

Steele resolves to help others

Midd woman directs her energy outward

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Folks planning for retirement typically map out activities and bucket lists for their golden years.

Jane Steele's retirement plan was simple: Work even harder — this time on behalf of those less fortunate.

At age 75, the former educator, advertising representative and service station manager is busier than she's ever been, as a volunteer at the Charter House Coalition's (CHC) warming shelter at 27 North Pleasant St. in Middlebury. And it's just the latest chapter in her growing story of service to others.

Steele's deep plunge into volunteerism began a decade ago, following the death of her husband, Paul. Together they had long operated Steele's Service Center at 83 Main St., a building that was razed in 2009 to make way for the Cross Street Bridge.

The first major beneficiary of her smarts, energy and compassion was the Round Robin Upscale Resale Shop at 211 Maple St. Round Robin is a nonprofit venture that sells donated, high-quality clothing, with the proceeds supporting Porter Hospital and

Helen Porter Rehabilitation & Nursing Center.

"I asked (Round Robin Manager) Robin (Huestis) if she needed help, she did, and that was it. I loved it," Steele recalled.

She spent three days a week assisting Round Robin with myriad tasks, including pricing items, sorting clothes and waiting on customers.

She was a natural. Anyone who knows Jane Steele — and this reporter does, from her years working as an ad representative at the *Independent* — is aware of her gregarious nature, her fashion sense and her inability to be anything but honest with a person. All of those skills came into play at Round Robin, along with two of Steele's passions.

"Clothing Shopping," she repeated slowly, eyes wide while sporting a grin.

But it was the interaction with clients, and knowing she was helping others, that were the biggest draws for Steele.

You come in for a bargain and leave with a bonus — an overview of current events and maybe even some helpful advice.

BRANCHING OUT

Steele was a Round Robin

"(Dottie Neuberger) said, 'Why don't you come and help out for a Friday night supper.' I thought, 'I'll try it one time and see what it's like.'"

— Jane Steele



MIDDLEBURY'S JANE STEELE has distinguished herself as one of the community's most dedicated volunteers, providing critical support at Round Robin and the Charter House Coalition's warming shelter. She was also a driving force behind creation of Middlebury's dog park. Independent photo/John Flowers

fixture until the coronavirus pandemic struck the county in March 2020. Most of the organization's volunteers were seniors and thus most susceptible

to the virus's serious health risks. Social distancing was affecting all retailers. So for safety reasons, Steele withdrew from her Round Robin activities.

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 Middlebury's all-star volunteers, Dottie Neuberger. While dropping off a donation at Round Robin, (See Jane Steele, Page 10C)



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 30, I'd sort of run out of my friends, so I gave it to people on my street," she told the *Independent*. "I was on a board, so I brought it to board members. And it just sort of went like that."

Kimball's Office Supply. The Bristol Post Office. The folks at

Bristol Electronics and the ski patrol at Mad River Glen.

If the Bristol Food Shelf planned to be open on a particular Friday,

Willson would spend the week baking exclusively on its behalf.

In the fall she began posting on Front Porch Forum.

"I will be baking loaves 140-150 (hopefully!) right up to Thanksgiving," she wrote in a Nov. 21 post.

"If you want a loaf of homemade sourdough bread for your Thanksgiving meal, let me know, and I'll put your name on it and leave it on my porch."

The post generated a deluge

"I find it a really meditative thing to do. I like the rhythm and pace of making bread."

— Catherine Willson



CATHERINE WILLSON LEAVES a couple loaves of bread she baked on a bench in front of her home in Bristol for anyone to take. She has baked and given away more than 200 loaves of bread over the past 13 months. Sometimes she gives them to friends and neighbors, sometimes to local businesses and organizations, and sometimes bakes for strangers. Independent photo/William Haig

of requests, Willson said, but she managed to fulfill them all.

The Saturday before Easter she took two loaves to the family, whose house in Middlebury was severely damaged by a March 26 tornado.

And sometimes she just leaves a loaf or two on a wicker bench in front of her house, with signs that say "Bread Today" and "Free."

Occasionally Willson gets thank-you notes, like the one from a young child who drew a loaf of

bread, captioned by her mother as "loaf of bread," and wrote a brief note, translated by her mother as "I really liked it. We ate bread and jam with it, and butter." Willson keeps that one on her fridge.

In some ways, the act of baking and giving away bread has been simple and straightforward, but the inspiration for this project was rather more complicated.

