

THE Hardwick Gazette

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INDEPENDENT LOCAL NEWS SINCE 1889

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

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Clerks say, BYOB: Bring Your Own Ballot

by **Raymonda Parchment**

CRAFTSBURY, WOLCOTT, WOODBURY – From town to town, the election day process varies in length, difficulty and turnout. Town clerks, election officials and other contributors work to ensure the process is fair, accurate, and importantly, efficient. While each polling center must abide by state and federal regulations while performing the process, election day looks a little different for every polling place.

A few common themes were in evidence at the Woodbury, Wolcott and Craftsbury polls for the Tuesday general election. Forgotten ballots and various voter registration

woes popped up across the board, as poll workers did their best to serve their respective towns.

Town Clerk Robin Durkee said voter turnout in Woodbury was up this election, especially walk-ins. They also had a surge of mail-in ballots; an increase from the last election. “We had 366 mail-in ballots this year,” she said

According to Durkee, the voter verification process is similar to other municipalities. “They have to state their first and last name, and if we don’t recognize them we ask for I.D.”

Durkee said this year overseas ballots have posed a unique

See **BALLOT, 3**



Elaine Parker (from left), Chris Ditmeyer and Assistant Town Clerk Kristin Broskey prepare to greet voters in Plainfield on November 5.

photo by Catherine Morrissey

GOP Surprises, Business as Usual

by **Paul Fixx**

AREA TOWNS – Area residents got some surprises Tuesday evening as election results rolled in when the Caledonia and Orleans County Senate seats long occupied by Democrat Sen. Jane Kitchell and Sen. Bobby Starr were won by Republicans, current Rep. Scott Beck and relative unknown Sam Douglass.

Beck received 58.3% of the vote to Cochrane’s 41.7%, attributable to both his name-recognition in the community and significantly out-raising Umbrella’s Amanda Cochrane \$63,432 to \$39,300, according to November 1

campaign finance reports. The total exceeded \$100,000 for the first time in county history.

Beck said, “I am grateful for the support I received throughout the Caledonia Senate District and am eager to get to work.” He congratulated Cochrane on running a clean campaign on the issues. “After tonight every state legislator should much more clearly understand that their job is to represent their people, not political parties, special interests, or their own personal agenda.”

“While the results aren’t what we’d hoped for, I want you to know how proud I am of

See **SURPRISES, 4**



A sealed blue box received by the Wolcott Town Clerk from the Vermont Secretary of State’s (SOS) office contains two data cards for the vote tabulator to record votes on. Filled with vote tallies after the election, they are boxed, resealed and returned to the SOS.

photo by Raymonda Parchment

Local Election Process Secure, Say Poll Workers



Woodbury Assistant Town Clerk Pamela Ankuda (left) watches as Danielle Livellara (right) feeds her ballot into the election tabulator Tuesday in the Town Hall.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

by **Kate Lewton**

AREA TOWNS – Despite concerns about mail-in voting, local poll workers say the process is secure. In a tumultuous time with trust in institutions declining, local poll workers want voters to know they can be trusted.

On election day, many Vermonters volunteered as official poll workers, running polling places and handling ballots.

The common thread among them was they believed in democracy and in voters. Integrity is something integral to them.

In Plainfield, poll worker Elaine Parker said she tried to create a sense of community among what can feel divisive.

She believes there is something inherently human about voting in person.

“I see more and more that people are a little uncomfortable with putting their ballot in a mailbox, especially because the postal service is not well funded in this country and they’re really stressed,” she said. “I also think there’s something really special about voting in person.”

She understands the anxiety around voting fraud, but wants to ensure that the ballots and their journey are in good hands. Every procedure is done with attention to regulated processes.

“Partly due to our size, there are just so many eyes looking at everything. We have a set procedure and I don’t see how there could be fraud,” she said.

“But that’s a widespread belief in this country now. So you have to be sure. That’s why we’re being very careful.”

See **SECURE, 2**

WHERE ELSE?

