In Remembrance of Karl Neuse

Friends:

I write to you again, too soon, to honor one of our own, “a local boy done good”, Karl Neuse. Karl was born and raised in Middlebury. He left briefly for his education (Northfield Mount Herman, Williams College, Georgetown Law School), but returned to Middlebury shortly afterward. He married his college sweetheart Diane, and settled in Middlebury to practice law, raise his family and participate in the public life of his hometown.

A big part of Karl’s public life was his service to ACRPC. Karl joined the regional planning commission in 1984 as an alternate and 1987 as a delegate. He served as our attorney and as chair when ACRPC wrote its first regional plan. He served on numerous committees, most recently the Act 250 Committee. In 2006, ACRPC honored Karl with our Bertha Hanson Distinguished Service award for his years of service to ACRPC and the Town of Middlebury. Karl served as a delegate from Middlebury to ACRPC for nearly 30 years, with brief interludes, only retiring in 2020 as COVID-19 and Diane convinced him to spend more time with his family and in their beautiful gardens.

About three weeks prior to his passing Karl stopped in to ACRPC’s office to say hello and pick up some information on electric vehicles. Karl was lively and in good spirits. We started speaking and Karl took our conversation on some wonderful tangents. His long-term memory was as sharp as ever. Each tangent lead him to another story about his life. He told me stories about his track career in high school and at Williams College (He was a super-fast miler!). He told me about courting his wife, Diane. He spoke about his law practice and of his children and grand-children and of their cross-country running. He spoke of his public service for Middlebury and at ACRPC. Several times, he stopped and choked back tears of joy and then continued to a new story. The last line of Karl’s Obituary notes, “You would find the biggest sparkle in his eyes when talking, talking, talking with whoever would listen about his grandchildren AJ, Max and Sam Hano and Mia, Elena, Thomas and Lucas Politano, or any story about his full life that he lived with no regrets.” (The full obituary is at https://addisonindependent.com/obituaries/karl-w-neuse-80-middlebury).

Karl valued the work that we do here at ACRPC and valued all of you as colleagues. I hope he blessed each of you with the sparkling gift of conversation about a full life lived well.

Best wishes to all,

-Adam Lougee

ACRPC Executive Director
Welcome AmeriCorps Service Member, Emma Sandman!

Emma is from Kentucky and a recent graduate of Bard college with a degree in Political Science. Emma will be serving our office and state this year as a Water Quality Planner. She will assist with coordinating and implementing water quality planning functions across watershed planning projects, including municipal stormwater and transportation, for member towns in Addison County. ACRPC’s past ECO members have assisted in the MRGP Road Erosion Inventory, sought funding for water quality project permitting and design and supported a community effort to reclassify significant wetlands. Emma is eager to serve the Region by advocating for the health of Vermont’s waters today and into the future.
Announcements

Addison County Chamber of Commerce 2021 Annual Meeting
https://tinyurl.com/2ejv2tm4
Thursday, October 28, at the Middlebury Inn, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Nominees are to be elected at the Annual Meeting. For the list of nominees to serve as Chamber Officers and Chamber Directors see the full announcement linked above.
According to Article IV, Section D of the Bylaws, Addison County Regional Planning Commission will designate a representative who shall serve for a one (1) year term: the ACRPC representative is Bill Sayre of the A. Johnson Lumber Company.
Notice: According to Article VI, Section B, 3, c, of the Bylaws, additional nominations may be made by petition bearing the signatures of 10 or more qualified members. The Executive Director, Phil Summers (phil@addisoncounty.com), must receive such petitions by 5pm October 8, 2021. Please register to attend by October 21 at https://www.addisoncounty.com/events/details/accoc-annual-meeting-2021-6054

Salisbury Village Center Designated
https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/designation-programs/village-centers
On September 27, the Vermont Downtown Development Board found that the Salisbury Village Center application met the statutory requirements for Village Center Designation.
Congratulations to Salisbury!

