For the week of February 10, 2014, Ms Doe’s and Mr. O’Leary’s English 100 students pushed back desks and tables and rarely sat in chairs. They transformed their classrooms into a set for fifteen different scenes from Paul Zindel’s iconic play *The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds*. Newspapers spread across the floor; cardboard boxes changed into tables, rabbit cages, and science projects; and silverware, #10 cans, and a rotary phone became the sets and props for these scenes. Each student had a part and worked with Melissa Lowrie and Ethan Bowen as directors to answer important questions and make critical decisions about how to present the three main characters in an “authentic” environment.

Supported by the English Department’s partnership with the Town Hall Theater that promotes “reading” a play through acting, the students became part of a theatre troupe complete with warm-up activities to focus and intensify their interactions. On the final day, students became an audience for their peers as they “watched” the play unfold in myriad ways. Students commented that this project allowed them to “feel what was going on” because the activities and performance encouraged them to “draw parallels with their own lives from the reading.” Still other students stated that they were “surprisingly not nervous,” had “fun,” and “liked the 3-D experience of performing better than the 2-D activity of reading.” From an educational viewpoint, it was exciting to watch students read and reread sections to be accurate and to engage authentically as performers with pride and integrity.

This project would not have been possible without the support of Principal Bill Lawson in funding the artists-in-residence and the gathering of cardboard boxes and tin cans, not to mention the clean-up, by custodians Sue Herring, Maryann Caul, and Aleta Dugan. Thanks to all, and we look forward to more theatre activities this spring.
Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Contest 2014

_Congratulations to Olivia Cacciatore_, winner of the MUHS Poetry Out Loud qualifying contest! Her recitation of “To Autumn” by John Keats and “Ode” by Arthur O'Shaughnessy on Tuesday, February 11, has earned this champion a place at the State Semi-Finals at the Barre Opera House on March 12 and 13. Jack Brisson is runner-up. Other school competitors were Luke Jackson, Jacob Klemmer, and Sophie Logan.

Poetry Out Loud is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, and partnered with the Vermont Arts Council. This contest encourages students to learn about great poetry through memorization and recitation, and helps them master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage. English teacher Cathy Stoddert is the MUHS Poetry Out Loud advisor.

Winner of the State Finals receive $200 and an all-expenses-paid trip with an adult chaperone to Washington, D.C. to compete for the national championship. The state winner's school receives a $500 stipend for the purchase of poetry books. The first runner-up in each state receives $100, with $200 for his or her school library. A total of $50,000 in awards and school stipends is awarded annually at the National Finals. _Good luck, Olivia!_
The Rensselaer Medal Program
The Rensselaer Medal Program recognizes outstanding juniors at high schools around the country. The criteria for this award include:
- Must be in the top 10% of the junior class
- Excel in advanced math and science courses
- Exhibit significant involvement in extracurricular activities
- Demonstrate potential for success
Additionally, students who receive this award and enroll at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute will receive a scholarship worth $15,000 a year for four years. See Mr. Thuma in the Guidance Office for more details.

The Clarkson Leadership Program
Each year, The Clarkson Leadership Program offers two scholarships to Middlebury Union High School juniors. The Clarkson Leadership Award, worth $15,000 a year and the Clarkson Achievement Award, worth $12,000 a year are awarded to two students who are:
- In the top 15% of the junior class
- Able to demonstrate outstanding leadership qualities
- Interested in Engineering, Business, Science or Liberal Arts
- Recognized by students and faculty as having been a positive contributor to our school and community
In order to receive these scholarships, the recipients must enroll as full-time students at Clarkson University and remain in good academic standing. Interested students should see Mr. Thuma for more details.

The Governor’s Institutes
The Governor’s Institute of Vermont is offering a summer program for students in grades 9-11. The Governor’s Institute offers programs for students with a passion for or interest in the arts, engineering, world cultures and events, math, science, technology, or activism. Students who enjoy GIV tend to have a strong intellectual or artistic curiosity, possess academic skills equal to or above their grade level, and function well in a highly independent learning environment. Application forms can be picked up in the Guidance Office. The deadline for applying is March 20, 2012.

