by the water were just a few things of the many that she loved to do -- and was good at!

She enjoyed gatherings and holidays. After her sons grew, she



Penny Lynn (Baker) Durant

held parties for the children in her extended family and community, such as Easter egg hunts and haunted forest trails.

She was best friends for life with her twin sister Shelley, and very close with her brother Dick, her younger sister Debbie, and half-brother Delbert Jr. She had many nieces and nephews that loved and grew up very close to their Aunt Penny.

She will be missed deeply by all who knew her. There are many memories and stories to be told about Penny's life that will be shared at her Halloween-themed Celebration of Life, open to all friends and family on November 6 at 2 p.m., 1376 Dutton Road, Hardwick.

KENNETH W. "KEN" BROWN SR.

EAST HARDWICK – Kenneth William "Ken" Brown Sr., 103, of East Hardwick died Monday October 18, at the St. Johnsbury Health & Rehabilitation Center, following declining health.

He was born June 5, 1918, in Wheelock; the son of the late Adrian V. and Clara Bell (McDowell) Brown. He attended Greensboro Public Schools.

He married Dorothea Evelyn Leavitt.

Ken enlisted the United States Army on June 28, 1941. In September 1944, he was transferred to serve his country in Northern France, Rhineland, and Central Europe. On November 19, 1944, his wife received word that Ken was missing in action. During that time he was wounded and held as a prisoner of war for nine months at a POW camp in Lunenburg, Germany. He was emancipated to Paris and returned to the United States for medical help. He was cared for and fed five times each day to help strengthen his body. Staff Sergeant Brown was Honorably Discharged on September 6, 1945, at Fort Devens, Mass.

During his earlier years, Ken was a carpenter and logger. Following his military service, he was a dairy farmer. He owned the Brown Farm on Center Road in East Hardwick. On week-ends Ken and Dorothea welcomed the public to their barn for an evening of enjoyment, country music and dancing. When Ken's health began to fail, the farm was sold to his son, Gary, and his longtime partner, Julie McCoy. Ken continued to manage his mail route.

He attended the South Walden Methodist Church; he was a life member of the American Legion Post # 7 in Hardwick and a life member of the POW-MIA organization. He enjoyed the farm



Kenneth W. "Ken" Brown Sr.

animals, dances at Brown's Barn and spending the winter months in Florida.

Survivors include three children, Sherral Lumsden and her husband, Larry, of Greensboro; Gary Brown of East Hardwick; and Donna Brown Colgrove and her husband, George Colgrove, Jr. of West Danville; 12 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren; 3 great-great-grandchildren; a sister, Dorothy Perron of Glover; many nieces, and nephews.

Ken was predeceased by his wife Dorothea in 1973; a son, Kenneth W. "Billy" Brown, Jr. in 1980; a great-grandson; and his siblings.

Graveside services with military honors will be held at 1 p.m., on Saturday, October 23, in the Sanborn Cemetery with Rev. Ernest Machia officiating.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to the Hardwick Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 837, Hardwick, Vt. 05843.

Arrangements are in the care of Dian R. Holcomb of Northern Vermont Funeral Service, 60 Elm Street, Hardwick. Online condolences are welcomed at northernvermontfuneralservice.com.

EDUCATION

Student Named to Honors List

MONTPELIER – Sasha Leyes of Hardwick, and Shannon Hewett of Wolcott were named to the Summer 2021 Student Honors

List at the Community College of Vermont (CCV). This honor recognizes part-time students with a 4.0 grade point average.

Miller Named to SNHU Dean's List

MANCHESTER, N.H. – Chandra Miller of East Calais has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's summer 2021 Dean's List. Eligibility for

the Dean's List requires that a student accumulate an academic grade point average (GPA) of 3.5-3.699 and earn 12 credits for the term.

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OBITUARIES

ROBERT CHRISTOPHER CHAPLIN

EAST HARDWICK – Robert Christopher Chaplin, born on June 29, 1994, to Stephanie Badger and Shawn Chaplin, passed away on October 20.

Robert was an avid outdoorsman and especially loved deer hunting. He started hunting at a young age and bagged his first buck at the age of 12. In 2012, he shot his most prized possession, a buck scoring him 126 1/8 with the Vermont Big Game Trophy Club and 121 4/8 with Boone & Crockett.

Robert loved four-wheeling, dirt biking, mud and was fearless. Robert began working with his dad in the woods when he was only three. Later on, he worked alongside his dad logging and loved running equipment. Robert was a “Jack of all trades” and was always willing to lend a hand. Robert had the gift of gab so much so it would sometimes take him all day to tell a 10-minute story. He had a love for the little kids in his life and they all loved him. Riding around on the back roads, singing in the truck even if he didn’t know the words were some of his favorite things to do. He was a mama’s boy and he didn’t care who knew. They had a special bond that can never be broken.

Robert is survived by his mother, Stephanie and her husband Jamie Block, his father Shawn Chaplin and his partner Aliesha Douglass, fiance Shamcie Cota and her daughter Neveah, half-brother Brighton Marsh,



Robert Christopher Chaplin

grandparents Charles and Dorothy Dow, Richard and Diane Badger, Roberta Winckler and Raoul McAllister, as well as great-grandmother Glendeen J. Parizo, aunts and uncles; Melissa Estivill, Kristen Badger, Chad Badger, Sarah Badger, Lonnie Winckler, Cheyenne Winckler, Angela Lopez Nava, Matthew McAllister, Wendy Palmer, Frank McAllister, Adam McAllister and Katie McAllister. He also leaves behind his best friend Dustin Dunbar and several cousins and honorary aunts and uncles. Robert was predeceased by his great-grandparents, Robert and Doris Chaplin.

Calling hours will be held on Saturday, November 6, from 5 to 7 p.m., at the desGroseilliers Funeral Home in Hardwick. Those planning to attend are thanked in advance for observing Vermont mask recommendations. Memories and condolences are welcome at dgfunerals.com. Burial will be at the convenience of the family.

ERNESTINE M. SHATNEY

JOHNSON – Ernestine May Shatney, 90, of Johnson passed away peacefully on Friday October 22, 2021 at Copley Hospital in Morrisville.

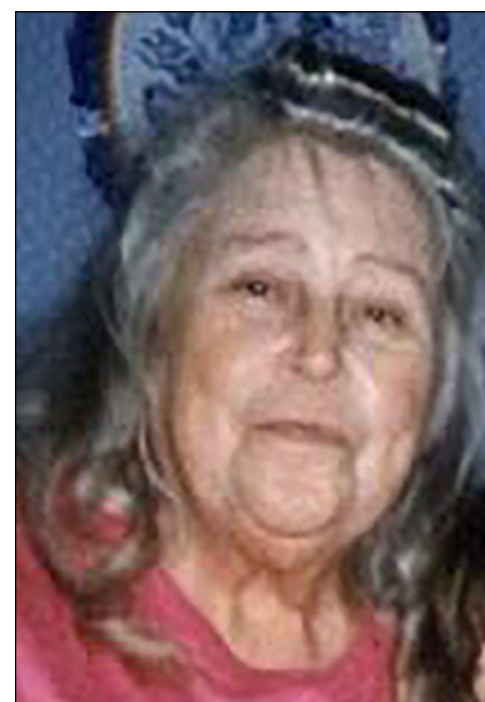
She was born January 30, 1931, in St. Johnsbury, the daughter of the late Seymour and Emily (Morse) Hutchinson. She attended Danville Public Schools and St. Johnsbury Academy.