Vergennes Project Receives Downtown and Village Center Tax Credit Award
A sensitive historic rehabilitation of a 200-year-old residence at 34 Green Street, Vergennes, will provide 22 units of senior housing as part of a larger redevelopment/construction project to provide 55 total housing units in the heart of downtown Vergennes. Tax credits will support a new elevator, fire safety and sprinkler upgrades, and façade repairs to restore many of the obscured historic elements of the building.
Total Project Cost: $20,077,279; Tax Credits Awarded: $121,377 Contact: Dan Hassan, 508-813-6601, dhassan@granseniorliving.com

Feedback Needed to Shape Future Economic Development Efforts
The Addison County Regional Planning Commission and Addison County Economic Development Corporation invite you to help shape future economic development efforts in Addison County and Vermont.
As you may know, we held a workshop on June 10th to solicit input and feedback from the Addison County community on a Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, and Results (SOAR) analysis of our region. The primary goal of this workshop was to inform the development of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for West Central Vermont. It will also inform the next iteration of the Economic Development section of the Addison County Regional Plan.
To further both of these goals, we are asking for your continued engagement and guidance. Please review this updated draft SOAR document (https://tinyurl.com/6krtjtpd), which was generated after our last workshop. If you have any feedback or suggestions, you can use this short survey: https://forms.gle/rWmgSY4Bi8u4un5Z8 to share your thoughts on specific sections of the SOAR.
Addison County Regional Button Up Webinar
- October 26th 5:30 - 7pm
For details contact ACRPC’s Energy Planner, Maddison Shropshire, mshropshire@acrpc.org

Weatherization Wednesday is where you can get all the tips and energy expertise you need to weatherize your home. Each Wednesday in October at 12:00pm, they will host a LIVE Q&A session.

https://buttonupvermont.org/events

- Oct 6- It’s time to Button Up. Where Do You Start?
- Oct 13- Weatherization + Heat Pumps = The Perfect Combination!
- Oct 20- Weatherization and Making Your Home Healthy & Safe
- Oct 27- Outsmart Winter – The Weatherization Game Show

For more information or to host an event, let them know at buttonup@efficiencyvermont.com

REV2021 Annual Conference and Expo
REV it Up: Climate Action, Equity & Resilience
http://www.revconference.org/
join REV online October 18, 19 and 26 for in-depth conversations about what it will take to grow our clean energy economy and advance renewable energy through policy innovation, increased equity, and strategic electrification.

Previously Noted Events:
Northern New England Planning Conference

https://nne.planning.org/meetings/conference/
Wednesday October 13 - Friday October 15
Burlington, Vermont

The theme for this year’s conference is: Envisioning a New Normal
How we see the world and our communities: in reality, as we imagine them, and ultimately in how the two views intersect.
Questions to: David White, Conference Chair, dewhite@burlingtonvt.gov

2021 Conservation Summit: Caring for Vermont’s Land
https://vtconservation.com/conservation_summit/
A fall webinar series exploring stewardship, recreation management, forest carbon, equity and access, and indigenous perspectives.
- Wednesday Oct 13, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.
  On the Trail of Wildlife with a Vermont Master Naturalist- Alicia Daniel
- Wednesday Oct 20, 7- 9 pm- KEYNOTE
  Going Through the Narrows– Judy Dow

Get Your Energy Saving Kit!
https://efficiencyvermontfreekit.com/
For a limited time, Vermonters can get a free kit of products like LEDs and water-saving devices, and start saving money on energy bills.
Grants & Funding

American Recovery Program Act Funding
Detailed information and links on ACRPC site:
https://acrpc.org/regional-programs/arpa/

Public Meeting: ANR plan to invest $100 million in water infrastructure projects
https://anr.vermont.gov/content/agency-secretary-will-host-public-meeting-provide-details-100-million-available
Thursday, October 7 from 4:00 to 5:00 pm
Agency of Natural Resources, Secretary Moore and her staff will outline ANR’s plan to invest approximately $100M of ARPA funds in a variety of water infrastructure projects. Speakers will discuss the types of funding available to towns, businesses, and individuals and provide information about regulatory requirements.

