Bristol woman gives away hundreds of homemade loaves

By CHRISTOPHER ROSS

BRISTOL — Catherine Willson knows she gave away 225 loaves of homemade bread between March 20, 2020, and March 20, 2021, because she's been keeping track in a notebook. She started off just giving bread away to friends. “Around loaf 50, I thought, ‘I can’t give out of my own, as nice as it is. I was on the wrong street,’” she said. Working as the麒麟’s Food Service Coordinator, Willson got a call in November that they needed someone to work longer shifts. So Willson sat down and reflected on a previous lockdown last spring, and Willson said, “I couldn’t go much farther.”

Among other things, he was an “acoustic guitarist and a fireman.”

But rather than hunker down, Jane has found other ways to serve her community. Her association with the Charter House Coalition began in 2012 after an encounter with another one of Middleton’s all-star volunteers, Dottie Nusheider. While dropping off a donation at Round Robin, (See Jane Steele, Page 10C)
Thank You, Volunteers!
National Volunteer Week is about inspiring and recognizing volunteers in our community. In honor of National Volunteer Week, RVIP and our Addison County non-profits would like to recognize the many dedicated volunteers who have invested their time to help keep our community strong, safe and well cared for during this time.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

Lauretta Currier
Dan Currier

Barbara Darling
Ted Davis
Lori Davis
Len Deffort
Peter Deffort
Jocqueline Deval
Caroline Delisle
Francine Delvoye
Jane Delox
Kim Delox
Kathleen Dunford
Linda Dunford

Walter Eber
Marshall Eddy
Cecilia Ewert
Judy English

John Fallon
Lois Farnham
Adam Fasoli
Miguel Fernandez
Flor Fernandez Montes
Jenni Fichu
Margaret Fischel
Peggy Fischel
Sylvia Fisk
Bridget Fitzgerald
Barbara Fleming
Ann Folger
Beverly Freear
John Freidin

Ivy Gelker
Juliet Gelin
Bob Gelin
Patrick Gilbin
Michelle Gibert
Mary Gill
Connor Gill
Susan Gingras
Richard Gildehen
Rita Gildehen
Aimee Goff
Toby Gofsmith
Silvia Gonzalez
Sandi Goodyear
Celia Gottlieb
Maureen Gour
Christopher Grace
Amy Graham
Alicia Grau
Mary Green

Barbara Groesnield
Judy Gross
Jessica Maria Guzman

Mag Hafteh
Helen Haerte
David Hallam
Wilma Hallacy
Jane Halpin
Francine Hamberlin
Ali O. Hamdeh
Sue Hameline
Georgia Hamilton
Emm Hammond
Christopher Hammond
Tim Hansom
Arturo Hardew
Mary Hartman
Margaret Harrington
Lindsey Hascoc
Wendy Hiddle
David Hobbs
Rudy Houchaus
Sally Holland
Lewis Holmes
Piper Hopper
Linda Horn
Paul Hord
Ned Horning
Ella Houlihan
Joan Hook
Sheila Houghton
Ivan Huzenga
Arleen Hurt

Arlene Ingraham
Steve Ingram
Elaine Iltemann

Sandra James
Rachel Jackson
Rae Jackson

Vera Ryersbach
Maggie Ryan
Julian Roy
Sarah Robart
Grace McGrath
Jim McDaniel
Bill McSaisl
Paula Melett
Diane Millen
Cindy Messenger
Rick Miller
Joy Minns
Jutta Miska
J alcia Molina
Chris Morel
Beth Eddy Montello
Thomas Monty
Alan Moore
Elizabeth Morrison
Paul Morrow
Stephanie Jordan
Thea Joseph

Arlene Jorna

Lois Nasi
Mike Nason
Ann Naumann
Terrence Naumman
Joni Naumann
Mary Naffinger
Fran Nelson
Peter Nelson
Yammet Nettcr
Ryan Neveus
Vivian Nethol
Bob Nixt
Jenn Nixt
Ryan Nixt

Grace Noyes

Mary O'Brien
Elizabeth Oettinger
Cathy Oliver
K.O. O'nuh
Linnea Oosterman
Nancy Orts

Gisela Palmer
Kathy Palmer
Shirley Parlett
Garrath Parro
Faith Parins
Lucy Pellegrini
Lisa Pellen
Dina Perezanoski
Priscilla Peso

Audra Pinto
Drew Platt
Mary Poduschnick
Robert Poiner
Susan Polk
Richard Porter
Joanie Pramana
Mary Pratt
David Preble
Julia Price
Mary Prior
Dorothy Punderson
Eleni Punderson
Holly Puterbaugh
Wilt Pyle

Kev Kinzel

RJ Rainville
Kathleen Ready
Martha Redpath
Patricia Reid
Eric Reid-St. John
Steve Reigle
Alison Reynolds
Alice Reynolds
Shelba Rhame
Diane Richard
Allison Rimmer
Pearl Riney
Pam Riney
Mary Rizos
Sarah Robert
Susan Robinson
Elizabeth Robinson
Alcio Rodriguez

Barry Rogers
Lauren Rogers
Gazaela Roorda
Ethan Roy
Julian Roy
Em Ruble
Jim Runcie
Amey Ryan
Maggie Ryan
Vera Rynner
Peters Ryersbach

