

OLÉ Times

Jericho, Vermont

Week of November 7, 2011

MASS RETIREMENTS AT BROWNS RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

By Molly Finn and Casey Munns

Jericho, Vermont- On Wednesday November 9th Patty Brushett, a seventh grade language arts and social studies teacher, announced her retirement from Browns River Middle School. She became the seventh teacher in the middle school this year to do so. This mass departure is from a financial incentive offered by Chittenden East Supervisory Union and is only available this year. Older teachers make more money than new teachers so the district will save money. Most of the teachers retiring would have left in 3-5 years, but because of the incentive this will be their last year.

The teachers retiring are Maureen Heald, Dave Williamson, John Pedrin, Robert Brunelle, David Parmelee, Rita Clark and Patty Brushett. Most teachers are retiring after 31-38 years of teaching. Lots of teachers feel the time is right. Browns River Middle School's Home Economics teacher, Maureen Heald, said she feels bitter sweet about retiring but says "I feel the time was right."

Teachers, like physical education teacher Dave Williamson and Maureen Heald are hoping to leave the school in better condition. All of the teachers hope they have impacted the kids' lives and leave memories that will last forever.

Robert Brunelle, BRMS art teacher is retiring because the administration plans to cut part of the art program.

All of these teachers love kids. That is one of the main reasons they are in this profession. David Parmelee said "When I graduated (engineering) I realized that kids were the missing variable in my math and science equation. Teaching turned out to be the perfect way to balance the equation." Patty Brushett said "I love the creative outlet teaching has provided, and my partnership with David Parmelee." Some retiring teachers will travel. Pedrin will go to Italy and Greece next summer. Brushett will continue with her art and may travel to Tunisia to teach. Parmelee wants to go on adventures. Brunelle will continue his professional art. Heald will spend time with family.



Movie Watchers Smuggling Snacks

By: Greg Elgin and Dan Wandeloski

Jericho, Vermont-If you are a movie watcher you may be in trouble with your snacks. There currently are a lot of people sneaking their own snacks into the theatre so they don't have to pay the high movie theatre prices for candy.

After surveying thirty Browns River Middle School students on the week of November 8th, twenty-five of them have confessed to smuggling snacks into the movie theatre sometime in their life. Twenty-one people said they smuggled snacks into the theatre because the prices are higher at the theatre and four people said it

was because of the variety of snacks.

We interviewed Dale Chapmen, the manager of the Essex Cinema. He said, "I know about the smuggling and it doesn't affect the candy sales because there will always be people that buy candy and there will always be people that smuggle it in."

The price of a movie theatre Swedish Fish is \$3.90 for 14oz, and the price of a grocery store Swedish Fish is \$2.99 for 14 oz. Dale also said that the prices are higher because the movie theatre runs on the candy sales. He also mentioned that if people completely stop buying from the candy counter then the movie theater will go out of business.

Randy Cohen "The Ethicist" from the New York Times says, "...by smuggling food, you are breaking your agreement". The agreement is that if you buy a ticket you will accept the restrictions. I think that he is wrong and that people should be able to bring their own snacks and drinks in.

Local Soldier Returns Home

Staff Sergeant Adam Roy will return home by the holidays.

By David Rosales and Leo Lehrer-Small

Jericho & Underhill Vermont- Last Sunday, November 13, Staff Sergeant (SSgt) Adam Roy, of the United States Special Forces (USSF) e-mailed our reporters about his upcoming return to his house in Johnson, Vermont from his second deployment to

Iraq. SSgt. Adam Roy grew up in Underhill and attended Browns River Middle School, and graduated from Mount Mansfield Union High School (MMU.) President Barack Obama announced that all United States troops stationed in Iraq will be home by the end of

2011.

The Staff Sergeant thinks it is the right time to pull troops out of Iraq and "let the government of Iraq take the leading role in defending their country." But our country should leave a small amount of our special forces to continue to train the Iraq military. He was very happy when he

heard that he would return by Christmas, but unfortunately he will not be back in time to celebrate Thanksgiving with his family and friends.

He believes that there are positives and negatives about America leaving Iraq. The United States and Iraq are still fighting anti-American groups on a daily basis. However he feels that the Iraqi military is stable enough to fight these extremist groups without

See Soldier, page 2...



School Photo's Plagiarized

By Andrew Champlin & Paul Eells

Photo by A. Champlin

Jericho, Vermont-On November 10th,2011, Andrew Champlin and Paul Eells interviewed students and took a survey about posting school pictures on Facebook. We asked if they thought it was plagiarizing. This came after the photographer, Diane Parenteau, said that people were plagiarizing her pictures. Out of the 22 Browns River Middle School (BRMS) students Champlin and Eells surveyed, only one put pictures on Facebook and only three knew it was plagiarizing.

It all started about a few weeks ago when students were given their school pictures and then scanned them and posted them on Facebook. "Most people do it because of lack of knowledge," said Parenteau, "But a few do it because they don't care. I think everyone, everywhere does it."

These pictures are how Parenteau makes a living, and if people are making their own online copies she doesn't get paid. Jamie Dionne, a BRMS student, said, "It really isn't fair. If it really is that important just put out a notice on the school intercom." The only place that this information was shown was in the school paper, the River Raider. Not many kids look at it so the news wasn't very wide spread.



Work on Bridge is Cut Short

By Nicholas Cook

Richmond, Vermont- In one week, repainting work on the Bridge Street Bridge will be cut short due to cold weather. It will remain only a one lane route for the remainder of the winter.

The Bridge street Bridge is a landmark in Richmond. It connects Richmond to Rt. 2. On August 18th, the town of Richmond hired Phoenix Development to paint the 80 year old bridge. The town chose red for the new paint.

They had planned to finish work by October 28th. But it ended up behind schedule so they decided to stop construction on December 1st then restart in the spring. "It has been mostly a feeling of disappointment nobody's happy about it." Said Mr. Geoff Urbanik, Richmond town administrator. "I don't mind it I'm glad they're preserving it" said Mrs. Brushett" a teacher who commutes everyday through the bridge.