• Where else would the public get coverage of candidates for local and state offices, of the news that Habitat for Humanity will be building two housing units in Greensboro Bend, of the beautiful mural recently unveiled in The Bend, of unbiased coverage of the critical issues such as the future of the Lakeview School or discussion of the proposed use of town hall, of events at the Highland Arts Center, of coverage of Hardwick sports and local teams?

Remember the value received and how an investment by you will make the service even better. As a 501(c)(3), all donations in support of this valuable resource are tax deductible. Your support, through a donation, will help us fill the vacuum in local news and the continuation and expansion of full and unbiased information about the things that directly impact your lives. Please consider giving your support to the Gazette and its hard-working staff.

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Peoples Academy Students Shared Opinions about Voting

by Olivia Saras

MORRISVILLE – National Honor Society (NHS) students at Peoples Academy in Morrisville were asked whether they would vote in this election if they had the opportunity. Other seniors who could vote shared their plans for voting and why.

Senior Abigail Bunch remarked that even if she could vote she wouldn't because "the electoral college is already decided so there's no point."

Another NHS senior felt they would vote if able to, as "It's an important way to practice democracy in our country. I think even if the electoral college is determined there are lower positions that still need a vote."

Devin Hatoff stated that, although he isn't able to vote,

given the opportunity he would because, "The election is so close that literally every vote counts and that if you don't it's almost like you don't care."

Emily Plante agreed with Hatoff, saying she would vote "Because the more votes there are, the more influence."

Two members of the senior class who are 18 and able to vote shared their thoughts on voting in this election. Calvin Morwood said he wouldn't because he feels "It is chaos either way." He later stated that he feels local elections are more important.

Masson Wells, on the other hand said "I plan to vote but want to educate myself. I don't want to be influenced. I want to see what my opinion is then vote."

When asked why it is important for first-time student



Cabot Town Clerk Betty Ritter shares a laugh with a poll worker on November 5. photo by Catherine Morrissey

voters to vote, Advanced Placement U.S. History teacher Courtney Emerson said "It's the first time that you as a U.S. citizen get to use your voice and at the end of the

day, your voice is your power." Students in Emerson's class were briefly taught about swing states and how they can affect the presidential election.



Roger Fox (from left); Amanda Cochrane, candidate for Caledonia County Senate and Ilene Dickinson hold campaign signs at the corner of North Main and Church Streets, near the Hardwick Town Hall polling place, on election day, photo by Paul Fixx

Election Opinions Mixed

by Megan Cane

WALDEN, STANNARD – The election kicked off in Walden and Stannard at 7 a.m. on November 5.

Poll workers in Walden said they received around 350 mail-in ballots before election day, which they intended to count by hand to ensure nothing fraudulent occurs.

"We hand count everything," a Walden poll worker said. "We've got two people counting. We just do everything by the book and hope for the best . . . But everyone has been very friendly today. We've had no issues."

It was a quiet morning at the Stannard Polls where 52 of 162 ballots had already been received the Monday before the election.

"This election is a very tight

race," said one Stannard voter, who wishes to remain anonymous. "I am voting for someone who I think is overqualified for the job, and I hope everyone else votes the way their gut tells them to."

Many young people attending high school shared they feel anxious and dejected about the results of the upcoming presidential election. When pressed, the majority of students ultimately did not favor either of the top two candidates.

However, others hold a more positive outlook on the election. Some high schoolers in their senior year are eligible to vote in this election, a portion of whom posted photos of their "I Voted" stickers online and encouraged others to get out and vote as well.



Judy Pransky, the Cabot Justice of the Peace, mans the entrance to the poll in Cabot on November 5. photo by Catherine Morrissey

Secure

Continued From Page One

In nearby Marshfield, select board member Michele Gonzales has mixed feelings regarding the increase of mail-in voting. She credits it with bringing in new voters, but also creating a new hassle for poll workers.

"Personally, I don't like it," she said. "I am absolutely for paper balloting, but I think it has in the long run created more work. It was necessary during Covid-19, but it should now be done."

Prior to election day, the town received about 550 mail-in ballots, creating more behind the scenes work. However, she said she believed they would be done by 10 p.m. on election night.

Marshfield Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecomb expressed confidence in the process, despite worries around mail-in ballots being received by voters. She said the only issues Marshfield had were due to changes in mailing addresses, which were quickly resolved.