As Vermont entered COVID lockdown last spring, Willson sat down and reflected on a previous

time in her life when she was limited to her home because of a health situation.

"In 2005, my husband, Tim, was diagnosed with a brain tumor, and he was very sick for the year," she said. "I was really confined to the house. I couldn't go much farther than 10 or 15 minutes away — a phone call — so that I would be able to be there."

Tim died in 2006.

Among other things, he was an (See Willson, Page 3C)

Red Cross thanks Vt. volunteers

VERMONT — During National Volunteer Week, April 18-24, the American Red Cross Northern New England Region is recognizing its volunteers who continue to work tirelessly to help people in need during COVID-19.

In Vermont, 323 people volunteer with the Red Cross by responding to home fires and other disasters, supporting blood collections, providing emergency assistance to military families, and much more. These individuals are among the more than 300,000 volunteers who comprise more than 90% of the national Red Cross workforce.

Locally, Red Cross officials named five Addison County volunteers who deserved recognition: Taylor Bakerian of Whiting; Genevieve Jackman and Suzanne Audy of New Haven; and David Punia, Elaine Eldridge and Linda Miller of Vergennes.

"We are grateful for the dedication of our volunteers, whose support makes a compassionate difference for our neighbors in need," said Stephanie Couturier, CEO of American Red Cross of Northern New England. "Their support during disasters and other emergencies has been more critical than ever, as families cope with increased anxiety and financial strains brought on by the pandemic."

Vermont Pam Uhlendorff shares how her volunteer journey with the Red Cross began. "I became involved with the Red Cross when my family lost our home to a fire in 2017. Red Cross volunteers helped me to move forward one step at a time," said Uhlendorff. "I have always been a person ready and willing to assist people in need, and the Red Cross has given me the skills and training (See Red Cross, Page 3C)

A

Gretchen Adsit
Pat Anderson
Jean Andersson-Swayze
Maisie Anrod
Nelly Aranibar-Salomon
Jeannette Armell
Sarah Ashe
Nelson Audet

B

Charlie Bain
Dinah Bain
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Matthew Cox
Mary Ruth Crawford
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Emma Crockford
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Thank you, Volunteers!

National Volunteer Week is about inspiring and recognizing volunteerism in our communities. In honor of National Volunteer Week, RSVP and our Addison County nonprofits 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. We greatly appreciate your support and generosity.

Laurie Curler
Dan Currier

D

Barbara Darling
Ted Davis
Lori Davis
Lyn DeGraff
Peter Degraff
Jacqueline Degree
Caroline Delisle
Magdalena Deloya
Corie Dematties
Glenna M. Densman
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Dot Dunham
Frankie Dunleavy Yeaton
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Patty Lewis
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Mary Beth Tichacek
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Curtis Willey
David Williams
Kate Williams
Tim Williams
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Catherine Wilson
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Vijaya Wunnava
Skip Wyer
Beth Wyer

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Jordan Young II

Z

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Emely Zeledon
Grace Zimmer
Maja Zimmermann

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS FOR ALL YOU DO FOR OUR COMMUNITY!



Willson

(Continued from Page 1C)
avid sourdough bread baker.

“So in some ways baking bread is 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

“I was kind of laughing at myself, thinking I had been so unique and brilliant, and you couldn’t buy flour or yeast anywhere because everybody had the same idea.”

— Catherine Willson

good for me, because I think after Tim died, I did what everyone tends to do, which is stay busy, stay busy, stay busy. And what this (in 2020) actually gave me was an opportunity to NOT stay busy, to really stay present, and to do something that honors him. In that way it became something larger than just baking bread.”

She decided she would make no-knead bread — “put all the ingredients in a bowl, cover it with plastic, let it sit for 15 hours, form it into a loaf and bake it.”

Before long, however, there were no ingredients to be had. “I was kind of laughing at myself, thinking I had been so unique and brilliant, and you couldn’t buy flour or yeast anywhere because everybody had the same idea,” she said.

Then Willson made an amazing discovery.



CATHERINE WILLSON

“A friend of mine had some of Tim’s old sourdough starter,” she said. “She had kept it alive. I had had some, too, but in my move to Bristol I’d killed it, and I thought, ‘Oh well, that must be my signal

that it’s time to let go.’ And here (my friend) was saying, ‘Oh, no, no, we can bring this back.’ So it’s kind of cool. I’m using the great-great-great-great-great-grandchild of Tim’s starter, which feels really poignant and sweet.”

Sourdough itself is amazing, she said.

