THE HAWKS' NEST

Volume I, Issue 5 APRIL 2025



CLARION

INTEGRITY, OPPORTUNITY ACHIEVEMENT

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THE PIRATES ARE HERE!

Almost every afternoon, a group of anywhere from 20 to more than 40 of CVU's musically talented(?) students, under the direction of three of our more talented faculty members, invade the stage, to fill the empty corners of the autitorium with their venditions of such musical masterpieces as, "Pour, Oh Pour the Pirate Sherry" and "When the Foeman Bares his Steel". The cause of all this, of course, is the impending performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's operetta, The Pirates of Penzance.

As Mrs. Moore conducts the music, Miss Minotti sees to the dramatic perfection, and Miss Fraser takes care of the scenery and costumes, the members of the all-star cast have little to do but to perform, raising their voices in song as the plot (such

Two of the Pirates -- Rick Giroux and Sue Van Dreser.

Courtesy of Tom Tompkins '73

The only known remaining copy of *The Clarion*. This issue's front page features the spring production of *The Pirates of Penzance.*

The Fine Print: A History of CVU's Printed Newspaper

Grace Warrington
Editor-in-chief

This is the first of two installments about the history of school newspapers at CVU. The second installment will be published in the next issue. The following article concerns the paper through its existence as The Clarion*, which ran from 1964-1972, and the* Cow Valley Press*, which ran from 1972-1978/9.* The Hawks' Nest *merely follows in the steps of many like minds before ours.*

The Hawks' Nest spoke with **Tom Tompkins '73**, a Shelburne resident and former CVU student. Though he himself did not work on the paper, he had a treasure trove of old documents and information about how the paper was printed and plenty of insights about high school life back in the early '70s. He is the source of many of the photographs on these pages, and is also the holder of the only known surviving copy of *The Clarion*. CVU was founded in fall of 1964, and the paper began sometime in the early years of the school. Around this time the school was much smaller– "about a thousand students" when Mr. Tompkins attended.

The first iteration of the paper was called *The Clarion*. As Mr. Tompkins says, "You can see there were the two colors. They ran it through twice, got the blue, and normally it was just black and white, of course, just

Continued on page 3

Updates to CVU's Cell Phone Policy Discussions

Lily Gruber
Managing Editor

Over the last several months, the Champlain Valley School District has been considering a change to CVU's phone policy for the upcoming year (starting fall 2025), aiming to institute a cell phone-policy during school hours.

Magnetic pouches locking bell-to-bell (8:45 am to 3:20 pm), lockers, and heightened phone control in classrooms have all been discussed, but, as of the time of publication, no official decisions have been made.

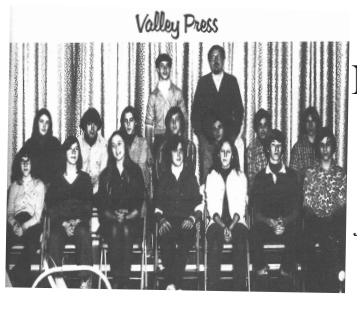
Although discussions began as early as last summer, the Policy Committee first presented the phone shift proposal to the School Board (made up of twelve elected community members) in March after a recommendation had been brought to their attention in December.

After further conversations with students and the broader CVU community, this topic will be brought back to the board this spring.

Addressing the timing, Fairbanks House Director **Arthur Chiaravalli** said: "A group has approached us from the community about phone-free schools…I think that there's a fair amount of awareness right now… that group has already been able to move some Vermont School Districts in this direction."

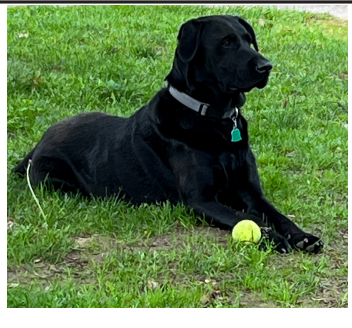
CVU Principal **Katherine Riley** described some of the early conversations in last

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CVU's Newspapers

Find out about more about journalism at CVU on pages 3-5.



Service animals

See more photos of Oakley on page 8.



Empty Bowls Dinner

For more on the Empty Bowls Dinner, see page 6.

Updates to CVU's Cell Phone Policy Discussions

Continued from page 1

summer: “There was a lot of movement around a phone-free policy... a couple other schools had moved to phone-free bell-to-bell. There was a committee put together... principals in the district, students, the Superintendent, Head of Special Services [and] Wellness counselor... who looked at research. A few of us looked at Harwood... which has a phone-free bell-to-bell policy.”

The district’s Superintendent **Adam Bunting** was tasked with assembling this committee. The School Board will be responsible for creating the policy, whereas individual schools in the district such as CVU will focus on how the policy (if passed) will be implemented.

Riley cited some positive ways in which a phone-free school might affect students including improved focus, social interaction, and communication.

She also acknowledged some other considerations: “I understand the concerns that some students have about communicating with parents. I don’t see that as a big challenge because they’ll have their phones at the end of the day... if plans change, if there’s an emergency, folks can communicate through the house offices.” Riley added, “Checking your phone at the end of the day would have the same impact, and not distract you during the school day.”