"People trust us to know that

their ballot is going to be counted and handled properly. We have room for volunteers, so anybody that expresses interest, we invite them to come and either watch the process or be a part of it, and I think that helps foster trust in the system," she said.

In Cabot, Justice of the Peace Judy Pransky has participated in many elections. She said voter participation was high, even as she expressed concerns about mail-in voting.

"Do I think voting by mail is a good thing? Not until mail is improved. Or at least drop it back 10 years when it was really good, you got your mail," she said.

Even with the postal system trouble, she wants the public to know her faith in those running the polls.

"I love living in Cabot. I love the process. The people that I work with are reliable and honest and caring people," she said.

Kate Lewton reports via Community News Service for the Hardwick Gazette.



Woodbury election officials and Justices of the Peace Susan Stitely (center) and Natalya Zahn (right) ask Town Clerk Robin Durkee (left) a question as they look at the voter check list November 5. photo by Vanessa Fournier



Select Board Member Michelle Gonzalez (left to right) with a town resident and Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecomb, presiding officer of the Marshfield election. photo by Kate Lewton

Ballot

Continued From Page One

challenge. “The process is more lengthy, because it could take up to six weeks for the ballot to get to them, which were mailed out on September 25th. And then six weeks, if it takes them six weeks to get there, then it’s a pretty good chance for them to take six weeks to get back.”

In addition to potential delays with overseas ballots, Woodbury hand counts their votes. A lengthy and vigilant process in which results may take longer compared to other municipalities, Durkee said, “I’m expecting at least 48 hours to count all the votes.”

Seasoned election officials in Craftsbury Cheryl Bailey and Gayle Kroeger reported similar scenarios, but a different challenge.

Bailey and Kroeger said that voter turnout is up, especially among mail-in voters.

Kroeger and Bailey are not fans of universal mail in voting. Bailey said, “I’m not for it personally, because people don’t even know we’re putting out a lot of paper, and a lot of people are not even bringing their ballots back in. A lot of people who say they didn’t get them, they should have got them, but where did they go? I prefer people, if they want to submit an absentee ballot, they can ask for them.”

Kroeger added, “We have a super opportunity to vote, there’s no excuse to not be aware of voting.”

Kroeger and Bailey noted the process is not lengthened by mail-in voting. Kroeger said, “It would be the same no matter what.”

Both Kroeger and Bailey agree the tabulator machine is the most significant adjustment to the voting process, and an immensely helpful addition. Bailey said, “Now that we have the tabulator, if everything goes well, we’ll have the votes counted two hours after. This is our first year with the tabulator. We’ll have people here to verify the count, but before we had to do it all by hand, so that would be a lot of work.”

In Wolcott, election day looks a little different. The tabulator is not a new addition for Town Clerk and Treasurer Belinda Harris Clegg, who provided further detail.

“No, no, we’ve had it for years. General elections, I’d say, at least for general elections. And it tells you, and it can also tell us so far we’ve had 76. We haven’t put in our absentee ballots yet. But this is it, and it’s totally sealed. Linda Reeve comes in and helps me as a BCA member seal it and get it ready ahead of time. And we always sign off on it saying there’s total zeros before we begin. So it’s all, and it’s just powered through a direct line. There’s no lines out of it other than that. And there is no internet connection.”

“The tabulator has made it a lot easier. Linda used to be here when we used to vote over at the town hall, and we were here until very late. Very late. Because before that, I remember one contested race, Randy Brock. And he had been put in the wrong line. And it was actually our fault. Because we had hand counted, but we had written it in, and we made a mistake. That doesn’t happen with this. Human error can be tragic. It really can.”

Unlike many municipalities, Wolcott election staff are paid a minimum wage.

A designated worker is taking care of same-day voter registration, freeing up other poll workers. Wolcott has a handicap accessible voting station, equipped with a touch screen.

Clegg said, “For people whose hands are shaking, you can vote by voting here. You enter your selection on the screen ballot here, and it will print out your choices. At the primary we had about five or six people vote on it.”

