

# THE Hardwick Gazette

INDEPENDENT LOCAL NEWS SINCE 1889

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

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Volume 134 Number 8



## Curds and Curling: A Cheesy Competition

*Curds and Curling competition held at the Highland Center for the Arts (HCA) February 25, drew 55 teams of four. The unique event was sponsored by Jasper Hill Farm and HCA. More photos on page 10.*

*photo by Vanessa Fournier*

## Hazen Girls Reach Final Four Behind Davison's Career-High

by Ken Brown

HARDWICK – The Hazen Union girls' basketball team are headed to the Barre Auditorium for the first time in five years after discarding Winooski and Oxbow in the Division III tournament last week in front of a raucous Cat Den, extending their winning streak to 19 straight games.

Caitlyn Davison, Alexis Christensen, and Tessa Luther combined for nine 3-pointers last Wednesday night as they raced past Winooski in the opening round 81-19. Davison led the Lady Cats with 20, Luther added 15, and Christensen chipped in with 11 in the rout. Winooski scored the first five points of the game, but Luther connected from long range and Christensen added a steal and a finish to get the offense and the crowd going. Luther finished a drive seconds later for their first lead and they never looked back. Craftsbury Academy's Ella Gillespie had another strong night inside for Hazen with

11 points and freshman Julia des Groseilliers added eight in the win. Stacey Truong led the Lady Spartans with 10 points, including a pair of 3-pointers on the night.

Davison finished off a red-hot February with a career-high 34 points to lead the Lady Cats to the Division III Final Four with a 65-53 home win against seventh-seeded Oxbow over the weekend. Senior Alexis Christensen connected on four more 3-pointers to help Hazen build a 36-23 lead at the break. The Lady Olympians battled back to within two possessions after three quarters behind a team-high 22 from Maggi Ellsworth. Davison sank eight straight clutch free throws down the stretch to keep Oxbow at bay and punch their ticket to the Aud for the first time since 2018. Head coach Randy Lumsden expected a more experienced Oxbow team than the one he saw in December and had his team ready for a battle.

See FINAL, 2



*photo by Vanessa Fournier*  
Hazen Union girls Baylie Christensen (left), Isabelle Gouin (center) and Sarah Collier (right) cheer after their quarter-final win at home against Oxbow February 25. Hazen will play in the Division III semi-final game against Thetford at the Barre Auditorium March 2 at 8:15 p.m.

## Wildcats Begin Title Defense

by Ken Brown

WILLIAMSTOWN – The Hazen Union boys' basketball team finished out the regular season strong against Williamstown and Randolph last week, securing the second seed as they prepare to defend their Division III state championship.

Senior superstar Tyler Rivard made the most of his three quarters of play last Monday against the Blue Devils, pouring in 33 points and hauling down 24 rebounds to lead the Wildcats to an 87-41 road win. Xavier Hill orchestrated the offense with 12 points and four assists as Hazen Union took a 40-17 advantage into the break. Jadon Baker added nine points and nine assists to help fuel a 29-7 Wildcat run to start the second half to leave little doubt of the outcome. Ryan Morrison complimented with a strong nine points and 12 boards in the win. Brady Donahue and Evan Bailey led Williamstown with 10 points apiece in the loss, dropping them to 4-16 on the season. The rebuilding Blue Devils are a year removed from legendary head coach Jack Carrier stepping down after 13 years on the sidelines. Carrier amassed

See DEFENSE, 5



*photo by Vanessa Fournier*  
Hazen Union junior Gabriel Michaud (No. 21) looks to pass around Shea Fontanella (right) of Randolph during regular season play February 24. At left is Joey Ferris (No. 23) of the Ghosts and at far right is his teammate Colton Fordham. Wildcat Tyler Rivard is at back, second from right. Hazen Union outscored Randolph 58-30.

## Select Board Moves Closer to Pedestrian Bridge Solution

by Gazette Staff

HARDWICK – At its February 16 meeting, the Hardwick Select Board discussed the Lamaille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT), buying a property on Wolcott Road, and signing a contract with the engineering firm overseeing reconstruction of the pedestrian bridge in Hardwick village.

The town manager's report was the presentation. Town Manager David Upson reported that the East Hardwick Fire District will soon have a link on the Town of Hardwick's web page.

He reported that an RFP will be advertised for the repairs on the Memorial Building roof, the cost of the repairs will be covered by a Historic Preservation Grant. Also, VTrans is in the process of providing towns along the LVRT with way-finding signage. Jackie Cassino from VTRANS is asking the town for permission. Lastly, Upson reported on the Business Opportunity Conference.

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photo by Vanessa Fournier  
 Hazen Union's Caitlyn Davison (left) and Braylee Phelps (right) of Oxbow battle for possession of the ball during Division III quarter-final action in the Wildcat Den February 25. Hazen Union topped Oxbow 65-53.



March 1 - March 8

**Good Luck to our own Sarah Collier and the Hazen Girls' Varsity Team as the head to the Barre Aud this week**

<b>Maxwell House Coffee</b> \$3.48 10.5-11.5 oz.	<b>Post Honey Bunches of Oats Cereal</b> \$2.48 11-12 oz	<b>Bear Naked Granola</b> 2/\$7 11-12 oz.
<b>Swiss Miss Hot Cocoa Mix</b> \$3.99 22.23 oz.	<b>Hershey Baking Chips</b> 2/\$5 8-12 oz.	<b>Food Club Mayonnaise or Salad Dressing</b> \$3.29 30 oz.
<b>College Inn Broth</b> 2/\$4 32 oz.	<b>Food Club Grated Cheese</b> \$2.99 8 oz.	<b>Rice -a-Roni Side Dishes</b> 4/\$5 6.5-7.25 oz.
<b>Geisha Solid White Tuna</b> 2/\$3 5 oz.	<b>Nabisco Fig Newtons</b> 2/\$6 10 oz.	<b>Breton Crackers</b> 2/\$5 6.1-7.3 oz.
<b>Cascade Action Packs</b> \$5.49 14-25 ct.	<b>Tide Liquid Laundry Detergent</b> \$13.99 92 oz.	<b>Bounty 6 Dou. Roll Paper Towels</b> \$12.99 264 s.f.
<b>Food Club Shredded Cheese</b> 2/\$4 8 oz.	<b>Kraft Cheese Singles</b> \$3.99 12 oz.	<b>Food Club Sour Cream</b> 2/\$3 16 oz.
<b>Stony Field Smoothies</b> 3/\$5 10 oz.	<b>Pepperidge Farm Frozen Cakes</b> \$3.49 19.6 oz.	<b>Totino Pizza Rolls</b> 2/\$5 7.5 oz.

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**Final**

Continued From Page One

"They're a young team with three freshmen and two sophomores, but you could see the growth from them as players the last two months and they were just mentally and physically tougher this time around. Caitlyn, Alexis, and Tessa have developed into really good free throw shooters and when you have three guards who are confident stepping up to the line late in games, it gives you options to manage the clock and it gives us a chance late in close games. Playing in the Barre Auditorium is a different animal, but I'm not sure I've ever seen our gym as packed as it was for a girl's playoff game as it was this weekend. I had to scream during timeouts so they could hear me. It was loud and awesome, we appreciate the support, and that atmosphere is going to prepare them for what they're going to experience in Barre," said Lumsden.

Davison is averaging over 20 points per game this season, but over the past six games she has averaged 26 a contest, while setting career highs twice with 31 and 34. She attributes the growth of her game and the growth of this team to a lot of hard work.

"My ability to get to the rim has improved significantly since last year and throughout the season my 3-point shooting has improved as well. Our defensive effort as a team is strong and we force a lot of turnovers. We also try to control the pace of the game right from tip-off, which we struggled to

do last season. We work so hard in practice as a team and it has showed throughout the season," said Davison.

Davison and the Lady Cats will have to be at their best once again against a third-ranked Thetford Academy team that also breezed through their first two games in the tournament and have won six of their last seven. Their only common opponent this season is Oxbow, which they also swept. Lumsden has played many big games at the Aud as a former Wildcat champion and hopes to prepare his team for a different level of basketball this week.

"They play a tough zone defense and we haven't seen a lot of that this season, but we've been preparing for it in practice. We didn't start out the season as a very good 3-point shooting team, but we've been lights out the last six games. There are only elite teams left in the tournament, so the physicality and the speed is going to ratchet up. We got some good tests the last few weeks, so we're prepared and now it's about fine tuning things, staying healthy, and locking in. Thetford wants to secure defensive rebounds, look for quick outlets, and play fast. None of the teams left have many holes in their game, so it will be a test," said Lumsden.

Top-seeded Windsor will take on fifth-seeded Peoples Academy in the first Division III semifinal at the Barre Auditorium at 5:30 p.m., on Thursday. Hazen Union and Thetford will follow at approximately 7:15 p.m.

# POLICE REPORT

## Hardwick Police Media Log

February 13: Assist – Agency, Center Road; Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Rte. 15; Assist – Agency, Spruce Drive; Wanted Person, Hopkins Hill Road; Trespassing, Glenside Ave.; Transport, Main St.; Assist – Public, Mill St.

February 14: Theft, Mill St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Hardwick; Suspicious Event, Maple St.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Rte. 15; Custodial Dispute, Rocky Dir.; Citizen Dispute, Mill St.

February 15: Accident – Property Damage Only, Vt. Rte. 15 E; Accident – LCNR, Vt. Rte. 15 E; Accident – Property Damage Only, Rte. 15 E; Accident – Property Damage Only, Rte. 15 E; Suspicious Event, N. Main St.; Fingerprints, High St.; Medical, Maple St.; DLS, Mill St.; Fraud, High St.; Citizen Dispute, Maple St.

February 16: Directed Patrol S. Main St.; Fraud, Houston Hill Road; Fingerprints, High St.; DLS, S. Main

St.; Fingerprints, High St.; Custodial Dispute, High St.; Fingerprints, High St.; Fingerprints, High St.; Fingerprints, High St.; Trespassing, Glenside Ave.; Accident – LSA, Mill St.; Accident – Property Damage Only, Ward Hill Road; Fingerprints, High St.; Information, Pleasant St.; Foot Patrol, S. Main St.