On February 19, 1947, she married the love of her life, Ale William Shatney in West Danville. Together they raised five daughters. They lived in Walden, Cabot, Hardwick and Wolcott. Following the death of her husband, William “Ole Ted” in 2004, Ernestine made her home with her daughter, Florence and husband Howard Allen of Wolcott for 10 years and with her daughter, Barbara Hill of Johnson for the last four years.

Ernestine first was employed at the Greensboro Nursing Home as a cook and dietician. For more than 20 years, she cared for special needs state children in her home.

She loved family gatherings and cooking large meals for all to enjoy. She was a devoted mother and grandmother. The highlight of her life was spending time with her grandchildren. She enjoyed cooking, arranging flowers, vegetable and flower gardening. She will be remembered as a very shy lady who loved to stay at home and care for her family.

Survivors include five daughters, Florence Allen and her husband, Howard of Wolcott, RoseMary Hoadley and her husband, Lewis of Morrisville, Beverly Chase and her husband, Donald of Bethel Me., Barbara Hill of Johnson, and



Ernestine M. Shatney

Alice Boudreau and her husband, Lambert of Hyde Park; a step-son, John W. Sweeney of Baltimore, Md.; a brother, Bill Hutchinson of Danville; many grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; and a niece.

She was predeceased by a grandson, Matthew Boudreau.

To honor her request, all gatherings will be private at the convenience of her family.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to the Lamoille Home Health & Hospice, 54 Farr Avenue, Morrisville, VT 05661.

The family of Ernestine Shatney would like to extend many thanks to the staff at Copley Hospital for the care and kindness shown to our mother during her last days.

Arrangements are in the care of Dian R. Holcomb of Northern Vermont Funeral Service, 60 Elm Street, Hardwick. Online condolences are welcomed at northernvermontfuneralservice.com.

BIRTHS

Miles Clifton Lasher

A baby boy, Miles Clifton Lasher, was born to Nikita Wetherby and Jeremiah Lasher, of Craftsbury, on October 16 at Copley Hospital.

Hazel Woods Taska

A daughter, Hazel Woods Taska, was born to Benjamin and Sarah (Edes) Taska, of Woodbury, on October 6 at Copley Hospital.

WARNING

TOWN OF WOLCOTT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING November 10, 2021

The legal voters of the Town of Wolcott are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Wolcott Elementary School in said Town on November 10, 2021, at 6 o'clock p.m. to transact the following business from the floor:

Article 1.

Shall the voters in said Town authorize the Select Board to purchase up to 706 +/- acres of land on both sides of East Elmore Road to become a new Town Forest for the purpose of protection of recreation opportunities, education, public access, open space, scenic values, forestry, wildlife and water quality? Said purchase will be conditioned on the Town being able to receive grant funding for all but \$25,000.

Dated at Wolcott, Vermont this 8th day of October, A. D. 2021

Kurt Billings, Allen Carpenter, Kurt Klein
Richard Lee, Linda Martin

Attest: Belinda Clegg

Date: Oct. 8, 2021

Please be aware that masks are required and three feet of space at all times.

EDUCATION

Carlson Named to Dean's List

CANTON, N.Y. – Sofie Carlson, from Wolcott, has been named to St. Lawrence University's Dean's List for achieving academic excellence during the Summer 2021 semester.

Carlson is a member of the Class of 2023 and is majoring in environmental studies - economics. Carlson attended Peoples Academy.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must have completed at least four courses and have an academic average of 3.6 based on a 4.0 scale for the semester.

Macy Molleur enrolls at University of Utah

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah – Macy Molleur, of Woodbury, is among the 5,361 students who make up the University of Utah's Class of 2025, the largest freshmen class in school history. Molleur's major is listed as Film and Media Arts BA.

Enrollment of first-time freshmen increased 19.6% from fall 2020 and is the first class of over 5,000 students at the U. Last fall, first-time freshmen increased 5.5%.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

"Red Sky at Night, Sailors Delight" is an old adage that forecasts good weather the next day. October 13 proved to be a very nice fall day in the Hardwick area.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, October 31

THE HAFTA-HAVE-A-HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL, 4 - 6 p.m., Greensboro Village. Outdoors, rain or shine. Sponsored by Modern Times Theater and area organizations and individuals. Trick-or-Treating, hot food available by donation, small performances, and more. Information: moderntimestheater@gmail.com.

Monday, November 1

CELEBRATE RECOVERY, Mondays, 6 p.m., Touch of Grace AG Church, 104 Vt. Rt. 16, E. Hardwick. Men's Addiction Group. Information: 802-279-2185.

THE DADS' GROUP, every Monday, 5-6 p.m., at the Oxbow in Morrisville. A great place to connect with other Dads. Information: Rob at rcary@LRCVT.org or 802-730-3000.

Tuesday, November 2

THE MOMS IN RECOVERY Support Program, tailored to support pregnant and parenting mothers and their families. In person, every Tuesday, 1 - 2 p.m., North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn St., Suite 2, Morrisville. Information: crystal.morrissey@ncvrc.com, 802-635-0084.

Exhibits

MARCY LINDSTADT: Pandemic Pastels, through Nov. 16, Parker Pie Art Gallery, West Glover.

VOYAGE OF THE ARTFUL OTTER Wildlife Art Exhibition, through Oct. 31, Highland Center for the Arts, Greensboro. Information: highlandartsvt.org, 802-533-2000. Opening is Sunday, Oct. 17, 2 p.m.

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

"Shake & Holla" at Fuller Hall Nov. 2

ST. JOHNSBURY – Cata-mountain Arts is pleased to present "Shake & Holla" at St. Johnsbury Academy's Fuller Hall on November 2, at 7 p.m., as part of the KCP Presents performing arts series. Shake & Holla brings two Southern music acts, the "North Mississippi All Stars" and the "Rebirth Brass Band," together for the first time and includes Grammy-nominated blues musician Cedric Burnside.

"Shake & Holla" is a celebration of two Southern musical traditions: Mississippi "hill country" blues and the sounds of New Orleans big brass. Steeped in their own traditions, both acts also are part of the blues and soul music of America's Deep South.

The collaboration is completed with Grammy-nominated blues guitarist, vocalist, and drummer

Cedric Burnside, grandson of legendary Fat Possum recording artist RL Burnside.

In consideration of public safety, in deference to host venues, and in compliance with guidelines from local health officials, Cata-mountain Arts and KCP Presents require all artists, attendees, staff and stage crews to adhere to a COVID safety protocol. Anyone in attendance at a KCP Presents event must wear a mask, provide a photo ID, and furnish proof of vaccination or a negative PCR test result within 72 hours of show time. The purchase of a ticket to a KCP Presents event denotes compliance with this protocol.

For more information about COVID safety protocols and future KCP Presents shows, visit cata-mountainarts.org, kcppresents.org, or telephone (802) 748-2600.

MEETING MEMO

Tuesday, November 2

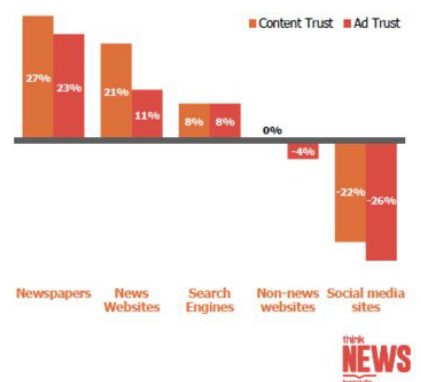
• **Danville School District Board of Directors' Regular Meeting**, 6 p.m., Danville School Library and remote access also available.