Soldier Returns

Continued from page one

support from the United States. Iraq will have a long road ahead of their but he sees peace in their future.

Roy has been away from his family and friends for almost a year between training and the eight months he has been fighting in Iraq. Roy regrets missing quite a few family events, including his daughter's first gymnastics recital. He is very excited to see his wife and daughter when he gets back and he plans on letting them decide what the first thing they do together will be.

SSgt. Roy has trained in several countries, including America, Germany, and Italy. He has been to Afghanistan and Iraq. He likes serving in the USSF because it gives him a chance to travel and meet other country's military members.

On October 23, 2011 United States President Barack Obama announced that all United States troops stationed in Iraq will be home by the end of the year 2011. When Obama was elected president in 2008 he stated that by the end of his term he would have all troops stationed in Iraq home. People like Roy all over the country are being reunited with their family, just in time for the holidays.

Photo by Joyce Babbitt



Writers- Halfway Through the Journey

By Arianna Belfield and Leah Corbin

Jericho, Vermont- One Monday, November 8th, National Novel Writing Month writers from Browns River Middle School formed their stories and were trying to reach their individual and team goals for the second week. At home and at after school writing sessions, stories are being developed and now the writers have main characters and are getting deeper into their plots.

Browns River Middle School has the highest number of participants, a total count of 120 students and has the biggest group in the U.S. and the region.

An example of a story by a local writer is "Olympics" by Kai Gravel-Pucillo. This story takes place in the future and is about a series of games you try to stay alive in. Flannery Abbey

is writing a story called Mondays. A chaotic after-life experience. Emma is sent off to The Academy, an institute in which she is supposed to learn "how to be a better fairy," much to her displeasure. This shows you that anybody in your community can take on the challenge and write a story. Writers from Browns River Middle School have taken the challenge and are racing for their 100% goal. "It's the positive experience that counts," said writer Allison Babbitt.

Leah Corbin interviewed Flannery Abbey and asked her "What or who made you do NaNoWriMo?" Corbin asked. "I started in fifth grade and I like writing. I guess I just wanted to be part of the legacy and say I did it!" Abbey said.

Writing a novel in thirty days takes a lot of time and hard work, but it's worth the whole creative journey.

Essex High Protests Bullying of a Bisexual Student

By Jake LeClair

Jericho, Vermont- On Friday, November 4th, a crowd of 300 Essex High School students protested the bullying of Cole Peterson, a freshman at the school. The students gathered in the gym and talked about how to help all students to be safe from bullying and harassment. The kids made big signs after and waved them at passing cars. Earlier in the week Cole Peterson was punched in the head by two other high school students at Maple Street Park in Essex Junction for being bisexual.

"I think the best part of the sit in was everyone got to know each other better" The sit in helped because there is a lot less bullying in the school and people are making less fun of each other now," says Essex High School Freshman, Nick Bearman.

"I think the sit in helped Cole to feel supported and it helped people realize that bullying is not okay," says Shibon Barber, a guidance counselor at Essex High School.

I think the Essex high school event helped people realize that bullying and harassment is not okay and it is wrong to make fun of people because they are different.

Casella's Trash Moves Cleaner

By Madison Gay



Jericho, Vermont- You might not be able to see it, but Casella Waste Management, Inc. has made improvements to help the environment. Casella Waste Management (CWM) Inc., Casella is a Vermont based company with their Corporate Office in Rutland. CWM has new and improved garbage and recycling collection trucks that run on natural gas as opposed to Diesel Fuel. The trucks are 50% cleaner and 25% quieter than diesel. The trucks also emit 75% less carbon monoxide and 49% less smog causing nitrogen oxide than diesel. Both the diesel and compressed natural gas (CNG) trucks have about the same fuel mileage. These new trucks may be helping the environment and are more expensive than a typical collection truck. On the average they cost \$50 thousand more than the original garbage trucks. These trucks will burn about 51,000 gallons of natural gas a year, reducing emissions into the air and saving CWM money. Also, natural gas is a North American resource.

Casella's new collection trucks are purchased from a company that specializes in waste and recycling collection vehicles. Currently, CWM has six new CNG fueled trucks. There are three different CWM style trucks used to collect garbage, the side

loader, rear loader and front loader, CWM has one of each style.

On May 13, 2011, Casella celebrated the grand opening of their new \$750,000 fueling station for the CNG trucks. This celebration promoted a greener environment!

I asked John Gay, a civil engineer with Casella, a few questions: "From what you have seen do the new CNG trucks differ from the Diesel trucks?"

"They look exactly the same. Some of them have a sticker on the side that says *This vehicle is powered by Natural Gas*. The diesel trucks do have more power than the CNG trucks do." "Did you attend the ribbon cutting ceremony?" I asked. "No, but I did help set up for it," responded John.

"What are some of the down sides of the CNG trucks," I asked. John indicated, "You can only fuel up in one location right now, which is at a CWM facility located in Williston, Vermont on Avenue C".

I say, we need to care for our environment, Go Green!

Browns River Middle School Competes in Local News Contest.

By: Ella Bergin and Jenna McCarthy

Jericho Vermont- The 7th grade OLE team at Browns River Middle School, has been writing this week, as if they were reporters, competing in the above contest sponsored by Vermont Public Television. And hopefully get published in a news paper with all their work.

It was their second story this week and they are getting ready to publish their stories into the Browns River Riders and the Burlington Free Press. They hope to put their local stories in the paper and have people from our community to read them. Every

student has found and written their own local news article for the OLE news paper to send to Above the Fold.

Above the fold is a Vermont business that guides you as a writer so you learn to write as the best as you can be and not just lay words down on the table. Above the Fold lets you move on to bigger and better things as a writer, and not just let you sink in-between the couch cushions in your living room. That is why they are holding a contest for the best news articles. This is what OLE is shooting for. Articles such as "Writers-Halfway Through the Journey" written by Leah Corbin and Arianna Belfield "Local

residents accomplishes solar goals" Written Francesca Frost Hunger Takes a Holiday in Richmond" written by Nate Lozier.