“You just use water and flour, and the starter has a little bit of yeast in it, and it multiplies and grows as you feed it, and the more you bake, the more the yeast and whatever magic fairy dust that’s in the air keeps your sourdough going.”

Willson plans to keep baking, gifting and counting until she hits loaf 365. Then ... she’ll see.

Perhaps the pandemic will be over by then.

In the meantime, “somebody somewhere deserves a loaf of bread, wrapped up with pretty ribbon,” she said. “Especially during COVID.”

Reach at christopherr@addisonindependent.com.



CATHERINE WILLSON HAS appreciated the meditative pace of baking bread during the past year of COVID anxiety and isolation. When a loaf comes out right, she knows it’s because she gave it the time and attention it needed. Willson has given away nearly 250 loaves of bread since the pandemic began, a project that has helped keep her connected to her Bristol neighbors and the wider community.

Independent photos/William Haig



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.

Courtesy photo

Vergennes Girl Scouts get creative

VERGENNES — The past year has been one of uncertainty and disruption to everyone’s normal routines. That includes Girl Scout activities. Fortunately, many volunteers have stepped up and kept their Girl Scouts active in virtual troops, with outdoor activities, on Zoom, and other ways.

Volunteers Alexandra McGuire of Vergennes and Kelsey Bradford of Addison received thanks from the Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains for their efforts to create a new troop regardless of the COVID pandemic. In

the organization’s words, McGuire and Bradford, “defied the pandemic and started a new Girl Scout Daisy troop, helping girls make new friends and enjoy the outdoors in safe ways.”

“While there are a few friend pairs within the Scout group, the group is quite diverse and the girls are making new friendships.”

— Alexandra McGuire

Troop 61465 started this past fall with a group of kindergartners. “We currently have 12 Daisies representing two public schools, one private school, and a homeschool,” said McGuire. “While there are a few friend pairs within the Scout group, the group is quite diverse and the girls are making new friendships.”

“In the fall, we earned a few of

our Daisy petals in person with activities such as decorating pumpkins, a playground scavenger hunt, and decorating the blacktop outside classrooms with friendly chalk messages for teachers and students,” said McGuire. “When we shifted to remote meetings in November, we hosted a remote food drive to benefit our local food shelf, 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 went sledding the last weekend of February and built a campfire. “Soon we hope to go horseback riding and embark on lots of other outdoor adventures,” said McGuire.

United Way rewards high school volunteers

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 generous donor, 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 \$1,000 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 Addison County within between July 1, 2020, and now; have seen their volunteer service make an impact on a non-profit organization, its clients, the community and their own personal learning; and be applying to or enrolled in an accredited post-graduation site — this could be college, trade school, adult education (minimum 6-credit semester or the equivalent).

Requirements for the “LIVE UNITED” Volunteer Scholarship Award:

1. Completed Scholarship Application which includes “Questions for Student” document
2. A student résumé of all applicable high school activities (sports, student government, activities, jobs, etc.)
3. Letter of reference from the organization where the student volunteers that answers the attached questions.

The scholarship funds will be made available to the educational institution in which the student is enrolled. Payment will be issued by the United Way of Addison County.

Please complete the application, “questions for students,” student résumé, and letter of reference, and send them to erin@unitedwayaddisoncounty.org or via U.S. Mail to: Erin Reed, United Way of Addison County, P.O. Box 555, Middlebury, VT 05753.

All application documents are due to United Way of Addison County by May 7. Winners will be notified no later than May 28.

Download an application online at tinyurl.com/UWAScholarship.

The 2020 LIVE UNITED Volunteer Scholarship Award went to Kam Bartlett of Middlebury Union High School, Michael Davis of Vergennes Union High School, and Lexi Kouwenhoven of Mount Abraham Union High School.

Red Cross

(Continued from Page 1C)
to provide support for victims of disasters. Volunteering for the Red Cross I feel 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 ensure families don’t face emergencies alone. Visit redcross.org/local/me-nh-vt/volunteer to learn more, including about our most-needed volunteer positions:

• **Blood donor ambassadors and transportation specialists:** Blood donations are essential to the health of our communities, and blood donor ambassadors are a vital part of this work by welcoming visitors and taking their temperatures before entering Red Cross facilities

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:** Most of the U.S. disasters that the Red Cross responds to every eight minutes are local home fires, which can destroy nearly everything a family owns in a matter of minutes. Partnering with local fire departments, Red Cross Disaster Action Team (DAT) volunteers connect with families

by video or phone call to provide emotional support, emergency financial assistance and information 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.