Saundra Sabourin
Sanford Salgado
Pat Santner
Gary Sarachan
Barb Saunders
Stibley Saunders
Nancy Sawyer
Susan Schauer
Chris Schauer
Monica Schauer
Sandra Schen

Grace Seale
Maya Schen

Nancy Schan
Mary Schen

Gregor Schen

Cherie Vachon
Amy Vachon
Rogelio Velez
Miguel Velez
Maria Luisa Vraquoz
Jilly Vickers
Hector Vita

Ed Wageman
Jessica Wagner
Connie Wagner
Linda Wakefield
Jan Walker
Kim Walker
Eve-Lynn Walker
Maren Wilby
Cathy Walsh
Suzanne Ward
Frances Warren

Chris Walters
Vicki Wells
Theo White
Susannah White
Edgar Whitney
Janice Whitmore

Judy Wiggers
Mark Wilch
Emma Wilcox
Jill Wilkins
Curtis Wiley
David Williams
Kate Williams
Tim Williams

Karen Willet
Catherine Wilson

Lauren Wright
Vijaya Wunnapa

Skip Wyer
Beth Wyer

Micaela Young

Selena Zsoltar
Marina Zsoltar

Evelyn Zsoltar

Grace Zimmer
Maja Zimmermann
Catherine Wilson has appreciated the meditative pace of baking bread during the past year of living under pandemic restrictions.

Willson said, “I was kind of laughing at myself, thinking I had been so unique and brilliant, and you couldn’t make sourdough or yeast bread because everybody had the same idea.”

— Catherine Wilson

United Way of Addison County fosters community service in all community members, but especially in our youth. In that spirit, the organization will honor local high school seniors through its “LIVE UNITED” Volunteer Scholarship Award.

On behalf of a new group, three students are chosen annually for the “LIVE UNITED” Volunteer Scholarship Award, recognizing students who volunteer in their community and who are interested in advancing their education. This award comes with a $3,000 cash award for each student, to be used for post-graduation education (college, trade school, adult education, etc.). Eligibility for the award is based on several criteria.

Students must be an Addison County high school senior (or equivalent), must be 21 years old or younger and applying for the award voluntarily; have volunteered in their own personal learning; and blood donor ambassadors are a vital part of our communities, and blood drives. Visitors could include potential blood donors, people seeking help, training course participants, and Red Cross employees and volunteers. We also have a high priority need for transportation specialists to help deliver blood from our facilities to local hospitals.

Currently there is a high need for volunteers for this position in Addison County, officials said.

Disaster Action Team: Must be an U.S. disasters that the Red Cross responds to every eight minutes are responded to by trained, caring individuals. Red Cross Disaster Action Team members connect with families to help families begin to recover.

You can also make a lifesaving difference by making an appointment to donate blood at RedCrossBlood.org, if you’re healthy and feeling well. Those who come to give by April 30 will automatically be entered for a chance to win one of five $1,000 e-gift cards to a merchant of choice. Additional details are available at blood.org/Challenge.

Catherine Wilson had appreciated the meditative pace of baking bread during the past year of living under pandemic restrictions. She decided to make sourdough bread because it was actually a connection to him, a connection to us,” Willson said. “I find it a really meditative thing to do. I like the rhythm and pace of making bread, which was really good for me, because I think after I’m done, I did it what everyone tends to do, which is stay busy, stay busy, stay busy. And what I did (in 2020) actually gave me an opportunity to re-center. I really had to stay busy, I had to make something that’s bigger than just eating bread. I decided I would make no-knead bread — put all the ingredients in a bowl, cover it with plastic, let it sit for 15 hours, and you have a loaf of bread. I love the rhythm and pace of making bread, wrapped up with pretty ribbon,” she said. “Especially great-great-great-great-great-grandchild of Tim’s sister, which feels really poignant and sweet.”

So in some ways baking bread was a personal journey for Willson, who had been so busy with friends and family activities during the pandemic.

“This kind of looking at myself, this kind of work was unique and brilliant, and you couldn’t buy it or fool anyone because everybody had the same idea,” she said.

Then Willson made an amazing discovery.

Girls in Vergennes got their first Girl Scout experience thanks to the volunteers who stepped up to form a new Daisy troop for kindergartners and first graders.

Vergennes Girl Scouts get creative

Vergennes — The past year has been one of uncertainty and disruption to our normal routines. That includes Girl Scout activities. Fortunately, many volunteers have stepped up to keep their Girl Scouts active in virtual troops, in small outdoor activities, Zoom and other ways.

Volunteers Alexander McCuine of Vergennes and Kelsey Bradford of Addison received thanks from the Girl Scouts of the Ticonderga and White Mountains for their efforts to keep the troop members engaged during the COVID pandemic. In

WHILE THERE ARE A FEW FRIENDS PARENTS WITHIN THE SCOUT GROUP, THE GROUP IS QUITE DIVERSE AND THE GIRLS ARE MAKING NEW FRIENDSHIPS.

— Alexander McCuine

Our Daisy petals in persons with activities such as decorating the Blacktop outside classrooms with friendly chalk messages for teachers and students, said McCuine. “When we shifted to remote meetings in November, we hosted a remote food drive to benefit our local food shelf. We sent home an outdoor scavenger hunt, conducted a few short Zoom ‘meetings,' and sent home instructional videos for a few cookie-related activities.”