Middlebury College Mentor Program
Middlebury College Access Mentors is a program that pairs Middlebury College students with Middlebury Union High School juniors and/or seniors to guide and support them through the college application process. More specifically, the mentors will assist in activities that include selecting and managing college lists, paying attention to deadlines, and helping edit essays. In addition, mentors can provide valuable information regarding the transition from high school to college. If you have a son or daughter that you believe would benefit from this program, please contact the Guidance Office for more information.
**Virtual High School Courses**

Over the past several years, MUHS has had many students enroll in an online class with Virtual High School. These online classes offer enrichment opportunities for our students to explore subjects ranging from Screenwriting to Biotechnology. Students interested in taking a VHS class, should stop in the Guidance Office to talk with their counselor and pick up a registration packet. Completed registration forms need to be returned to the Guidance Office. A list of classes is available in the Guidance Office or at [www.goVHS.org](http://www.goVHS.org).

**Scholarships**

Last June, our community provided over $100,000 in financial support through scholarships to our graduating seniors. The application for these scholarships will be distributed to seniors at the end of March and must be completed and returned to the Guidance Office by Wednesday, May 1st.

**VSAC College Pathways**

VSAC’s free College Pathways events are designed to prepare you and your children for the process of applying to college and financing a college education. Workshops will be led by Vermont College and university professionals and cover writing the college admissions essay; strategies for taking the SAT/ACT tests; finding colleges that fit; getting organized; college costs and financial aid; as well as specialty sessions on college athletics, support for students with learning disabilities, and service academies/ROTC.

Dates and locations for the three College Pathways events are:

- **Saturday, March 15** at St. Michael’s College and over Vermont Interactive Technologies in Bennington, Brattleboro, and Newport
- **Saturday, March 29** at Castleton State College
- **Monday, April 7** with the Northeast Kingdom college fair at Lyndon State College

You can get the details and register online at [www.vsac.org/CollegePathways](http://www.vsac.org/CollegePathways) or by calling VSAC at 1-888-943-7301.
Alternative Education

“The Students Become the Teachers”

The Alternative Education is gearing up for a busy spring. This week, students are reseeding the greenhouse with greens such as kale, spinach, and lettuce. These will be ready for harvest by the end of March and supply the school cafeteria until the end of the school year.

School to Farm Research:
One of our students, Austin Moore, is running seed trials for Unity Farm which is in Charlotte VT. Austin will be planting and monitoring exotic greens that Unity Farm would like to try. Austin will monitor not only growth rates but also use the students at MUHS to help determine which varieties taste the best. Other research this spring will determine if germination rates will change using underground heating in February and March. Heated bed germination rates will be compared to non-heated beds. The quicker the germination, the sooner farmers can get their products to market, and the more money they will make.

Stone Soup Summit:
On March 27th, the Stone Soup Summit will be held at Middlebury College from 8:30am to 4:00pm. The Addison County Relocalization Network (ACORN) and the Rutland Area Food and Farm Link (RAFFL) are excited to be partnering with VT-FEED to offer our first full-day conference, which will be hosted by Middlebury College. The Alternative Education program will be in the spotlight presenting a Ted-Talks style presentation on the next big thing in Farm-to-School, as well as teaching a seminar on growing micro-greens in the classroom. The students will be using their knowledge they have acquired this year to teach teachers. The summit is expecting to get over 150 educators and community members. Please visit http://vermontfarmtoschool.org/events/stone-soup-summit-2014 for more information on the summit.

The Sustainable Living Expo:
On Saturday, March 29th, the Sustainable Living Expo will be held at MUHS from 9:00am to 4:00pm. Teachers and students from the Alternative Education program will be presenting a hands-on seminar on winter greenhouse production. Season extension as well as inexpensive alternatives to greenhouses will also be discussed. Please visit http://acornvt.org/sle2014/ for more information on the expo.

Collaboration with Middlebury Health Department:
The Alternative Education program is partnering with the Middlebury Health Department on outreach education for the Federal program called WIC. “WIC is a nutrition program that helps pregnant women, new mothers, and young children eat well, learn about nutrition, and stay healthy. WIC is the Federal Special Supplement Nutrition Program for women, infants, and children.” On April 11th, students from the Alternative Education program will be teaching a gardening workshop to WIC participants. We will be using the school gardens as a hands-on outdoor classroom. The hope is this collaboration will continue and grow and the Alternative Education students can build and supply raised bed gardens to WIC participants that would like to have their own garden.