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 rcblood.org/Gift.

National Volunteer Week

Celebrate Service
April 18-24, 2021


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for working so hard
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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, giving

back to my community and meeting new people with similar interests". Marita Bathe-Schine 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 set 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 physical presence in the community and promoting the Dolly Parton Imagination Library were not possible. With the help of Oratory in Action at Middlebury College, they produced raw material for short personalized videos. A first in ACR history! Marita Bathe-Schine of Addison County Readers describes, "Even though Clara is a full-time Middlebury College student, she quickly stepped in and edited a series of these promotional video clips. They are testimonials by parents, children and board members to promote enrolling in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Clara makes the work seem effortless, delivers on time, and is embracing new tasks for ACR". At present, Clara, along with Brigid Connor, a new ACR volunteer, is working on another literacy project. Clara also volunteers as a mentor for high school students and helps coach them through the college application process. Clara shares, "I like the connections and the people I get to meet! I also enjoy learning more deeply about the inner workings of a volunteer organization." The ACR board is grateful for Clara's work and commitment!

MALT



Susan Polk embodies the heart and soul of MALT's mission: connecting people to nature. We love Susan for so many reasons. She is constantly offering up her services to fold and stuff envelopes for us so that we can have more time to focus on the lands and the people. When she

isn't stuffing envelopes, she is creatively thinking of other ways that she can make the MALT staffs' lives better. She donated a fantastic vacuum to MALT, which gets our carpet sparkly clean after we track in all of that dirt from the TAM. What's more, she has single handedly fueled our office chocolate stash, which is an absolutely critical component of environmental work. In her personal time, she is also 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!



Jason Chance, of Middlebury, has been providing fundraising database administration to Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT) since August of 2020. Jason is the mastermind behind the membership and program database that MALT uses. He enters information about 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! He 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. Jason enjoys being able to use his technical skills to help MALT further its mission. Naomi Cutler, ECO Americorps Member shares, "Jason is like a data fairy who comes into the office in the early hours of the morning and gets things done without anybody knowing. It is always a pleasure to start our day knowing that Jason has taken care of the things that we need to be successful in whatever task or program we are doing. He also started at MALT during the pandemic, which means that his volunteer time has been almost exclusively self-driven. We appreciate how willing he is to crunch data behind the scenes so that our wheels keep turning". Thank you for all your support, Jason!

EVERGREEN PRESCHOOL




Katrina Matthews, 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 40 years!) She has served as treasurer and accountant for many of those years. Katrina is extremely generous and thoughtful. She is known to bring lunch and treats to the staff as well as cards and small gifts of appreciation. She has been ambitiously learning to play the ukulele and has been known to play old Evergreen songs at the commencement of Board Meetings. Katrina is kind in nature and is a keen listener and active problem solver. She is very forward thinking, flexible and supportive. She has given thousands of hours to Evergreen Preschool over the years! She is the schools #1 cheerleader and it's safe to say that the preschool wouldn't be the same without a little touch 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.

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 preparation, they were able to serve hundreds of clients safely. "We have a great team," describes Kathy Duclos, District Coordinator for Addison County. "They stepped up this year to take on the unique 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 we have been helping for a long time. It was very satisfying." **Kathy Duclos, Tom Spencer, Kathy Starr, Sandi Bauer and Stan Turner** provided services at locations in Bristol and Vergennes, while **Joyce Stephens, Dinah Bain, Mary Conlon, and Peggy Fischel** assisted clients in Middlebury. They are looking forward to returning to normal next year when they can sit side by side with team members and clients and continue to provide this service to our community. Thank you for inspiring us with your good work!



National Volunteer Week

Celebrate Service
April 18-24, 2021

ADDISON COUNTY PARENT CHILD CENTER

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 ACPC 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 unimintimidated 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 delight to work with. We look forward to watching her 'crossing the stage' at graduation in late Spring 2021!



Addison County Community Trust
P.O. Box 311 • Vergennes, VT 05491

To all of the volunteers
working hard to keep
Addison County going.