They are excited to be meeting in person again now. The Daisies were sailing the last weekend of February and built a campfire. “Soon we hope to go horseback riding and enjoy the outdoors through other outdoor adventures,” said McCuine.

Whole Red Cross

(Created from Page 1C)

To provide support for victims of disasters. Volunteering for the Red Cross is part of a family that is committed to helping and caring for people in need.

How You Can Help

Become a Red Cross volunteer to help families after a disaster, or to help families begin to recover.

Volunteer from home (virtual positions): Help from the comfort of your own home through a wide range of virtual opportunities, including Volunteer Recognition and Appreciation Team members.

Volunteers can also make a lifesaving difference by making an appointment to donate blood at RedCrossBlood.org, if you’re healthy and feeling well. Those who come to give by April 30 will automatically be entered for a chance to win one of five $1,000 e-gift cards to a merchant of choice. Additional details are available at blood.org/Challenge.
Thank you, Addison County Volunteers for working so hard for our community!

ADDISON COUNTY READERS

Wendy Wilson, of Bristol, has been volunteering as a Website Developer for Addison County Readers for the past six months. Wendy created a new website for the organization and now helps manage the site. What Wendy most enjoys is “doing something creative back to my community and meeting new people with similar interests.” Marita Bathe-Schirme of ACR shares, “Wendy joined ACR this year at a point when we most needed her skills and expertise. Without any community events, effective social media sites are an essential link to others. ACR was well aware of its outdated static website and last year made our need even more apparent. Since we are an all-volunteer board and our whole budget is for sending Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library books, hiring a web designer was out of the question. Wendy brought us into the 21st century by designing an engaging, easy to use, and very informative website that addresses our mission 100%. Besides her fantastic computer skills, Wendy is a clear and effective communicator and follows up on all the tasks she takes on herself with a clear timeline. Her volunteer commitment will continue as the website administrator. The whole ACR Board is deeply grateful to Wendy for her work!”

Clara Hatch, of Middlebury, has been assisting Addison County Readers as a Technology Support Volunteer since January. Clara’s responsibilities include editing video testimonials of parents reading to their children and helping spread the word about the program. This past year, ACR had to rethink how to reach parents with young children since all our traditional ways of being a cheerleader and keeping us grounded. We wouldn’t want to do it without you!”

MALT

Susan Polk embodies the heart and soul of MALTS’s mission: connecting people to nature. We love Susan for so many reasons. She is constantly offering up her services to field and staff envelopes for us so that we can have more time to focus on the lands and people that we serve. She also runs an avid hiker and skier, and she loves the TAM just as much as we do. Thank you, Susan, for being our cheerleader and keeping us grounded. We wouldn’t want to do it without you!}

Bixby Volunteers Are The Heart Of Your Library

Join Us In Celebrating Each And Every One Of Them!

Thank you to all Addison County volunteers!

Bixby Library

Thank you for all your support, Jason!

Porter is grateful for the many volunteers whose dedicated service helps us provide essential health care to our community.

RSVP OF ADDISON COUNTY & THE AARP FOUNDATION

This year RSVP of Addison County worked with an incredible group of volunteers from the AARP Foundation to provide a free tax assistance program for low- and middle-income residents. With thoughtful and diligent planning, a “drive through” format, and remote preparers, they were able to serve hundreds of clients safely. “We have a great team,” describes Kathy Dudos, District Coordinator for Addison County. “They stepped up this year to take on the challenge of tax prep under COVID restrictions. It was more time consuming, but it worked and we enjoyed meeting with and helping all of our taxpayers, many of whom have been helping for a long time. It was very satisfying.”

Katherine, of Vergennes, helped start Evergreen Preschool back in 1982. Though the preschool has changed and grown in the past 4 decades, one thing has remained the same: the generous time and support of Katrina Matthews.

Katrina has been on the Board of Directors since the conception of the preschool (almost 4 decades). She has been a tremendous collaborator and accountant for many of those years. Katrina is extremely generous and thoughtful. She is known to bring lunch and treats as well as other things that are needed and small gifts of appreciation. She has been ambitiously learning how to play CD’s and play old Evergreen songs at the commencement of Board Meetings. Katrina is kind in nature and is a keen listener and active proponent of Gardner building, flexible and supportive. She has given thousands of hours to Evergreen Preschool over the years! She is the school’s #1 cheerleader and it’s safe to say that the preschool wouldn’t be the same without a little bit of Katrina. We will never be able to thank her sufficiently for all she has given over the years! Katrina, you are well loved by all you have touched. Thank you for everything!

Jasen Chance, of Middlebury, has been processing fundraising database administration to Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT) since August of 2020. Jasen is the mastermind behind the membership and program database that MALT uses. He enters information about staff members and folks who donate or attend our programs so that we can get in touch with them in the future. He has the know-how to make the database do things that we didn’t even know we needed! Jasen has helped change our volunteer recording process as well as how we communicate with donors after they donate. It is incredibly useful behind the scenes work, which allows MALT to grow and connect with more people. Jasen enjoys being able to use his technical skills to help MALT further its mission.

Katrina and Jason are two of the many people that we have been able to serve safely through ‘in-person’ and remote preparation, they are truly heroes and role models. They have been an incredible support for MALT’s mission: to protect and preserve lands and the plants, animals, and waters of our communities. Through their service, they have been able to serve hundreds of clients safely.