Wolcott also reported high voter turnout: “Turnout has been very good. We had a line at 8 o’clock. We really haven’t had that before. Not since 2020, I would say. And not a big line then because it was Covid-10. So this was more. People waited actually from 7.30 on.”

In regards to universal mail-in voting, Clegg said “Well, I have to say that most people are bringing their ballots, but there are some that haven’t really read the envelope. I would like it to be

bigger on the envelope that they have to bring that ballot. Because the secretary of state only gives me about 300 ballots. And out of 1,200 people, a lot of them don’t bring their ballots. I hope I don’t run out.”

According to Clegg, after the polls close, it shouldn’t take too long to verify and submit the results.

“Well, if we close at seven, I hope to have all my BCA members and counters gone by eight o’clock. And then I go into the office and I put it on the machine, the computer, and we go from there. And it usually takes me about half an hour. So I hope to be home by nine. Well, before we had a tabulator, we’d be here till midnight.”

Overwhelmingly, each respective town reported a high voter turnout, with little difficulty or significant challenges this election. While each polling place operates somewhat differently, the unifying feature was the dedication and vigilance of our area election officials and poll workers.



Michelle Gonzales (left) greets a voter at the Old Schoolhouse Common in Marshfield on November 5. photo by Catherine Morrissey



Hazen Union School student Elizabeth Considine (left) watches Gary Michaels fill out an exit poll she and her Advanced Placement Government class prepared for voters at the Hardwick polls Tuesday. photo by Paul Fixx



Andy Holston and Kole with the Lamoille Family Center offer information to voters about helpful Hardwick organizations as voters arrive at the polls on election day. photo by Paul Fixx

Suprises

Continued From Page One

everything we've accomplished together," said Cochrane. "To our new senator, I extend my congratulations. I am committed to working together to ensure that the needs of our communities are not forgotten. And to everyone who supported this campaign, I say this: Our work isn't over. Let's keep raising our voices, supporting our neighbors, and fighting for a Vermont that truly works for everyone."

Spending in that race topped \$110,000, a county record. Rep. Katherine Sims lost her bid for the Orleans County Senate despite her name recognition and spending \$73,434 to Douglass' \$40,855.

Sims said, "Earlier this year, I decided to run for state senate because I believe deeply in our community and the need for a strong voice for rural values in the statehouse. This campaign quickly became more than just one person's effort – it was all of ours, a collective vision for a community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive."

"Though we came up just short, I want to congratulate Sam Douglass on his victory and wish him the best."

"In a challenging, divisive season, we ran a positive, spirited campaign. Together, we put up signs, wrote letters, and reached out to neighbors."

"While I won't be in the Senate, I'll still be here, rolling up my sleeves to keep building community and fighting for a Vermont where everyone can thrive."

Douglass wasn't available for comment.

The surprises didn't end there as the Caledonia-2 House seat to represent Hardwick, Walden and Stannard now held by retiring Rep. Chip Troiano was won by mostly self- and family-funded Republican

Mike Southworth who garnered 58.5% of the vote to Sabrina Morrison's 41.5%.

Southworth hadn't filed a November 1 campaign finance report earlier this week, but had spent only \$2,700 received from himself and family members as of his October 15 report.

He said, "It was such a pleasure to meet and speak with so many people during the campaign. Winning this election was not an easy task. It could not have happened without the support of so many. Voter turnout was tremendous, which is what was needed. The work now begins. Thank you to all."

Morrison had not responded to a request for a comment at press time.

Other area senate contests were won by Democratic incumbents: Sen. Richard Westman in Lamoille County and the returning trio of Sen. Ann Cumming, Sen. Andrew Perchlik and Sen. Anne Watson in Washington County.

In the Orleans-4 House race Leanne Harple gathered more votes than Tony Daniels in Greensboro and Craftsbury, which was enough for her to eke out a small victory despite his wins in Glover and Albany.

In the Lamoille-2 House district that includes Wolcott, incumbent Rep. Dan Noyes will return to the statehouse along with newcomer Charles Burnham who picked up enough votes in his Hyde Park home to finish ahead of Democrat Jim Ryan and Republican Mac Teale.