February 17: Motor Vehicle Complaint, Mill St.; Traffic Hazard, N. Main St.; Fingerprints, High St.

February 18: Overdose, Hillside St.; Juvenile Problem, Vt. Rte. 15; Wanted Person, Vt. Rte. 14 S; Transport, High St.

February 19: Motor Vehicle Complaint, Hopkins Hill Rd.; Traffic Hazard, S. Main St.; Medical, Bunker Hill Road; Foot Patrol, S. Main St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Assist – Public, Wolcott St.

February 20: Mental Health Incident, Main St.; Assist – Public, Woodbury St.

## Vermont State Police Bad Checks

On January 17, the Vermont State Police received a call from Bob's Quick Stop in Irasburg who advised they received multiple bad checks from Lucas Putvain, of Hardwick. Troopers responded to Bob's Quick Stop and investigation revealed Putvain wrote multiple bad checks. Putvain was located by Hardwick Police Department and issued a citation for bad checks. He has a court date of March 21 at 10 a.m.

Vermont State Police were dispatched to the parking lot of Dunkin Donuts in St. Johnsbury on February 27, for a report of a male, later identified as Trevor Alden-Clark, age 30, of Marshfield, who appeared to be highly impaired and that the caller believed was going to operate

a vehicle. Police arrived at Dunkin Donuts and observed the male as described to police by the caller, get into the driver's seat of a vehicle. Police made contact with Alden-Clark and determined that he was highly impaired by drugs. Alden-Clark was arrested and found to have what was believed to be, and later field tested positive to be, fentanyl on his person. Alden-Clark also had active conditions of release at this time to not possess controlled substances. Alden-Clark was arrested and cited to court on the charges of Violation of Conditions of Release, Possession Depressant, Simulating regulated Drug, and for DUI Drug, and will appear in Caledonia Court on June 26.

## AWARE Report

HARDWICK – AWARE served 22 people from February 19 through February 26. 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.

## Hardwick Police Crashes, Fraud, Driving with a Suspended License

On February 15 there was a light rain that glazed over a two-mile section of blacktop on Route 15 in the town of Hardwick near the Walden town line.

At approximately 9:25 a.m., Hardwick Police Department received a report of a van that lost control and hit a snowbank on Route 15. The investigation found that Melanie Kreis of Wolcott was operating a 2016 Chrysler town and Country van westbound on Route 15. As she passed the Walden town line into Hardwick, she lost control of her vehicle on the slippery road surface. The vehicle spun around and hit the snowbank on the eastbound side of the roadway, which caused damage to the passenger side of the vehicle. There were no reported injuries.

At approximately 9:30 a.m., Hardwick Police came upon a tractor-trailer unit off the Route 15 roadway, just west of the Route 16 intersection. The investigation revealed Nausori Osasa, of Grand Isle, was operating a 2020 Peterbuilt truck with 53-foot trailer owned by Farrell Distributing. Osasa was traveling westbound, and was unable to negotiate a left-hand curve in the roadway due to the icy road condition. The vehicle went off the eastbound side of the roadway. There were no reported injuries and minimal damage to the vehicle. The Hardwick Fire Department responded for traffic control. Rick's towing pulled the tractor-trailer back onto the roadway, and the vehicle was driven away from the scene.

At approximately 9:35 a.m., Hardwick Police came upon a third crash that occurred east of the Route 16 intersection on Route 15. This crash involved two vehicles that were both traveling westbound. Patrick Cullen, of Bethlehem, N.H., was driving a 2015 Chevy 2500 truck behind Hope McAndrew, of East Hardwick, who was operating a 2011 Subaru Legacy. McAndrew slowed down due to the icy road conditions. Cullen was unable to slow his vehicle and the front of his vehicle collided with the rear of McAndrew's vehicle. McAndrew's vehicle had moderate damage to the rear of the vehicle and Cullen's vehicle had minor damage to the front of his vehicle. There were no reported injuries.

At approximately 9:45 a.m., Hardwick Police received a report of a fourth crash on Route 15 near the Walden town line. The investigation revealed Frank Jerebic, of St. Valentia, Quebec, was traveling eastbound on Route 5 in his 1974 Chevrolet Corvette. Jerebic previously passed through two of the crash scenes. Jerebic lost control of his vehicle on the slippery roadway surface. The vehicle traveled across the westbound lane, through a pull-off and over a steep bank. The vehicle rolled onto its passenger side. There were no reported injuries and damage to the vehicle was moderate.

All of the above crashes occurred within a 20 minute time period. It took about two hours to clear all the vehicles from the roadway.

February 11, 10:09 a.m., police were dispatched to a two-vehicle accident with no injuries in the area of 828 Vt. Rte. 15 W. A 2014 Ram 2500 operated by Justin Pecor, of Hardwick, went left of center and sideswiped a 2018 Toyota Tacoma operated by Robert Coates, of Hardwick. Damage to the driver's side of both vehicles. Pecor was issued a ticket for failing to maintain lane.

February 15, 5 p.m., School St., E. Hardwick, someone purchased a phone and established an account in Texas using a local resident's name and other identity information. This case is under investigation with AT&T fraud department.

On February 7, Hardwick Police responded to a report of a disabled vehicle impeding traffic on Route 14S in the Town of Hardwick. Upon arrival, the operator was identified as Logan Ballard, of Woodbury. Ballard's license was found to be under suspension criminally. On February 16, Hardwick Police responded to a report of an operator passed out behind the wheel on Ball Field Road behind Hardwick Elementary School. Upon arrival, the operator was identified as Logan Ballard, of Woodbury. Ballard's license was still criminally suspended. Ballard was arrested and transported to the Hardwick Police Department. She was processed and released on a citation to appear in Caledonia Superior Court, Criminal Division on March 27 for two counts of Driving with a Suspended License.



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Three dog sleds traveling the rail trail were seen crossing Brickhouse Road in East Hardwick last Saturday afternoon, February 25, heading into Hardwick. The three sled teams, one of four dog pairs and the others of three dog pairs, were escorted by two people on a snow machine, who went ahead of the dog sleds and served as crossing guards at each road crossing. A group of snowmobilers on the trail, who had seen the dog sleds approaching from the opposite direction, had pulled over and shut off their machines so as not to spook the dogs, and called out wishes for a fun journey to the mushers as they passed by.

photo by Erich Stephens

## Bridge

Continued From Page One

This conference is for local businesses or prospective businesses interested in coming into the Hardwick area. See the link at [hardwickvt.gov](http://hardwickvt.gov) for further information or to register for the event.

At the end of the presentation, the board voted unanimously to allow VTRANS to put up signage in the Town of Hardwick's right of way for Rail Trail users.

Police Chief Mike Henry gave the Hardwick Police Department (HPD) report. Henry reported that the HPD has been doing snowmobile patrols. There is a contract between HPD and VAST stating that HPD can patrol the Hardwick trail system, as well as surrounding areas. Since VAST paid for the snowmobiles and is paying for the officers' wages and the maintenance of the machines, Henry wanted to clarify that the patrol of the trails is not taking away from regular HPD patrolling. There are additional officers coming in specifically to patrol the trails. Additionally, Henry wanted to remind everyone that the trail needs to be shared.

Henry also reported that Jim Sullivan from VTRANS did a speed study on Route 14 near the UPS store. The speed limit in that area is 25 mph, and the report showed that over 80% of travelers were traveling over the posted speed limit. Sullivan is going to work with HPD to find a solution for that area. Henry also reported that, in the past 30 days, the peak time for criminal offenses was around 3 p.m. The fewest calls were received on Fridays. The top arrests in the past 30 days include active state warrants, suspended licenses, DUIs, violation of conditions, and arrests on drugs.

Next, the board discussed replacing the temporary Hardwick LVRT Working Group with a more formal Hardwick LVRT Committee. The Hardwick LVRT Trailhead Working Group was originally formed in August 2022.

At the time, an application was being prepared to the VTRANS LVRT Community Grant Program for construction of two LVRT trail heads in the Town of Hardwick. The working group would like to be a formal Hardwick LVRT Committee. Board members were concerned about another committee being formed in town and being able to staff that committee. Board member Shari Cornish pointed out that the volunteers of the working group would be on the committee. Board chair Eric Remick asked what would happen to the committee once the work was completed. Cornish said that the select board would decide at that time. At the end of the discussion, the board voted to approve to change the Hardwick LVRT Working Group into the Hardwick LVRT Committee. It will be under the umbrella of the Hardwick Recreation Department.

The next agenda item was a buyout application under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to purchase the property located at 166 Wolcott Street. Upson reported that this property is in the flood zone and has been for sale for many years. There have been a lot of potential buyers. However, with the amount of permitting and the process to repair this property, no one bought the property. In discussion, it was brought up that the town could apply for a FEMA grant. If approved, FEMA would provide the town with funds to purchase and tear down the building. The total asking price for the property is \$78,130. However, the total for the project, which includes the purchase and tear down, would be \$120,380. FEMA would give the Town \$108,342, and the local share would be \$12,038. Board member Elizabeth Dow asked what the town would do with that property. Upson mentioned that it could be used as additional parking because it would not be permissible to build another structure there.

The board approved moving forward with the FEMA grant

application, on condition that the space could be approved for parking, and that the seller gives the town the \$12,038.

Next, the town manager mentioned that there is a proposed change to the project value threshold. The zoning office would like to increase the project value amount but keep the same fee. The board approved the new project value threshold amount.

The board also authorized the select board chair to sign the contract between the Town

of Hardwick and the SE Group for the pedestrian bridge. Board member Cornish mentioned that the contract should be ready for signature next week.

The board also voted to authorize the town manager to sign a letter of support for a Northern Forrest grant and to adopt a revised cemetery policy. Upon motion by Elizabeth Dow, seconded by Danny Hale, the Select Board voted to authorize the town manager to sign the letter of support for the Northern Forest grant.