Students voiced some of these perspectives. **Stella Rakochy '26** objected to the idea of a change in phone policy: “I don’t support the phone ban because I feel like it’s an invasion of privacy... our phones are our own personal property and I don’t think the school should have the right to take them away from us. It also feels unsafe as I should be able to contact people from outside the school when I’m in school. If my parents want to contact me, I think they should be able to, and I don’t think it’s fair for the school to take that away.”

Concern was also voiced about the impact phone policy changes could have on the school’s budget. In an anonymous interview, a student commented: “It doesn’t make sense that they’re cutting a lot of other things that are very useful at school... but are willing to spend money on Yondr Pouches.” At this point, no official decisions have been made on how potential phone shifts will be implemented in the school.

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Latin Day Celebrations

Grace Warrington
Editor-in-chief

On April 2nd, a group of Latin students participated in the 47th annual Latin Day. This year's theme centered on Metamorphosis by the Roman poet Ovid.

According to Latin teacher Magistra **Leanne Morton**, "The theme this year was *ex hominibus in flores*, which simply means 'from humans to flowers.'" The event was held at the University of Vermont's (UVM) Dudley H. Davis Center.



Photo credit: Lu Albers
Students participating in the quiz bowl during this year's Latin Day

According to the UVM Program in Classics, who hosts the event, "Vermont Latin Day is a bacchanal of skits, displays, recitations, and Scholars Bowl-type of competitions in Latin grammar and syntax." Other student activities included costume contests and baking competitions. Participants were also able to tour UVM's Fleming Museum and visit UVM's Special Collections.

Mrs. Morton reflected on CVU's participation, "CVU brought a smaller cohort this year of approximately forty students who had the chance to perform in the skit on Pan and Syrinx, recite passages of Ovid's text in Latin, compete on quiz bowl teams, battle in testudo formations, visit the Special Collections with Prof. Bailly, tour the Fleming Museum, or read Latin inscriptions around UVM's campus. Students dressed for the day with laurels and togas, and celebrated their learning while also meeting other Latin students from around the state. "

Students were awarded prizes for some activities. **Karmen Wilbur '26** won both the recitation contest and a ribbon for her art piece. **Maya DeLuca '28** won with her drawing of the Colisseum for the art competition. In addition, **Kieran Burke '25**, **Alize Flore '25** and **Rose Destito '25** competed against other schools in Roman gladitorial combat.

The event is held annually and often draws as many as 1,000 high school students from across the state. UVM undergraduate students serve as the hosts for the event.

The Hawks' Nest

The student-run newspaper of Champlain Valley Union High School

Published monthly during the academic year

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Staff Writers: Fiona Carpenter, Cecilia Marino, Willow Martin

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Photographs and Images This Issue Courtesy of: Lu Albers, Renee Breault, Jason Duquette-Hoffman, Josh Edelbaum, The Novak family, Tom Tompkins, Greg Warrington

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The Fine Print: A History of CVU's Printed Newspaper

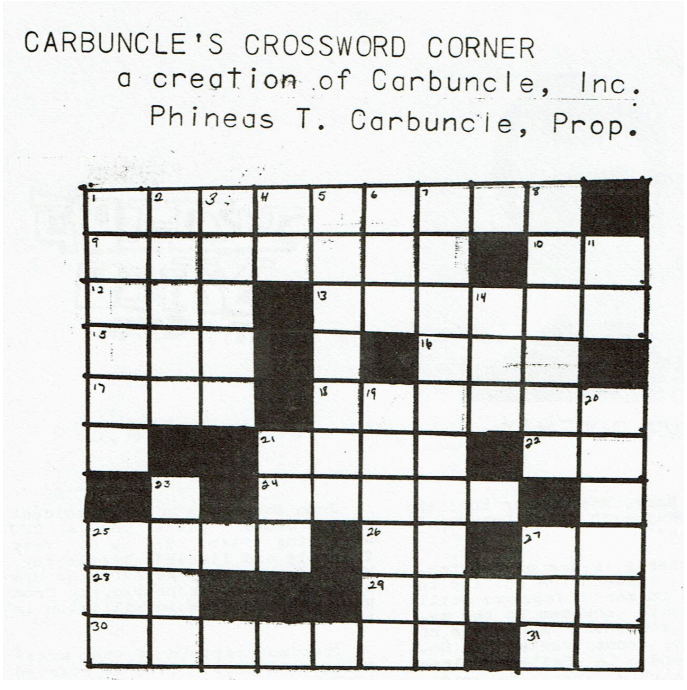
Continued from page 1

like yours." Further editions of the paper in the mid-seventies would also include orange.