Town Websites, 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. www.waldenvt.gov. waldentc@pivot.net
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Ads with news, it found, are significantly more memorable than a six-second YouTube video and "on par" with 15-second video ads on YouTube. Despite the billions in advertising business Facebook does in a year, the effectiveness of those Facebook ads is questionable, based on the group's analysis. "Irrespective of the Facebook ad type, ads in news outperform Facebook by up to 4x," ThinkNewsBrands found.

Advertising, especially with news (like the Hardwick Gazette) continues to be accessible (always in our digital archives) and simply more effective than digital ads on social media platforms. "Social media is simply no alternative to news," the ThinkNewsBrands authors concluded. "News has strong reach, superior trust, memorability and business impact."

Place your advertising where it gets the most results:

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ads@hardwickgazette.com
 (802) 472-6521



DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS

Green Mountain Support Services, a specialized services agency, that provides person-centered supports to individuals with developmental disabilities, traumatic brain injury and adult family care is searching for two Direct Support Professionals in the Marshfield/Plainfield area to

work 39 hours per week and 30 hours per week. Both positions are fully benefited including health, dental/vision, life insurance, 403b, six weeks of CTO (combined time off).

The 39-hour-per-week position is working with two clients at different times. The first is working with a gentleman who enjoys socializing, walking, hiking, board and card games. He has a great sense of humor, setting boundaries will be helpful. The DSP should be comfortable administering medication, be familiar with seizure disorder and filling out proper paperwork during shift including daily notes. Training will be provided. The second position is working with a lady who enjoys going to the gym, getting nails done and going for walks. Will need help with redirection and likes to start her morning later than most, around 10 a.m.

The other position we are looking for the client prefers a male for the 30-hour-per-week position. The DSP should have experience working with individuals with disabilities, able to set and maintain clear firm boundaries, be comfortable with providing positive social and emotional modeling and redirection.

Extensive background checks will be completed before hire. A valid driver's license and high school diploma or equivalent is required. Visit www.gmssi.org, go to the Careers Page, fill out application and hit submit at bottom of page. Or, submit resume on Indeed. EOE

IN THE GARDEN

It's Time for Fall Plantings

by Henry Homeyer

CORNISH FLAT, N.H. – Spring is all about planting, but many gardeners overlook fall planting. Now is the time to plant garlic and spring-blooming flowers planted as bulbs. For me, fall planting is a joy: the thought of bulbs nestled into the ground just awaiting spring fills me with hope. And if you pick a good spot and plant them well, you are sure to succeed.

Let's start with garlic. I like to say that garlic is, essentially, a no-work crop: plant it, mulch it to keep the weeds down, and then harvest it. Right now, the hardest part will be to find "seed garlic," nice fat garlic bulbs that you can divide into cloves and plant. Many suppliers have sold out, but try your local garden center or feed and grain store. Don't buy conventional garlic at the grocery store to plant. It is usually treated with a chemical to keep it from sprouting,



courtesy photo
Hardneck garlic cloves surround a stiff neck and are best for New England gardens.

and is the wrong kind for New England. Hard-neck garlic is what you want.

When should you plant garlic? Late October is when I plant, but it is fine to plant earlier or later. It's best to plant after the soil has cooled down, but you will want the plants to establish roots before the soil freezes.

Pick a bed in your vegetable

or flower garden that is in full sun, and that has nice, rich soil that retains water but does not stay soggy in rainy times. If you have heavy clay, work in plenty of good compost- either your own, or some you purchase in a bag.

I plant garlic cloves in rows about 8 inches apart. Each clove I plant three inches deep and three or four inches apart. I run my CobraHead weeder down the bed to create a furrow and to loosen the soil. I sprinkle some Pro-Gro or other organic bagged fertilizer into the furrow and run my hand tool through it again. Then I push in cloves, pointy end up, cover it with soil, and pat it lightly.

Finally, I take mulch hay or straw and cover the bed with about 12 inches of loose straw. I know that seems like a lot, but by winter's end, it will be just 4 to 6 inches of cover. That should prevent most weeds from growing all summer – or until you harvest in late July. I always save my best bulbs of garlic for planting.

This is also the time to plant daffodils, tulips and all the small bulbs that bloom early. If you have a fenced yard, that will keep the deer from eating tulip blossoms when in bud, a real treat for them. If you have a problem with deer, you might want to avoid tulips, or plant them in pots for forcing.

Tulips and daffodils are generally labeled as early-season, mid-season or late-season. Plant plenty of each. Early ones are generally shorter, and I plant some, but I love the tall ones best. "Maureen" is my favorite tulip: she is 22 to 24 inches tall, and ivory to white. Fabulous in a vase. "Menton" is another nice tall one, pink petals outside with orange and white inside.

Although I have daffodils



courtesy photo

Camassia is a lesser-known bulb plant that blooms in May for me.

that still bloom after more than 50 years, tulips are less perennial. My rule of thumb is that if I plant 50, all will bloom the first year, half of that the second year, and half again the third year. So, I often plant them as annuals, and pull them or cut off the foliage when I plant annual flowers over them in June.

Bulb planting tools are sold that you can plunge into the soil and pull out a core of soil three inches wide. I don't like them. Soil sticks to the tool, and I find it much more time-consuming to plant bulbs one at a time. I prefer to excavate a big hole in the ground and plant 25 or 50 at once. Soil augers for your cordless drill are sold for planting bulbs, but most drills are not strong enough to do the job.

Here's what I do: I select a nice sunny spot that drains well and is not soggy in winter. Then I dig an oval hole about three feet long and two feet from front to back, which will serve well for 25 bulbs. For daffodils and tulips I want the hole at least six inches deep. I put the soil into a wheelbarrow or onto a blue tarp so it won't make a mess of my lawn or garden bed.

Next I add some good compost and either "Bulb Booster" or slow-release organic fertilizer, and work it into the soil with my CobraHead weeder, a single-tined hand tool. Then I arrange the bulbs in the loosened soil in the bottom of the hole, with fat bottom down,

and the pointy head up. I mix some compost into the soil I removed, and carefully fill the hole.

If space is at a premium, you can plant two layers of bulbs in the same hole. Plant the big bulbs in the bottom of your hole and add soil up to two or three inches below the soil line. Then plant small bulbs like crocus, snowdrops, glory-of-the-snow (*Chionodoxa* spp.) or squill (*Scilla siberica*). The small, early bulbs will delight you, and then the daffodils or tulips will overwhelm you – particularly if you forget you double-planted the bed.

I've been planting bulbs around my two-plus acres for decades because spring blossoms are the perfect antidote to a long New Hampshire winter. It is always a challenge to find a spot to squeeze bulbs in, but there is always someplace. This fall I am planting them between hostas I planted last year. The hosta foliage will hide the dying leaves of the daffodils after they bloom.



courtesy photo

I will plant about 10 daffodils between these hostas, which will hide the leaves of the daffies after blooming.



courtesy photo

Tulips are ephemeral, but worth trying.

YANKEE NOTEBOOK

A Very Distressing Phenomenon

by Willem Lange

EAST MONTPELIER – I’m sitting in my snug office, wearing fleece (damned if I’ll activate the thermostats yet!), listening to a cold rain dripping from the eaves, and thinking back about 48 hours to a happy circumstance – a golden apple of a day stolen from the weather gods – and a very distressing phenomenon: my only experience ever, as far as I can recollect, of being utterly spent physically.