## THE BOOKSHELF

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

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

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

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

**JEUDEVINE MEMORIAL LIBRARY**, Hardwick (802) 472-5948, [jeudevinememorallibrary.org](http://jeudevinememorallibrary.org), Mon. and Wed. 1 to 6 p.m., Tues., Thurs. and Fri. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**CUTLER MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY**, Rte. 2, Plainfield (802) 454-8504, [cutlerlibrary.org](http://cutlerlibrary.org), Tues., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.,

Wed. 3 to 6 p.m., Thurs., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**CABOT PUBLIC LIBRARY**, (802) 563-2721, [cabotlibrary.com](http://cabotlibrary.com), Mon., 3 to 6 p.m.; Tues., noon to 6 p.m., Wed., 2 to 6 p.m.; Thurs., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. to noon.

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

**GREENSBORO FREE LIBRARY**, Main Street, Greensboro, (802) 533-2531, [greensborofreelibrary.org](http://greensborofreelibrary.org), Tues., 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Mon., Wed., Thurs. & Fri. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Sun. 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**JOHN W. SIMPSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY**, East Craftsbury (802) 586-9692, Wed. and Sat., 9 a.m. to noon; Thurs., 9 a.m. - noon and 2 - 6 p.m.; Sun., noon to 1 p.m.

**WALDEN COMMUNITY LIBRARY**, Walden Elementary School (802) 563-2195, [walden.mimas.opalsinfo.net/bin/home](http://walden.mimas.opalsinfo.net/bin/home), Tues., 6 to 8 p.m.

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

## Defense

Continued From Page One

wins at Williamstown with six state titles, perennially going toe to toe with Coach Hill's Wildcats for the right to the Division III throne.

Rivard celebrated Senior Night with 20 points and 27 rebounds to lead Hazen Union to a 58-30 home rout of Randolph on Friday night to wrap up their regular season. Fellow seniors Jadon Baker (12 points four steals), Lincoln Michaud (eight rebounds), and Faisal Al-Nasar (first career varsity point) were honored before the game. Junior varsity coach Mike Baker was also honored after his team's dramatic come from behind overtime win. Baker is retiring as the longest tenured JV coach in the state of Vermont after 23 years and was an assistant to Hill in his last six state title runs.

"This is a special group of seniors. They are very close and have played together all the way up through since early elementary school. It was really great to have Faisal join them for senior night and then to have him score his first ever point was the most exciting foul shot of the game!" said head coach Aaron Hill.

Rivard and the Wildcats now turn their attention to the playoffs following a regular season for the ages for the senior big man. Rivard is averaging over 25 points and 17 rebounds this season,

setting several school scoring and rebounding records along the way. The newly minted 1,000 point career scorer is attempting to lead the Wildcats to back-to-back state championships, but will have to get through a top-heavy Division III gauntlet that includes an 18-0 Winooski team. Rivard was celebrated by the Wildcat faithful last week as one of the best basketball players to ever come through Hill's program, but he is much more than that. As an All-state goalkeeper and one of the best baseball players in the state, we may never see a three-sport high school athlete dominate Vermont high school sports like this again.

"I don't think anyone could predict the improvement he has made as a basketball player over the last two years. He is the single most dominating force in Vermont high school basketball. He is already the best three-sport athlete in school history, it's not even close. As we head into the playoffs, we have a very experienced group, so we are just looking to continue to play good defense and execute on offense. There are some strong Division III teams out there this year and we hope to play our best basketball down the stretch," said Hill.

The second seeded Wildcats hosted fifteenth-seeded Stowe in the opening round on Tuesday. If they advance, they will host the winner of the White River Valley-BFA-Fairfax matchup on Friday night in the quarterfinal round.

## Town Reports now Available

WALDEN – The select board met on February 13, and Town Clerk Deborah Messier reported that the final draft of the town report is at the printers and will be available on February 25. There will also be an information table at town meeting for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, VTrans, the Walden Historical Society and the Walden Cemetery Committee.

It was noted that the town auditors will not have a quorum after town meeting. There are two seats available: a two-year and three-year term by write-in. Any empty seat will be available by appointment of the board.

The board has not received a quote for an electrical emergency switch for the town garage, so the item is tabled until the February 27 meeting. The board discussed

the updated extended warrantee available for the cab and chassis with plow and wing. Walden will place an order now for a 12-month delivery. An up-to-date price will be available in July, and the town can withdraw at any point without penalty.

The board interviewed Seth O'Brien for representative to the NEK Broadband Governing Board. O'Brien will send his resume to the town for consideration and the board will make a decision at the February 27 meeting.

Bills and two overweight permits were signed.

Present at the meeting were Robert Hatch, Brenda Huntoon, Randolph Wilson, Deborah Messier, Wilhelm Woelfle, Judy Clifford, and Seth O'Brien, and Lori Augustyniak by Zoom.

## Pizza, Popcorn and Movie Night March 2

CABOT – A family pizza, popcorn and movie night will be held Thursday, March 2, with pizza at 6:30 p.m., and a movie at 7 p.m., at the Cabot Public Library.

A dazzling, enchanting, and gorgeously drawn film that will leave viewers a little more curious and fascinated

by the world around them will be shown. With a Rotten Tomatoes Tomatometer of 97% and Audience score of 96%, go to cabotlibrary.com to view the movie title.

To reserve pizza, email cabotlibrary@yahoo.com or call (802) 563-2721. The library is located at 3084 Main Street.

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### Twinfield School District Kindergarten Registration

Twinfield Union School would like to register and welcome kindergarten students for the 2023 – 2024 school year. Registration will be held March 20-24, from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please come to the main office to pick up and complete registration packets. Your child's immunization record and a copy of his/her birth certificate are mandatory at the time of registration. No appointment is necessary.

In order to be eligible for kindergarten, your child MUST be five (5) years old on or BEFORE September 1, 2023.

### Town of Hardwick Notice of Informational Meeting

The Hardwick Select Board will hold an informational meeting in the Hardwick Memorial Building, 20 Church Street, on Thursday, March 2, at 5:30 p.m. Option for remote attendance via Zoom is below. This meeting will be held for explaining the acquisition and financing of a gravel pit for Town use.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88249802322>

Meeting ID: 882 4980 2322

Join by phone: 1 646 558 8656 US

Enter meeting ID and you'll be put into a waiting room. You'll need to identify yourself before being let into the meeting.

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# Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinners Feb. 21

by Hal Gray

GREENSBORO – Many ladies of the Greensboro United Church of Christ prepared 100 free pancake dinners with all the fixings February 21, to celebrate Shrove Tuesday, whose name comes from the old custom of confessing (being shriven) on that day. This event marks the celebration preceding the somber 40 days of Lent and Christ’s Crucifixion. Many people choose to fast starting Ash Wednesday, therefore Shrove Tuesday became the day to use up all the rich food left in the house, resulting in the tradition of pancakes. People of greater Greensboro picked up their pancake dinners via grab ‘n’ go distribution as they drove through the church parking lot.



Christine Pierpont manages a griddle.



Cilla Bonney-Smith tends to her fluffy charges.

photos  
by  
Hal Gray



B.J. Gray with the whipped butter cups.



Nancy Hill in her Mardi Gras beads flips pancakes.



The Casavant family picks up pancakes with little Ashton.



Patti Sunday-Winters hands pancakes to Patty Launer.



Sherral Lumsden loads sausages.



Rev. Sunday-Winters hands pancakes to Dulce Nino.



Shelly Jungwirth eyes the stack of waiting containers.

# OUR COMMUNITIES

## Antarctica: Travels with Mary Neibling March 2

PLAINFIELD – Plainfielder Mary Neibling, who traveled to the Antarctica Peninsula this past December, will talk about her trip on Thursday, March 2, at 6 p.m. at the Cutler Memorial Library. She will

also present her album of images from the most southern continent.

The library is located at 151 High Street. For more information, go to [cutlerlibrary.org](http://cutlerlibrary.org), (802) 454.8504, or [info@cutlerlibrary.org](mailto:info@cutlerlibrary.org)

## Gravel Pit Informational Meeting on March 2

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Select Board will hold an informational meeting in the Hardwick Memorial Building, 20 Church Street, on Thursday, March 2, at 5:30 p.m., to consider the financing for the purchase of a gravel pit. Option for remote attendance via Zoom is below.

You can see the full Bond

warning here: [hardwickvt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Bond-Warning.pdf](http://hardwickvt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Bond-Warning.pdf). To join the Zoom meeting go to [us06web.zoom.us/j/88249802322](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88249802322), meeting ID: 882 4980 2322. Join by phone at (646) 558 8656. Enter the meeting ID and you'll be put into a waiting room. Identify yourself before being let into the meeting.

## Nordic Skiing in Greensboro Topic March 5

GREENSBORO – The Greensboro Historical Society winter meeting will be held Sunday, March 5, at 2 p.m., in Fellowship Hall at the Greensboro United Church of Christ, 165 Wilson Street. All are welcome. Learn about the history of Nordic skiing at the Highland

Lodge plus Greensboro's answer to alpine skiing: the Gebbie ski tow.

Sandy Gebbie will talk about their downhill operation and Willie Smith will recount tales of Nordic skiing over the decades. Participants should bring stories, photos, and vintage gear to share.

## Friends of Cutler Library Meeting March 6

PLAINFIELD – The Friends of Cutler Memorial Library will meet Monday, March 6, at 6 p.m., for those interested in learning more about how the Friends of the Library support the work of the

library. To join the Friends for their monthly meeting, request a Zoom link from the library.

For more information, [cutlerlibrary.org](http://cutlerlibrary.org), (802) 454-8504 or [info@cutlerlibrary.org](mailto:info@cutlerlibrary.org)

## Knit Night on March 7

PLAINFIELD – Knit Night will be held Tuesday, March 7, and Tuesday, March 21, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Cutler Memorial Library. For those who want to learn to knit, are working on a tricky pattern or would like to knit with others, Knit Night is where all ages can learn to knit with Lynda Volz.

The library has all the supplies you will need to get started. The knitting group is open to all levels and interests: knitters, crocheters, novices, and experts. The library is located at 151 High Street.

For information, [cutlerlibrary.org](http://cutlerlibrary.org), (802) 454-8504, [info@cutlerlibrary.org](mailto:info@cutlerlibrary.org)

## Fritz to Talk About Kenya Trip March 12

CRAFTSBURY – The Craftsbury Public Library will host traveler Amelia Fritz on Sunday, March 12, at 6:30 p.m., to share photos and stories about her December 2022 trip to Kenya.

