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Submissions for Addison Independent - Ferrisburgh Column: January 2016  
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*January 4: VUHS Budget Meeting VUHS Library 6:00 PM*  
*January 6: Vergennes Parent Teacher Group meeting VUHS 6:30 PM*  
*January 6: Ferrisburgh Central School Board Budget Meeting 6:00 PM at FCS*  
*January 9: Bessette Quartet with High School All Stars Opera House 7:30 PM*  
*January 9 and 23: Ferrisburgh Grange King Pede Parties 6:30 PM*  
*January 11: VUHS Board Meeting VUHS Library 6:00 PM*  
*January 11: FCS PTO meeting 6:15 PM at FCS*  
*January 14: FCS School Board Meeting 6:30 PM at FCS*  
*January 22: Red Cross Blood Drive 2:00 PM-7:00 PM at Ferrisburgh Town Hall*

Town Meeting is only a few months away and Ferrisburgh residents are encouraged to run for town elected office or volunteer for other positions within town government. Information about open town positions will be placed on the town website at [www.ferrisburghvt.org](http://www.ferrisburghvt.org). For more information about these opportunities, contact the town clerk's office at 877-3429. Contributing to town governance by volunteering in a leadership role is important work for our town and community and everyone's involvement is always welcomed.

Ferrisburgh Grange "King Pede" card parties are scheduled for the Saturdays of January 9 and 23. 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. King Pede is an unusual game that involves "trick-taking" techniques such as in Hearts and Spades or Pitch. This is a game of fun and skill so come prepared to use your strategic thinking!

The Bixby Library continues to offer a variety of programs throughout the winter season. Visit their website at [www.bixby.org](http://www.bixby.org) to get more information about their programs and add some fun events to your schedules for what can sometimes be a long Vermont Winter! Free passes for Bixby Library Card Holders are available for admission to many Vermont historic sites and museums such as ECHO in Burlington, the Shelburne Museum, and the Vermont History Museum. In addition, Bixby has been sponsoring writing workshops that support local writers to create their own unique stories and narrative. This winter, writing workshop leaders Jay Dubberly and Adults Services Librarian Muir Haman are organizing a series of readings that will highlight some of the ongoing work from these workshops. The December sessions featured stories about a Coen Brothers style sheriff and also a play about a war veteran struggling with his return to Vermont. These events will continue into January. Contact Muir Haman at [muir.haman@bixbylibrary.org](mailto:muir.haman@bixbylibrary.org) for the January sessions' dates and times.

The Governor's Institutes of Vermont (GIV) Winter Weekends for 2016 are available two weekends in February and are open to students in Grades 9-12. Both sessions are being held at Goddard College. The registration deadline is January 13, 2016. For more information and to register visit [www.giv.org](http://www.giv.org) or ask at the Vergennes Union High School Guidance Office. The topics for the weekend of February 5-7 are Astrophotography, Debate and National Issues, Entrepreneurship, Girls' Advanced Math, and Singing from the Soul. For the weekend of February 19-21, the topics are Acting Masterclass, Biomedical Research, Fiction Writing, Global Issues Dialogue, Hacking & Cybersecurity.

The purpose of the Vergennes Commodore Booster Club is to support, encourage, advance and augment budgeted athletics at VUHS. So far this fall, the CBC has granted over \$9,000 in funds for: new middle school boys and girls basketball uniforms, field maintenance and repairs, dugout expansion and repairs, Varsity team shirts for 3 teams, unexpected team busing expenses, and supplementing students' expenses when participating in sports at other schools. A main source of income is the CBC concession stand that is open at home games and other school events. Volunteers are needed to make food for the sales and to work in the stand during games. Please assist with this effort to support our students and sports activities by volunteering at least 1-3 hours per sports season. The basketball season is in full swing so for more information and to sign up to assist, visit the Commodore Booster Club at <https://sites.google.com/site/vuhsboosters>.

Come and enjoy the Bessette Quartet at the Vergennes Opera House for some foot stomping jazz tunes. Eric Bessette, his ensemble of instrumentalists, and also vocalist Brennan Gervia (studying at the Berklee School of Music), will be performing on Saturday, January 9, 7:30 PM – 10:00 PM. Eric works with local high schools, including VUHS, to encourage young musicians and offers these events to showcase their talents. For more information and tickets, visit [info@vergennessoperahouse.org](mailto:info@vergennessoperahouse.org).

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center on Friday, January 22, 2016, 2:00 PM – 7:00 PM. The later afternoon hours are planned to make it easier for those who commute to stop and donate blood. Please spread the word to family and friends about this important event that enables us all to support maintaining an adequate blood supply for those in need.

Note: We are always interested in including a variety of Ferrisburgh-related news in this column, so if you have news that would be of interest, contact Sally Kerschner at [smwkersch@comcast.net](mailto: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](http://www.ferrisburghvt.org).