By the time Mr. Tompkins graduated in 1973, the newspaper was called the *Cow Valley Press*. He relayed to us the origin of the rather odd name: "They used to call CVU Cow Valley, because back then there were a lot more farms around. You could probably see the cows out the windows, in fact." **Ed Vizvarie '75**, another CVU alumnus, says of the moniker that it was "[a] self-deprecating kind of thing—poking fun at ourselves." Mr. Vizvarie was a writer for the paper from the start of the *Cow Valley Press* and was part of the journalism class that ran the paper. By 1976, they had

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Answers page 8


CARBUNCLE'S CROSSWORD CORNER
a creation of Carbuncle, Inc.
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ACROSS

1. The team that best our illustrious faculty.
9. Wood shop teacher.
10. So as to form.
12. Promise.
13. An almost nonexistant extra-curricular past time.
15. The taxman, abbrev.
16. A piece of material on the floor.
17. New York, abbrev.
18. A book one reads as a first grader.
21. First name and initial of a girl basketball star.
22. In music, a syllable representing the second tone of the diatonic scale.
24. When you have a subscription to a magazine, you receive every _____.
25. Reluctantly willing.
26. In music, a syllable formerly used in solmization, now replaced by do.
27. In astronomy, universal time.
28. Hello, colloloquilism.
29. What the seniors can hardly wait to do.
30. The art room is full of them.
31. Medicinae Doctor.

DOWN

1. The biggest thing the seniors have going for them.
2. Creamy white.
3. Rows of fixed benches with a back.
4. Abbreviation of the name of a school we play soccer with.
5. In a Greek legend, a King of Thebes who killed his father and married his mother.
6. Boston Subway System.
7. Assign or asscribe.
8. What the Chorus has (singular).
11. Abbreviation for no good.
14. A suffix used in forming Modern Latin names for chemical elements.
19. The answer.
20. The tuxedos the boys get for the prom are _____.
21. Breaking of a religious or moral law.
23. The Champlain Valley Exposition.
25. (Abbrev.) An active club at CVU.
27. University of Vermont.

Crossword courtesy of Tom Tompkins
Crossword appearing on page 4 of the 3-26-1970 issue of CVU's *The Clarion*. Hint for solving: There is a white square that should have been designated as a black square.

Grace Warrington
Editor-in-chief

Crossword

Answers page 8

Across

1. "Do that," in Shakespeare

7. What volcanoes do

12. Peninsula adjoining the Black Sea

13. Word after ocean or eye

14. Self important

16. Cuatro y cuatro

17. Max singer

18. "___, stop eavesdropping on me!"

19. Santa's Little Helper, for example

20. Finished besides

22. Mire

23. Chop (off)

24. Check out

28. Tasty food additive

31. Performance venues in ancient Greece

32. Long. counterpart in geography

33. Activist McDonald

34. Adult in the room

37. Mistake

38. 37%, for tax brackets

39. College VIPs

40. In the middle of

Down

1. Milwaukee Brewers' first baseman Turang

2. Number of sides on an octahedron

3. "If you ask me...," briefly

4. Gossip

5. Texas home of Goodfellow Air Force Base

6. How Netflix once sent you movies

7. Yalie

8. Constructs haphazardly

9. Not cool way of saying "not cool"

10. "Rose City" in Jordan

11. "Have one!"

12. Unsettled water

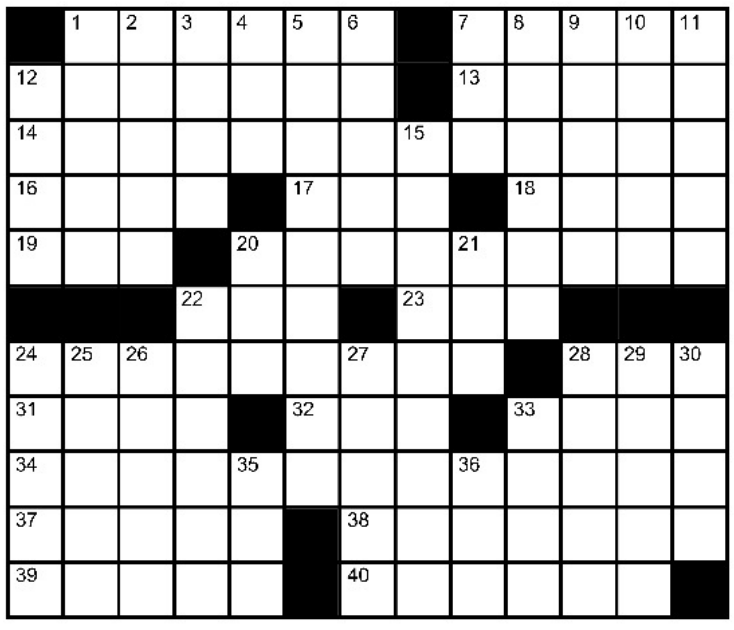
15. Storm

20. Goddess of dawn

21. Female deer

22. Shining star

24. Relocated



25. Love

26. Actress Knightley

27. Former Canada-Mexico-United States pact

28. Wile E. Coyote locations

29. VT governor

30. IL6 or Hackman

33. Ace of spades, for example

35. Sounds of hesitation

36. ___-pen

Updates to CVU's Cell Phone Policy Discussions

Continued from page 2

Sebastian Bronk '26 said: "I think we should vote no for phone policies for the sake of if any dangerous events happen. How are we supposed to call our parents if our phones are locked up? I think it also impacts parents' stress. If we don't have our phone we can't communicate with them."