Her slideshow "Toward the Rains" will illustrate some of her experiences as she traveled throughout the country. Fritz stayed at three camps in three different conservancies and saw lions, cheetahs, zebras, rhinos, giraffes, elephants and more. She visited

young orphaned animals at Reteti Elephant Sanctuary and helped monitor endangered rhinos with anti-poaching rangers. She met with Dorcas, a public health nurse, and her community. As she traveled north, the rains came and what a difference that made for all living creatures, as her slides will illustrate.

For more information, contact the library at (802) 586-9683 or [director@craftsburypubliclibrary.org](mailto:director@craftsburypubliclibrary.org).

## Diabetes Prevention Program March 13

HARDWICK – Northern Counties Health Care, NVRH, and My Healthy Vermont will offer a free online Diabetes Prevention Program starting on March 13. This is a program for people who are at risk of developing type 2 diabetes. It is a yearlong proven program that can help make modest lifestyle changes and cut the risk of

type 2 diabetes by more than half. Someone at risk may have a family member with diabetes, carry extra weight, exercise less than 30 minutes most days of the week or a doctor said you have pre-diabetes.

To register, contact Jen Grant at (802) 748-9405 x1026, [jennifergr@nchevt.org](mailto:jennifergr@nchevt.org) or visit [myhealthyvt.org](http://myhealthyvt.org).

## Volunteers Needed for Spring Festival

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Kiwanis Club, with the help of a few other community members and organizations, are working to bring the 2023 Hardwick Spring Festival to the community. The community event on Saturday, May 27, (Memorial Day Weekend) which is back for the second year since COVID, needs community members. Volunteers are needed for just a few hours on the day or days before to: work with elementary or high school kids to

host parts of the day; help organize an animal section; help create a pet parade; helping sell ducks (the plastic ducks will drop from the Hardwick Fire Department Ladder truck); set up for the evening dance; build a human truck pull team; assist with mid-way carnival games; march in, or create a float for the parade; and much more. For more information, volunteer signup, questions, or to make donations. contact Sherry Lussier at [sherryluss@yahoo.com](mailto:sherryluss@yahoo.com)

### CABOT SCHOOL DISTRICT WARNING FOR ANNUAL MEETING

The legal voters of the Cabot School District, Cabot, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Cabot School Performing Arts Center, Cabot, Vermont, on Monday, March 6, 2023, at six-thirty in the evening to transact the following business not involving Australian Ballot. Australian Ballot voting will be held on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, with the polls open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Willey Building, 3084 Main St., Cabot, VT 05647.

- Article 1.** To elect a School District Moderator for a term of one (1) year.
- Article 2.** To elect two School Directors, one for a three year term and one for a two year term. (To be voted on by Australian Ballot)
- Article 3.** Shall the voters of the Town School District approve the minutes of the February 28, 2022 Annual School District Meeting?
- Article 4.** To hear a report of the School Directors.
- Article 5.** Shall the voters of the Cabot School District authorize the Cabot School Board to expend three million six hundred twenty thousand sixty one dollars (\$3,620,061.00) which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year (To be voted on by Australian Ballot)
- Article 6.** Shall the voters of the Cabot School District authorize the Board of School Directors to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2023, in a reserve fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Directors for the purpose of operating the school? (To be voted on by Australian Ballot)
- Article 7.** Shall the voters of the Cabot School District authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money to pay its lawful debts and expenses for the fiscal year which ends June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed 90% of the anticipated collection of taxes and receipts of other funds to be used for those purposes?
- Article 8.** To transact any additional business that may legally come before this meeting.
- Article 9.** To Adjourn

Dated at Cabot, Vermont January 26th, 2023

Rory Thibault, Chris Tormey, Frank Kampf,  
Jason Monaco, Ellen Cairns

Attest: Betty Ritter, Town Clerk

OUR E-MAILS

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# OBITUARIES

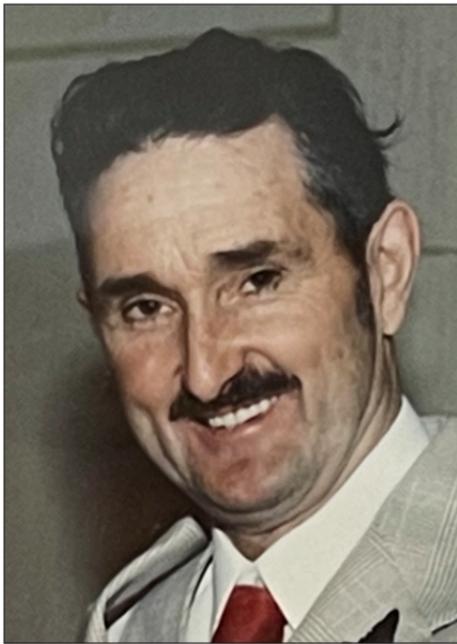
## PERCY R. SMITH

WASHINGTON -- Percy R. Smith, 85, of Washington passed away peacefully following a short illness on February 24, with his wife, of 61 years at his bedside.

He was born August 10, 1937, in Hardwick, the son of Richard and Matilda (Gonyaw) Smith. In his earlier years, Percy was a logger and farm hand. He eventually made a career working at Wells and Lamson Quarry and Rock of Ages Quarry for more than 35 years. Percy was an avid hunter and outdoorsman. He enjoyed logging, cutting firewood, tinkering in his garage and helping others who would stop by asking for a lending hand throughout his life. He was best known for his ability to fix most anything and was very creative mechanically. Percy enjoyed welding and creating things with metal. He built the first home-made snowmobile that was legally registered for use on Vermont VAST trails. Percy was a devoted husband to his wife, Betty Lou, and father to his three boys, Curtis, Clint and Dan. He also enjoyed playing the harmonica and would almost always play a tune on holidays and at friends and family gatherings.

Percy is survived by his wife, Betty Lou Smith; three sons, Curtis R. Smith, Clint P. Smith and Dan C. Smith and wife, Willissa J. Smith and their two sons: Damian R. Smith and Connor M. Smith; his siblings: Lee Beth Stratton and her husband, Carlton, Larry Lumsden and his wife, Sherral, and Dorothy Roche.

He was predeceased by his mother, Matilda Lumsden and her husband Lee Lumsden; his father, Richard Smith and his



Percy R. Smith

siblings: Gordon Smith, Ronald Lumsden, June Hyzer and Lewis Lumsden.

A graveside service to honor and celebrate his life will be scheduled in late spring at the Fairview Cemetery in Hardwick, with a date and time to be announced. There will be no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice, 600 Granger Road, Barre, VT. 05641.

The family would like to express a special thanks to the Barre Town Ambulance Service and their dedicated staff that provided exceptional service to our family, as well as his care providers that treated him during his brief illness.

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](http://northernvermontfuneralservice.com)

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### WARNING

#### TOWN OF DANVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT Annual School District Meeting

The legal voters of the town of Danville are hereby warned to meet at the Danville School in Danville, Vermont, on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 10 a.m. to transact the following school meeting business:

Vote for the budget will be by Australian ballot. The polls will be open from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Absentee ballots for voting for the budget may be requested until 4 p.m. Monday, March 6, 2023.

**ARTICLE 1** To elect a School Moderator.  
**ARTICLE 2** To elect two School Directors for a term of one year each.

**ARTICLE 3** To elect one School Director for a term of three years.  
**ARTICLE 4** Shall the voters of the Danville School District vote (Australian Ballot) to authorize the school board to expend six million six hundred thirty-six thousand seven hundred eighty-four dollars (\$6,636,784.00) which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year?

**ARTICLE 5** Shall the voters of the Danville School District authorize its Board of Directors to borrow money to pay its lawful debts and expenses for the fiscal year which ends June 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed 90% of the anticipated collection of taxes and receipts of other funds to be used for those purposes?

**ARTICLE 6** Shall the voters of the Danville School District authorize the Board of School Directors to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2023 in a reserve fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Directors for the purpose of operating the school?

**ARTICLE 7** Shall the voters of the Danville School District vote on all public questions by Australian ballot pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2680(d)?

**ARTICLE 8** Shall the voters of the Danville School District elect its school board officers by Australian ballot pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2680(b)?

**ARTICLE 9** To transact any other non-binding business that may legally come before the meeting.

Dated at DANVILLE this 1st day of February, 2023.

DANVILLE School Board of Directors: Clayton Cargill, Chair,  
David Towle, Vice-Chair, Molly Gleason, Clerk,  
Tim Sanborn, Melissa Conly

Attest: Wendy Somers, Town Clerk

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# Events

## Thursday, March 2

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

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

## Friday, March 3

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

## Sunday, March 5

**GREENSBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY WINTER MEETING**, 2 p.m., Fellowship Hall, Greensboro United Church of Christ, 165 Wilson St. Willie Smith will talk about the history of nordic skiing at Highland Lodge and Sandy Gebbie will talk about their downhill operation.

All are welcome. Bring stories, photos and vintage gear to share.

## Tuesday, March 7

**TAI CHI CLASSES**, Tuesdays, 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. Qigong & Tai Chi Forms (some experience recommended), 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Tai Chi for Health & Fall Prevention (no experience needed, including seated Tai Chi), Hardwick Area Health Center, 4 Slapp Hill, Hardwick. Sponsored by Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging. Classes taught by Norma Spaulding, (802) 472-8724, nspauld@gmail.com and Paul Fixx, (802) 441-4599, pfixx@pfixx.net.

## Thursday, March 9

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

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

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courtesy photo

"Cherish the Ladies" performs at the Barre Opera House on Saturday, March 11.

## Irish Music Ensemble Performs March 11

BARRE – The Barre Opera House will present "Cherish the Ladies" on Saturday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m.

For over 38 years, "Cherish the Ladies" has won the hearts of audiences worldwide with their rousing blend of traditional music, captivating vocals, and propulsive step dancing. This Grammy-nominated Irish American supergroup formed in New York City in 1985 to celebrate the rise of women in what had been a male-dominated Irish music scene. Since their inception, they have toured the world performing thousands of concerts from the White House to the Olympics, recorded 18 critically acclaimed albums and an Emmy award winning PBS television program, "An Irish Homecoming."