Katrina and Jason have been an incredible support for MALT’s mission: to protect and preserve lands and the plants, animals, and waters of our communities. Through their service, they have been able to serve hundreds of clients safely.
MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Flor Fernández Montes, is a senior psychology major at Middlebury with a deep interest in child development. She says that she chose to intern at the Addison County Parent Child Center because of its holistic approach to serving the community and participants. “I’d heard amazing things about the childcare’s therapeutic approach and the staff’s intentionality about supporting each other and creating a growth-oriented workspace, and throughout my time at the PCC, I learned about the PCC’s commitment to anti-racism. I enjoyed being given a platform to apply my learning and values.” Flor has been an incredible addition to the ACPCC and related well to the work we do at a very deep level. She has an uncanny ability to see the 30,000ft view, yet also understands the grassroots of practical application. Flor has created some outstanding resources for the team, digging down with some substantial research. A natural self-starter, she is unimpressed by change — she approaches life with a strengths-based lens, and this is a quality that will be most valuable as she moves forward in life. Her ability to build trusting relationships, with a willingness to go the extra mile makes her a vital asset to ACPCC and our participants.”

Emily Bulczynski, of Newton, MA, has been a volunteer with Middlebury College’s migrant farmworker-focused service organization, Juntos, for the past three years. She currently serves as a branch leader for their Companeros program, which works with farmworkers to acquire English skills and tools that promote farmworker independence. Yamit brings strong organizational skills, attention to detail, and a sense of calm amid the COVID situation to her work with Juntos. She coordinates and selects English tutors, provides TESOL training materials and lesson plans to the tutors, organizes one-on-One English tutoring sessions with English tutors and migrant farm workers, and provides weekly office hours to support our tutors. Yamit shares, “I enjoy knowing that myself and other volunteers are providing much needed (and desired) support to farmworkers in our area!” Thank you for your steady leadership and commitment to serving the migrant farmworker community, Yamit!

ADDISON COUNTY RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SERVICES

Erin Buble, of New Haven, has been with Addison County Restorative Justice Services since 2016. Erin is involved as a Special Diversion Panel Member and is always willing to serve on panels when needed. Erin enjoys connecting with community members and helping to make things better. “I sit on panels that help guide participants to repair the damage they have caused and get their lives back on track. I ask questions and suggest reparations, and ways to grow and heal.” Erin’s volunteer work also includes coordinating the Four Winds Nature Program, participating in the PTO for Bearman Elementary School, and serving on the Children’s Committee for Middlebury Friends Meeting and as a Board member of Dayhale Wallace of ACRJS appreciates her help: “Erin understands the necessary balance between accountability and support in restorative justice and is a vital asset to ACRJS and our participants.”

Stephanie Jordan, of Florence, MA, serves on a Diversion Panel with Addison County Restorative Justice Services. ACRJS is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing restorative justice programs to the residents of Addison County. Stephanie has appreciated the opportunity to engage in and support the community. She has really enjoyed getting to know the other volunteers and ACRJS employees, as well as learning more about people and the lives they lead. We hear peoples’ stories and discuss whether they qualify for the diversion track. I am happy to be a part of providing people with a second chance and alternative to the traditional court system.”

ADDISON COUNTY PARENT CHILD CENTER

Yamit Netter-Sweet, of Philadelphia, PA, has been a volunteer with Middlebury College’s migrant farmworker-focused service organization, Juntos, for the past three years. She currently serves as a branch leader for their Companeros program, which works with farmworkers to acquire English skills and tools that promote farmworker independence. Yamit brings strong organizational skills, attention to detail, and a sense of calm amid the COVID situation to her work with Juntos. She coordinates and selects English tutors, provides TESOL training materials and lesson plans to the tutors, organizes one-on-One English tutoring sessions with English tutors and migrant farm workers, and provides weekly office hours to support our tutors. Yamit shares, “I enjoy knowing that myself and other volunteers are providing much needed (and desired) support to farmworkers in our area!” Thank you for your steady leadership and commitment to serving the migrant farmworker community, Yamit!

Peter Ryersbach, of Starksboro, has been with Addison County Restorative Justice Services for many years. Peter currently volunteers on a COSA team, the Court Diversion Panel and the Tamarack Panel, and is a former Board member. ACRJS appreciates Peter’s open-mindedness and what a strong believer he is in Restorative Justice. Peter shares, “I enjoy the opportunity to listen to people and help them realize their mistake involving the law does not have to define them. I help individuals restore the harm they did to the community, and move on. As a society, we need to reform our correction’s system, deal with substance abuse as a health issue, and not treat poverty as a crime. I enjoy being involved with the community and part of the solution.” Peter also volunteers with the Starksboro Food Shelf and the Guardian Ad Litem program.