When we’re young, the ache of extraordinary exertion strikes the following day; when we’re older, it ensues in two days. That’s today. Getting up from my office chair – which, thankfully, has arms – to respond to either Kiki’s needs or my own, is a bit of a challenge. Then there’s remembering to pick up my feet to negotiate the occasional carpets, mats, and door sills. The rain today has been a bit of a blessing: Canceling our daily walk in the hilly park has seemed advisable, even to Kiki.

Two days ago, I was in Crawford Notch. Of the three major north-south White Mountain Notches, Crawford’s my favorite. Pinkham is so big you can hardly appreciate it, and Franconia is dark and cliffy (and these days, crowded). In Crawford Notch, the infant Saco River is born in a pond just south of its height of land, and the infant Ammonoosuc from a pond less than half a mile to the north. From the north, a mostly flat plain rises gradually toward the granite jaws of the notch, and disappears like a waterfall, out of sight beyond them.

I’ve been here several times; even celebrated my eightieth birthday here, at the Appalachian Mountain Club’s Highland Center Lodge. Like all of the AMC’s recent constructions, it’s a little heavy on the concrete for my taste. But its heating system provides lots of work for local hardwood loggers, its emergency equipment is the latest, and a quiet moment’s listening detects a constant flow of air through the rooms. The buffet is good and plentiful, and the staff most personable.

But I wasn’t here just to spend the night in spectacular surroundings. I’d invited a friend to rendezvous with me at the beautifully restored Queen Anne-style Crawford Notch train depot. From there, we’d hike up Mount Willard – the trail begins just the other side of the tracks – and at the summit

enjoy the view deemed best-for-the-effort in the White Mountains. It’s rated as “moderate,” being just over a mile and a half each way, with an elevation difference of just under nine hundred feet. I’ve been up there several times before, once even with Randy Pierce, the well-known blind climber, and his guide dog, the Mighty Quinn. Even in my increasingly diminished physical state, it seemed like pretty low-hanging fruit.

And so it was, for the hundreds of happy hikers who streamed past us in both directions all day. Lots of couples and family groups, school groups, and one gang of dark-clad athletes (I’m guessing a rugby team) that plunged briskly past us on their way down. I just trudged slowly upward, one foot in front of the other, occasionally asking for a hand up at some of the higher steps. I must have appeared to be suffering, for at least a dozen people coming down encouraged us with “Almost there!” or “Only another five minutes,” neither of which bore any resemblance to reality. But, finally, there was the opening in the spruces ahead, the ledges that make for comfortable sitting above the spectacular view of the lower notch, and a crowd of happy hikers of all stripes. We even met a Sherpa couple from Namche Bazar, who offered me a banana. I should have said yes. I dutifully drank all my electrolyte replacement; we shared a couple of tomato sandwiches; I crunched a granola bar; and we headed down.

The descent of a rocky trail, especially after the exertion of the ascent, is quite a bit more difficult for the elderly. Every step has to be considered and executed just so; falling is a dangerous option. I derived some comfort from the throngs about us, streaming in both directions. Remember the song, “You’ll Never Walk Alone?” Not on Mount Willard, you won’t. I even speculated that in the event of immobility, they could have passed me down the mountain like a bucket brigade.

The last half-mile was nightmarish. The combination of age, neuropathy, and dehydration took away both strength and balance. Several husky fellows helped, and at the end, an amazingly empathetic couple stayed with us all the way back to my car, which I’d parked with great foresight that morning in the nearest handicapped spot. An hour later, after a shower and a glass of red wine, further existence seemed possible. After a great supper, it even began to seem like a good idea.

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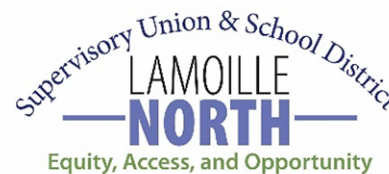
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Technology Assistant: Tier 0-1

Lamoille North School District is searching for a skilled and motivated Technology Assistant to join our team. The ideal candidate for this position has a good understanding of Information Technology and routinely thinks outside the box to solve problems quickly and understands what impeccable customer service is all about. The Technology Assistant will be responsible for responding to helpdesk requests and performing technical and system diagnostics as required. If you are interested in joining a collaborative team, please visit Schoolspring.com for more information.

EOE

Legislative Report

Previewing the 2022 Legislative Session

by Rep. Katherine Sims, Orleans-Caledonia District

GREENSBORO – With the legislature out of session, I’ve been back at my day job since May. Still, work in the legislature never really ends: I’ve continued connecting with constituents, drafting bills, and attending committee meetings so that I’m ready to go come January.

It’s vital that our rural perspective is represented in key conversations in the legislature. I’m tracking these conversations closely and working hard to bring your voice to these critical issues:

Forest Economy: Forests are vital to the environment, economy, ecology and culture of Vermont. We know that Vermont’s forest industry, like agriculture, faces serious challenges. A cross-party group of legislators (including me!) are meeting with Vermonters involved in all aspects of the forest economy to better understand what can be done to ensure a viable, sustainable forest economy in Vermont. What we learn from these visits will become a bill written to address the challenges.

Climate Change: The climate crisis calls for immediate action to lower Vermont’s emissions, make the energy that fuels our lives more affordable, and grow our green economy.

As charged by the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2020, the Climate Council is developing recommendations to be included in the Vermont Climate Action Plan. The guiding principles established by the Just Transitions sub-committee will ensure that communities most impacted by climate change and an energy transition are considered. The final plan will be adopted by the Climate Council in December and will inform legislation this coming session. Follow the work of the Vermont Climate Council at climatechange.vermont.gov/.

Education Funding: The Task Force on the Implementation of the Pupil Weighting Factors Report has been working on a plan for how the legislature should implement the new recommended weights into our complex education funding

formula. It’s an important job, as the weights have a profound impact on how we calculate equalized pupils, which in turn impacts taxing capacity from district to district.

At a recent taskforce public hearing, John Castle and Jen Botzjorns, both Superintendents from the Northeast Kingdom, offered powerful testimony on the importance of examining our funding system.

The implementation of the report’s recommendations will have significant implications for schools in rural areas with higher rates of poverty and English second language learners.

Reapportionment: Using the 2020 Census figures for Vermont, the Vermont Legislative Appointment Board is developing new statewide legislative districting plans. The board will make its recommendations to the Legislature, which will have the final say on the new map before it goes into effect for the 2022 election cycle.

As Chittenden County and the entire northwest region of Vermont continue to grow, the Northeast Kingdom and some southern regions of Vermont are declining in population. This means there will likely be considerable shifts in legislative districts. You can find the draft maps at sos.vermont.gov/apportionment-board/map-drafts/

Public Employee Pensions: The Pension Task Force has been reviewing and reporting on the benefits, design, and funding of retirement and retiree health benefit plans for the Vermont State Employees’ Retirement System and the Vermont State Teachers’ Retirement System. Learn more about the Task Force at legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/367.

Proposition 5: Proposition 5 proposes adding language to the Vermont Constitution stating that “an individual’s right to personal reproductive autonomy is central to the liberty and dignity to determine one’s own life course.” If the legislature approves Prop 5, then Vermonters will vote on the proposal in November of 2022.

As always, don’t hesitate to reach out if you have a question or concern.

Woodsmoke by Julie Atwood



“HAPPY HALLOWEEN!”