Mr. Chiaravalli noted: "I definitely see the issues that come up with attention related things, being able to engage in a task and not just take the off ramp, it's such an easy off ramp to just engage with one's phone and a lot of times I think that that's a lot more attractive to students... [however] the Devil's in the details. There's money that needs to be spent in some cases…"

In speaking about the broader implications of limiting student's access to phones, Chiaravalli said: "I know that there are certain harms that are definitely new, as part of this era where we have hand-held devices... but I don't know that those are necessarily any different from ones that we've had in the past–like television and radio and even going all the way back to books... [referring to idea from theorist Marshall McLuhan] who said that books did irreparable harm to the way that we think as human beings, because we used to sit around a fire and hear things together, we'd experience things together, but all of a sudden we're individuals where we engage with this technology, and we're in our own heads... and that was a cataclysmic shift in human history... yes, we're changing in a lot of different ways, but is that any different than any other massive technology that has come along over the years?"

For Champlain Valley School District students kindergarten through eighth grade, a similar ban is already active, according to recent coverage by NBC5. Students in this age group are required to store phones in a designated, secure location throughout the school day.

A statewide ban has been proposed by the Vermont legislature. According to Seven Days, the bill would require public and private schools to ban use of cell phones and personal electronic devices, such as wearable smartwatches.

The Fine Print: A History of CVU's Printed Newspaper

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shortened the name to *Valley Press*.

For most of the existence of the newspaper at CVU, it was done through a school-run journalism class. It is only as of 2024 that the paper is run separately through a club. Though running it through a class has many advantages, this made for some rather odd issues in the early years.

As Mr. Vizvarie said: "Instead of doing one the first semester and one the second semester, we had competing classes… [W]e alternated papers … here it'll say 'Staff: Cow Valley Press One' and then the next edition has 'Cow Valley Press Two' so it was a completely different staff on alternating papers." The printing press was run on the school grounds, but the aluminum plates that they would run the ink on were shipped out to the *Burlington Free Press*.

Dan Stowe '72 worked on printing the paper during his tenure here and, by this time, it was called the *Cow Valley Press*. He shared some insights in how the printing was achieved.

"I also did all the printing for the school," Mr. Stowe wrote in an email to *The Hawks' Nest*. "The school had a Multilith 111 Offset printer that was housed in the back room of the administration offices. In 1971, the school purchased a new AB Dick 150 Offset printer. This machine was a lot better and faster. The new press was moved down the hall by the Teachers' Lounge and a window was put into the lounge so faculty could just give me their work needs directly."

Mr. Tompkins also kindly shared the contact of one of his classmates who had worked as an editor on the paper in the '70s, **Linda Miller '71 (neé Stowe)**—the sister of Dan Stowe. She worked as a member of editorial staff of the paper during her time at CVU, and continued on in journalism for some time afterward.

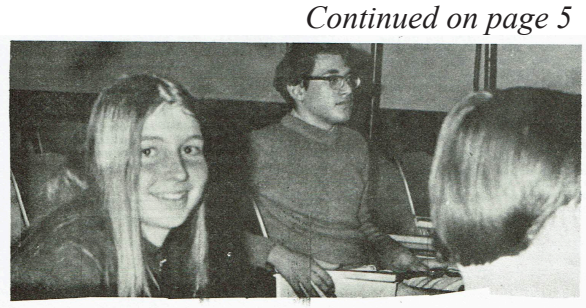
Mrs. Miller talked with *The Hawks' Nest* about some of her memories of her time at CVU and on the editorial board. "I was an editor for two years in high school, and in my life since, I have done newsletters throughout my career and in my personal life as well. It is funny – it became my "thing" but was never anything I thought to do. The summer following my junior year I also worked at the *Burlington Free Press* as a typesetter (with my mother) which helped me become a very fast typist, and cultivated a love of journalism and writing, which was what I went to college for but finished in something different, but journalism is still my first love."

Mr. Stowe said of his time working on *The Clarion*: "I started there as a freshman in the fall of 1968. My sister Linda started a year ahead of me in 1967. … At the time I started, the paper was run by Suzy Giroux as the Editor, and Mrs. Mayo and Mr. Doherty were the advisors. Linda was involved as a reporter at first and later became Editor. She also did Layout and typing."

"During my freshman year, Linda had encouraged me to take part in *The Clarion*, and I learned to print. At the time, [two] upperclassmen guys, **Roger Brotz '70** and **Ed Cormier '70** were printing and teaching me. They both graduated in the spring of 1970." A photograph of both individuals is shown on page 5 of this issue, previously published in the 1969 CVU yearbook.