Middlebury College Collaboration:
This spring, two students from Middlebury College will be doing a field placement at the Alternative Education program. The placement is set up as part of a class at Middlebury College called Foundations of Education for Sustainability. The two students will be working with the afternoon Alt. Ed. class called the Science of Sustainability. The students from the Alternative Education program will teach the Middlebury College students about using the MUHS greenhouse and school gardens as a vehicle for providing service learning and sustainable community projects. On April 9th, staff and students from the Alt. Ed. Program will go to Middlebury College to do a presentation on service learning.
Highlights of the Winter Sports’ Season:

- The Dance team ended a strong season in which it placed first in Hip Hop and Jazz at its home competition. The Dance team placed 3rd in Hip Hop and 4th in Jazz at the Vermont State Championships which earned it an invitation to New England Championships on March 8.

- The Gymnastics team ended its season with a record of 3 – 5 and placed 7th overall at the Vermont High School Gymnastics Championships on February 22.

- The Boys’ Basketball team ended its season with an 11-9-0 record which earned it a #7 seed ranking in the Division I Post Season. The Tiger basketball team lost to Brattleboro in the playdown game on February 27.

- The Girls’ Basketball team ended a tough, hard played season; however, players improved as the season went on under the direction of their new coach, Jen Heath.

- At the NVAC Wrestling Championships in Vergennes on February 15, Tiger Senior Jakob Trautwein achieved his 100th career win. As a team, the Tigers placed 4th in the NVAC. Jakob and Tiger Junior, Chris Gobbi were seeded 2nd in their weight classes in the State Championships at Mt. Anthony.

- The Girls’ Ice Hockey team skated to a 16 – 3 – 1 record which earned it a #1 seed ranking in the Lake Division Post Season. The team beat U-32 (10 – 1) in the quarter finals, Stowe (2-1) in the semi-finals and Burr & Burton (2-1) in the finals to become the Lake Division State Champions.

- The Boys’ Ice Hockey team ended its season with a 15 – 5 record which earned it a #1 seed ranking in the Lake Division Post Season. The team beat U-32 (4 - 2) in the quarter finals, Northfield (2 -0) in the semi-finals and lost to Stowe (1-2) in the Lake Division Final Championship Game.

- The Boys’ and Girls’ Nordic teams ended up 5th in Division II at the Vermont State Skate Championships which was held on their home course at Rickert Ski Center. They competed at Mt Top in the Classic Championships on February 25.
Route 125 Bridge Replacement Project:

The bridge crossing the Middlebury River on Route 125, in East Middlebury, is scheduled to be replaced in April/May of this year. During construction the bridge may be closed to traffic for a period of up to 45 days, and traffic will be detoured onto an alternate route. It is estimated that this will impact travel times for the school bus servicing the Ripton area by about 15 minutes, both in and out of Middlebury.

For information about the schedule, detour routes and sources of information during construction, you are invited to call: (802) 496-3376; or visit:

http://www.rmw.vtransprojects.vermont.gov/

Vermont Health Connect

Is your family covered?

The deadline to enroll in a private health insurance plan on Vermont Health Connect is March 15th. You can enroll online at www.VermontHealthConnect.gov, over the phone by calling 855-899-9600, or with a local Vermont Health Connect Navigator. Navigators can be reached at: The Blueprint for Health Community Health Team at Porter Hospital (388-5625), The Open Door Clinic (989-6872), The Addison County Chamber of Commerce (388-7951) and the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (388-2285).

Do you want to schedule an appointment with a Navigator?

Navigator services are completely FREE and office hours are held throughout Addison County. Below are the dates and times available for one-on-one appointments. Call the Open Door Clinic at 989-6872 to schedule an appointment.
The unlikely and inspiring true story of a high school boys’ basketball team, from Middlebury, VT, coming out of nowhere to win it all.

This project was triggered by all of the discussions related to the 1983 Middlebury Union High School 30th Reunion in which I am a class member. It was inspired by the wonderful memories of the historic underdog MUHS Boys’ Basketball Championship Team (Head Coach - Rollie White; Team - Andy McIntosh, Dan Chaplin, Dick Eckels, Jim Daly, Joe Calavita, Kurt Strassner, Mike Sommers, Pete Gutterson, Rick Wesley, Rob Hamlin, Shane White, Steve Simons, Tom Boise and Tom Weber) beating the two-time defending St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers led by eventual ACC Rookie of the Year Henry (Bruce) Dalrymple.

Tony Adams, the former Sports Anchor for WCAX said, "The game was one the most memorable games, in 40,000 broadcasts, over my entire career." Don Fillion, the former Sports Editor for the Burlington Free Press said, "Middlebury beating St. Johnsbury, in the 1983 boy's basketball championship, was the greatest upset in Vermont High School sports history."

This is also a tribute to the commitment of the entire Middlebury, VT community, MUHS teachers, coaches, boosters, administration and staff that all made growing up in the shire town of Addison County so special.