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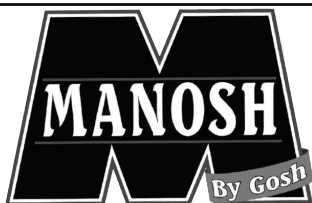
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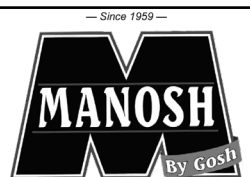
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SPORTS

Living Legends Run Miles Beyond Belief



photo by Laura Gould

Sterling College graduate Lance Parker, second from right, ran 102 miles to win the 30-hour Devil's Den Ultramarathon on October 9-10. Parker climbed 29,800 vertical feet during the race. The elevation of Mt. Everest, by comparison, is 29,032 feet. Parker was supported by ultramarathon friends (from left to right) Ben Feinson, Prem Linskey, and Kevin Ravasio.

by Jim Flint

BRADFORD – April Rogers Farnham of Plainfield was not feeling ready to tackle the Devil's Den Ultramarathon on October 9. But after pushing the race off a year because of the pandemic, she was eager to see what the trails in Bradford had to offer.

The devilish event involved running a six-mile loop as many times as possible within a 12-hour time limit. Runners climbed Wright's Mountain, elevation 1,822 feet, and wound their way back to the start. The trail traversed through a deep ravine called the Devil's Den, which is steeped in local folklore.

Farnham, 54, is a fitness instructor, salon owner, and running coach. She had just completed the Notch View Ultramarathon on September 10-12. Farnham ran 121.6 miles in 48 hours and placed third overall in the Windsor, Mass., race. She repeated a gently rolling 1.9-mile loop a mind-boggling 64 times.

The Notch View Ultra surpassed Farnham's previous long-distance record. On November 2, 2019, she ran the Hamster Wheel Ultra in New Boston, N.H. Farnham completed 20 loops on a flat four-mile course. She finished first overall in the 24-hour race.

The Devil's Den race was much more rigorous than Farnham's previous ultramarathons. The six-mile loop had 1,400 feet of elevation gain. Farnham completed six laps in 12 hours. The mostly single-track course had an abundance of rocks

and roots, including a steep section with a knotted rope to aid the runners.

"I decided to keep it slow and steady on the rugged loop," said Farnham. "This was the kind of course where your calves and glutes complain on the way up and your quads scream on the way down. I finished with 10,000 feet of elevation gain and almost 38 miles. It's one of those runs that you look back on and think, I can't believe I did that."

Farnham was not the only runner with ties to the greater Hardwick area who succumbed to the tempting allure of the Devil's Den. After a two-year hiatus from ultramarathoning, Sterling College graduate Lance Parker heard the long-distance Siren's call.

Parker, 27, came into the Devil's Den Ultra with four races of 100 miles or more under his belt. His first 100-mile race was the Big Horn Mountain Ultra in 2015. He rode his bicycle from Craftsbury to Dayton, Wyo., to compete in the race.

In 2017, he completed the granddaddy of Vermont ultramarathons, the Infinitus 888-kilometer race through the Moosalamoo Wilderness Area in Goshen. With help from Sterling College friends, he covered the 551-mile distance in just under 240 hours.

Before Parker left on his trek to Wyoming, Sterling College professor John Zaber gave him a Susan B. Anthony dollar coin. Parker still carries the coin for safety and good luck. During the Infinitus 888k, he left the coin at the highest point on the course.

"Whenever I felt like quitting, I knew that I needed to go just one more loop to the top of the mountain to pick up the coin," said Parker.

Parker ventured to Alaska in 2019 to work for Alaska Crossings, a wilderness trekking organization serving youths ages 12 to 18. He took time off from ultramarathoning to focus on other sports. Parker spent summers paddling and mountain climbing in Alaska and winters conquering the Rocky Mountains of Colorado.

Alaska Crossings shut down during the pandemic. Parker headed to Colorado and on to Vermont. He found a new job as field director for True North Wilderness, a family guide service based in Waitsfield. On days off, he reconnected with the New England ultramarathon community.

During July, Parker served as the lead pacer for his friend Ben Feinson, who set an end-to-end speed hiking record on the Long Trail. Feinson splashed through a puddle on July 14, touched the Long Trail welcome sign, and completed the 272-mile trek from the Canadian border to the Massachusetts border. Feinson accomplished the supported journey in four days, 11 hours, and 44 minutes.

Like a 21st century Forrest Gump, Parker kept on running. On September 12, he placed tenth of 169 finishers in the Mad Marathon. His time for the hilly 26.2-mile race was 3:24:24. Two weeks later he placed



courtesy photo

April Rogers Farnham of Plainfield completed two ultramarathons this fall. On September 10-12, she ran 121.6 miles in 48 hours to win the third-place belt buckle for the Notch View Ultramarathon. Farnham went on to run just under 38 miles in the Devil's Den Ultramarathon on October 9. She placed third overall in the grueling 12-hour race.

ninth in the Vermont 50 Miler. His finish time was 8:39:15.

The Devil's Den was Parker's ultimate challenge. He opted to run in the 30-hour version of the race, starting on October 9 and finishing on October 10. Ultramarathoning friends, including Ben Feinson, supported Parker's attempt during the day and night. They cooked food for him, helped to repair his wrecked feet, and provided encouragement.

"The weather conditions were unrealistically perfect," said Parker. "Daytime temperatures were in the low 60s and dropped to the low 40s at night. I ran the loop the day before the race and camped in a tent at night. I got to know every person in the race. My focus was on community over competition."

Parker ascended and descended the arduous six-mile mountain loop 17 times. He climbed 29,800 feet. On the last lap, he picked up his Susan B. Anthony coin from the summit of Wright's Peak and ran the final mile to the finish line. He reached the 102-mile mark in 27 hours and 45 minutes.

"There are few things in my life as overwhelming as running a race like Devil's Den," Parker wrote in a post. "It makes me face all the realities of life with none of the constructed comforts I'm so used to. It makes me face the fact that I think I'm an imposter. It makes me feel undeserving. And it brings me right back around to the deep gratitude I have for those in my life that have faith in me through it all."

SPORTS



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Hazen varsity cross-country runners who participated in the race October 20 hosted by Hazen (from left): Edythe McKenzie, Cassandra Royer, Carter Hill, Lisa Velten, Tobias Benson, Marta Mas Garvigo and Ella Considine.

Hazen Union Hosts XC Meet on Hardwick Trails

by Jim Flint

HARDWICK -- Hazen Union held a unique home cross-country meet on October 20. A field of 42 middle school runners and 41 varsity runners turned out for the event at Hardwick Trails. The Wildcat harriers worked with head coach Netdahe Stoddard to design the 1.5-mile middle school course and



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Cassandra Royer of Hazen finished fourth in the combined varsity race held on Hardwick Trails October 20. She was the top female finisher in the 3.25-mile race. Her time was 27:18.

the 3.25-mile course for the high schoolers.

The meet was a low-tech adventure race. The varsity runners took on the steepest hills at Hardwick Trails. The terrain included some slippery, chewed-up sections of trail where students from the Green Mountain Technical Center's forestry program had recently skidded logs. Runners ran over rocks and roots. They dodged around a broken-down skidder in the middle of one trail.

Boys and girls raced together at the middle school and varsity levels. Several Hazen Union runners helped runners from other schools to navigate the challenging course.

"Everyone made it out of the woods without injury and cheered each other on," said coach Stoddard. "It was an epic trail race on the hardest course anyone had run this year."

Peter Searles from Danville, Ethan Parrish from Twinfield, and Bobby Jones from Peoples Academy were the top three finishers in the varsity race. Their respective times were 23:12, 23:31, and 25:09.