"It was a tough night for Dems across the state last night, and across the country for that matter," said Ryan. "Our opponents, with the support of the governor, did a better job in the campaign on the affordability issue . . . With the Dems losing the super-majority, it

should force the parties to roll up their sleeves and work together."

Democrats, incumbent Rep. Saudi LaMont and former Rep. David Yacovone came out on top of Republicans Charles Burnham and Nick Lopez to serve the Lamoille-Washington House District that includes Woodbury.

Yacovone says he is "excited to be returning to the statehouse to serve our communities. Despite the enormity of the challenges facing us, including property taxes, health care, housing, addictions and much more, I have hope. I believe in the face of such challenges we can make real progress if we work together. Make no mistake, the future of our little state is at stake."

Rep. LaMont was on her way to a big work event and not able to respond before press time,

In the Caledonia-Washington House district, Thomas Ziobrowski pulled out a slight win in Peacham, but Greg Burt's wins in Cabot and Danville put him over the top.

Ziobrowski was gracious in defeat, saying, "The voters have spoken and I wish Greg luck in helping to improve the welfare of Vermonters facing serious difficulties. Running for office, grappling with these problems and meeting Vermonters throughout Cabot, Danville and Peacham was an extraordinary experience."

Incumbent Rep. Mark Mihaly, running unopposed on both the Republican and Democratic tickets to serve Calais, Marshfield and Plainfield in the Washington-6 House District said, it was, "about the same vote I received two years ago, but this time unopposed. I think the blank votes and write-ins reflect general unhappiness with incumbents due to high education related property tax, something we have to address this session. Hopefully the effort will be bi-partisan in the legislature and the Governor will work with us."

No incumbents lost.



Landon Thompson (left), co-owner of Smith's Store in Greensboro Bend waits first in line moments before the Greensboro polls open on election day, Nov. 5. Poll worker Tim Nisbet (left rear) talks with a resident (in red) while election workers Bill Eisner (right against wall), Town Clerk Kim Greaves (bending over) and Jeanne Eisner (right front) prepare to check him in and hand him a ballot photo by Paul Fixx



Scott Robins, official poll worker, speaking with another town resident, volunteers on election day in Calais.

photo by Catherine Morrissey



Plainfield poll workers Elaine Parker (left) and Chris Ditmeyer check voters into the polls.

photo by Kate Lewton

General Election Free, Fair, Transparent, Accessible says Secretary of State

by Paul Fixx, Acey Sheehan and Gwen Matthews

AREA TOWNS – Vermont’s town clerks have had more work ahead of this year’s election today than in previous years as they’ve been processing a lot of mail-in ballots. The state has mailed ballots to every registered voter for only the second Presidential election. 42.31% of them had been received and recorded by town clerks as of midday yesterday, nearly doubling the 22.14% on October 21.

With so many ballots mailed in, it’s likely more than half of all voters had already cast their ballot before in-person voting began today.

Hardwick Town Clerk Tonia Chase said a total of 839 mail-in ballots had been received before the polls opened Tuesday, raising the percentage there to 38.5%. Despite that high number of mail-in ballots, the polls had a steady stream of voters at 9 a.m.

Kim Greaves, Greensboro’s town clerk reported 337 mail-in ballots on hand when the polls opened there at 10 a.m., raising the percentage to 52.4%. Several voters at a time were casting ballots through the first hour polls were open in Greensboro.

Woodbury Town Clerk Robin Durkee said last minute mail-in ballots raised the total there to 366, yielding the same 52.4% of early returns as in Greensboro.

Pollworker Amy Kolb Noyes, a Wolcott justice of the peace and chair of the Board of Civil Authority, who was handing out ballots to voters, reported there was a line out the door from 7:30 to after 8 a.m., which hasn’t happened since 2020.

Town clerks had to wait to open and record mailed-in ballots until after the polls opened this morning. A slow turnout at the polls will give election officials time to process ballots mailed in before election day.

“Vermont leads the nation in how we balance access with solid security procedures. State laws carefully balance security and transparency with the right to vote, said Vermont Secretary of State Sarah Copeland Hanzas. “There is intentional redundancy built into the procedures to ensure fairness and accuracy.”