The hoops team seemed to channel that spirit into a magical season...a once in a lifetime experience. Many people were strongly connected to that team and I felt compelled to ensure that the opportunity to remember those wonderful experiences was captured on film.
Save the Dates - Success Saturday

Success Saturday is back! The Learning Lab will be open for tutoring from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the following Saturdays: March 29, May 17 and May 31. These dates were selected to correspond with the dates nearest interim grade reports and the end of each quarter. Students must sign up in advance in the Learning Lab. Snacks are provided. Success Saturday is a great way to stay caught up or to get caught up, to study for a test, to possibly redo a test, or to work on a paper. The Learning Lab provides tutoring in a positive and supportive environment. Tutoring is available to all MUHS students for all subjects and classes. Tutoring is provided by two licensed teachers, peer tutors, Middlebury College students, and community volunteers. The Learning Lab is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and is located in room H-103. Please call Ben Krahn or Tammi Beattie at 382-1165 if you have any questions.
Youth Advisory Council Meeting: Wednesday March 12th and April 2nd from 4:00 to 5:30pm (pizza at 5:00pm) - Take the opportunity to formally talk with ACT staff and community members about upcoming events, programs and activities you would like to see happen at ACT. This is a great opportunity for you to become engaged in the teen center and create new programs, activities and events. The best part is you get FREE PIZZA just for attending the meeting!!!

DJ Workshop with Chuck “DJ Dizzle” Root: Friday March 14th, 28th and April 11th 3:30 – 5:00pm- Have you ever been interested in learning how to DJ or would you like to hone you DJing skills? Try out a workshop with Middlebury’s own DJ Dizzle. DJ Dizzle has been a local, professional DJ for the past 10 years and is willing to work with you FOR FREE. From a novice to a professional, DJ Dizzle is willing to work with you, swap ideas, give you tips or just show you the basics of DJing.

Cooking With Chuck!: Friday 21st and April 4th. 3:30 – 5:00pm-Learn how to plan, prep, cook and serve a meal from professional chef Chuck Root. Every other Friday, Chuck will be at the Teen Center cooking and sharing a meal with teens. Stop by ACT and check it out. It’s free and guaranteed to be fun!

Muddy Gras Event: Saturday, April 5, 4 to 7 pm at the Middlebury Recreation Fields, 277 Mary Hogan Drive - In collaboration with the Middlebury Recreation Department, we are pleased to offer this event which coincides with other great events going on in our area to celebrate "mud" season. There will be a grass-track bicycle race under the lights, tug of war competitions against Middlebury Police Officers, dodge ball on the basketball court, and Middlebury's own DJ Dizzle playing today's hottest hits throughout the evening. ACT will be selling food items including hot dogs, hamburgers and mac and cheese out of the Warming Hut. Free for all ages. We ask that you either signup online or in person at the Rec. Department at least a week prior to the event so we can get an estimate on numbers. For more information and to sign up a tug of war team: Contact Dustin Hunt: (802)388-8100 ext 216 or email dhunt@townofmiddlebury.org

Video, photography and audio workshop with the Vermont Folk Life Center - Thursday, April 3 through June 12, from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm - Interested in learning to use photography and audio recording as a means for expression, storytelling, and maybe even social action? Come join digital media instructor, Ned Castle (from the Vermont Folklife Center) every Thursday at “94 Main,” your local Teen Center. Ned will be teaching skills ranging from the basics of using a digital camera and audio recording equipment, to the design and exhibition of creative storytelling projects that engage community audiences. These skills can help you to enhance school projects.
Clothing swap & shop: June 4 and 5 at MUHS: - If you have teen-friendly, gently-used clothing, prom or formal wear for boys or girls, accessories, jewelry, CD’s, DVD’s, and knick-knacks, please consider bringing them to ACT. We are especially looking for button up shirts and ties. You will receive point cards which you or your teen can redeem for new used items on the days of the event. Donations are welcome too. You can drop off your items at the ACT teen center, located in the basement of the Middlebury Municipal Building, Monday through Friday from 3 pm to 6 pm. Enter on College Street through the beige awning. You can also contact Jutta to arrange pick up or get more information on how to get involved: 802-989-8934 - jutta@addisonteens.com


Co-Directors: Colby Benjamin: colby@addisonteens.com

Jutta Miska: jutta@addisonteens.com

ACT is located in the Middlebury Municipal Building; enter on College Street across from Samas Café.
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