Hazen Union's Cassandra Royer placed fourth in the varsity race and was the top female runner. Her time was 27:18. Camryn Hoffman from Twinfield Union, Mara Bowers from Peoples Academy, and Lisa Velten from Hazen Union were the second, third, and fourth female finishers. Their respective times were 29:34, 30:00, and 30:37.

Carter Hill ran one of his strongest races for Hazen Union. His time of 29:47 placed tenth overall. Edie McKenzie (41:10), Marta Mas Garrigo (41:11), and Tobias Benson (41:12) ran in a pack as they completed the rigorous course.

In the middle school race, Hazen Union's Thomas Kehler notched his fourth victory of the season. Manny Fliegelman captured fourth place for the Wildcats.

Finn Burgess placed 12th overall. She was the fastest middle school girl. The Hazen Union middle schoolers were well-conditioned for the race. On October 14, their classes completed a ten-mile "Walk to Water" from Hardwick to



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Netdahe Stoddard has been the cross country coach at Hazen for six years.

Greensboro.

"The cross-country team is committed to each other," said head coach Netdahe Stoddard. "If I can't be there for a practice, they get together on their own to run. It's a joy to be a part of their positive experience."



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Carter Hill was the top finisher for the Hazen Union varsity boys. He placed 10th overall in the 3.25-mile race with a time of 29:47.

SPORTS



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Twinfield-Cabot's Shea Winter (#26) dribbles the ball past a Bellows Free Academy player Saturday during action at Twinfield. The game ended in a scoreless tie after double overtime.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Twinfield-Cabot's Declan O'Connor (#21) dribbles upfield followed by Charles Galley (#8) of BFA October 23 at Twinfield. The game ended in a 0-0 tie after double overtime.

Trojans Roll into Postseason with Momentum

by Ken Brown

PLAINFIELD – The Twinfield-Cabot boys' soccer team will enter the postseason this week as legitimate contenders in Division IV after wrapping up the regular season last week with a win against Craftsbury Academy (CA) and a scoreless draw against Division III power BFA-Fairfax.

Eighth grader Sam McLean bent a beautiful corner kick to the far post for the eventual game winner last Wednesday to lead Twinfield-Cabot past the Chargers 2-0 at home. Meles Gouge teamed up with Brody Moran late in the match for some insurance for his team-leading eighteenth goal of the season. Jas Zendik made nine saves for the Chargers in the loss as they fell to 3-10.

"They packed the back and denied us some easy scoring opportunities, but we did a nice job of moving the ball and controlling tempo. We created several quality attacks, but Zendik is a phenomenal keeper and is tough to beat. Sam's goal was a beautifully placed corner, and our defense did a great job of

denying them any scoring opportunities," said head coach Peter Stratman.

The Trojan defense continued to show its teeth on Saturday, battling BFA-Fairfax to 0-0 draw at Cabot Field. Neil Alexander made seven stops for Twinfield/Cabot and the backline led by Alec Moran, Sam Russell, Silas Robbins, and Cooper Bernatchy stiffened once again to record their seventh shutout of the season. Chris Dukeshire made four saves for the Bullets as they wrapped up the regular season with a 7-6-1 record. The Trojans earned the fourth seed with a 10-2-1 record in upcoming Division IV tournament and will host their third consecutive playoff match since Stratman took over the program in 2019.

"It was a battle from start to finish, we knew going in they had a potent offense that was capable of scoring a lot of goals. Our defensive unit was awesome, Neil was phenomenal in goal, and our guys displayed great communication, incredible work ethic, and quality decision making. We had our chances offensively, but their keeper did a

fantastic job coming off his line. I'm so proud of how this team has come together and grown over the course of the season. It's a great group of guys and I really enjoy working with them," said Stratman.

The Trojans earned one of the four byes into the Division IV quarterfinals and will host the winner of the first-round match-up between fifth-seeded Twin Valley and No. 12 Danville on Friday afternoon.

Wildcats Finish Strong Heading into Postseason

by Ken Brown

HARDWICK – The Hazen Union boys' soccer team secured a home playoff match with a win over Lyndon Institute (LI) last week before narrowly falling to Peoples Academy (PA) in their regular season finale.

Jadon Baker and Tyson Davison each scored a goal in the first half to lead the Wildcats past the Vikings last Monday 2-1 at Hudson Fields. Aiden Hale found the back of the net for LI just before halftime to make it 2-1 at the break. Tyler Rivard made six stops on the day and the Hazen Union defense stiffened the rest of the way to improve to 6-8 and earn their fifth win of the

season in the rugged Capital Division. Nick Matties had a stellar game for the Vikings, making 18 saves in the loss.

"We scrimmaged them in late August before the season started so it was fun to watch how far we've grown as a team the past two months," said head coach Allison Paradee. "Both teams put up a great fight, but we were able to make a few more key plays and secure another important win within the Capital Division," added Paradee.

Matthew Moeykens buried the game-winner with ten minutes left in regulation to propel PA to a hard-fought 2-1 home win over the

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over the Wildcats last Wednesday. Reed Kehler gave Hazen an early 1-0 lead, but Ollie Nigro found the equalizer and would also assist on Moeykens' game-winner. Tyler Rivard had another strong game for Hazen, making 19 stops on the day. The Wolves improved to 9-3-1 on the season and will be the fifth seed in the upcoming Division III tournament.

"We were without Cody Trudeau for the match and we definitely felt his absence. It was a great fight by our guys against a team that was big, strong, and had a deep bench. Reed was amazing and although the guys felt bummed to not come out on top, I think they are starting to realize how much they've improved throughout the season and how hard they've battled some of these top teams in the Capital Division. I'm proud of this team for how they've adapted to a new coach and a new division and were able to secure a home playoff match along the way. We hope to get Cody back this week and continue to get healthy as a team and we're excited for the postseason," said Paradee.

Hazen Union secured the sixth seed in the Division III playoffs and hosted No. 11 Leland & Gray on Tuesday. If they advance, they will travel to third-seeded Enosburg on Friday in the quarterfinals.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Hazen senior Reed Kehler (#6) advances the ball up the field followed by a Lyndon player during a game at Hazen October 18. The Wildcats won 2-1.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Hazen junior Cody Trudeau (#7) controls the ball ahead of Alvaro Bertran (#14) of Lyndon Monday on Hudson Field. In back is Xavier Hill (left) of Hazen and Gavin Haskins (right) of Lyndon.

Twinfield-Cabot Girls Complete Amazing Turnaround

by Ken Brown

PLAINFIELD – The Twinfield-Cabot girls' soccer team started the week with a loss to Division II power Missisquoi Valley (MV), but defeated Hazen Union in their regular season finale to secure their first winning season as a program since 2011.

Alex Brouillette scored twice to lead MV to 5-1 road win over the Lady Trojans last Tuesday. Ava Hubbard, Destinee Pigeon, and Abigail Raleigh all scored a goal apiece for the Lady Thunderbirds as they improved to 10-3-1 on the season. Senior captain Eva Hebert scored the lone goal for Twinfield-Cabot and Ida Astick made four saves in the loss. Madison Aiken made five stops for a stingy MV team that has outscored its opponents 51-17 on the season.

"They are a very strong team out of our division, but it was much more competitive than the score showed," said head coach Seth Wilmott. "The girls moved the ball really well on the ground and we had our moments where we possessed the ball really well. Ida made some great saves when she needed to and I'm not upset about the outcome against a team like that at all," added Wilmott.