Under the leadership of Joanie Madden, the 2021 National Heritage Fellowship Award winner and All-Ireland flute and whistle champion, these women create an incredible moving expe-

rience brimming with sheer talent and exuberant entertainment. Their group includes All-Ireland champions Mirella Murray (accordion) and Nollaig Casey (fiddle) along with the finger-work of Mary Coogan (guitar), the vocals of County Clare songstress Kate Purcell (lead vocals, guitar) and the County Galway native, Catherine McHugh on piano. World champion Irish step-dancers will add their footwork to the performances.

Madden and her band have amassed a long list of awards at home and in Ireland, including being forever immortalized with a street named in their honor on the Grand Concourse in the Bronx, N.Y.

Order tickets online at [barreoperahouse.org](http://barreoperahouse.org) or call the Barre Opera House at 802-476-8188. The Opera House is handicapped accessible and equipped for the hearing impaired. Currently, masks and proof of COVID-19 vaccination status are not required.

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courtesy photo

Arya, Twigg, and Chloe Stubbs (abpve) have a family showing of art on exhibit through March at the Third Floor Gallery at the Hardwick Inn.

## Family Art on Exhibit Through March

**HARDWICK** – The Third Floor Gallery at the Hardwick Inn is currently showing the art of a multi-talented young family of artists. Twigg Stubbs, the father, and Sheana Benoit, the mother, and their two daughters, Chloe and Arya, have works on exhibit through March.

Chloe Stubbs, age 15, has a fascination for mushrooms, drawn very precisely like botanical illustrations. Arya Stubbs, age 12, draws portraits of people with insights well beyond her years. Sheana Benoit exhibits paintings that are bold, some with strong geometric designs, others full of flowing images taken from nature. Twigg Stubbs' work covers digital photographs with appreciation for patterns of light, to surrealistic paintings like one called "Humanity" with the suggestion of dripping brains. Another called "Rebirth", perhaps to balance the story out.

Olive Ylin, the curator for the gallery, interviewed each family

member to get an idea of what inspired them. She says both parents named their own parents as sources of inspiration. Twigg Stubbs' father is a potter, and his mother is famous for her swirling calligraphy. Sheana Benoit's parents were also artistic, but held out that practicality, meaning a real job, was a priority. There were always art supplies around both houses, so making art was a part of every day growing up.

Chloe and Arya Stubbs fell right in to the fun of creating right along side of their parents. Their talents for self expression were recognized and encouraged early on. The same day Chloe Stubbs airbrushed a skull on her jacket, somebody asked her if they could commission her design for a tattoo. She looks at forms and shapes of animal bones carefully, and besides being an artist, she wants to be a taxidermist when she grows up.

The Third Floor Gallery is located at 4 South Main Street.

# Frozen Jr. Presented March 3, March 4

**MONTPELIER** – Lost Nation Theater presents "Frozen Jr." in three shows at 7 p.m., Friday, March 3, and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Saturday, March 4.

Based on the Disney film and the 2018 Broadway musical, "Frozen Jr." brings Elsa, Anna, and the magical land of Arendelle to life, in a special hour-long version. The show is recommended for age 4 and up.

Inspired by Hans Christian Anderson's "The Snow Queen," "Frozen Jr." (music & lyrics by Kristen Anderson Lopez and Robert Lopez; book by Jennifer Lee) introduces young Princesses Anna and Elsa. When faced with danger, the two discover their hidden potential and the powerful bond of sisterhood. Lost Nation Theater shines a light on 12 rising

stars, age nine to 17 in its production. Led by professional designers and directors from across the country, "Frozen Jr." features students working with Lost Nation Theater for their LNT camp production. Alexander Clayton, Molly Connor, Lila Crowley, Ruby Dyson Dias, Faith Kingzett, Simon Levin, Olivia Lora, Josephine Munro, Julia Perez and Holly Post are assisted by student stage manager Emily Cook, as they embody humans, trolls, animals, mystical elements and everything from snow, to wind and ice, to tell this tale.

The theater is located on the second floor at Montpelier City Center, Main Street. For tickets and information call (802) 229-0492, or visit [lostnationtheater.org](http://lostnationtheater.org). Masks are required for attendance.

### OUR E-MAILS

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[ads@hardwickgazette.com](mailto:ads@hardwickgazette.com)

### TWINFIELD UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 33 WARNING FOR ANNUAL MEETING

The legal voters of the Twinfield Union School District No. 33, a municipal corporation consisting of the member towns of Marshfield and Plainfield, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Twinfield Union School in the town of Marshfield, Vermont, on Tuesday, February 28, 2023, at 6 p.m., in the Twinfield Union School Library, to transact any business not involving Australian ballot. Australian ballot voting will be held on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, with the polls open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Plainfield Town Hall, 18 High Street Plainfield for Plainfield residents and at Twinfield Union School for Marshfield residents.

- Article 1.** To elect a Moderator.
- Article 2.** To elect a Clerk.
- Article 3.** To elect a Treasurer.
- Article 4.** To hear report of the Union School District Officers and act on same: a. Clerk; b. Treasurer; c. School Board
- Article 5.** Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend seven million four hundred seventy thousand six hundred thirty-eight dollars (\$7,470,638) which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$22,555.00 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 19.3% higher than spending for the current year. (To be voted on by Australian ballot)
- Article 6.** Shall the voters of the Twinfield Union School District No. 33 authorize the Board of School Directors to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2023, in a reserve fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Directors for the purpose of operating the school? (To be voted on by Australian ballot)
- Article 7.** Shall the voters of the Twinfield Union School District No. 33 authorize its Board of Directors to borrow money to pay its lawful debts and expenses for the fiscal year which ends June 30, 2024 in an amount not to exceed 90% of the anticipated collection of taxes and receipts of other funds to be used for those purposes?
- Article 8.** To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.
- Article 9.** To adjourn.

Patrick Healy, Chair, Erin Barry, Clerk, Mark Kaufman, Janna Osman, Milena Yasus, Sara Cain

Received and recorded by the Clerk of the Union School District before being posted.

Erin Barry, District Clerk

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# Curds and Curling, a Cheesy Winter Competition

*Curds and Curling, a Cheesy Winter Competition, was held at the Highland Center for the Arts (HCA) on February 25. The unique event drew a large crowd and 55 teams participated with the temperature only reaching a high of 15 degrees for the day. The event was sponsored by Jasper Hill Farm and HCA with all the proceeds to be donated to the Vermont Food Bank.*



*The Brass Balagan Street band performed both inside of HCA and outside.*



*Justin Slotnick of Littleton, N.H., of the J-Squared team, sweeps for the cheese stone to reach the house.*

**photos by  
Vanessa Fournier**



*Alyssa Conn of Coventry, a member of the Penguins team, releases a cheddar cheese curling stone during competition on Saturday.*



*Master of ceremonies for the Curds and Curling event, David Perrigo (left) of West Glover, talks to the participants as Mateo Kehler (right), co-owner of Jasper Hill Farm, watches.*



*Jennifer Francoeur of Burlington, on team Gouda Guys, carefully aims for the cheese house target.*



*David Burke of Calais, who works at Jasper Hill Farm, was instrumental in the making of the cheddar cheese curling stones.*

# IN THE GARDEN



*Tulips brighten a winter day.*

by Henry Homeyer

CORNISH FLAT, N.H. – Winter drags on, even though the days are getting longer. The sun is often lurking behind gray clouds, and on a good day we only get about nine hours of light. I do miss the colors of summer, so I keep fresh cut flowers on our table – even though I have to buy them.

Cut flowers are among modern America's true bargains. For the price of a bottle of wine or a couple of cups of fancy coffee, you can buy flowers that will grace your table for up to three weeks. But there are some things you should know about getting good table-life for your investment.

First, you need to buy fresh flowers that have been carefully tended, and you can't beat a florist for that. A floral shop has trained personnel who trim each stem in the store every other day and change the water to keep flowers fresh. Cut flowers need to take up water to stay fresh and healthy. Stems tend to scab over after a day or two, which means they cannot take up replacement water, or not much, so they suffer.

Here are some things you can do to promote longer vase life: cut off leaves that would enter the water in your vase. Leaves will rot, promoting growth of bacteria, which will impede water take-up. Cut off half to three quarters of an inch of each stem every few days,

## Tips for Buying and Enjoying Cut Flowers

and change the water. Use the packets of white powder that often comes with flowers: it does help.

Keep your arrangement cool if you can. Putting it near a radiator or wood stove, or putting it in a sunny window will shorten its life. If you have invested in pricey roses or tulips, you may wish to move the vase to the entryway or mudroom at bedtime to keep the flowers extra cool during the night.

Some flowers are better picks than others if you're on a budget and can't afford to buy new flowers every week. Here are my recommendations for good cut flowers: lisianthus stems are tough to grow in the garden, they are perfect in a vase: I've kept them for up to three weeks; miniature carnations with each stem having two to four blossoms, coming in a variety of colors: mix dark red minis with red roses to make a bouquet of roses look fuller, and even after the roses go to Valhalla, the carnations will still be good; chrysanthemums come in a variety of sizes and colors, from the huge spider mums to little guys; statice. grown for use as dry flowers, which tells you that they really do last forever, even out of water, they come in blue, purple, pink and white; spray roses with two to five blossoms per stem, giving you more bang for your buck, and will last about a week or even more with proper care; alstroemeria is one of the best for long life with each long stem having clusters of



*Lisianthus comes in several colors and lasts well.*

two-inch lily-like blossoms in pinks and reds, with yellow throats; orchids, while not cheap, orchids as cut flowers can last up to a month. I love dendrobiums, though they are not common, even in floral shops. Cymbidiums have bigger blossoms and also last extremely well; kangaroo paws, Australian natives are fuzzy and cute coming in pinks, reds, orange and brown, and last very well; Asiatic lilies: I recently got a bouquet of five nice stems grown in New Hampshire that was sold at my local co-op food store. For \$12.95, they will bloom with great elegance.

You may wish to ask where the flowers you plan to buy are from.