Secretary Copeland Hanzas said unofficial results are reported to her office by city and town clerks after polls close at 7 p.m., the evening of Tuesday, Nov. 5, and are posted on the Secretary of State’s website, // electionresults.vermont.gov/.

Statewide election results will be unofficial until the Statewide Canvassing Committee meets at the Vermont State House to certify the results on Tuesday, Nov. 12.

“Vermont is well-known for its free, fair, transparent and accessible elections,” said Secretary Copeland Hanzas. “My office will be working closely with Vermont’s city and town clerks to post the unofficial results of the General Election on the night of November 5, so voters, the media, and all interested parties have access to those results. We then encourage public and media engagement in our post-election day events at the statehouse.”

Following the certification of results on November 12, the Secretary of State’s Office will hold a public, live-streamed general election audit at the statehouse on Tuesday, Dec. 3. A number of Vermont cities and

towns (including some hand-count towns) will be selected, and their reported results will be matched to the paper ballots retained by the clerk, to make sure there are no discrepancies.

Two weeks after that, Vermont’s Presidential Electors will gather at the statehouse to cast their electoral college votes on Tuesday, Dec. 17.

In 2021, the legislature made universal mail-in ballots a permanent part of voting in Vermont. This election marks only the second presidential election in which most registered voters in Vermont were automatically mailed a ballot, though some states have been doing it for many years.

Roughly five percent of mailed ballots were returned as undeliverable, according to the Vermont Secretary of State’s Office and area Town Clerks.

“Our office has long advocated for eliminating unnecessary barriers to voting because we have seen over the decades that the number of eligible voters who have been denied the right to cast a ballot vastly exceeds attempts of voter fraud,” said Secretary Copeland Hanzas..

Eight of the 11 towns in this area had reported receiving above the average number of mailed ballots, with Calais at 54%, the only town above 50% in this area and well above next in line Craftsbury at 49%. Hardwick and Stannard were well below the state average, each reporting just 32%, while Woodbury was right at the 42% state average.

Monday’s data showed Stannard’s mail-in returns more than doubled in two weeks, increasing from the 14% recorded on October 21 to 32% yesterday.

Local mail-in returns showed the following November 4:
 54% of Calais mail-in ballots had been returned. (727 of 1342 mailed)
 49% of Craftsbury mail-in ballots have been returned. (457 of 931 mailed)
 48% of Walden mail-in ballots have been returned. (341 of 699 mailed)
 47% of Cabot mail-in ballots have been returned. (512 of 1092 mailed)
 46% of Greensboro mail-in ballots have been returned. (295 of 643 mailed)
 45% of Plainfield mail-in ballots have been returned. (476 of 1051 mailed)
 45% of Marshfield mail-in ballots have been returned. (515 of 1121 mailed)
 43% of Wolcott mail-in ballots have been returned. (513 of 1202 mailed)
 42% of Woodbury mail-in ballots have been returned. (297 of 698 mailed)
 32% of Hardwick mail-in ballots have been returned. (705 of 2176 mailed)
 32% of Stannard mail-in ballots have been returned. (52 of 162 mailed)

Link to the map directly at ccn-election-map-2024.netlify.app/ where hovering over a town displays the data.

Data in this report has been provided by Ben Cooley, data visualization engineer with the University of Vermont’s Center for Community News who has been gathering figures from the Office of the Vermont Secretary of State to track the number and percent of registered voters in each town whose ballots have been received and tallied.

A Hardwick Gazette Election Dashboard is available now at tinyurl.com/GazetteVotes2024 with data compiled by the Associated Press.

Acey Sheehan and Gwen Matthews report for the Community News Service, a University of Vermont journalism internship.



Wolcott Ten-Year-Old Kezia Warfisch's "I Voted" Sticker Won the Vermont Secretary of State's Good Citizen's Challenge and was printed for Wolcott voters to receive when they voted on election day.

photo by Raymonda Parchment

Ten-Year-Old Kezia Warfisch Wins I Voted Sticker Contest

by Raymonda Parchment

WOLCOTT – Many in-person voters for the general election on November 5, received an oval "I Voted" sticker. For Wolcott residents and voters, the staple oval sticker featured local artwork, with mountains, a river and a heart on it.