Hebert continued to play her best soccer of the season on Friday, scoring two more goals to lead the Lady Trojans past Hazen Union at home, 4-2. Annie Dunlop and Alice

McLane each had a goal and an assist for Twinfield-Cabot as they finished the regular season winning six of their last eight matches. Ida Astick made six stops in the win. Natalie Michaud scored twice for Hazen Union and Madeline Kaiser recorded six saves in the loss. The win secured a home playoff game for Wilmott's 8-6 squad for the second consecutive year. He took over a total rebuild at Twinfield-Cabot five years ago and now has his team positioned as the fifth seed in the upcoming Division IV tournament. Hebert, Nicole Gouge, Julia Light, and Makayla Quintin were all honored before the match on senior night.

"This season we've faced the toughest schedule since I started coaching here and the girls have had a very successful season so far. Overall, I thought we played well, but there were moments where their counter attack had us on our heels. I'm very proud of how the girls collectively were able to combat that and possess the ball out of the back under pressure. It meant a lot to the girls to finish the regular season strong, especially on senior night, so it was nice to come away with the win," said Wilmott.

The Lady Trojans will host No. 12 Sharon Academy on Wednesday in the first round of the Division IV tournament. If they advance, they will face the winner of the MSJ-Hazen Union match in the quarterfinals on Friday.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Twinfield-Cabot goalie Ida Astick secures the ball from Caitlyn Davison of Hazen Union during action at Twinfield October 22. Twinfield-Cabot won 3-2.

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courtesy photo

Craftsbury Academy's Amelia Circosta trails Audrey Neilson of Charlotte Central School in Saturday's Vermont Middle School Girls' State Championship race. The girls are nearing the top of a steep hill at the two-kilometer mark in the race. Circosta caught and passed Neilson with 150 meters to go in the race.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Hazen Union's Thomas Kehler (#221), AJ West (#182) of Peoples and Ryan Richard (#300) of Danville lead the runners onto Hardwick Trails for the start of the combined middle school race hosted by Hazen on October 20. Kehler (left) won the 1.5-mile race with a time of 10:91.

Craftsbury Middle Schooler Wins State Championship

by Jim Flint

WILLISTON – Amelia Circosta capped off a perfect season Saturday at the Vermont Middle School Cross Country

Championships. Running in her largest race ever, she placed first out of 222 fifth-grade to eighth-grade girls. The state championship was her closest victory in five middle school contests this fall.

Circosta is home-schooled. She trains with the Craftsbury Academy varsity team. For middle school races, she dons the blue and white singlet of the Chargers. Competing last year as an unattached runner, she placed second in the state middle school championship.

In three meets this fall, Circosta ran far ahead of her nearest competitors. Her closest margin of victory was at the Woods Trail Run in Thetford, where she finished six seconds in front of Anna Moser of Rutland Town Middle School. Moser was the 2020 Vermont Middle School state champion.

The Catamount Outdoor Family Center hosted Saturday's

championships. Craftsbury Academy head coach Mike Levangie and Circosta worked out a race strategy. Instead of going right out in front, Circosta planned to stay with the lead runner and save enough energy for the sprint to the finish line.

The starting area of the race was narrow. Circosta wasted no time getting some running room. Audrey Neilson, of Charlotte Central School, and Anna Moser, from Rutland Town, paced with her in the lead pack. At the half-mile mark, Neilson pulled ahead. Circosta and Moser tucked in behind.

Partially sunny skies and temperatures in the mid-40s

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photo by Vanessa Fournier

Manny Fliegelman finished 4th in the combined boys' and girls' middle school 1.5-mile race. His time was 11:28.

Athletes of the Week



Senior captain Eva Hebert (left) of Twinfield-Cabot scored three goals on the week, including two in Twinfield-Cabot's regular season finale 4-2 win vs Hazen Union. The Lady Trojans finished 8-6, the program's first winning record since 2011, and are heading to the playoffs. Sophomore Meles Gouge (right) of Twinfield-Cabot scored his team-leading 18th goal of the season in a 2-0 win over Craftsbury Academy this week. The Trojans are 9-2 heading into their regular season finale vs BFA-Fairfax on Saturday.



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ideal running conditions. The course was dry with a mix of grassy and wooded trails. Fallen leaves hid tree roots on parts of the forested paths. Circosta took the lead on the first wooded section so she could more easily see the trail ahead.

A three-tiered uphill lay ahead in the middle section of the course. Neilson passed Circosta and gained a ten to 15-yard lead on the quarter-mile climb.

“The Charlotte runner was good on the uphill, so I tried to make up my time on the flats and the downhill,” said Circosta. “This was a different experience from previous races, where I’ve run alone. Someone was right ahead of me. I had to stick with it I wanted to win.”

Circosta closed the gap as they raced down the backside of the hill and across a large open field. Spectators lined the finish chute cheering loudly for the fast-approaching runners. With 150 meters to go, Circosta made her move. Neilson tried to surge with her and almost retook the lead. Circosta held her position. She blocked out the spectators and focused solely on the finish line.

Circosta finished the 3.2-kilometer race with a two-second victory. Her time of 11:52 was a new personal best for a 3k race. Neilson placed second in 11:54. Moser captured third place in 12 minutes flat.

“The best part of the race was how intelligent Amelia is as a runner,” said Craftsbury Academy head coach Mike Levangie. “You can have a plan, but to execute it is something you don’t often see

a middle school runner do. Amelia was smart enough to back off on the hill and maintain her effort, knowing that she could close the gap. She didn’t deviate from

her race plan even though it was a battle with the Charlotte runner. They were both going after it right to the finish line.”



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Hazen’s Finn Burgess was the first middle school girl finisher. Her time was 14:02 for the 1.5-mile race.



courtesy photo
Amelia Circosta of Greensboro is the 2021 Vermont middle school girls’ state champion in cross country. Circosta trains and races with the Craftsbury Academy cross-country team, coached by Mike Levangie. The championship race was held at the Catamount Outdoor Family Center in Williston. Circosta finished the 3.2-kilometer course in 11 minutes and 52 seconds.

Chargers Continue to Show Fight in Tight Matches

by Ken Brown

PLAINFIELD – The Craftsbury Academy (CA) boys’ soccer team continued to show incredible growth from the start of the season last week as they dropped a pair of highly-contested matches to Twinfield-Cabot and Richford to wrap up the regular season.

Eighth grader Sam McLean scored on a corner kick midway through the second half to lead Twinfield-Cabot to a 2-0 home win over the Chargers last Wednesday. McLean broke a 0-0 stalemate after sixty minutes of play and Meles Gouge added an insurance goal late in the match for the Trojans tenth win of the season. Jas Zendik was stellar in goal for the Chargers, making nine stops on the day. Neil Alexander didn’t have to make a save for Twinfield-Cabot to record his seventh shutout of the season.

“Unfortunately, on many occasions this season we just didn’t have enough quality combinations to be a threat offensively and be strong defensively at the same time,” said head coach Sam Jay. “Most of our players that start matches are out there for 80 minutes, while the opposition is cycling through substitutions and keeping their team fresh. Our boys gave a tremendous effort, but we know to improve our program we have to work incredibly hard at recruitment to get a

bigger squad next season,” added Jay.

Jonas Lagasse scored the game-winner with eight minutes left in regulation to give Richford a 2-1 home win over the Chargers last Friday in both team’s regular season finale. Junior Cole VanWinkle converted a penalty kick midway through the second half to give the Chargers a 1-0 advantage. Aske Greve found the equalizer five minutes later for Richford, setting up Lagasse’s late game heroics. The Falcons improved to 6-8 on the season with the win.