Holland, Columbia, Ecuador and Kenya are the world's top growers and export much of what is available. Some foreign growers have been criticized for producing flowers using strong pesticides and poor labor practices. The Sun Valley group in California is an excellent major American grower of cut flowers, but there is still the environmental cost of shipping them 3,000 miles to us. If you can buy flowers grown locally in greenhouses, do it.

Everyone loves to receive the gift of cut flowers, even us guys. So treat your loved one, or yourself, to fresh flowers this winter. They're cheerful, and can make winter less oppressive for gardeners.



*Alstroemeria is a long lasting, inexpensive cut flower.*

*courtesy photo*

# THE OUTSIDE STORY

## Musical Fish in New England? Meet the Burbot

by Doug Facey

BURLINGTON – In the midst of winter, the ice-covered lakes of New England seem quiet. It may, however, be a bit noisy below the ice. Winter into early spring is the spawning season for burbot, when males produce sounds to attract mates.

Burbot (*Lota lota*), also called cusk, lingcod, eelpout, and a few other names, are the only freshwater members of the group of fish that includes the cods. The body of a burbot is long and has two dorsal fins – the first being rather short and the second much longer; there is also a long anal fin along the underside. The scales are very small and embedded in the skin, making these fish very slippery. The head is somewhat flattened and broad, with a single fleshy barbel under the chin, a characteristic they share with other cods. Barbels contain taste buds that help fish identify potential food. Burbot also have two protruding tubular nostrils, similar to eels. The combination of an elongated, slippery body, eel-like tubular nostrils, and a head somewhat similar to that of a bullhead (a member of the catfish family also called bullpout), may be what earned burbot the name “eelpout,” although they are not closely related to either eels or

catfish.

Burbot inhabit cold rivers and streams and deep, cold-water lakes across North America, Europe, and parts of Asia. Adult burbot are often between 12 and 24 inches long, but can exceed 30 inches. Females are generally larger than males. State records for burbot are 10.9 pounds in Vermont, 12.8 pounds in New Hampshire, and 18.5 pounds in Maine; in northern Canada and Alaska, burbot can exceed 20 pounds. Anglers value the species, as burbot yield firm, light meat similar to that of their cod cousins.

Those burbot that live in lakes spend much of the year in the deep areas, where the water is coldest, often passing the day in burrows in the substrate and coming out to feed at dawn and dusk. Burbot feed primarily on other fish, but will also eat aquatic invertebrates such as insects, clams, and crayfish. Burbot grow slowly, typically reaching maturity between 4 and 7 years old, and can live to be 20 years old.

In winter, burbot move into shallower areas, typically under ice, and spawn over silt-free substrates such as sand and gravel when water temperatures are 34 to 40 degrees. Like their cod relatives, burbot use sound to attract



Burbot

mates during spawning. Males create sounds – ranging from slow clicks and knocks to faster buzzes – by rapidly contracting and vibrating muscles against the wall of their gas bladder, an internal gas-filled organ used to regulate buoyancy, which acts like a drum during sound production. The drumming muscles grow larger as the spawning period approaches.

To test the idea that male burbot use sound to attract females, researchers in northwestern Canada placed adult burbot in an enclosure within a lake, and recorded sounds using underwater microphones. Sound production was greatest between late January and mid-March, and was especially intense during two days in early February that coincided with the onset of burbot spawning in the bay in which the study was located.

Spawning in burbot is highly synchronized, with fish congregating in large numbers.

During spawning, females are often surrounded by multiple males, sometimes in large groups. Females release eggs while males simultaneously release sperm to fertilize the eggs. Burbot typically spawn several times during a two-to three-week period, and a female may release from 60,000 to more than three-million eggs in a single spawning season; the largest females produce the most eggs.

Burbot do not construct nests – the fertilized eggs sink and develop among the sand and gravel substrate, taking from 30 to more than 120 days to hatch, depending on water temperature. Adult burbot do not protect the fertilized eggs or developing young, but they produce many eggs, thus increasing the likelihood that some will survive.

[Doug Facey is an emeritus professor of biology at Saint Michael's College and lives in Burlington, Vermont. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol.]

## Woodsmoke by Julie Atwood





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# IN THE GARDEN

## National Invasive Species Awareness Week was in February

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

BURLINGTON – February 20-26 was National Invasive Species Awareness Week. Each year, organizations around the country use this week to raise awareness about invasive species, the threat they pose and how to prevent their spread.

Most invasive insect infestations are first discovered by alert community members with early detection being the key to slowing the spread, if not eradicating these pests. In Vermont three invasive forest pests of concern to watch for are the hemlock woolly adelgid, beech leaf disease and spotted lanternfly.

For information and help in identifying these pests, visit [vtinvasives.org](http://vtinvasives.org). If you spot signs of any of these, please take photos and click on the “Report It!” link on the website to report your findings.

**Hemlock Woolly Adelgid:** Hemlock trees are a keystone species in northern forests, providing food, shelter and shade to wildlife across the region. The hemlock woolly adelgid, a small, aphid-like insect that feeds on sap at the base of hemlock needles, threatens this important tree. It is currently present in Windham, Windsor and Bennington counties but has the potential to move north.

Winter is the perfect time to look for signs of this pest. Check the underside of hemlock branches for small, white, cottony masses lined up along the twigs.

Birds spread this tiny insect on their feet and feathers. To

help prevent the spread, don't put bird feeders near hemlock trees, and take bird feeders down during spring and summer. If visiting an infested area, clean off your footwear, backpacks and any outdoor gear before leaving to avoid introducing the pest to non-infested areas.

**Beech Leaf Disease:** Beech trees are an important species for Vermont's wildlife. Beech nuts are a food source for many animals. Cavities provide nesting spaces and dens for both birds and mammals.

Beech leaf disease was first discovered in North America in Ohio in 2012. Although not yet detected in Vermont, it has been found in 12 states including New Hampshire, Massachusetts and New York.

The disease is caused by a nematode (*Litylenchus crenatae maccanii*) introduced from Japan. It affects both American and European beech trees, causing leaf deformation, dieback and mortality of infested hosts.

You can check for beech leaf disease once the leaves unfurl in the spring. Infested leaves may have a dark striping pattern parallel to the leaf veins. The darkened area is slightly raised and thicker than the rest of the leaf tissue. It is most apparent when viewing from below.

You may see aborted buds, which appear as crispy empty buds on an infested branch. Lighter colored striping may occur. Leaves may become curled or shriveled, discolored and deformed.

**Spotted Lanternfly:** Spotted Lanternfly is a sap-feeding insect that has caused considerable



*photo by Yonghao Li, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station*  
 A dark striping pattern parallel to the leaf veins on the leaves of American and European beech trees is a sign of beech leaf disease.

damage to vineyards, orchards and other agricultural commodities in states where it has become established. This pest harms grapevines, hops and more than 100 other host plants. In addition, it has had a significant impact on outdoor recreation when populations are high and adult lanternflies are swarming in large numbers, coating surfaces with sticky honeydew.

This pest was first discovered in Pennsylvania in 2014, and infestation has since spread to 14 states including Massachusetts, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and New York. While no established populations have been found in Vermont, it's important to be on the lookout for this invasive insect to prevent it from becoming established here.

All phases of this insect are strong hitchhikers and can

easily be moved long distances on vehicles and other items. The adults will lay eggs on any surface. These egg masses are the primary way the pest is spread to new locations.

If you are traveling through an infested area or ordering plants or outdoor items from states with infestations, look for irregular egg masses that look like dried mud on your vehicle and other items. Scrape off egg masses and squash any nymphs or adults you find to avoid spread.

Finally, remember that firewood is one of the primary ways that invasive insects and diseases are transported. To prevent the spread of these pests, do not move firewood long distances. Instead, buy firewood near where you will burn it, buy certified, heat-treated firewood ahead of time or gather on site where permitted.

## We're alive and well in Greensboro!



Although we no longer have a location in Hardwick, we continue to cover the ten towns in our coverage area, in fact, our readership has increased.

Thanks to the high-speed digital connections in the Spark spaces in Greensboro, we continue to produce a weekly electronic newspaper. We are located in the Spark space in the Greensboro Town Hall and look forward to continue our 134-year coverage of your home town.

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# YANKEE NOTEBOOK

## It's Been a Week of Ups and Downs

by Willem Lange

EAST MONTPELIER – I just bought a brand-new candy apple red four-wheel-drive sport model, big-wheeled walker. Its name is Herschel, and it will replace my old walker, which features two small wheels and two pierced tennis balls. In him I am currently terrorizing the halls of my rehab unit. All I really lack is a little bulb-actuated clown horn to warn innocent people of my speedy approach.

It's been a week of ups and downs, good news and bad news, progress and setbacks. And through it all dozens of inspirational maxims have chased each other through my head.

*A journey of a thousand miles begins with one step. My journey home has begun with multiple, increasingly speedy rounds of this building behind my new friend Herschel, chatting with people as I go. I'll miss them when I leave, but it'll be wonderful to be home again and cooking for myself.*

When the going gets tough, we have often heard it said, the tough get going. Last week, buoyed by my rapid recovery from a fractured pelvis and the consequent diminished pain, I was transported to the hospital to have the cast removed from my broken right arm. The standard X-rays, however, revealed that the surgical repair to the elbow had come undone. They gave me a date for a second try and sent me back to the rehab center. You can hardly imagine the gloom this caused for my normally sunny spirit. But then I thought, it's always darkest just before the dawn, which didn't help at all. Another one came to me that I had been using before this: We got this! This helped a little. I could be discharged from rehab in spite of my casted flipper, as long as I could safely navigate on two feet with the aid of Herschel and other help around the house.

You can see where this is headed: up and down, up and down. Just as I managed to start typing this column on my own, thanks to the help of friends and my computer guy, the computer died and nothing I have been able to do has revived it. So, my long-suffering daughter Martha is for

the fourth week in a row typing this for me. She's good, but aargh! I can't help but wonder where this is going next.

We had a so-called status meeting in the administrator's office, where I was described as amazing and ahead of schedule, which helped a lot. But I'm still here, with a little way to go before I'm discharged to my home, my support systems, visiting nurses and my bosom pal Kiki. Kiki, by the way, will henceforth not be walking with me anywhere on a leash. She and I can't have any more accidents. But, around the house, in the park and in the car she's welcome company.