"I continued to print until I graduated in 1972." Mr. Stowe continued, saying, "I taught my brother David to print during the spring of 1972 and he carried on printing the paper *[Ed– by this time the paper would have changed its name from* The Clarion *to the* Cow Valley Press*]*. He also continued to

Continued on page 5



Courtesy of: Tom Tompkins

Tom Tompkins '73 (middle) depicted in *The Clarion* in an article about the 1970 *Pirates of Penzance* production.

The Fine Print: A History of CVU's Printed Newspaper

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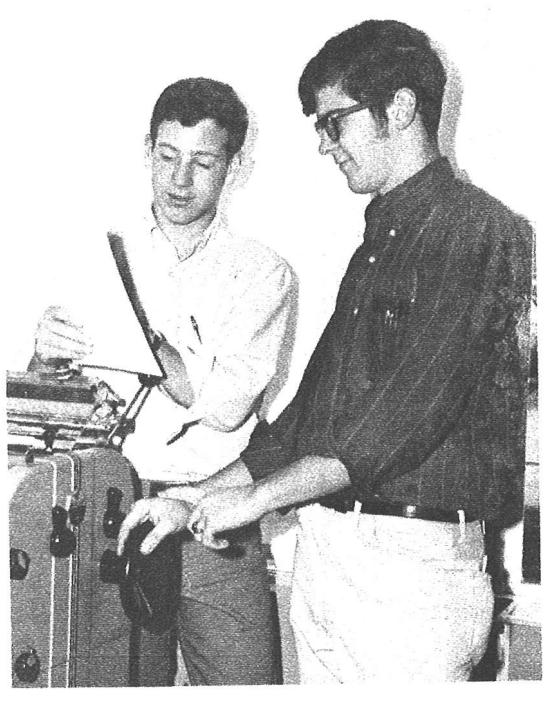
print after he graduated and still works at Lane Press in South Burlington."

Like many of the workers on the school newspaper, it seems, journalism experience in their formative years led to further opportunities through school and later on.

Mr. Stowe shares that "I went to college in Idaho after high school. I arrived a little more than two weeks ahead of the start of school. At first I was quite home sick, I started exploring around the campus and suddenly I smelled printing ink. I went into the building and found the college press. I told the receptionist I had printed in high school, and I ended up with a job printing there."

Mr. Vizvarie also gave us some valuable insight into life at CVU at the very beginning of its formation. Before CVU existed, each town had its own (very tiny) high school, making it very inefficient. The new combined high school, however, was not nearly big enough for the number of students it held. Further additions to the building over the coming decades, though, finally allowed it to come into its own.

Mrs. Miller became the Senior Editor in 1970 before her graduation in 1971. She shared some of her early memories of the school itself, allowing us to see what our school was like in the early years of its existence.



Courtesy of Tom Tompkins
Head printers **Roger Brotz '70** (left) and **Ed Cormier '70** are shown in action.



Courtesy of Tom Tompkins
Editors of *The Clarion* staff from the 1969 CVU yearbook. The Editor-in-chief was Suzy Giroux, depicted in this photograph fifth from the left.

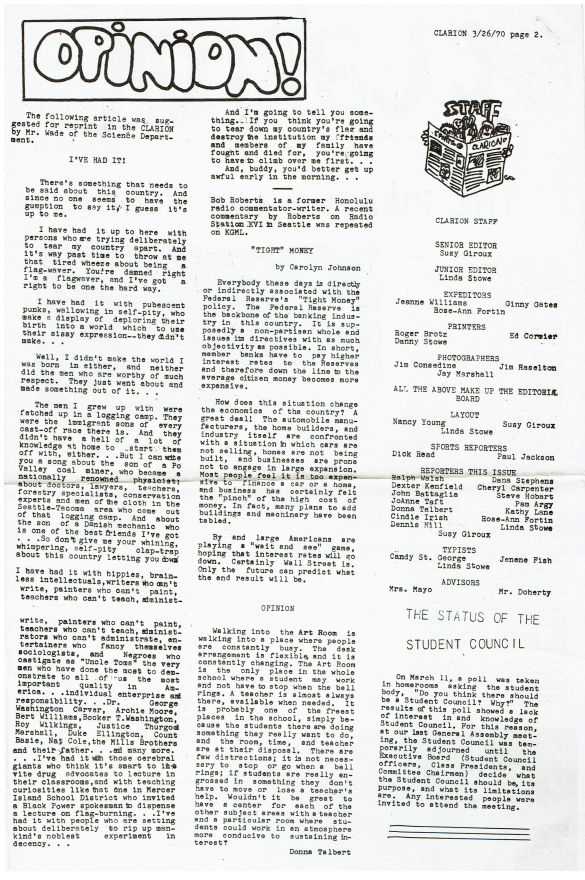
Mrs. Miller shared: "I was a freshman at CVU the first year that the seniors had been freshmen, so the school – and the concept of union high schools – was still quite new. My high school years were a great period of change for the country and world. Civil rights, Vietnam War, riots, assassinations, hippies, all kinds of things."