Thank You!
From our home to yours

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE



Emily Bulczynski, of Newton, MA, has been a volunteer with Middlebury College's Nutritional Outreach and Mentoring (NOM) for the past year and a half. She is currently the Vice-President of NOM and plans to continue with board leadership in the 2021-2022 academic year. Emily is involved in organizing NOM's programming with the Mary Hogan School, which entails monthly virtual cooking sessions with children and their families over zoom! Each month, NOM picks a recipe (or two) to represent the 'Vermont Harvest of the Month' and then purchases ingredients, assembles meal kits, and makes a contactless delivery to Mary Hogan for the families that sign up for that month's event. Emily shares, "I love interacting the kids! Even though it has been all virtual this past year, I have still really enjoyed seeing the kids' faces on zoom and chatting together as we make and try our recipes together." Thank you for your hard work, Emily!



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 Compañeros 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 amidst COVID chaos to her work with Juntos. She interviews and selects English tutors, provides TESOL training materials and lesson plans to the tutors, organizes one-on-one English tutoring lessons 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!

Sincere thanks to the volunteers
who put their heart and energies
into making the Little City a
great place to live, work, & play!

ADDISON COUNTY RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SERVICES



Erin Ruble, 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 Beeman Elementary School, and serving on the Children's Committee for Middlebury Friends Meeting and as a Board member of Treleven. Danielle 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. "I have 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."



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 Reparative 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 goalkeepers 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".

VERGENNES PARTNERSHIP

Let's get social:
@VergennesPartnership

www.VergennesDowntown.org

Tom Turley
Jessica Sturtevant
Lenore Morse
Suzanne Chornyak
Laura Sturtevant
Peggy Moccia
Sabrina Warner

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National Volunteer Week

Celebrate Service
April 18-24, 2021



*Thank you,
Addison County
volunteers!*

You help keep this
community going!

32 PINE ST | BRISTOL, VT 05443 | 802-453-2381 | JackmansInc.com



ADDISON COUNTY RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SERVICES (continued)

Juliet Gerlin, of Cornwall, has been a volunteer with Addison County Restorative Justice Services for many years. Juliet is always willing to assist ACRJS when needed. As a Diversion Panel Member, Juliet talks with clients and helps to decide their contracts. Juliet shares, "I enjoy stepping out of my world to meet and understand the other people around me that make up my community." 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. The time she gives to the community is invaluable".

Celia Gottlieb, of Middlebury, is a Diversion Panel Volunteer with Addison County Restorative Justice Services. Celia enjoys 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." Danielle Wallace of ACRJS shares, "Celia's investment community social justice is inspiring. She brings the youth perspective to our work with participants and is a role model for young people."



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 by:

- Staffing our 24/7 hotline
- Assisting people at court
- Co-facilitating support groups
- Performing administrative tasks
- Serving on our Board of Directors
- Supporting our stewardship efforts

Given these challenging times, WomenSafe is grateful for our volunteers who continue to serve survivors in our community. We are so appreciative of their hard work!

24 Hour Hotline: 802-388-4205 • info@womensafe.net



Peter James, of Weybridge, has been a Diversion Panel member with Addison County Restorative Justice Services for the past 10 years. "I meet with clients, listen to their stories, and come up with a plan so that a client can pay back to society for the harm he or she may have caused. I enjoy helping people to make better decisions that will better themselves throughout life." 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 MUHS 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."



A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE, WORK & PLAY

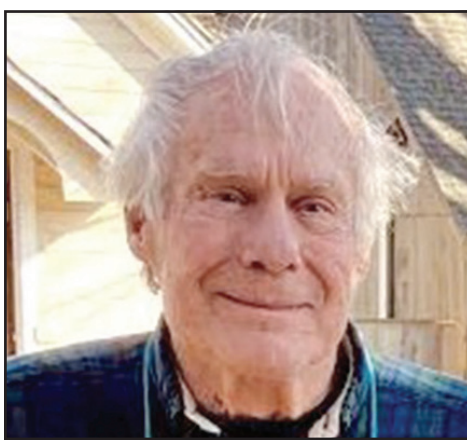
Thank You

We are proud to live, work and play in a place where volunteerism is a big part of our community.

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

EXPERIENCE MIDDLEBURY IS AN INITIATIVE OF THE BETTER MIDDLEBURY PARTNERSHIP

David Preble, of Middlebury, has been a volunteer with Addison County Restorative Justice Services for the past 30 years. As a Diversion Panel member, David meets with clients to hear their stories and help them reach an agreement to be completed. David enjoys the opportunity to help others. Danielle Wallace of ACRJS greatly appreciates his support, "David has been instrumental in acclimating me to the Diversion panel process in Addison County. He is always willing to participate and help wherever needed." David has been a volunteer with the American Red Cross Blood Drives for nine years and Relay for Life for nine years. He has served with the Lion's Club for the past 41 years.