Lucy Pellegrini, of Bristol, has been a volunteer with Addison County Restorative Justice Services for the past five years. She currently volunteers on Reactive Panels, COSA, and Tamarack Programs. Lucy is always willing to volunteer in different capacities when needed. Her role involves offering support for accountability and with restoring relationships. Lucy says, “I believe in the strength of community. Damage to relationships can weaken community. My joy comes in seeing growth and renewal and stronger bonds as a result of the restorative process.” Lucy’s service also involves coaching field hockey goaltenders at Mt Abe and volunteering with the Pollinator Meadow in Burlington. Lucy has served as an Ordained Deacon of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont for the past four years and as Chaplain with Helen Porter Rehabilitation & Nursing for the past 16 years. Danielle Wallace of ACRJS shares, “Lucy has a strong belief in the power of collaboration and community, which is the foundation of reengaging people with their support systems and helping them recognize their importance as community members.”
Thank you, Addison County volunteers!

You help keep this community going!

WomenSafe

Thank you for your dedication, a total of 8,507 hours of their time during the 2020 fiscal year!

- Staffing our 247 hotline
- Assisting people at court
- Co-facilitating support groups
- Performing administrative tasks
- Serving on our Board of Directors
- Supporting our stewardship efforts

Example shown below.

Please refer to this template for horizontal layouts. Use gray and green bar at the top with logo placement on left and tag line on right. Line up the bottom of the gray and green bar with the baseline of “Middlebury” in the logo.

Please refrain from breaking apart brand elements, stretching or using other colors for these brand elements. Please use this sheet as a guide when producing your print collateral.

NOTES

WomenSafe appreciates volunteers!

WomenSafe would like to thank our 93 dedicated volunteers who donated 8,507 hours of their time during the 2020 fiscal year:

- Christopher Hammond, of Cornwall, has been a volunteer with Addison County Restorative Justice Services for nine years and served on the Diversion Panel for four years. Christopher spent nine months providing the services of a去年同期 when he began volunteering. He appreciates the opportunity to help people through bad decisions and the responsibility they hold to them. He has also been a volunteer with the American Red Cross Blood Drives for nine years and Relay for Life for nine years. He has established a plan to make a difference in people’s lives. He is a role model for young people.

- Bob Gerlin, of Cornwall, is a former member and Chair of the Cornwall Selectboard, and a past member with ACRJS. Bob shares, “I, with my colleagues and our facilitator, discuss the offences with the offender, covering its nature and its effect on the victim, the community and on him or her. We come to an agreement with the offender on a reparative contract. Then we monitor his or her progress by further meetings with them and reports from the facilitator on communication with them. I do not believe that the criminal justice system has adequately dealt with non-major criminal offenses. I am glad to be a part of a system that seeks to improve on this because I believe that it aids in the diminishment of the rate of recidivism.” Bob also serves as Trustee of public funds for the Town of Cornwall, and as a volunteer with the Weybridge Fire Department.

- Danielle Wallace, of Cornwall, has been a volunteer with Addison County Restorative Justice Services for nine years and served on the Diversion Panel for four years. Danielle shares, “I, with my colleagues and our facilitator, discuss the offences with the offender, covering its nature and its effect on the victim, the community and on him or her. We come to an agreement with the offender on a reparative contract. Then we monitor his or her progress by further meetings with them and reports from the facilitator on communication with them. I do not believe that the criminal justice system has adequately dealt with non-major criminal offenses. I am glad to be a part of a system that seeks to improve on this because I believe that it aids in the diminishment of the rate of recidivism.” Bob also serves as Trustee of public funds for the Town of Cornwall, as a volunteer with the Cornwall Selectboard, and as a volunteer with ACRJS. Danielle shares, “I enjoy helping people to make better decisions that will better themselves throughout life.”

- Juliet Gerlin, of Weybridge, has been a volunteer with Addison County Restorative Justice Services for the past 10 years. She appreciates the opportunity to collaborate with people in the community on pressing issues and to offer recommendations.

“...I love learning more about my beautiful home in Vermont; meeting new people, and extending an open hand.”

ADDISON COUNTY RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SERVICES (continued)

Peter James, of Weybridge, has been a Diversion Panel member with Addison County Restorative Justice Services for the past 10 years. Peter is also a volunteer with the Weybridge Fire Department, the Champlain Valley Farmers Coalition, and the Water Quality Board. He has been a youth football, basketball and hockey coach for the past 23 years, an MHS Football Coach for the past 19 years, and served on the Weybridge Selectboard for 31 years. Danielle Wallace of ACRJS appreciates Peter’s support, “Peter’s connection to youth in our county is an asset to Court Diversion. He is eager to understand his role within the diversion process. I appreciate his active participation despite his busy schedule.”

Juliet Gerlin, of Weybridge, has been a Volunteer with Addison County Restorative Justice Services for the past 10 years. Juliet acts as a Volunteer Manager at ACRJS. Juliet has also volunteered her time with the Charter House and the Open Door Clinic. Danielle Wallace of ACRJS greatly appreciates Juliet’s support, “Juliet cares about the participants that ACRJS works with. She is the person who gives the community encouragement.”

Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who allow our programs and events to thrive and all those giving their time to others!
LAWRENCE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Eleanor Menzer, of Lincoln, has volunteered for the Lawrence Memorial Library as the Regular Circulation Assistant since 2009. Eleanor’s responsibilities include assisting with circulation preparation for storytimes, and helping with anything that needs to happen behind the scenes. “From the day Eleanor walked into Lawrence Memorial Library as a volunteer, I realized that she was going to be a pillar in the Children’s Room,” says Children’s Librarian Martha Bote-Schine. “Eleanor jumped right into her task at the circulation desk, conversing with patrons from toddler age to their parents and enjoying it all. Being computer literate, Eleanor was unphased when we changed our library system to a more comprehensive platform, and we joked and laughed through some of the early glitches we were all encountering. Her willingness to learn, adapt to, and even enjoy the busyness of a children’s room during storytime has made it an absolute pleasure for everyone to be with Eleanor at the library.” Eleanor says she most enjoys the activities of the young boys and girls and mingling with parents and proud grandparents. In addition to her work at the Lawrence Memorial Library, Eleanor has volunteered with the Lincoln Community Library the past 11 years. She has regularly volunteered at the Stampede in Bristol, cares for community members in Lincoln, is a founding member and very involved in the Lincoln Historical Society, and does not even shy away from yearly addressing over 250 fundraising letters in her beautiful handwriting. This past year Eleanor has been a steady voice of support and perspective and has inspired everyone at UML with her positive attitude. She also worked and supported them with projects at home. We can’t wait to open the doors again to Eleanor in mid-April and until then, as a friend, she is keeping an eye on the staff and the happenings of the library during Covid-closure.

TRI-VALLEY TRANSIT

David Bishop, of Goshen, has been a Volunteer Driver with Tri-Valley Transit for over five years. His role is to provide transportation to individuals who are in need of their services. David enjoys meeting and helping clients and making transportation fun and interesting.

Lawrence librarian Janet Buxton appreciates how Janet makes clients comfortable with good conversation and ensures that they get where they need to be. Thank you for the support you provide, Janet!

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF GREATER VERGENNES

From March until July of 2020, the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vergennes had the support of some truly incredible volunteers. We started a Meals program to provide food during the early months of the pandemic and the community rallied around us in the most meaningful way. Our program began on March 18th and continued all the way until July 31st. Volunteers had a variety of different roles including cooking, packaging and delivery. All told, we provided over 25,000 meals to clients during those months. Without our volunteers we would have never been able to accomplish this feat. This program provided an example for what a much larger program could look like and the Club is proud to be a part of the Everyone Eats program that is still in operation today. Thank you Diane Merrill, Judy Wipper-Grohs, Alenne Delf, Catherine Wilson, Cherri Vachon, Amy Vachon, Sarah Bourne, Nancy Cenott, Susannah White, Sue Mainline, Allison Rimmer, Kim Crawford, Daniel Lyons, Jon Dewees, Conner Gill, Pat Lott, Eve-Lynn Walker, Arlene Ingraham, Simon Schreiber, Allison Gregory, Amanda Bodeph, Chris Monje, Deb Healey, Debra Stenner, Eric Reid-St John, Joanne Proamonta, Mary Neffinger, Michele Gilbert, Patrick Giblin, Peter Degraff, Ralph Kahan, Shannon Butler, Susan Burdick, Zee Kaslow, Cookie Stepelnits, Susan Schafer, Diana Richer, Eve McCluskey, Jen Gilbert, Ian Sutherland, Molly Struhammer, Pam Struhammer, Ian Huizenga, Thomas Monty, Lineaa Osterman, Scott McArule, Tom Burchett and Janice Bosworth.

Homeward Bound

Homeward Bound wants all our volunteers – our board members, our dedicated dog walkers and cat socializers, our dynamic community outreach ambassadors, our tireless foster care families, our clerical and customer service folks, and everyone in the community who steps up when asked for help – to know how very grateful we are for your support and commitment!

RSVP wishes to thank all the volunteers who contribute to the quality of our lives in Addison County. We are inspired by the many ways you support our community.

RSVP of Addison County
79 Court Street, Suite 2 Middlebury, Vermont 05753
802.388.7044 | VolunteersInVT.org

National Volunteer Week • Addison Independent, Thursday, April 22, 2021 — PAGE 7C

Thank you
to all Addison County volunteers for all the work you do!

Rainbow Pediatrics
99 Court Street, Middlebury, VT
www.RainbowVT.com

We’re proud of Addison County volunteers and all that they do for our community!

RSVP wishes to thank all of you who contribute to and support our fundraisers in order that we can continue our mission of charitable outreach in the greater community.

MIDDLEBURY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
KATHERINE DALY COUNCIL 642

Thank you

The Middlebury Knights of Columbus Council 642 contributes/volunteers at a significant level for its parish and community causes. Additionally, the Knights have made the monthly causes of the greater Middlebury community a central focus of its volunteerism and financial contributions on a regular basis. These include Addison County Special Olympics, HOPE Food Shelf, Chance House Daily and Friday night meals and cold month meals for those in need, student scholarship grants, MUIS Boys State participants, Bishop’s Fund, Camp Takatoka, Pregnancy Resource Center, Vaccine Service committee, family and youth ministry, Middlebury American Hockey and Middlebury Youth Lacrosse Club.

We extend our sincere thanks to all of you who contribute to and support our fundraisers in order that we can continue our mission of charitable outreach in the greater community.

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Thank you for the support you provide, Eleanor!
Thank you to our volunteers for helping our community run smoothly!

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Judy Wiger-Grohs: “I’ve been volunteering at HOPE for three years. I had been working for a school and worked with kids without a safe place to eat and I saw firsthand what they were like for them. I started delivering produce to HOPE and eventually began volunteering in the food shelf to help those who need food. I’ve always had resources, and to be able to share and to know someone has a few days worth of food is amazing.”