Patty Brushett as the L.A and Social Studies Teacher has been working hard to make their articles as best as they can be. She said that "Even if we don't win, I will send are Ole Times news paper to ever paper and, say they can pick and choose any article they want." She knows that is will be hard to win but she has faith that OLE can to this!

Burnett Rawson, a Community Hero

-By Allison Babbitt

Jericho/Underhill, Vermont- Deborah Rawson Memorial Library is a busy hub of the community, an after school haven and a place where children and adults foster their love for literature. On a blustery November day I entered the library and wondered for the first time, who was Deborah Rawson?

Through assorted sources I learned that the lead donor of the library was Burnett Rawson and his wife Jessie S. Rawson. In 1992 Burnett and Jessie lost their only child, Deborah Rawson, at the age of 39. She had a love of reading, a gift for writing, and passion for helping others.

"To be honest I actually didn't know that the library would be named in honor of Debbie until the library board told me their decision," said Burnett, I immediately asked him, that if he didn't know the library was going to be dedicated to his daughter then why donate the time and money? His reply was "When you have money your either going to spend it or make it worthwhile, and at the time I couldn't think of anything better"

Rawson didn't stop at donating \$100,000 dollars towards building the library; he also created the Winnie Belle Learned Grant, helping the small and struggling libraries in Vermont and the Jessie S. Rawson Charitable Remainder Trust, to guarantee that the DRML's economic future will be secure.

As a child Rawson had a thirst of knowledge and a drive to learn. His mother showed him the love of God, his Aunt Winnie taught him to work hard and make

education a top priority. When Rawson graduated high school there was a mere four students in his class- two girls, two boys. Like many high school graduates of his time Burnett was forced to make a choice between two different paths, pursue college or work on the family farm.

"At that point going to college was a fantasy," recalled Rawson, as he reminisced. All of it seemed impossible until his Aunt Winnie Belle offer to support his education at the University of Vermont; in return he would work at her farm in Williston. "To her it was all business, I was a young mold, and she believed in education and needed help on her farm."

The two clicked and a relationship was formed that could be described as business-like yet loving. After many years of hard work on both the farm and on campus Burnett graduated college with his medical degrees.

Once in a while a hero is born, by chance the gift of this person's life is given to all of us, they are not necessarily the superman of the decade or the next president of the United States of America, but a person that a child, a teenager, or an adult can look up to and be inspired. Such a person is Burnett Rawson who will forever have a place in the hearts and minds of all who love the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library. Thank you Burnett Rawson!



Local Resident Accomplishes Solar Goal

By: Francesca Frost

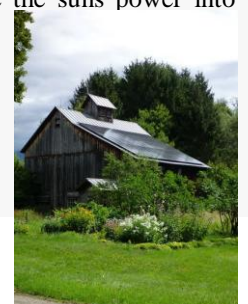
Steve Webster, an Underhill resident, lives on Krug Road where he powers his own home and others with solar electricity. All because he wants to keep the amount carbon dioxide and other pollution down.

Steve has been interested in green energy since 1974. In 1974 he was a student at the University of Maine and was working with other students to find environmentally safe alternatives to Maine Yankee, Maine's nuclear power plant. They researched green energy and taught others about it. It has been a goal of his to someday help the earth and cut down on carbon dioxide. That is exactly what he did. He has a fixed array of 70 panels and five trackers in the field which produce all together about 37,000 kilowatt hours a year. Steve says "People are volunteering to pay a little bit extra because they want to support solar energy".

Steve provides power for his house, one other house on his road, and two other houses in Underhill. Even Governor Shumlin's office building in Brattleboro gets some of its electricity from comes from their solar panels. Steven has always wanted to have solar panels, to him this is a dream, free electricity, most of his hot water and some day he would like an electric car. The solar panels could power the car for free.

This is how one local resident doing his part to utilize the suns power into usable electricity.

Photo by Steven Webster



Walk in the Park

By Kyle DeCoster

Jericho & Underhill, Vermont-On July 14th 1999 history was made in the Underhill, Jericho community. Two hundred sixteen acres of land which is now Mills Riverside Park was purchased by Jericho Underhill Land Trust (JULT) then handed on to Jericho Underhill Parks District on February 24th 2000. The park has "four athletic fields, over six miles of trails, it has farmer's market in the summer, a big sledding hill, a multi-purpose pavilion, a very popular off-leash dog area" Livy Strong, chair person of Jericho Underhill Land Trust says. The Mills family was also very helpful in creating the park because they owned land including the site of Browns River Middle School and Underhill ID.

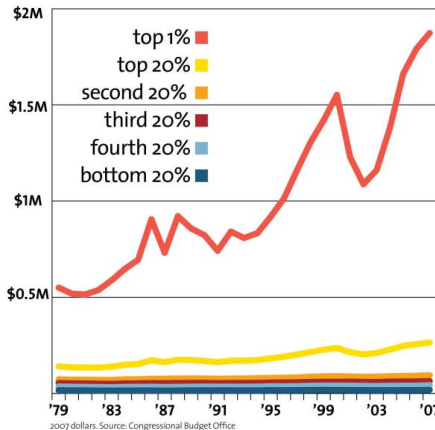
To make the park what it is now Jericho & Underhill needed help from Livy and over seven hundred volunteers and businesses, and several grants. When the park was finished it looked beautiful. Strong say's that it has "breathtaking view of Mt. Mansfield, exquisite natural habitats that include the Browns River, a pond, open meadows, and a steep forested terrain."

Next time you walk in the park remember to thank the people who have helped make the park what it is.

Occupy Burlington Protest Continues

By Max Varela, Laura MacKenzie and Grace Patton

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME before taxes



Burlington, Vermont- On November 9th, people gathered at City Hall Park in Burlington, Vermont to protest against economic inequality. Some occupiers shared their thoughts with us.