The newspapers of CVU in the early years allowed the students to voice their opinions on the many new changes in the world. Movements such as the Civil Rights Movement and Women's Rights Movement, along with any number of domestic issues that passed through CVU's halls all were subject to be covered by our newspaper.

Mrs. Miller shares that, from its inception, "CVU was very progressive and active in coming up with new ideas – ISDA, SOPE, effort/ability index grades, and 45-15. 45-15 was year-round-school which the school board approved and was going to be implemented (the first time we as 18-year-olds could vote) and it was rejected later by the voters (including us). I covered that (the advisor indicated my *Clarion* story on that was not totally objective)." Ideas that may seem unbelievable to us now but were hot topics back then were also covered, perhaps with some contention.

Mrs. Miller says that, "Girls began being allowed to wear pants to school during my CVU years (not jeans but very nice pant suits, mostly, and many of us did not wear them because it didn't seem appropriate yet)." Mrs. Miller added, "I treasure my experiences at CVU, although I didn't appreciate them enough at the time."

With great thanks to Linda Miller '71, Dan Stowe '72, Tom Tompkins '73, and Ed Vizvarie '75. Thank you for sharing your memories with us.



CLARION 3/26/70 page 2.

OPINION!

The following article was suggested for reprint in the CLARION by Mr. Wade of the Science Department.

I'VE HAD IT!

There's something that needs to be said about this country. And since no one seems to have the gumption to say it, I guess it's up to me.

I have had it up to here with persons who are trying deliberately to tear my country apart. And it's way past time to throw at me that tired wheeze about being a flag-waver. You're damned right I'm a flagwaver, and I've got a right to be one the hard way.

I have had it with pubescent punks, wallowing in self-pity, who make a display of deploring their birth into a world which to use their sissy expression--they didn't make. . .

Well, I didn't make the world I was born in either, and neither did the men who are worthy of such respect. They just went about and made something out of it. . .

The men I grew up with were fetched up in a logging camp. They were the immigrant sons of every coast-off race there is. And they knowledge at home to start them off with, either. . .But I can write you a song about the son of a Po Valley coal miner, who became a nationally renowned physicist; about doctors, lawyers, teachers, foresty specialists, conservation experts and men of the cloth in the Seattle-Tacoma area who came out of that logging camp. And about the son of a Danish technic who is one of the best friends I've got . . .So don't give me your whining, whispering, self-pity clap-trap about this country letting you down.

I have had it with hippies, brainless intellectuals, writers who can't write, painters who can't paint, teachers who can't teach, administrators who can't administrate, entertainers who fancy themselves sociologists, and Negroes who castigate as "Uncle Toms" the very men who have done the most to demonstrate to all of us the most important quality in American life. . .individual enterprise and responsibility. . .Dr. George Washington Carver, Archie Moore, Bert Williams, Booker T. Washington, Roy Wilkins, Justice Thurgood Marshall, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Nat Cole, the Mills Brothers and their father. . .and many more. . . .I've had it with those cerebral giants who think it's smart to be a wite drug advocates to lecture in their classrooms, and with teaching curiosities like that one in Mercer Island School District who invited a Black Power spokesman to dispense a lecture on flag-burning. . .I've had it with people who are setting about deliberately to rip up mankind's noblest experiment in decency. . .

And I'm going to tell you something. . .If you think you're going to tear down my country's flag and destroy the institution my friends and members of my family have fought and died for, you're going to have to climb over me first. . .

And, buddy, you'd better get up awful early in the morning. . .

Bob Roberts is a former Honolulu radio commentator-writer. A recent commentary by Roberts on Radio Station KVI in Seattle was repeated on KOML.

"TIGHT" MONEY

by Carolyn Johnson

Everybody these days is directly or indirectly associated with the Federal Reserve's "Tight Money" policy. The Federal Reserve is the backbone of the banking industry in this country. It is supposedly a non-partisan whole and issues its directives with as much objectivity as possible. In short, member banks have to pay higher interest rates to the Reserves and therefore down the line to the average citizen money becomes more expensive.

How does this situation change the economics of the country? A great deal! The automobile manufacturers, the home builders, and industry itself are confronted with a situation in which cars are not selling, homes are not being built, and businesses are prone not to engage in large expansion. Most people feel it is too expensive to finance a car or a home, and business has certainly felt the "pinch" of the high cost of money. In fact, many plans to add buildings and machinery have been tabled.

By and large Americans are playing a "wait and see" game, hoping that interest rates will go down. Certainly Wall Street is. Only the future can predict what the end result will be.

OPINION

Walking into the Art Room is walking into a place where people are constantly busy. The desk arrangement is flexible and it is constantly changing. The Art Room is the only place in the whole school where a student may work and not have to stop when the bell rings. A teacher is almost always there, available when needed. It is probably one of the freest places in the school, simply because the students there are doing something they really want to do, and the room, time, and teacher are at their disposal. There are few distractions; it is not necessary to stop or go when a bell rings; if students are really engrossed in something they don't have to move or lose a teacher's help. Wouldn't it be great to have a center for each of the other subject areas with a teacher and a particular room where students could work in an atmosphere more conducive to sustaining interest?

