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Submissions for Addison Independent - Ferrisburgh Column: January, 2015.
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Some of the key events in our community for January, 2015:

January 6 and 20: Ferrisburgh Selectboard Meeting
January 8: Ferrisburgh Central School Board meeting
January 10 and 24: Ferrisburgh Grange King Pede Card Parties 6:30 PM
January 14: Commodore Parent Teachers Group VUHS 6:30 PM
January 9 and 16: FCS Tot Gym 9:00 AM -10:30 AM

The Ferrisburgh Grange's "King Pede" card parties are scheduled for the Saturdays of January 10 and 24. These get-togethers are held at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center and begin at 6:30 PM with a sandwich supper and then on to an evening of fun and card games. All are welcome to these events.

ANWSU, the school district serving the towns of Addison, Ferrisburgh, Panton, Vergennes, and Waltham, employs Karen Newman to help facilitate the transition of young children from preschool, childcare, and home to Kindergarten. Karen, in her role of Kindergarten Transition Coordinator, makes monthly visits to home-based childcare sites to deliver books, provide literacy enrichment experiences, and to support opportunities for preschool and Kindergarten teachers to connect throughout the year to share information and resources. Karen also gathers information from families who have children entering school in the upcoming year, so that schools can be ready for all children as they enter kindergarten. If you are a parent of a child who will be five years old by September 1, 2015, look for pre-registration materials in the mail in early January. If you don't receive them or have other questions about preparing your child for Kindergarten and school entry, feel free to contact Karen at knewman@anwsu.org.

It is time to get started reading for the Bixby Library Book Club! The new club will meet regularly on the second Monday of every month with the first meeting on Monday February 9 from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Please come on February 9th ready for a great discussion on *The Light Between Oceans* by M.L. Stedman. "The years-long New York Times bestseller soon to be a major motion picture from Spielberg's Dreamworks that is "irresistible...seductive...with a high concept plot that keeps you riveted from the first page" (O, The Oprah Magazine). After four harrowing years on the Western Front, Tom Sherbourne returns to Australia and takes a job as the lighthouse keeper on Janus Rock, nearly half a day's journey from the coast. To this isolated island, where the supply boat comes once a season, Tom brings a young, bold, and loving wife, Isabel. Years later, after two miscarriages and one stillbirth, the grieving Isabel hears a baby's cries on the wind. A boat has washed up onshore carrying a dead man and a living baby". Copies of this book are available at the Bixby. Contact Devin Schrock at lvnfree@gmail.com to RSVP for February 9 and for more information.

The Ferrisburgh Selectboard regularly meets on the first and third Tuesdays of every

month. The dates, agendas, and minutes are available on the Ferrisburgh Town website at <http://www.ferrisburghvt.org>. The next meeting is Tuesday, January 6 at 6:30 PM. The public is always welcome at these meetings.

The Ferrisburgh ice rink is ready for skating! As of January 2, the ice is ready for action. However, if the ice is soft because of warmer weather, please don't use the rink in order to maintain the surface. The schedule has been developed to respect the needs of all users, including the hockey playing skaters. The following times are to address the likely popular times the rink will be used and if needed, these times will be adjusted according to use. Please use the rink according to this schedule - if no one else is using the ice, you may use as wish, but if others show up, adhere to posted schedule. Monday: 3:00 – 5:00 PM, Stick n' Puck. Tuesday: 3:00 – 5:00 PM, Open skate - NO Stick n' Puck. Wednesday: 3:00 – 5:00 PM, Stick n' Puck. Thursday: 3:00 – 5:00 PM, Open skate - NO Stick n' Puck. Friday: 3:00-5:00 PM, Stick n' Puck. Saturday: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Stick n' Puck. Saturday: 1:00 – 4:00 PM, Open skate - NO Stick n' Puck. Sunday: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Open skate - NO Stick n' Puck. Sunday: 1:00 – 4:00 PM, Stick n' Puck. The Recreation Committee has made great progress on the rink with a huge amount of help from many people and local businesses who have donated time, materials and equipment for the site work, rink and the warming hut/storage shed. The Committee still needs monetary donations and is also looking for help with rink maintenance and to finish the warming hut. Look for updates on the skating schedule on the Ferrisburgh Front Porch Forum or visit the Facebook Page - Ferrisburgh Skating Rink and Recreation Facility. Contact Martha Davis at marthand@gmavt.net for more information.

The Ferrisburgh PTO is planning many great events for this winter and spring. Their website has just been updated, and parents are encouraged to follow the PTO events and get involved in the projects and fundraising. The dates for the monthly meetings are posted on the website and are held at 6:15 PM in the FCS staff room with childcare provided. The FCS PTO is beginning an "After School Adventures" program. This program is designed to offer students a chance to explore interesting, new topics related to cooking, sports, science, or any other academic or adventurous subjects. In order to make this program a success, the PTO is looking for individuals willing to volunteer their time to teach or assist. If parents or Ferrisburgh residents have interesting skills or experiences that they are willing to share with FCS students, please contact the PTO at fcspto@gmail.com. For more information about all these activities, visit <https://sites.google.com/site/fcspto/>

The Vergennes Union High School Guidance Office is already receiving information regarding summer programs offered by various colleges and universities. Any current 8th-11th grade student who is interested in pursuing a summer program is welcome to come to the Guidance Office and peruse the information of programs at any time. Believe it or not, some deadlines are in January and early February for summer programs! The Governor's Institutes of Vermont (GIV) is offering two Winter Weekends 2015 for Grades 9-12. Winter Weekend I, February 6-8, offers Comedy Theater, current issues, entrepreneurship, or astrophotography and will be at Goddard College. Winter Weekend II, February 13-15, offers song/writing (for writers & musicians), advanced math for girls and will be at Marlboro College. Winter weekend is affordable and sliding scale fees are

available for all who need them. Apply online at www.giv.org beginning 12/10/2014 including for financial aid. Applications need to be received at GIV by January 13, 2015.

The VUHS Commodore Booster Club runs concessions for home winter sports events at VUHS. To be able to do this they need your help. Please sign-up to assist at an event as part of the concession crew and/or to bring a game special to sell (chili, goulash, turkey/ham and cheese wraps, baked goods, etc.). Use this link to sign-up to volunteer: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d4bacad2ea64-vuhs>

The VUHS Commodore Parent Teacher Group is looking for members to help with our growing list of initiatives including the annual Rummage Sale, funding enrichment grants for staff and more. Please let us know if you would like to join us in our efforts by contacting Carla Mayo at cmayo@anwsu.org. The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 14 at 6:30 PM in the VUHS Library.

Note: We are always interested in having a variety of Ferrisburgh-related news in this column; so if you have news that would be of interest, contact Sally Kerschner, 877-2625, smwkersch@comcast.net. You are able to access these columns and other information about Ferrisburgh news and events by viewing the Ferrisburgh Town Website at www.ferrisburghvt.org.