One of Occupy Burlington's slogans is, "We are, the 99%!" When asked what this meant on Wednesday this week, Joe, a resident of Burlington said, "To me, 99% is the percent of people that work for other people." Todd, another demonstrator stated, "99% of the world has no say in our decisions." He later said, "When business owners find out what the government is doing, they will be down here." Todd was very knowledgeable as he was the head of print media.

A majestic tepee is being constructed in preparation for winter. Activists are making plans to stay as long as they must to get their point across. Todd implied that with the coming of spring, Occupy Burlington will explode. "When people find out what the government is doing, they will come join us." What exactly Todd means by this is unclear.

When asked if Todd was ever scared the police would come to City Hall Park to arrest people, he remained silent and thoughtful for quite a long time before answering. "Burlington is a smaller community." When he said this he was referring to Oakland and Wall Street. "It is a smaller place so police know people who are occupying therefore there is less hostility." "Here in Burlington I am not afraid, nationally yes." This is an extremely insightful answer that many people at the camp could agree with.

The city's government gave them rules they must oblige. A poster in the camp indicates that there is no alcohol or drugs tolerated. Kevin Hurley says they hold a meeting every night at 9:30 pm to make sure that the rules are being followed and the make sure that people that have had too much to drink are kept out of the camp.

A question that is often asked is, "What do I do if I agree with the movement but am not willing to protest?" Kevin Hurley the man in charge of online media says "It would be great if people could bring in more supplies for the camp." And Joe also says, "I would recommend educating yourself about the issues in our economy." Lastly Todd said, "Talk about solutions." Some examples of how you can talk about solutions is discuss among friends, co-workers, and peers. What do you think? Has our nation ceased being the democratic nation that our founding fathers foresaw? Some people may think that doing this protest is a bad idea, but the story inside of the park is what people should be paying attention too, so whether or not you decide to listen to this story, hopefully you find out what the real story is, and find your opinion on Occupy Burlington.

Killington Gives HUGE Deals!

Killington, Vermont – During all of November this year, Killington ski resort is giving discounts up to 50% to all residents of Vermont with a valid driver's license. The discounts work for hotel rooms, ski lifts, and other shopping items because of the hard economic times.

For Killington, November is just a month between fall and winter when the snow starts to fall, but now it is being used as an opportunity for Vermonters to get great deals on anything Killington has to offer.

"Well, being a snowboarder I like to go up on the mountain for a week or so, but I can never really have enough money to do that, but now with the deals Killington is giving, I'll have enough money to stay a extra weekend!" says Jon Cabral

So, whether you are just looking for a nice relaxing place to stay, or if you're a hardcore snowboarder, Killington has the deals to make your stay with them awesome and more affordable!

DRASTIC CHANGES COMING TO BRMS SCHEDULES

By Jack Leach and Josh Graning

Jericho, Vermont- Significant changes to the student schedules at Browns River Middle School (BRMS) are taking place next year. Changes are being made because of increased requirements for core classes, a mass retirement of teachers, and an opportunity to reduce school spending on teachers' wages.

The State of Vermont has required specific changes to core classes, such as integrating technology into all classes. The new district minimum is 300 minutes of math and language arts, as well as at least 200 minutes of science and social studies per week. All in all, 1,000 minutes per week must be scheduled for these classes. Superintendent John Alberghini said "I feel that all young students need to be proficient in math and science to be college and career ready."