ARPA funding administered by ANR will primarily support water quality projects in five priority areas:

1. **Pretreatment**: The removal of harmful pollutants in wastewater before discharge to a municipal sewer system.
2. **Village Water & Sewer Infrastructure**: Community sewer and drinking water systems in villages that currently lack such systems.
3. **Eliminating Sewer Overflows**: Helping eligible municipalities implement their plan to eliminate sewer overflows within their community.
4. **Treat Stormwater Runoff**: Help property owners of 3 or more acres of impervious surface (e.g. gravel, pavement, roofs) treat stormwater runoff
5. **Healthy Homes**: Help eligible mobile home parks and low-income homeowners repair or replace failed water and sewer infrastructure

**VLCT WEBINAR: ARPA Funds: Take Your Time and Think Big**
https://www.vlct.org/event/arpa-funds-take-your-time-and-think-big
Tuesday, October 19, 2021 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Transportation Alternatives Program Grants
https://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/transport-alt
Applications due November 24
The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) provides funding for projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhancing mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation, trails that serve a transportation purpose, and safe routes to school projects.
For information, contact Scott Robertson, P.E., VTrans Municipal Assistance Bureau, (802) 793-2395, scott.robertson@vermont.gov

Working Lands Enterprise Grants
Applications due by 11:59pm, on November 1
The Working Lands Enterprise Board (WLEB) is releasing 3 request for applications that allow Vermont working lands businesses and producer associations to invest in projects focused on infrastructure, marketing and sales development, meat slaughter and processing, and building workforce development skills.
1. **Standard Business Grants** - Award amounts $10,000 - $25,000
2. **Producer Association Grants** - Award amounts $10,000 - $20,000
3. **Meat Slaughter and Processing Development Grants** - Award amounts $50,000 - $100,000

For questions: Lynn Ellen Schimoler, VAAFM Senior Agricultural Business Development, LynnEllenSchimoler@vermont.gov, 802-622-4477
Grant Deadline Reminders

(more information in previous newsletters, https://acrpc.org/newsletters/)

Growing Urban Forests in the Face of Emerald Ash Borer Grants
Applications due Friday, October 29th
For application questions, contact Elise Schaler, (802) 522-6015, elise.schadler@vermont.gov

Municipal Planning Grants
https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/municipal-planning-grant
Applications due Monday, November 1st, by 6pm
Please contact ACRPC’s Katie Raycroft-Meyer at (802) 388-3141, kraycroftpeter@acrp.org

Special FY2022 Funding for Bylaw Modernization
https://accd.vermont.gov/content/bylaw-modernization-grants
Application deadline, November 15, by 6 p.m.
Please contact ACRPC’s Katie Raycroft-Meyer at (802) 388-3141, kraycroftpeter@acrp.org

VHCB Housing Funding
https://www.vhcb.org/our-programs/housing/arpa-sfr
Application Due Dates:
- November 10, 2021 for Jan 26 consideration
- February 25, 2022 for May 13 consideration
Contact Jenny Hyslop, VHCB Housing Director, (802) 828-5539, jenny@vhcb.org

Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Grant Programs
https://vem.vermont.gov/funding/mitigation
If interested, please contact ACRPC’s Andrew L’Roe at (802) 388-3141, alroe@acrpc.org

Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC)- state deadline of Friday, Dec 17
Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)- state deadline of Friday, Dec 17
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)- on a rolling basis
Amtrak Passenger Emergency Training
November 3, 6:30 - 9:30 pm
Middlebury Fire Department, 5 Seymour St
Amtrak passenger rail service is coming to Addison County sometime in 2022 and Amtrak is offering a 3-hour classroom training. We are hoping to get 3-5 representatives from each fire department that serves part of the Amtrak line (Ferrisburgh, Vergennes, New Haven, Middlebury, Cornwall, Whiting, Salisbury, as well as Bristol and Brandon) and representatives from law enforcement and EMS agencies.
There will also be training sessions held at:
- Thu, Nov 4, 2021, 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM at the West Rutland Town Hall (35 Marble St)
- Fri, Nov 5, 2021, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM at the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility
People planning to attend should register through the Vermont Learning Management System (https://vermont.csod.com/) OR contact Andrew L’Roe at alroe@acrpc.org, 802-388-3141

Previously Noted:
Vermont Tier 2 & Tier 3 Rivers & Roads Training Program
https://dec.vermont.gov/content/vermont-rivers-roads-tier-2-training
Tier 2 River and Roads workshops:
October 12th & 13th
Tier 3 River & Roads- Advanced Flood Recovery & River Management Training Modules:
- November 3- Sediment & Wood Removal;
- December 1- Bridge & Culvert Replacement;
- January 20- Floodplain Restoration;
- February 17- Channel Stabilization;
Contact Staci Pomeroy (802-490-6191, staci.pomeroy@vermont.gov), or Todd Menees, todd.menees@vermont.gov, 802-345-3510).