Jill Vickers: “Last November, a close friend told me of her role volunteering for HOPE’s food shelf. I was interested, especially during the pandemic. I have found it rewarding to be getting to know the people who work for HOPE and to see the compassion and expertise they offer.”

Deborah Bird, of Middlebury, Vermont, has volunteered with HOPE for over twenty years! Throughout the years, she has dedicated countless hours to our organization. Currently, Deb is our seasonal TNR coordinator, our Homeward Bound, program to make appointments for food, flea and tick medication pick-ups and to schedule appointments for our wellness clinic services. Peggy volunteers her time every Friday morning to come into the shelter and run our CORE Clinic. She greets clients and confirms with the vet as to what the animal needs and then relays the aftercare information back to the pet owner. It’s her willingness to do all of these extra things that makes her even more of a joy to have. Plus, it personally provides a means to interact with and learn from the people in organizations I admire.” We cannot imagine our Pet CORE program running as smoothly as it does without her, thank you Peggy.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers, thank you for helping to keep the wheels of our community turning - even during the pandemic.

We could not do it without you!

END OF LIFE SERVICES
Great gratitude to the Board of Directors of End of Life Services who have navigated the organization through many transitions in order to continue to provide services to our community. Our Board, Daphne Diego, Kate Williams, Jon Crystal, Susan Cartwright, Grace McGrath, Cathy Walsh, Danielle Bayes, Liz Neeuwout and Tim Hansen, consistently made difficult decisions throughout the pandemic that focused on the safety of the staff, volunteers, and the people we serve. Their open-door policy for staff and education sessions to be offered online was immediate so that the programs could continue for community members. They made a decision to allow staff meetings as a support system on a regular weekly basis and began to meet once a week, instead of once a month, so that quick responses could be made as policy changes were necessary. The Board members have been willing participants for various workshops and trainings, offered to further engage in the philosophy of the organization, and have remained dedicated to the mission of the organization despite the challenges along the way. The staff – Shirley, Margaret and Laurie – appreciate the unwavering energy, enthusiasm and vision of these dedicated volunteers.

Thank you volunteers for keeping our community running.
Let us help you drive safe. Stop in today!
Mark Wilch, of Middletown, Vermont started volunteering with Homeward Bound seven years ago and is currently leading our Board of Directors as the President. Mark enjoys meeting all of our dogs and walking them weekly! He never lets weather deter him and will walk in the rain with a smile on his face! He is a multitalented individual who has added the shelter in many of its endeavors. Along with socializing dogs, Mark helps us in small maintenance and upkeep projects too. From participating in our community events to building catios and shelves, Mark is a tremendous volunteer! Mark is currently a volunteer with the Middlebury Dog Park and is involved in the operation and maintenance of it, along with being a part of the original organization group. Mark also represents the dog park as a member of the LCMM Board of Directors and Rec advisory committee on which he has been a member for over three years. Mark is very involved in the community and is also a member of the Middlebury Development Review Board, and is a mentor for the woodworking shop at the Makery at the Hannaford Career Center. Mark states, “I truly enjoy being a part of what is happening and getting involved in important work that.” We are so fortunate to have this amazing community member in our organization. We can’t imagine Homeward Bound without him.

PORTER MEDICAL CENTER AUXILIARY

Cornwall’s Pat Morrow has found a way to direct her passion for gardening and experience in healthcare administration to help numerous Addison County organizations. Pat has served on the Porter Medical Center Auxiliary Board since 2011. A certified Master Gardener by the University of Vermont, Pat supports the Auxiliary’s work in many ways but is best known for her gorgeous flower arrangements that have adorned the Auxiliary’s fundraising events for the past decade. “Auxiliary events are about bringing the community together to support Porter, and Pat’s beautiful arrangements have defined those gatherings for many years,” said Auxiliary President Gratschen Ayer. “With in-person events on hold, Pat volunteered to create her amazing arrangements as ‘door prizes’ for our virtual events. It’s been a big draw for attendees and provided a stronger sense of normalcy and community for our online events.” Pat also leads the Auxiliary’s marketing efforts for Round Robin, reminding the community to donate clothing and promoting new sales items to help the “upscale resale” nonprofit retailer weather COVID-19. Similarly, she provided marketing leadership while on the board of Addison County Home Health and Hospice. Pat joined the Middlebury Garden Club in 2012, serving as president among other roles, and volunteers with gardens at Carroll School and Bridport Town Green.