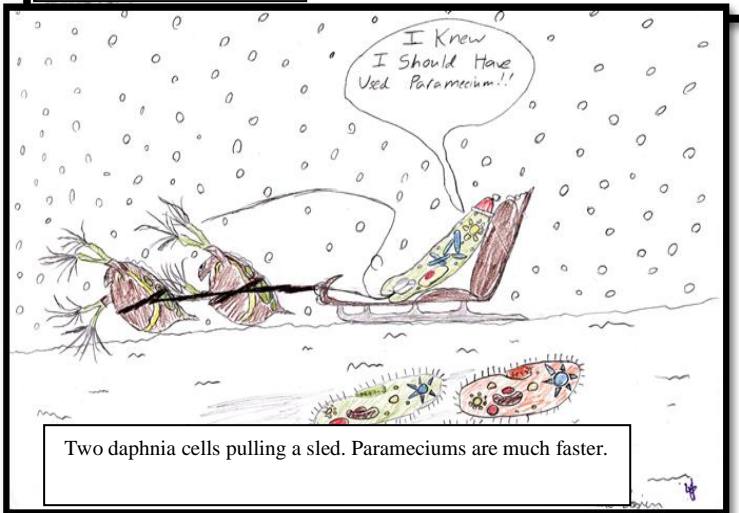
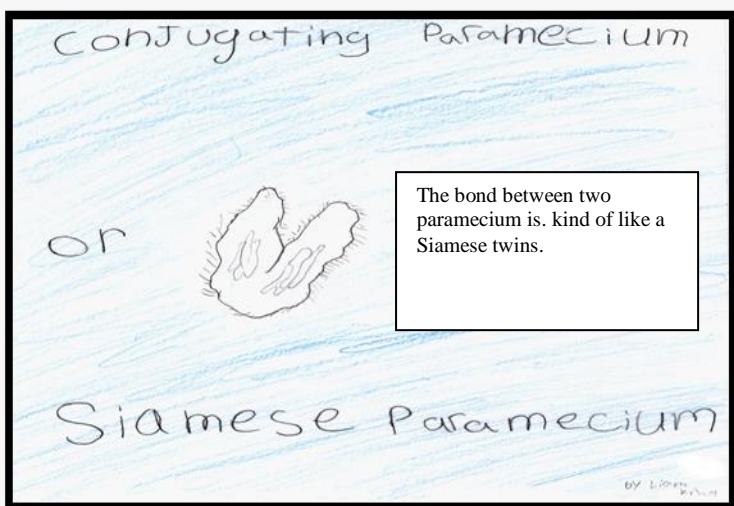
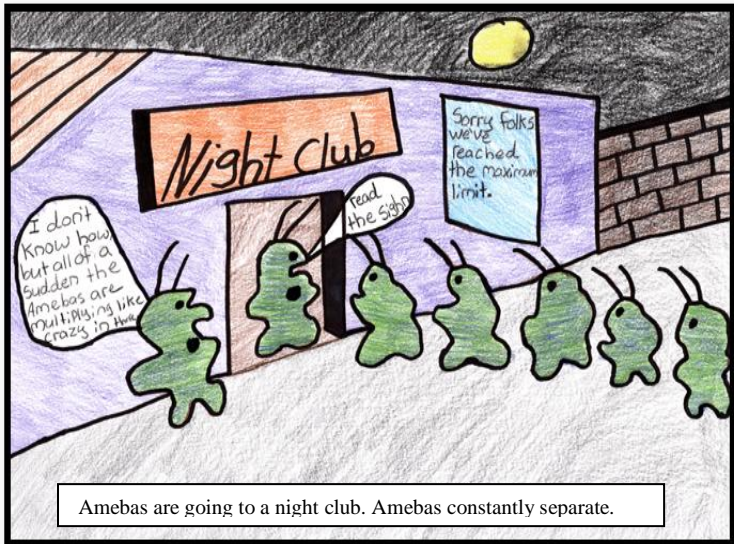
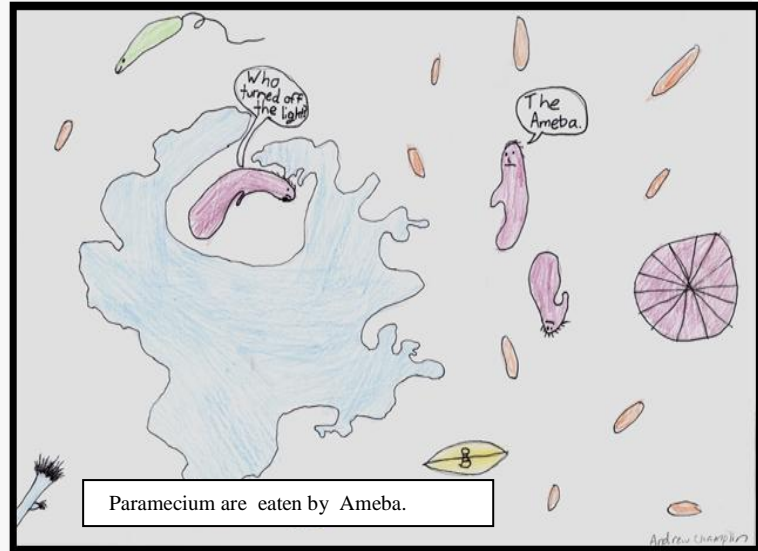
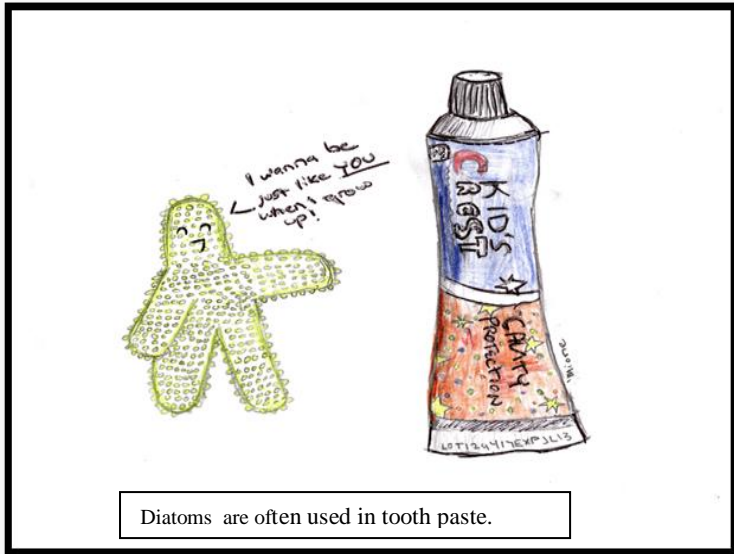
Reducing these classes will reduce the tax load in our community.

Computer as well as family and consumer science classes will be merged with other classes.

Another factor contributing to these changes is that eight or nine teachers are retiring at the end of this year (see [article Mass Retirements for Browns River Teachers](#)). This provides an opportunity to restructure staff needs and reduce the schools spending on teachers wages, further reducing taxes. Not all of this is beneficial; some gym classes are already reduced to one 50 minute class per week, and recesses have been reduced to three per week for some classes. One student argued "If you cut recesses and gym classes, you're going to have to let the students bounce off the walls in class."

Cartoons

Jericho Vermont-Over the past week or so, after studying cells and other unicellular organisms, BRMS students created their own cell cartoons for a project in their 7th science class. Students made their own special cartoon, explaining facts and at the same time making their comics funny and enjoyable. -Nate King-



Our Community

Local Middle Schools Go Green

By Kai Gravel-Pucillo and Flannery Abbey



The Dalziel Family Gives Back

By Jared Kesler and Jamie Dionne



Jericho, Vermont-This week the Dalziel family began collecting donations by going door to door in local neighborhoods for the Turkey Drive so they can reach their goal of 150 Turkeys!

The Dalziel family is having their 4th annual turkey drive to help the Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf this November. The Dalziel family wants to help make sure everyone has a turkey for Thanksgiving this year. As Miranda Dalziel said "We're just a family trying to make a difference". The family is putting out donation canisters for people to donate money. You can find these canisters anywhere around Chittenden County at local stores and gas stations throughout the month.

Four years ago, the Turkey Drive was first started. It was the day before Thanksgiving in 2008. Miranda was at home watching the news, when she saw that the food shelf was low on turkeys. She called her husband and said we have 24 hours to collect as much money as possible. They collected enough for 400 pounds of turkey!

"When we drop off the food every year the look on every ones face with an open mouth", said Miranda, the leader of the Turkey Drive. It reminded her of the reason that she did it, because it helps other families out to have a good Thanksgiving. The thought of Thanksgiving with no turkey is sad.