You can't always change circumstances, but you can change your attitude. That's a paraphrase from the author Amy Tam. So, accepting that as probably true, I'm working on my attitude. My goal is to be out of here by the end of the month, even with only one arm working well. My aim, should that prove impossible, is not to let that get me down. The food's good, and the company varies, but is generally friendly and helpful. So there are worse fates a man my age could suffer. Visitors show up one after another: my girlfriend came up from Boston for the weekend, cleaned out the fermented orange juice from my fridge, took the garbage out to the composter, did this week's laundry, held my hand and we chatted for hours. No wonder I'm getting better fast.

A journey of a thousand miles begins with one step. My journey home has begun with multiple, increasingly speedy rounds of this building behind my new friend Herschel, chatting with people as I go. I'll miss them when I leave, but it'll be wonderful to be home again and cooking for myself. The very thought of the first Omelette Guillaume is almost enough to make me run away from this place, as if I could.

So as spring ineluctably warms the hills and Facebook friends excitedly report the arrival of bluebirds, robins, and red-winged black birds, it also warms the large door through which I shall forthwith be returning to the world outside. There will be more downs and ups in the coming days, but the thought of succumbing to any of the downs is beyond the pale. Things here are looking up. I'm discovering people who care enough to come and visit and I'm promising myself never again to be an old widower hibernating with his dog in a house too large for both. That's the hopeful message of all this misery and slow, halting progress. We can do this!

## THE Hardwick Gazette Since 1889

The Hardwick Gazette is published every Wednesday except the first week in January by The Hardwick Journalism Co., Inc.,  
Main Street, Hardwick, Vermont 05843

Tel. (802) 472-6521, Fax. (802) 472-6522. E-mail: [news@hardwickgazette.com](mailto:news@hardwickgazette.com)  
Publication (ISSN 0744-5512).

The Hardwick Gazette, P.O. Box 367, Hardwick, Vermont 05843.

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## MEETING MEMO

### Wednesday, March 1

•**Wolcott Select Board**, first  
Wednesday of month, 6 p.m.

### Thursday, March 2

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

### Monday, March 6

•**Danville School District  
Special Informational Meeting  
on Budget**, 7 p.m., North Danville  
Community Building, 4215  
Badger Memorial Highway, North  
Danville.

### Tuesday, March 7

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

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

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

•**Plainfield Select Board**,

first Tuesday of month, 7 p.m.

### Wednesday, March 8

•**Greensboro Select Board**,  
second Wednesday of month, 6:30  
p.m.

### Town Clerks

Cabot: [cabotvt.us](http://cabotvt.us)  
Calais: [calaisvermont.gov](http://calaisvermont.gov)  
Craftsbury: [townofcraftsbury.com](http://townofcraftsbury.com)  
Greensboro: [greensborovt.org](http://greensborovt.org)  
Hardwick: [hardwickvt.org](http://hardwickvt.org)  
Marshfield: [town.marshfield.vt.us](http://town.marshfield.vt.us)  
Plainfield: [plainfieldvt.us](http://plainfieldvt.us)  
Stannard: Stannard town clerk:  
(802) 533-2577, open Wed., 8-noon,  
[townofstannard@myfairpoint.net](mailto:townofstannard@myfairpoint.net)  
Walden: Walden town clerk: (802)  
563-2220, fax: 802-563-3008, open  
Mon. - Wed., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.,  
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**WARNING FOR THE ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING  
OF THE TOWN OF PEACHAM  
TO BE HELD ON MARCH 7, 2023**

The legal voters of the town of Peacham are hereby warned to meet in the Peacham Congregational Church on March 7, 2023 at 1 p.m. to transact the following business:

- ARTICLE 1:** To elect a School Moderator to conduct and govern the meeting.
- ARTICLE 2:** To hear and act upon the report of the Board.
- ARTICLE 3:** To elect one School Director for a term of 3 years.
- ARTICLE 4:** To elect one School Director for a term of 2 years.
- ARTICLE 5:** To elect one school director to complete a vacated 3-year seat
- ARTICLE 6:** To elect a School District Clerk
- ARTICLE 7:** To elect a School District Treasurer
- ARTICLE 8:** Shall the voters of the Peacham School District authorize the Peacham School Board to expend two million two hundred ninety-two thousand four hundred five (\$2,292,405.00), which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year?
- ARTICLE 9:** Shall the voters of the Peacham School District authorize the School Board to borrow money to pay its lawful debts and expenses for the fiscal year which ends June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed 90% of the anticipated collection of taxes and receipts of other funds to be used for those purposes?
- ARTICLE 10:** Shall the voters of the Peacham School District authorize the Board of School Directors to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2023 in a reserve fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Directors for the purpose of operating the school?
- ARTICLE 11:** To transact any other non-binding business that may legally come before the meeting.

Dated at Peacham this 30th day of January, 2023.

Peacham School Board of Directors: Mark Clough, Chair,  
Cornelia Hasenfuss, Vice-Chair, Alex Maclean,  
Andra Hibbert, Kate Patno

Attest: Thomas Galinat, School District Clerk



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# SPORTS



## Charger Bowling Team Readies for State Championships

Members of the Craftsbury Academy Bowling Team who participated in the Vermont High School Bowling State Championships were Dalton Gravel, Will Patnoe, Joe Wilcox, Assistant Coach Ashley Gravel, Matt Wilcox, Coach Connor Bean, Jacob Marquis, and Jason Brown.

*courtesy photo*

## Wilcox Claims State Runner-up for Charger Bowling Team

by Ken Brown

RUTLAND – Lake Region’s Matt Wilcox claimed state runner-up honors for the Craftsbury Academy (CA) bowling team over the weekend in their inaugural season as a varsity program.

Fair Haven’s Josh Kennedy bowled a 207 in the individual finals to defeat Wilcox to claim the Vermont High School Bowling State Championship on Saturday afternoon at the Rutland Bowlerama. Craftsbury Academy head coach Connor Bean had all five of his starting team members make the field of 32 to compete for the title. Wilcox, Joe Patnoe, and Jacob Marquis all made the Sweet 16 round for the Chargers. Patnoe, who set the single-game record for CA earlier this season, was ranked sixth in the state going in, but was defeated by a red-hot Wilcox (ranked 11th) in the round of 16. Wilcox defeated third-seeded Tucker Sargent in the quarterfinals and fired a 223 to roll past Emma Eckler

in the semifinals, the fourth ranked bowler in the state. Kennedy would end Wilcox’s run in the final match (207, 179) to claim the title.

It has already been a massively successful maiden season for Bean and his Charger team, claiming four runner-up titles this season, capped off by a first-place finish last week at Twin City Lanes. The win moved the Chargers up to a sixth place ranking out of 12 teams for this weekend’s upcoming Team State Championship. Bean is also the athletic director at CA, as well as the co-director of Vermont High School Bowling. His goal is to continue to grow the interest for the sport at CA and eventually expand it as a varsity sport beyond the current 12 high school teams across the state.

Brattleboro will go into this weekend as the top seed this Saturday at Twin City Lanes in Barre. Bean likes the position and momentum his team has and believes any of the top seven teams have a great chance of coming away with the state championship.



*courtesy photo*

State winners at the Vermont High School Bowling State Championship held at the Rutland Bowlerama, were Orion Casavant (Essex), Emma Eckler (Fair Haven), Matt Wilcox (CA) and Josh Kennedy (Fair Haven).

## Chargers Show Growth with Upset Over Stowe

by Ken Brown

CRAFTSBURY – A challenging year in the highly competitive Mountain League came full circle for the Craftsbury Academy (CA) boys’ basketball team last week, as they knocked off Division III Stowe for their third win of the season.

Dylan Washer poured in a game-high 21 points to lead the Chargers to a 47-41 home win over the Raiders last Monday night. The two teams were tied after eight minutes of play, but the Chargers took an eight-point advantage into the break behind Washer’s offense. Stowe would make it a two-possession game after three quarters behind 11 points from Chase Brown, but the young Chargers showed composure down the stretch to pull the upset. Freshman Landon Miller

added 10 points for CA and Sterling Blodgett did the dirty work inside and added nine. Greg Hildenberger chipped in with nine points for Stowe in the loss. They faced second-seeded Hazen Union on Tuesday in the opening round of the Division III playoffs.

“That was the best game I’ve had the privilege of coaching here at Craftsbury the past two seasons. The guys did a great job of taking care of the basketball, fighting for every single loose ball and rebound, and just playing smart basketball when the game was on the line. Stowe is young and inexperienced, but they are an athletic division III team and we played our best basketball of the season against them. We showed a different level of maturity in the fourth quarter playing with the lead and the guys confidently closed it out. It was our biggest win here in years and I’m

happy and proud for these kids,” said head coach Sean Ryan.

The Chargers closed out the regular season with a 68-39 road loss to Division III BFA-Fairfax on Friday night as Bryce Fontaine led a balanced scoring attack with 12 points. Rowan Albee and Ryan Sheehan scored 11 apiece for the Bullets as they fought off an early 8-4 deficit to the upstart Chargers to take an eight-point advantage into the break. Playing without any substitutions caught up to CA in the second half as the Bullets broke the game open in the third quarter. Washer and Miller led the Chargers with 16 points apiece in the loss. BFA-Fairfax opened the Division III postseason with a trip to seventh-seeded White River Valley on Tuesday.

“They are a big and athletic team, but we did a great job of

staying with them the first two and a half quarters with only five guys. We missed some shots early in the second half and they got hot. It was a week of some super solid basketball from our team and I’m proud of them. BFA-Fairfax’s crowd and team showed some of the classiest sportsmanship I’ve seen, cheering on the effort from our five guys throughout the game and I want to thank them for that. We have a tall task ahead of us traveling to one of the best teams in our division to open the tournament. We are just going to focus on continuing to improve and try to play the same type of basketball that we played this week,” said Ryan.

The Chargers will travel to play second-seeded Rivendell Academy on Wednesday night in the opening round of the Division IV tournament.