Ten year old Wolcott resident Kezia Warfisch was the first-place winner of the secretary of state's inaugural "I Voted" sticker design contest.

Warfisch's design was in competition with 12 other finalists, part of Seven Days' 2024 Good Citizen Challenge. The Good Citizen Challenge offers 25 activities that elementary and middle school students can do to learn about and get

involved in their communities. Each activity completed in the Good Citizen Challenge provides children another entry in the drawing for the grand prize, a trip to Washington D.C, our nation's capital.

Town Clerk Belinda Harris Clegg complimented Warfisch, whose artistic talents extend well beyond sticker design.

"Well, I like the fact that we get to have our own "I Voted" stickers by one of our children. She's very talented. I think she's won like three awards. She did the design for the town forest. We closed on that this summer, so we own over 700 acres now."

The panel of judges was composed of Seven Days and secretary of state staffers, and a number of town clerks.



Long-time Greensboro resident Randy Bulpin prepares to vote in his first election since recently becoming a U.S. citizen

photo by Paul Fixx

LETTERS FROM READERS

A Gazette-AP Partnership

To the editor:

This is fantastic!

I'm so glad you were able to make good use of the material and that it helped your staff save time. I love seeing that your visitors nearly quadrupled from a month ago, while time spent on site nearly doubled.

We really appreciate your use of AP and our partnership.

Have a great evening

Eva Parziale, Associated Press

ed note: The above note was received in response to the following note from The Hardwick Gazette.

Hi Eva,

Thanks for all you and the rest of your AP staff did to help us cover the election tonight

Your data and widgets allowed us to finish our Wednesday weekly paper tonight and put up the dashboard for readers to get results overnight. We'll publish a special edition tomorrow with results and stories from the 11 towns in parts of 4 counties we cover. Your data will save us lots of time over using the VT SOS website.

Thanks from all of us at The Hardwick Gazette.

Paul Fixx, editor

2024 General Election Results

Caledonia County Senate

	Hardwick	Walden	Stannard	TOTAL
Scott Beck (R)*	809	340	62	7245
Amanda Cochrane (D)	688	252	58	5186

Orleans County Senate

	Craftsbury	Grnsboro	TOTAL
Samuel Douglass (R)*	271	148	7168
Katherine Sims (D)	494	354	4894

Washington County Senate

	Cabot	Calais	Marshfld	Plainfield	Woodbury	TOTAL
Anne Watson (D)**	353	640	402	439	253	18555
Andrew Perchlik (D)**	370	640	442	455	256	17178
Ann Cummings (D)**	426	698	452	512	290	21814
Michael Deering (R)	252	252	298	171	175	11536
Michael Doyle (R)	331	332	367	195	222	13700
Donald Koch (R)	320	302	362	219	228	13638

Lamoille County Senate

	Wolcott	TOTAL
Richard Westman (R/D)**	539	7801
Maureen Heck (I)	326	3868

Caledonia-2 House

	Hardwick	Walden	Stannard	TOTAL
Sabrina Morrison (D)	664	203	64	931
Michael Southworth (R)*	856	397	60	1313

Orleans-4 House

	Grnsboro	Craftsbury	TOTAL
Anthony "Tony" Daniels (R)	182	329	1164
Leanne Harple (D)*	318	417	1284

Lamoille-Washington House

	Woodbury	TOTAL
Saudia LaMont (D)**	259	2412
Charles Burnham (R)	223	1837
Nick Lopez (R)	212	1670
David Yacovone (D)*	291	3098

Lamoille-2 House

	Wolcott	TOTAL
Daniel Noyes (D)**	482	2141
Richard J. Bailey (R)*	384	2055
Jim Ryan (D)	420	1658
Malcolm Teale (R)	323	1671

Caladonia-Washington House

	Cabot	TOTAL
Greg Burt (R)*	685	1639
Thomas Ziobrowski (D)	307	1271

Washington-6 House

	Plainfield	Marshfield	Calais	TOTAL
Marc Mihaly (D)**	622	642	837	2101

* winner ** incumbent winner