Donna Talbert

STAFF

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THE STATUS OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL

On March 11, a poll was taken in homerooms asking the student body, "Do you think there should be a Student Council? Why?" The results of this poll showed a lack of interest in and knowledge of Student Council. For this reason, at our last General Assembly meeting, the Student Council was temporarily adjourned until the Executive Board (Student Council officers, Class Presidents, and Committee Chairmen) decide what the Student Council should be, its purpose, and what its limitations are. Any interested people were invited to attend the meeting.

Courtesy of Tom Tompkins
Opinion page from a 1970 copy of *The Clarion*.

Arts

Grace Warrington
Editor-in-chief

Empty Bowls Dinner

The CVU community turned up in droves for the Second Annual Empty Bowls Dinner on April 10. Approximately 320 individuals attended the dinner, supported by 25 student volunteers at the event and a dozen additional volunteers who had made 330 ceramic bowls in advance of the evening. The event raised upwards of $7,000 for the Hinesburg Community Resource Center with a coalition of 28 business supporting the dinner. Local bakeries, restaurants, and the farm-to-cone venture Sisters of Anarchy donated breads, soup, and ice cream for the event. Each attendee parted with a handmade bowl that they chose for themselves.

Organizer **Teryn Hytten '25** shared, "I am incredibly grateful to our community for every business, volunteer, and community member who has brought Empty Bowls to life for the past two years." Hytten described the significance of this event for her. "Empty Bowls has always meant so much to me and watching our community embrace the dinners with the same love I feel for them has been inspiring. As a senior, it is my hope that the CVU and Chittenden County populations will continue to support Empty Bowls in the years to come and that the dinners will remain an enduring tradition at CVU."



Photo credit: Jason Duquette-Hoffman
Empty Bowl Dinner participants line up for food.



Photo credit: Jason Duquette-Hoffman
The CVU community demonstrated its support for the Empty Bowls Dinner with a packed cafeteria.

Senior One-Acts

CVU Theatre hosted three Senior One-Act Plays in three separate performances spanning April 4-6.

The plays -- *Game Night: Humans Only*, *The Importance of Being Earnest,* and *Hurry Up and Wait* -- were student-directed and run.

Featuring lighthearted and quirky subject matter, student directors **Ace Caldwell '25**, **Jay Kring '25**, **Autumn Miller '25**, **Mira Novak '25**, **Hannah Stein '25**, and **Vivian Volzer '25** were responsible for selecting plays, recruiting and screening participants, leading rehearsals, coordinating with light and sound teams and, ultimately, putting on two shows per play.

As CVU theater director Elisa Van Duyne explained to the Shelburne News: “It’s very hands off. The students are the ones who choose the plays. They decide a vision of the piece, the costumes, the sets, but I’m here to supervise and guide them.”

Nathaneal Akselrod '28, a student performer, shared about his experience, "It was a one-of-a-kind experience that tested me, emotionally, physically, and mentally."

Poetry Out Loud

Founded by the National Endowment for the Arts, Poetry Out Loud competition encourages thousands of Vermont students to learn to explore and recite poetry.

Vermont's Poetry Out Loud Finals were held at the Flynn Space on March 14th.

Finalist **Theo Novak '28** represented CVU. Of the State Finals experience, Novak shared, "The state finals were really fun! The speakers put so much emotion into there poems! It was so fun and I’ll be doing it again next year!"



Courtesy of The Novak Family
Theo Novak '28, representing CVU as the finalist in Poetry Out Loud, is sharing his certificate.

Sports

April Unified Basketball Game

This April 15th, students, faculty and staff convened in our auditorium to watch the Coed Unified Basketball game. The energy in the gym was palpable as classmates cheered on each other.

The school schedule was changed in order to make room for the game, which was played against the Bellcate School Bulldogs.

Director of Special Services Jessica Hoskins wrote in the most recent CVU Celebrations: “Bringing our students, staff and faculty together on Tuesday this week to cheer on our Unified Basketball team was a highlight of the year for me, and a reminder of how valuable and important the work we do to move towards authentic inclusion is.”

The team is coached by **Sharon Ogden** and **Steve Reinemann**. They will play seven games this season.

Their next home game will be on May 1st at 4:00pm against Milton. Make sure to turn up to show them our support!



Photo credit: Greg Warrington
CVU's Boys Varsity Baseball playing Rice Memorial on April 24, 2025.



Photo credit: Renee Breault
Coed Unified Basketball huddling up.

With the official kick off of Coach's Night on March 19th, spring sports are now underway with some early results in for CVU athletics. At the time of publication, few results were posted; however, a early season check-in demonstrates many early successes.

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Boys Varsity Baseball (0-1)
Girls Varsity Softball (0-1)
Boys Varsity Tennis (1-1)
Girls Varsity Tennis (2-0)
Coed Varsity Track (2-0)
Boys Varsity Lacrosse (2-2)
Boys Varsity Ultimate (2-0)
Girls Varsity Ultimate (2-0)
Girls Varsity Lacrosse (1-0)

Op-Ed

Cell-phone free policy?