Last year they raised enough money to donate 125 turkeys to the food shelf, with the help of family and friends. This year the family is hoping to donate 150 turkeys and they need your help to make their goal come true. You can learn more about the Turkey Drive and the Dalziel family www.consultwithvip.com/turkeydrive.

UNDERHILL/RICHMOND, VT- Browns River Middle School (BRMS) and Camels Hump Middle School are moving towards greener living. On November 17th, 2011 new solar powered lights are being installed in the Browns River Middle School parking lot, and Camels Hump has already installed a new solar array on their roof. These schools are leaders in the solar change happening all over Vermont.

The initiative for installing the new solar parking lot lights grew from a problem: the wires leading from BRMS to the light posts at the parking lot were rotting. After being approached by students from our school, the district board decided to install new solar charged lights. These lights were made possible by Team OLE of Browns River Middle School and an energy bond that voters voted for in 2009.

A similar project took place at another local school. Five hundred seven solar panels (each three by five feet) were installed on the roof of Camels Hump Middle School and cost a total of \$500,000. They generate about 20-60% percent of the school's electricity on an average day, saving Camels Hump \$27,000 on their yearly electricity bill. They received a grant of \$250,000 from the Vermont Clean Energy Fund for the project. A grant from Green Mountain Power paid for \$20,000. A congressional earmark was given to Camels Hump by Senator Sanders to promote the idea of schools using solar and so that they could help lead the way to greener schools through solar. (A congressional earmark basically directs funds to be used in a specific way).

The grant from Clean Energy Development Fund grant was applied for in February 2009, and was received by Camels Hump in May 2009. The actual installation and completion to the solar panels was done in the summer of 2011. The panels started functioning mid-September, but the actual ribbon cutting ceremony was November 4th.

"What you are showing is what a school in a community can do," Senator Sanders commented. Both Browns River Middle School and Camels Hump Middle School are leaders in the solar revolution going on in Vermont and their actions are inspiring other schools to follow. Brewster Pierce Memorial School is one of those schools, and they have installed a smaller solar panel project than the one at Camels Hump.

The solar projects going on at both middle schools will hopefully keep changing and inspiring Vermont's community so that more schools will follow the lead and soon almost all of Vermont will have one solar aspect or another to help preserve resources.

Hunger Takes a Holiday in Richmond

Richmond Vermont- This week, while all of the other food shelves are preparing for their big Thanksgiving donations, the Richmond Food Shelf is staying the same. Why, you ask? Marcia Levison, volunteer and manager, says that “families are hungry year round, not just during the holidays.” Focusing and working hard on year-round service is the Richmond Food Shelf’s mission. As usual, they will be



Goods Await Distribution in Richmond Food Shelf

servicing food 2 times a month. Families will get 3-5 days’ worth of donated food. You’re probably thinking that there will not be too many donations. Well, unfortunately, you are right. But, the Vermont Food Bank sells food to the Richmond Food Shelf for 5 cents a pound. This way, they are able to donate enough food for local families. Some of these foods include meat, eggs, bread, canned goods and more. Local businesses like Green Mountain Coffee (coffee), Cabot (cheese), Bouyea-Fassetts (bread) and Shadow Cross Farm (eggs) donate their goods to the Richmond Food Shelf.

Another way they get food is by selling clothes. Donators also bring clothes for the Richmond Food Shelf. These clothes also impact some of the foods shelves’ amount of food donated to families. Donated clothing is sold at Richmond Food Shelf and the profits are used to buy food from Vermont Food Bank.

Even though they don’t have a special holiday plan, Richmond Food Shelf will be helping families for the



“The Amazing Chicken”

holiday by providing hungry families with “amazing chickens.” “The VYCC (Vermont Youth Conservation Corps) grew these chickens from chicks on their farm and donated more than 100 to us,” says Levison, showing off one of the packaged chickens from the store fridge. She adds, “The VYCC helps us out a lot.” Levison will include chicken soup recipes with the chickens as they are provided to the families, so that they can make more than one meal from it. The food shelf will also be sure to have stuffing and other holiday ingredients on hand. But they are determined to get everyone food, every day.



Manager Marcia Levison and Maddie Ruth

AARP VT Finishes Up Report for Underhill/Jericho Grant

by Billy Bruce

Underhill/Jericho, VT, November 13, 2011- Nine members of the Walkable Livable Communities group, helped the AARP VT (American Association of Retired Persons) write a report for Underhill/Jericho so they could give some ideas for what the communities should spend their \$15,000 grant money from AARP on, and now that report is about to close.

The report will very soon be sent to Todd Odit (Jericho’s town planner) and Cari Tapelbaum (Underhill’s town planner). Then the nine members of Walkable Livable Communities, who help write the report, will go around the two communities and show people the report. Then in about one-hundred days, the communities will decide the fate of the \$15,000 dollars in grant money.

An idea is that a temporary mini circle is put in the north end of Underhill Flats. But there are four major issues/ideas that the report addresses and tries to support ideas for:

The people at the presentation worry about a crosswalk at the junction of Park Street and River Road. There are two crosswalks at that junction, one crossing Park Street, and another crossing River Road. The only problem with the crosswalk across River Road is that it leads to absolute nowhere. It just sends you into some brush by Browns River Middle School.

The second issue is the fact that Dickenson Street by BRMS is only one way. The fact that the street is one way makes Route 15 and River Road a hazardous junction for both pedestrians and cars. If they make Dickenson Street a two-way street, it will get rid of major traffic at the Route 15/River Road junction, because drivers will be able to go on Dickenson Street instead of having to go through the big junction.