OPEN DOOR CLINIC

July 2021 will be a milestone for the Open Door Clinic. It marks our 30th Anniversary and Roberto Varela** 20th year volunteering for us! Roberto, a retired Spanish professor from Middlebury College and a resident of Cornwall, has, over the last 20 years, dedicated more than 1,200 hours to help increase access to healthcare in Addison County. We will save you the math: he has volunteered at least 1 hour and 15 minutes every week for the last 20 years! Dr. Christiane Kokubo, who first talked to Roberto when she was interviewing for a job position at the Open Door Clinic in the Fall of 2013. He was assessing my Spanish skills and I passed (thank you, Roberto!). Since then, we’ve communicated almost weekly, initially to schedule him to interpret at an appointment where medical provider didn’t speak Spanish and patient didn’t speak English, but then our communication started to include politics, literature, good music, Brazilian exhibits in NY’s botanical garden, long road trips, the nuances of words and expressions in Spanish, Portuguese, and English, and, most recently, babies. Roberto is a reliable volunteer who is selfless with his time. He is engaged, passionate, and always willing to help at a moments notice. He proofreads our translations, assesses volunteers’ (and candidates for job and internship positions’) Spanish skills, interprets at medical appointments, comes to the office to answer the phone, helps patients fill out paperwork, and greets patients at the front desk. You name it, and he will be willing to be there for you. We couldn’t do it without him and we are very grateful he and his wonderful wife Susan chose to call Addison County their home. He says, “[I] like working with the medical volunteers: “they are dedicated and capable and very inspiring”. For us, this also defines who Roberto is. Besides volunteering at the ODC, Roberto is a member of the board of Shades of the Middlebury Art Museum. Muchas gracias, Roberto!

LUKE MCLEAN, ND, started volunteering at the Open Door Clinic in the Fall of 2007. In the last 14 years, he has dedicated over 230 hours to see our patients. “There are many things to like about volunteering at the Open Door Clinic: the patients, the work there are fabulous, caring and committed. They provide great care and I learn something new every day. I get to spend as much time as I need with patients and I am confident they are getting all the right referrals and follow up. We see a wide variety of people from different parts of the world and they often have amazing stories to tell,” she says. Luke is reliable and committed, and our patients love her. It’s always nice to have her with us. A resident of Cornwall, Luke also enjoys volunteering with Addisons Allies teaching English to the farmworkers, driving them or other odd jobs when needed: “They are a wonderful organization, trying to fill in the service gaps for our local farmworkers”. The community is lucky to have you, Luke. We couldn’t do it without you, thank you very much!

LAKE CHAMPLAIN MARITIME MUSEUM

Wendy Lynch, of Cornwall, has been working with the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum (LCMM) since 2001. Wendy initially connected with the LCMM through as a teacher. Each semester, Wendy brought a group of students to the museum with a long-term project, acquire their own skills, and share a project with the whole team.” In addition to volunteering in the boat shop, Wendy is a member of the LCMM Board of Directors. This allows her to work with other community members and staff as the museum continues to offer many opportunities to the public.

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Neighborhood helping neighbor

CHERYL WERNER, in orange hat, organized the volunteer March 30 cleanup effort to help her neighbors in Middlebury with the park that (compassion) around me has been an incredible help.

The corner of North and South streets. Jane and her husband, Steve, have normal, everyday routines disrupted by COVID-19. They do what they can to continue their daily lives. She does her best to keep the kitchen clean and the house in order while Steve is at work. Jane enjoys cooking and baking for her family, and when she's not doing that, she's volunteering for local causes.

Sue Sears also regularly delivers meals to homebound individuals and around the area. She's determined to be of service whenever and wherever needed.

In addition to volunteering, Sue Sears is also a member of the CHC (Champlain Housing Coalition). She serves on the board and works tirelessly to help those in need.

“Even my family doesn’t do that,” Jane said. “I absolutely feel I’m making a difference.” Jane Steele said.

The Neighborhood helping neighbor article is from the Addison Independent, written by Cheryl Werner. It highlights the importance of volunteers in the community and the impact they have on those they help. The article emphasizes the necessity of volunteerism during times of crisis, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, and how volunteers continue to provide support and assistance to those in need.

The article includes quotes from Jane Steele, a volunteer who delivers meals to homebound individuals, and Sue Sears, a member of the CHC. It also mentions other volunteers and organizations, such as the Middlebury College Coalition’s executive director, Neuberger, who had a chance to chat with the article’s author, Jane. The article concludes with a call to action, urging readers to consider volunteering their time and resources to help their community.

The Neighborhood helping neighbor article is a powerful reminder of the importance of community involvement and the positive impact it can have on individuals and families in need. It encourages readers to consider the benefits of volunteering and to get involved in ways that are meaningful to them.

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Friends of Cornwall School annual activities

- Back to School Potluck
- After School Activities
- Harvest Festival (October)
- Gifts for Giving (December)
- Community Support
- Town Meeting Dinner (May fundraiser)
- Movie Nights
- Teacher Appreciation Week
- End of Year Picnic

Volunteers help kids learn on site

The University of Vermont Extension wants to thank our 4-H volunteers and Addison 4-H Foundation directors who dedicate hours of time and energy to the 4-H Youth Program in Addison County.

Jackie Lahey, the University of Vermont Extension 4-H Coordinator, thanked the volunteers for their years of service to the 4-H Youth Program. She noted that the volunteers are essential to the success of the program and that their contributions are greatly appreciated.

The article includes quotes from Jackie Lahey, who emphasizes the importance of volunteers in the 4-H Youth Program, and other volunteers who have contributed their time and expertise to the program. It highlights the impact that volunteers have on the lives of 4-H youth and the community at large.

The article concludes with a call to action, encouraging readers to consider volunteering their time and resources to support the 4-H Youth Program. It emphasizes the importance of community involvement and the positive impact it can have on individuals and families in need.

The Volunteer is a powerful reminder of the importance of community involvement and the positive impact it can have on individuals and families in need. It encourages readers to consider the benefits of volunteering and to get involved in ways that are meaningful to them.