Bob Gerlin, of Cornwall, has been a volunteer with Addison County Restorative Justice Services for over 20 years. Bob currently serves as a Reparative Panel Member with ACRJS. Bob shares, "I, with my colleagues and our facilitator, discuss the offense 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 that, particularly 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, is a former member and Chair of the Cornwall Selectboard, and a past Board member of Helen Porter Rehabilitation and Nursing and Hospice Volunteer Services.



Christopher Hammond, of Middlebury, serves as a Court Diversion Panel Member for Addison County Restorative Justice Services. Christopher spends time listening to people and helping them to develop a contract. He appreciates the opportunity to help people through bad decisions and provide a second chance. "Chris' empathy for our participants is an essential component of the diversion process," says Danielle Wallace of ACRJS. "His reliability and active participation are highly valued." Christopher has also been a volunteer with the Better Middlebury Partnership for the past five years.



**MANY THANKS TO
COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS**

Addison County Home Health and Hospice salutes the community volunteers who are using their time, talents and resources to help others in these challenging times.

We are especially thankful for our agency volunteers who visit our patients and provide such warmth and comfort to them.



We are seeking to grow our volunteer program. Our in-depth comprehensive volunteer training is remote, online, and self-paced. If you are a trained volunteer or a new volunteer, we would love to meet you!

To learn more about our growing volunteer program please contact Heather Barry at 802-388-7259.

254 Ethan Allen Highway, New Haven (Rte 7) | ACHHH.org

Middlebury DENTAL GROUP

Thank you to our volunteers for all your hard work!

1330 Exchange Street, Suite 107, Middlebury
802-388-3553
www.MiddleburyDentalVT.com

To All Local Volunteers,
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We appreciate you.

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National Volunteer Week

Celebrate Service
April 18-24, 2021

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, preparing 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 Marita Bathe-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 LML 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.

He always goes the extra mile to make sure clients get to their appointments comfortably, safely and on time. In addition to supporting Tri-Valley Transit, David also volunteers with the Town of Goshen in several capacities. Thank you for all you do for our community, David!



Janet Bishop, of Goshen, has been assisting Tri-Valley Transit as a Volunteer Driver for the past four years. What she enjoys most is meeting people and helping them with safe rides to their appointments. Volunteer Coordinator Amy

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!



Mo Schaner, of Brandon, has been a Medicaid Transport Volunteer Driver with Tri-Valley Transit for the past two years. Mo helps riders in and out of the car, drives them to various appointment and ensures that they arrive at their

destination safely and on time. Mo enjoys talking and joking with the riders, and sometimes singing. Mo loves when elderly riders laugh and have some fun! Volunteer Coordinator Amy Buxton describes, "Mo is our entertainer who loves to put a smile on their faces while maintaining safe and reliable transportation." Thank you, Mo, for all you do!



Chris Schaner, of Brandon, has served as a Volunteer Driver with Tri-Valley Transit for the past two years. What Chris most enjoys about volunteering is the opportunity to talk with clients. Amy Buxton, Volunteer Coordinator for Tri-Valley Transit,

appreciates is how Chris engages clients in good conversation during transportation and makes them feel more comfortable during transport. Thank you for all your help, Chris!

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 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 Merriell, Judy Wiger-Grohs, Aimee Goff, Catherine Wilson, Cherie Vachon, Amy Vachon, Sarah Bourne, Nancy Conant, Susannah White, Sue Hameline, Allison Rimmer, Kim Crawford, Daniel Lyons, Don Dewees, Connor Gill, Pat Lotz, Eve-Lynn Walker, Arlene Ingraham, Simon Schreier, Allison Gregory, Amanda Bodell, Chris Monje, Deb Healey, Debra Stenner, Eric Reid-St. John, Joanie Praamsma, Mary Neffinger, Michele Gilbert, Patrick Giblin, Peter Degraff, Rachel Kahan, Shannon Bohler, Susan Burdick, Zoe Kaslow, Cookie Steponaitis, Susan Schaefer, Diane Richer, Eve McCluskey, Jen Gilbert, Ian Sutherland, Molly Struhammer, Pam Struhammer, Ian Huizenga, Thomas Monty, Linnea Oosterman, Scott McArdle, Tom Borchert and Janice Bosworth.**

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

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388-6054
Mon. - Fri. 7:30 - 5:30, Sat. 8 - 3
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Homeward Bound
Addison County's Humane Society

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!