A major idea is that the bridges before Clark’s Truck Center, and Pokerhill Road get “decorated,” which is supposed to show drivers that citizens and tourists= crossing the bridges are coming into town, and that they should slow down. The other major idea is that double white lines are put on the sides of the road on all of Park Street so drivers would drive slower and with caution, so they can stay in between the white lines. On October 26, that day, a nationally known expert for road safety named Dan Burden took a group of AARP VT members on a walk around Underhill Flats via Route 15, River Road, and Park Street, in order to determine how safe it is to walk in the area. During that same evening, Dan Burden presented to some people in the Walkable Livable Communities group, a slide-show containing ideas and potential changes.

Underhill and Jericho Residents Express Opinion

By Lauren Hagerty, Hannah Dionne, and Anna Burke

Jericho and Underhill, Vermont-On Sunday November 13, citizens of Jericho and Underhill, Vermont shared what they enjoyed about living in Jericho and Underhill, what they would change, and where they run into people they know in town.

Eight people agreed that the best aspect of Jericho and Underhill is its community feel. Scott Lawrence is a citizen of Jericho that we interviewed that stated they liked the community feel. "I do like how they have good schools with helpful, professional teachers and what I like to call, intelligent thinking people." When we asked Maryann Superknaut what she liked about living in Jericho or Underhill she replied, "Have you ever heard of the old show Cheers? In the theme song, it says 'I wanna go where everybody knows my name!' and that's what it's like here in Jericho." While interviewing Joyce Babbitt, librarian at Browns River Middle School, she said that, "Jericho and Underhill is about the most ideal place to raise a family, everyone is so nice and caring."

We also asked citizens of Jericho and Underhill about where they find themselves running into people the majority says that they run into people at events up at Mount Mansfield Union High School (MMU), and the Memorial Day parade.

Renee Hagerty says she bumps into people at events such as the music cabaret. Larry Hagerty sees the most people at Jolly's or other local convenient stores. Renee Hagerty says that she often sees people at the post office in Jericho Corners.

Jericho and Underhill are great places to live, and really a great place to raise a family or just live on your own.

Seven people that we interviewed believed that Jericho and Underhill is rural and very "country-like", as Chris Coleman an employee at Caroline's Restaurant. We asked for specifics, most people replied they enjoy the trails in the forest or like how quiet it is out here, yet close to Burlington. At Jericho Town Library we interviewed Donna Malinowski who said "it's very rural... not much going on. We are close to the city. So you can get to Essex or Burlington in a matter of minutes while not being in the middle of all of the hustling and bustling." But there were still some dislikes about the towns, things that people would change if they could.

Almost every person shared that they would like a recreation center or community center. We talked to Jill Ziemski, who is a sixth grade teacher at Browns River Middle school. She said, "I think, we need a community center that includes a pool, ice rink, just a whole gym for adults to work out and kids to hang out. Also a spa would be great too. I could see that happening in that empty lot across the street from here." (As we are at Browns River Middle School) "Just a cool place for teens to hang out and have fun." That is the most common response that we got from the citizens and employees we talked to.

Jericho and Underhill are great places to live, and really a great place to raise a family or just live on your own.

Students Want the Internet

Editorial by David Ahlers

Jericho, Vermont-At Browns River Middle School in Jericho Vermont, kids may only view online material if they use the schools electronic devices. If a student wants to bring a laptop, or any kind of handheld device, they will not be granted permission to search the web.

Many people disagree with this policy because certain problems like cyber bullying and searching unproductive material are already prevented by filters.

Plus, with students bringing their own devices, more research could be done at any given time. It could contribute to cutting down the prices of the schools future electronics if students could bring their own.

Also, it would seem to be a downside if a student couldn't research a project just because they brought their own laptop, especially if they were a bright student who intended to use it for academic purposes only. Some students seem somewhat disappointed. On the other hand, it may be better for students to leave expensive devices like these behind, to minimize the chance of important devices getting broken or stolen. Electronics could also lead to a distraction in class.

Some parents say in schools that it could be a good idea to keep students offline so they stay on an academic path.

Deb Ahlers, a librarian at Norwich University says that "We have the same problem at the university. Some students often download movies and slow down the internet for others. There is also potential for security risks."

Kevin Hamilton, assistant principle at Browns River Middle School says "It is a challenge to have an open internet during school day. Not all students use the access for appropriate academic reason. It becomes a distraction for many students and causes many disruptions throughout the day. As students get older they learn to use the access in a less disruptive way."

M. Heald Retiring Soon

By Ashley Greene

Maureen Heald the Family Consumer and Science teacher has told the school board that she will be retiring at Browns River Middle School in spring 2012.

Ms. Heald has been planning to retire at this time for a long time, she has loved teaching at BRMS and plans to keep busy during her retirement. Spending time with her grandchildren, reading, traveling to Florida and working as a Weight Watchers leader are some of the activities she is looking forward to.

Ms. Heald is one of several teachers retiring from BRMS. We are all going to miss Ms. Heald and her fun FACS class.

Sports



Local Vermonter Amanda Pelkey plays Northeastern

By Jenna Laterreur & Hannah Leavitt

her family, and the UVM team is phenomenal.” Pelkey enjoys exercise and a movement class at UVM and plays a right forward position as a freshman in hockey.

Pelkey said, “After her college years she wants to be an Athletic Trainer and be a part of the Make-A-Wish foundation. “Now, Amanda doesn’t have a lot of free time but when she does she enjoys exercise, a movement class at UVM, listening to music, socializes with friends, and definitely takes time to relax.

Pelkey said, “She used to be superstitious before each game. She would sit in the stands by herself, listen to the same song over and over, and would dance with friends to distract herself from thinking about the game to much.” After their games their coach would always give the team chocolate milk and they would eat pasta.

Amanda has hopes to become a gold medalist and to bring home a big trophy to the small, but great Vermont state, with the wonderful coaching of Tim Bothwell (Head coach).

The UVM Women’s Catamount hockey team, lost a competitive, fast passed game, on November 11, to Northeastern, with the score ending at 2-4. Amanda Pelkey, a right forward, a UVM freshman, 2010 and a U.S. Women’s National Under -18 silver medalist, was astonishing to watch playing on a 4 on 5 penalty kill during the second period. She never let Northeastern near the net. In the third period, she was injured by taking a butt end of the stick into her lower abdomen. Pelkey, an outstanding player, played the rest of the game like nothing even happened. In the end, the Catamounts had 27 shots on goal, but couldn’t come up with a win.