# SPORTS



photo by Vanessa Fournier  
 Hazen Union Junior Varsity Coach Mike Baker (center) talks to his team during a time-out against Randolph February 24. Baker and his team edged by their opponents 53-47. This was Baker's last JV game as coach: after 23 years at the helm he is retiring. Standing (left to right) Dylan Papineau, Khamden Luangrath, Ari Jurkiewicz, Gavin Stratton, Justin Montgomery, Liam Jurkiewicz, Kaleb Dailey; sitting (left to right) Ethan Gann, Sully Laflam, Damien Morrison, Jayden Brochu, Morgan Michaud. Missing from the photo is Faisal Al-Naser.



photo by Vanessa Fournier  
 Hazen Union Junior Varsity Coach Mike Baker speaks to a filled gymnasium after his final game as the JV coach after 23 years. Baker was given some gifts and a standing ovation. He was the longest-serving JV coach in the state before he retired.

## KEN BROWN'S HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP

### Arlington Ends Lady Trojans Season

ARLINGTON – The Twinfield-Cabot girls' basketball team's season came to an end at the hands of fourth seeded Arlington last week in the first round of the Division IV playoffs.

Taylor Wilkins and Sidney Herrington powered the offense for Arlington last Tuesday as they raced past Twinfield-Cabot at home 54-14 for their fourteenth straight win. The Lady Eagles made it fifteen in a row on Friday night, beating fifth-seeded Long Trail 45-26 to punch their ticket to the semifinal round at the Barre Auditorium. Arlington took on top-seeded West Rutland on Monday with a title berth on the line.

A challenging season came to a merciful end for a Lady Trojan team that lost the bulk of its starting lineup to season-ending injury five weeks ago and struggled to field a team the remainder of the season.

They ended the year with 13 straight losses, including four forfeits. First year head coach David Conover will lose four seniors to graduation, including Mtn. League honorees Ginger Klarich and Kendall Fowler.

### Vikings Fall to Milton in First Round

MILTON – Hazen Union's Andrew Menard and his Lyndon Institute boys' hockey team fell to eighth seeded Milton in the first round of the Division II playoffs last week, ending their season at 8-11-2.

The junior defensemen helped the Vikings win six of their last nine games to go into the postseason with some momentum, but the Yellowjackets took advantage of their home ice to advance. Milton squared off against top-seeded Mount Mansfield in the quarterfinal round on Tuesday.

### VBCA Senior All-Star Game

HINESBURG – On Saturday, March 18, the Vermont Basketball Coaches' Association will host its annual Senior All-Star Game (North-South) at Champlain Valley Union High School.

The day is a celebration of all that is good about Vermont High School basketball. One hundred twenty of the best senior boys and girls will play in the following 4 games: Division 3-4 at 11:00am, Division 3-4 Boys at 1 p.m., Division 1-2 Girls at 3 p.m., and Division 1-2 Boys at 5p.m. Fans will get one last chance to see the seniors that have shone this season.

In addition to the games, the VBCA also presents the following awards: The Vermont Dream Dozen, Coaches of the Year, Players of the Year, Milestone Wins, Hall of Fame Inductees, Outstanding Officials, The Tom Finnell Services Award,

The Stretch Gillam Scholarship, The Tristen Southworth Scholarship, Media Award, 1,000 Pt. Scorers, and VBCA Scholarships.

Check at [vermontbasketball.net](http://vermontbasketball.net) to see information on past games and award winners.

### Playoff Update

DANVILLE – The Danville boys' basketball team finished the regular season at 14-6 and will be the third-seed heading into the Division IV playoffs. The Bears have won eight of nine games and will host fourteenth-seeded West Rutland on Wednesday night in the opening round. If they advance, they will host the winner of the Twinfield-Cabot/Proctor matchup on Saturday afternoon in the quarterfinal round.

On the girls' side, Laci Potter (22 points) and Lauren Joncas (21) powered Danville to a 60-29 win over Proctor last Tuesday in the opening round of the Division IV playoffs. The Lady Bears fell to top-seeded West Rutland 79-22 in the quarterfinals on Friday, ending their season at 10-12. West Rutland went for their twenty-second straight win on Monday in a semi-final match-up with Arlington at the Barre Auditorium.



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# SKI REPORT

BY ERIC HANSON

## Day-one of State High School Ski Races

CRAFTSBURY – For high school cross country skiing there are no playoffs; it all comes down to two days of racing. On day one last Wednesday at the Craftsbury Outdoor Center, skiers from over 25 high schools statewide came together for the freestyle or skate events. In the morning, racers set off every 15 seconds in the 5 km individual race. It is the skier against the clock with no one to pace with. The course was a two lap 2.5km loop with three sizeable climbs making for a challenging course. Division 1 and 2 teams ski at the same time with results separated out afterwards.

Charlie Kehler (Craftsbury Academy) led the local skiers with a fourth-place finish in D2 (fifth overall in 12:13). Luke Rizio (Mount Anthony) had the fastest time of the day in 11:37. Leo Circosta (Hazen) placed fifth (12:20) in D2 and Cormac Leahy (CA) was sixth (12:25). Silas Hunt (CA) placed 20th, a big jump from last year when he was in the 30s. Other D2 finishers included Max Demaine (Lake Region) 31st and Lenny Stelma-Leonard (CA) 62nd. Charlie Krebs (St. Johnsbury) placed 10th in D1. In the girls races, Ruth

Krebs (St. Johnsbury) skied to second place in D1 (14:12). Amelia Circosta (Hazen) finished a strong third (13:54) in D2 despite fighting illness. Six of the top eight skiers were D2 with Beth McIntosh (Middlebury) skiing the fastest time of the day (13:32). Anika Leahy (CA) placed seventh in D2 with Sadie Skorstad (CA) in 37th.

In the afternoon, the top four skiers from each school joined together for some of the most exciting racing of the season in the team relays. In the D2 race, Middlebury was first (second overall) followed by Woodstock, Montpelier, and Craftsbury. Lenny Stelma-Leonard bravely skied first for the CA boys knowing he'd be the slow leg of the day after being sick much of the season. The boys sat in ninth place among D2 schools when Lenny tagged off to Cormac Leahy. Leahy had the fastest split of the second leg skiers bringing the team up to fourth place where they stayed the rest of the race. Silas Hunt held the team steady in the third leg and Charlie Kehler anchored and caught St. Johnsbury bringing the CA boys to seventh overall including the D1 teams. In the girls' race, CA only had two varsity skiers, so could not field a team. The Circosta siblings could also not be in the relay being the only Hazen Union skiers. Unlike

team sports, cross country skiing is considered an individual sport by the VPA (despite their being a team score and a relay team), and skiers from schools without official teams like Hazen, cannot join nearby schools like Craftsbury to make a larger team. In the girls relay, Burlington won the D1 race and Middlebury was first in D2.

Racing action continues on Tuesday, Feb. 28, at the Rikert Touring Center in Ripton for the classic events.

## CA Grad Headed to NCAA Championships

LAKE PLACID – Finn Sweet, Craftsbury Academy '19, finished sixth overall in the EISA college circuit after six weekends of racing. He'll be headed back to Lake Placid in two weeks for the NCAA Championships. Only 13 skiers qualify from the east coast region in this highly competitive event. Jack Young from North Country finished 18th overall. Despite several top 10 finishes in the season, he finished just outside the NCAA qualifying mark. Finn and Jack have skied together for over a decade as part of the Craftsbury Ski Club. Sweet is now at UVM and Young is at Colby College.

## Young Trojans Look to Make Playoff Run

by Ken Brown

RICHFORD – The Twinfield-Cabot boys' basketball team wrapped up their regular season with losses to high-powered Richford and Blue Mountain last week and will enter the playoffs as the sixth ranked team in Division IV.

Will Steinhour scored 18 points and Elia Varisco added 16 to power Richford to a 59-44 home win over the Trojans last Monday. Jerrick Jacobs chipped in with 14 for the Falcons, who went into the break with a 32-22 lead and broke the game open with an 11-2 run to start the third quarter. Richford improved to 15-5 on the season and will be the four seed in the upcoming division III tournament. Sam Russell led Twinfield-Cabot with 11 points in the loss.

"I was very happy with our defensive effort, we just couldn't put the ball in the hole. Tej Stewart got hurt early and he was pretty limited the rest of the way, but the guys fought hard and didn't quit," said head coach Chris Hudson.

Division IV defending champion Blue Mountain defended their home court 56-41 against the Trojans on Thursday night behind a game-high 22 points from Evan Dennis. Kason Blood added 12 points, including a pair of 3-pointers and Ricky Fennimore chipped in with seven. Sam McLane connected on four long range jumpers to lead Twinfield-Cabot with 12 points and Tej Stewart and Eli Russell combined for 20 more in

the loss. The Bucks took a 30-13 lead into the break and never looked back, improving to 13-7. They will begin their title defense this week as the fifth seed and will open up against twelfth-seeded Williamstown on Tuesday.

"Again, we didn't play badly defensively, we just lacked offensive efficiency and that is the product of a young team sometimes. Two weeks ago we were shooting the lights out and tonight we missed 8 layups. We competed hard and the hustle that I wanted to see was there, but you're not going to beat a team like that missing that many easy opportunities to score," said Hudson.

Hudson's young squad that includes seven freshman will begin their playoff run on their home court this week. He has brought four teams to the Final Four at the Barre Auditorium in his eight seasons on the sidelines in Marshfield and would love for his young players to experience what it feels like to step on that court and feel that energy.

"I'd love for these young kids to go on a run and make it to the Aud. They've had a great season already for such a young team, but they have the ability to accomplish more. Right now we are solely focused on Proctor and attacking their zone defense. We are both different teams since we beat them to open the season and we'll look to get out in transition and run to create some easier looks against them. We've gone through a gauntlet of a

schedule this season and I think it gives us an advantage in the tournament. We are just young enough to not know any better and we could get hot and make a deep run," said Hudson.

The Trojans will host eleventh-seeded Proctor on Wednesday

night in the opening round of the Division IV tournament. If they advance, they will likely travel to third-seeded Danville on Saturday afternoon in the quarterfinal round. It would be the third match-up of the season between the two crosstown rivals.



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