Homeward Bound
Addison County's Humane Society

Please visit our website
www.homewardboundanimals.org
for information on our volunteer program.

236 Boardman St. • Middlebury • 388-1100

Rainbow Pediatrics
RAINBOWVT.COM 802-388-1338

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

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.

AmeriCorps Seniors

RSVP of Addison County
79 Court Street, Suite 7 Middlebury, Vermont 05753
802.388.7044 | VolunteersInVT.org

K of C

The Middlebury Knights of Columbus Council 642 contributes/volunteers at a significant level for its parishes needs and causes. Additionally, the Knights have made the worthy 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, Charter House daily and Friday night meals and cold month shelter for those in need, student scholarship grants, MUHS Boys State participants, Bishop's Fund, Camp Takumta, Pregnancy Resource Center, Christain Service committee, family and youth ministry, Middlebury Amateur 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 efforts in the greater community.

MIDDLEBURY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
FATHER DALEY COUNCIL 642

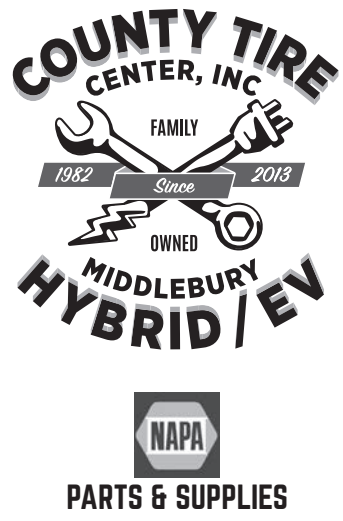
Thank you
to all Addison County volunteers for all the work you do!

Rainbow Pediatrics

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

National Volunteer Week

Celebrate Service
April 18-24, 2021



Thank you
volunteers for
keeping our
community
running.

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safe. Stop in today!

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VOLUNTEERS ARE THE GLUE THAT KEEP US TOGETHER

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**THANK YOU FOR ALL
YOU DO!**



Thank you to our volunteers
for helping our community
run smoothly!

155 Main St. • Vergennes • 802-877-3118

Hope

Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects

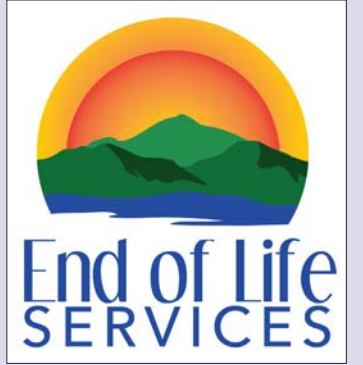
To all our wonderful
volunteers, thank you
for helping to keep the
wheels of our community
turning - even during
the pandemic!

*We could not
do it without you!*

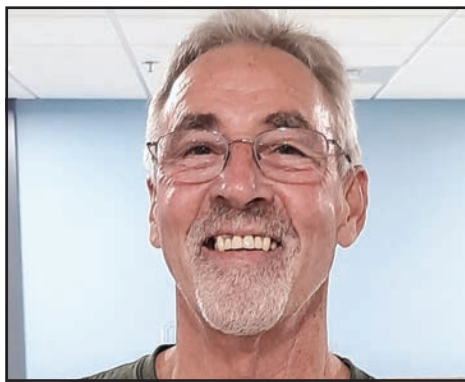
282 Boardman St., Middlebury • 802-388-3608
www.hope-vt.org

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 Boyce, Liz Markowski** and **Tim Hanson**, consistently made difficult decisions throughout the pandemic that focused on the safety of the staff, volunteers, and the people we serve. Their approval for training and education sessions to be offered online was immediate so that the programs could continue for community members. They created a rotation to attend 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 unending energy, enthusiasm and vision of these dedicated volunteers!



HOPE



Rick Miller: "I volunteer in the Food Shelf at HOPE as a way to give back to the community. I stock food shelves, wait on clients, help unload inventory from the food bank and from food drives. I enjoy working with and helping our clients and I also

enjoy working with the people at HOPE."



Val Tilford: "When I first retired I wanted to keep busy. I saw that HOPE needed a volunteer and immediately reached out. That was almost five years ago. I enjoy connecting with staff, other volunteers and the community. HOPE is a wonderful and

valuable organization that helps so many in so many ways. I am proud to be a part of it."



Cathy Palmer: "I've been volunteering in the warehouse for HOPE's resale store for about fifteen years. I like to see people donate things that will help others. My work is something I do to help take care of our community in a small way. I

enjoy being helpful. It's especially nice now, during the pandemic, to be around other people and socialize a bit – safely, of course!"