A local girl from Montpelier, VT, , Amanda Pelkey, she had played 15 years of hockey and attended the North American Hockey Academy in Stowe before joining the UVM team at age 18. Amanda started to play hockey when her father put up a rink in their back yard for her brother. She also would play street hockey on roller blades with her brother and his friends. She made the under U-18 National U.S.A. hockey team at the age of 16. Last year, in 2010, her team captured the silver medal with a 5-4 OT (overtime) loss to Canada. This year Amanda says, “We are looking for the gold!” Over the past summers, she was the ambassador at the IIHF High Performance woman’s hockey camp or (International ice hockey federation) in Bratislava, Slovakia.

Pelkey, had 8 offers from different Universities and Colleges, for a full athletic scholarship at their schools, but Pelkey said, “She chose UVM because she wanted to stay in the local area, by

Local Girl Bags Deer on Youth Weekend

By Corey Clark

Taylor White is age 15 from Burlington shot a deer on youth weekend. She shot a 120 pound spike horn at a homestead in Burlington. It was reported on November 6th. She was sitting against a tree when her dad saw the deer. She pulled up her gun and shot the deer. It ran about 150 yards and it lay down. Her and her dad went over to get it but it jumped up and ran about 200 yards and she didn’t find any blood to track the deer the sun was setting so they headed home. The next day they went back out in the woods and brought some tracking dogs and found that spike horn she shot at. “When I shot my deer I was very excited and proud.” said Taylor “I think that youth weekend is a great way to get kids out and hunting. I have hunted for four years on youth weekend now.” said White “Hunting is a fun way to try new meats and tastes and to have fun. Hunting is important because it keeps the deer population down.” said White. Good luck for some of you during November buck season.

Deer hunting has been a tradition for a long time, created by Indians. This sport has been a hit for hunters around the U.S. This event was added over the recent years for hunters from 6-15 years of age. The weekend has recorded at least 582 antlered bucks on this weekend.

The kids must have proper equipment while hunting. They must include wearing hunter orange, valid hunting license (same as the adult), a rifle or shotgun. The youth must also have vocal contact with unarmed adult at all times. (Radios and binoculars will work.) There are no antler restrictions on this weekend.

This weekend is for biologists to see how the deer population is before the November regular hunting season. When biologists get information on how the population and deer habits are, they can make adjustments to certain hunting areas of VT. Another reason is to educate the youth hunters and spend time together as a family and to get to know the woods.

“Deer hunting is important,” said Corey Clark age 12 from Underhill “I am glad they added a weekend for youth. It keeps the population stable for deer. This weekend is enjoyable for kids. I got to learn a lot from my father and get to enjoy the outdoors.”

MMU'S Boys Varsity Basketball DreamTeam

By Raymond Wilson & Shea fitzgerald

On Sunday, November 13, in Jericho Vermont, the Mount Mansfield Union High School varsity boys basketball dream team had an open gym. This was very eye opening for me. "They have good chemistry and competitive practices." Coach Jeff Davis says. They can dribble very well, shoot good, no one is selfish, Eric Suter can dunk! The main offensive players are Tom Lacy, Eric Suter, Troy Springer, and T.J. Wesson. "Our offence is going to be hard to stop" Davis says. "For defense our main players are Cody Sharrow, Hayden Pochop, and Josh Fitzgerald." Davis says.

These bunches of seniors have been great since seventh grade. This team is one of the best teams in Vermont! The two captains are voted by the team and they have not voted yet. "Last year the captains were Tom Lacy and Troy Springer." Davis says. "Knowing that these two are back for one more year they have a good shot at being the captains again." Davis says. There schedule is going to be hard this year. The hardest teams they face on the on the pages are "Rice, Brattleboro, and Colchester." Coach Davis says. These are the first three games of the year.

But I think the cougar's varsity team is going to have a good game with all those teams. This is going to be a good year, but this is going to be a hard one because the cougars are Division I.

Last year Davis led the boy's varsity team to the state playoffs where they unfortunately fell to Rice. There are 12 players this year on the team. Nine of those players are seniors! The cougars lost two seniors last year. "It's a big loss" Davis says. The seniors that moved on were Ethan Brown the leading scorer and a starter. The other one was Andrew Niche, "not a starter he was a tough presence in practice." Davis says.

Jeff Davis is also a teacher at MMU. He teaches math to grades 9-12. He played H.S. basketball at Craftsbury Academy located in Craftsbury Vermont. He was a forward and a starter. After high school he played college ball at Norwich University located in Northfield Vermont. There he was also a forward and a starter. Jeff is a good coach he hopes he has a good year with this amazing team.

Bolton Ski Program Prepares

By Liam king

Bolton, VT- Another ski season will be starting and the kids doing the Bolton valley ski program at Browns River Middle School are already signed up and ready for the fun to start.

This program has been going on for four years and is run by Mellissa King, of Underhill and kids love it and it's not Only the skiing it's the being with friends and having a good time unsupervised .Signups. Only 50 kids can get a ride on the bus. Those who want to do the program but didn't get a ride on the bus can possibly get a ride from one of the chaperones. Signups started approximately on November 1st and are due November 15th. The bus filled up fast.

It costs \$120.00 to get in plus a little extra money for dinner that you can buy at the resort. The program takes place on Thursday afternoons leaving the school at 3:00 and leaving the resort at 7:30.

If you don't have skis, a snowboard or poles you can lease or rent them. King got this idea from Christine Tulis who had been doing the program a couple years before at another school. Any one from grades 5-8 at BRMS can do it. It's going to be another long winter and some kids who love to ski but don't have time to ski are doing the program and that's what half of this program is all about. The other half is for kids who just love to ski and they're looking forward to the program too. It's going to be another great season especially for the kids doing the program.