“I was pleased with my whole team’s effort in our final regular season match of the season. Sophomore Dylan Washer was a warrior in the midfield and came off the pitch caked in mud and exhausted after giving everything for the team. Jas put together another incredible display in goal for us defensively and Cole showed great composure for his team leading eighth goal of the season. I’m proud of how these boys have grown over the season and they have to be one of the most improved teams in the state,” said Jay.

The Chargers are the eleventh seed heading into the Division IV playoffs and traveled to No. 6 White River Valley on Tuesday. If they pull the upset, they will face third-seeded Sharon Academy on Friday in the quarterfinals.

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SPORTS



photo by Vanessa Fournier

The Twinfield-Cabot cross-country team (from left): 8th year coach Cathy duPont, Camryn Hoffman, Samuel Sainz, Colin McIntyre, Ethan Parrish, Assistant Coach Amina Yachfine. Missing from the photo: Gigi Guerin.

Twinfield Union Runners Improve by Leaps and Bounds

by Jim Flint

PLAINFIELD – Twinfield Union High School’s aspiring cross-country squad made up for its small numbers this fall with big strides of progress. The Trojans’ three varsity athletes and two middle school runners set and reset several personal best marks this season.

Junior Ethan Parrish likes to run barefoot when a course is suitable. At the Danville Invitational on September 14, he finished third in 22:26. His 5k time improved to 21:41 on October 6 at the hilly Craftsbury Invitational. He set his most recent 5k personal best at the Lamoille Meet on October 19. His time of 20:06 placed seventh of 46 runners.

Sophomore Sam Sainz also did well at the Lamoille Meet. He placed 16th in a personal best effort of 22:09. His finish time was more than seven minutes faster than his best 5k time as a freshman.

Camryn Hoffman is the sole varsity girl for Twinfield Union. She is a two-sport athlete from Cabot who also plays soccer. Hoffman had her best finish of the season on the tough course

at Hardwick Trails. She was the second varsity girl to cross the finish line. Hoffman placed ninth out of 41 boys and girls in the combined varsity race.

Colin McIntyre (sixth grade) is in his first year of running. He competed in seven middle school races this season. At the Vermont State Middle School Championship on October 23, McIntyre placed 196th of 264 boys. His time of 15:50 for the 3.2k course was a new personal best.

Gigi Guerin (seventh grade) is also a first-year runner for the Trojans. She finished six races this season. On September 28, she placed tenth at the Twinfield home meet and set a personal best 3k time of 16:49.

“I love running and my goal as a coach is for my students to love it as well,” said head coach Cathy DuPont. “The team this year is small, but they are dedicated and supportive of each other. Every day they show up for practice ready to work hard because they understand that they have to put in the effort to get results. They have worked hard and it is showing with increased strength and endurance.”



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Twinfield-Cabot’s Ethan Parrish (#235) finished 2nd in the 3.25-mile combined varsity race with a time of 23:31. Sam Sainz (right) of Twinfield-Cabot finished 4th overall. His time was 28:25. Twinfield-Cabot’s Camryn Hoffman (center in red) placed 2nd for girls and 9th overall with a time of 29:34.

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photo by Vanessa Fournier
Tessa Luther (#1) of Hazen controls the ball as Richford's Holly Raymond (#11) tries to steal on Hudson Field on October 19. Hazen won 2-0.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Kim Linh DeBona (right) of Twinfield-Cabot passes the ball followed by Hazen's Gabriela Stanciu (left) during an October 22 game at Twinfield.

Hazen Union Girls Claim First Victory of Season

by Ken Brown

HARDWICK – In front of their home crowd, after enduring growing pains of a young team throughout the season, the Hazen Union girls' soccer team earned their first win last week against Richford on Hudson Fields.

Alexis Christensen scored the eventual game-winner in the first half unassisted, and the defense did the rest as the Lady Cats blanked Richford at home last Tuesday, 2-0. Natalie Michaud buried a feed from Caitlyn Davison in the second half to give

Hazen Union a two-goal cushion. Madeline Kaiser made 11 stops on the day and the Lady Cat defense recorded their first shutout of the season. Aubrey Fadden made nine saves in the loss for Richford as they fell to 5-7.

"The girls did great and put a strong team effort in for 80 minutes and got the win they deserved," said head coach Harry Besett. Our offense was calm and patient and our defense was solid and it was a perfect response to a tough previous match. The players should be proud of that performance, know that their fans and community are,

as well, and it represents the best preview of the very high potential for a team that doesn't have any seniors on it," added Besett.

Eva Hebert scored twice to lead Twinfield-Cabot to a 4-2 home win on Friday in the regular season finale for both teams. Natalie Michaud continued to emerge as a dangerous goal scorer for the Lady Cats with two more tallies on the day. Madeline Kaiser made six saves in the loss as Hazen Union ended the regular season at 1-12-1. Ida Astick made six stops for the Lady Trojans, who ended the regular season at 8-6.

"This was a very close match and it is another preparation for our first round challenge of Mount St. Joseph Academy (MSJ) this week. If we can pull the upset, we've got the exciting prospect of a rematch with Twinfield-Cabot in the quarters, something we'd be very excited about after such a tight first match," said Besett.

The Lady Cats will travel to fourth seeded MSJ on Wednesday in the first round of the Division IV playoffs. If they advance, they would face the winner of Twinfield-Cabot vs. Sharon Academy in the quarterfinals on Friday.

Lady Chargers Limp into the Postseason

by Ken Brown

ENOSBURG – The Craftsbury Academy (CA) girls' soccer team is battling several injuries at the end of their season as they fell to Enosburg before being forced to forfeit their regular season finale against BFA-Fairfax last week.

Maegan Oliver scored twice to lead Enosburg to a 5-1 home win over the Lady Chargers last Tuesday. Hannah and Haylee Salter recorded their first goals at the varsity level for Enosburg and Gabby Spaulding added a first half score. Adelina Augsberger made it 3-1 midway through the first half with her first career varsity goal for Craftsbury, but Enosburg's defense stiffened the rest of the way. Rachel Bailey made nine stops in the loss for CA and Zoe McGee made five stops for the Lady Hornets as they improved to 5-4-3.

The Enosburg players wore pink jerseys to raise awareness and support the fight against breast cancer.

"They're a very good Division III program and, unfortunately, our defense really struggled in the first half. It is tough to come back against a team like that on the road," said head coach Tom Silva. "Ella Gillespie and Ida Eames created some great offensive pressure for us in the second half and Adelina had a beautiful goal and is going to grow into a very good player for us. I liked the way we competed after the break, but we gave up some soft goals early and we will need to tighten that up heading into the post-season," added Silva.

The Lady Chargers had several injuries, including leading goal scorer Ida Eames after the Enosburg match and elected to forfeit

the BFA-Fairfax match on Friday due to low numbers. Silva hopes to get healthy in a hurry with the Division IV postseason right around the corner.

"We are hoping to have everyone back and ready to go this week, but Ida could be a long shot. She'll get treatment all week and we'll cross our fingers for Wednesday. Our girls have shown this season that when everyone is healthy and on their game, they can compete with anybody and we are looking forward to this week," said Silva.

Craftsbury is the No. 11 seed in the tournament and will travel to sixth-seeded Arlington on Wednesday to kick off the first round. If they pull the upset, they will play the winner of the West Rutland-Twin Valley match in the quarterfinals on Friday.