Lauren Wright: "I volunteer at HOPE because I like to give back to the community, and I have the time to do so. I have been doing this since last November. The thing that I find most gratifying is when I get to actually take food

orders out to people – safely!"



Stuart McAninch: "I have been volunteering in HOPE's food shelf for seven years. I do this because I strongly value the idea of everyone being able to eat. I am pleased to be participating in an organization that is doing the necessary

work to feed people."



Anna Hardway: "This is my tenth year volunteering in the HOPE food shelf. I am pleased to be able to give my time, and I enjoy being with the people at HOPE."



Judy Wiger-Grohs: "I've been volunteering at HOPE for three years. I had been working for a school and worked with kids without enough to eat and I saw firsthand what they was like for them. I started delivering produce for 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 their role volunteering for HOPE's food shelf. I wanted to be involved, especially during the pandemic. I have found it rewarding getting to know the people who work

for HOPE and to see the compassion and expertise they offer."

HOMEWARD BOUND



Deborah Bird, of Middlebury, Vermont, has volunteered with Homeward Bound for over twenty years! Throughout the years, she has dedicated countless hours to our organization. Currently, Deb is our seasonal TNR coordinator, our

Taxi Cat Driver and an amazing cat and dog foster. Deb has also been a dog walker, a cat whisperer and an extra set of hands when needed. It's her willingness to do all of these extra things that makes her even more of a joy to have around! Deb's favorite part of volunteering is being able to provide foster care to the cats, kittens, and little dogs that come through the shelter. Deb claims: "There is nothing better than a room full of kittens!" We agree, and we're so grateful to have Deb on our Homeward Bound Team!



Peggy Fischel, of Lincoln, Vermont, has been a volunteer with Homeward Bound for two years. Peggy has been a fantastic addition to our Homeward Bound family! Peggy is one of our volunteers that contacts pet owners in the Pet CORE

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 Pet 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 owners. Peggy has an awe-inspiring amount of compassion, a great sense of humor and revels in hosting the ever busy clinic. Peggy has also volunteered at the Lincoln Library for ten years, and as an AARP volunteer for two years. When asked what she likes, Peggy expressed "I enjoy using some of the skills from my working days I wanted to give something back to the community. 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!

National Volunteer Week

Celebrate Service
April 18-24, 2021

HOMEWARD BOUND (continued)



Mark Wilch, of Middlebury, 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 multitasking individual who has aided 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 catio 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 Middlebury Parks 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 Makers at the Hannaford Career Center. Mark states, "I truly enjoy feeling a part of what's happening and getting involved guarantees 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 support 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 floral pieces 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 creations have defined those gatherings for many years," said Auxiliary President Gretchen 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 Cornwall 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 Viguez'** 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. I, Christiane Kokubo, first talked to Roberto when I 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 moment's 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 he likes 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 Friends of the Middlebury Art Museum. ¡Muchas gracias, Roberto!

Lucy McKeon, MD, started volunteering at the Open Door Clinic in the Fall of 2007. In the last 14 years, she has dedicated over 230 hours to see our patients. "There are many things to like about volunteering at the Open Door Clinic. The people that 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 such a wide variety of people from different parts of the world and they often have amazing stories to tell", she says. Lucy is reliable and committed, and our patients love her. It's always nice to have her with us. A resident of Cornwall, Lucy also enjoys volunteering with Addison 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, Lucy. 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 boat shop to build a new pilot gig rowing boat. Besides building boats, she was also a rowing coach for her students. She assisted this capacity until she retired in 2015. Knowing how valuable the program had been to students in the area,



Wendy decided to sign on as a volunteer in 2016. "As a volunteer, I was still able to use my teaching skills with students and work alongside them on both the new pilot gig and with repairs on each of the older boats. I enjoy the continued connection with high school students. I also enjoy learning new skills and sanding, painting and varnishing the older boats to keep them looking sharp. The boat shop

is a place where I have observed many students connect 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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Thanks to all the volunteers who make a difference by supporting their community!

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A big **THANK YOU** to all the volunteers who contribute so much to the quality of so many lives.

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Fiona and Porter Mackey prepare maple roasted brussel sprouts through Nutritional Outreach Mentoring's Harvest of the Month Zoom Cooking Classes.

THANK YOU!

Students, Faculty, Staff, and Community Partners for your creativity and continued commitment to public service during this challenging year.

— The Center for Community Engagement



Middlebury College