Willow Martin
Staff Writer

Did you miss the CVSD school board meeting on March 18th? If so, don't worry--you didn't miss much.

As a student who attended and even spoke at the meeting, I left feeling exactly how most would expect: disappointed, unheard, and sleepy. It seems student voices are put on the back burner because of our age and our perceived immaturity.

But let’s put shared personal frustrations aside for a moment and talk about something more critical: The budget -- the very thing teachers and students have been pleading for. There was significant discussion on how the phone ban would be enforced and what it would cost them.

Even if the ban did make a difference, what would it cost? A proposal talked about involves using Yondr Pouches -- a system that locks students’ phones in a pouch for the duration of the school day. For a high school of 1,200 students, implementing Yondr would cost at least $27,000, likely more given current economic conditions.

And here’s where the real issue lies: The school board is actively looking to get funding to cover this cost. (And very well might get it.)

They're fighting to secure over $30,000 to force students to lock away their phones--yet where is this same energy when it comes to other school activities?

They are willing to push for outside funding for *phone pouches*, but did not share plans to fund many other needed functions at CVU.

And that brings up the bigger question: Is banning phones consistent with CVU’s values and mission?

Sudoku

	7	2	4		9			
5	3			2	1	9		
	8			6			7	
			2	9		1	3	
			3		4		9	7
	9							
9	5	7						
	1	8		4	7	3		
3	2				5	7		9

Dear Amber

Dear Amber receives and responds to questions as submitted in advance of publication. If you have questions for Amber, please email them to cvuhawksnest@cvsdvt.org or submit them via the QR code below. The questions (Q) and answers (A) are posed anonymously.

Q: My parents are so irritating! Everything they say or do is just so... annoying. We haven't always had the easiest relationship but it keeps getting worse. One of the worst things is their unsolicited advice - whether it's my school work, who I date or where I go... In a year, I'm going to be out of the house, but, not sure I can stand it until then...

A: I often find I have the same problems, but whenever they bug me I remember that they truly want what is best for me. They don't mean to push you away, they just want to help prepare you for real life. You only have a year left before you are out of the nest, and I'm sure they are grappling with that too. Nothing is permanent, and you should savor the time you still have as a kid. talking with them about how detrimental their behavior is to your relationship may enlighten them to your feelings and push them to be nicer to you in the long run

Q: This summer I'm traveling abroad for the first time. I was really excited about it, but, with all of the stuff going on these days, I'm starting to get more and more nervous about it. I was born in the US but my parents immigrated. I'm going without them but I just don't know who will be getting flagged by then. Should I skip the trip?

A: I am not going to sugarcoat this, but I am going to try to answer this is the most not-political way I can. This is a scary time.



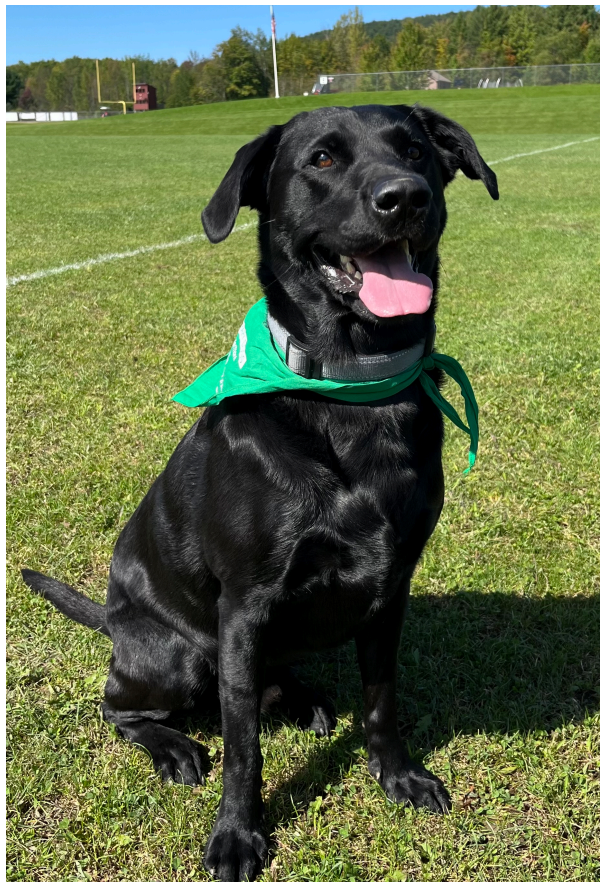


Photo credit: Josh Edelbaum

Oakley, the service dog, is ready for duty. Service dogs, like Oakley, are highly-trained and assist many of their human partners in a variety of functions.

Everyone born on US soil is an American citizen, that has not changed. What has changed for you is the level of stringency at the borders. Most likely, you, a teenager will be fine as long as you have your passport. The trouble comes during the transition process where you are less protected. During this time, a citizen could be detained indefinitely, but this is unlikely. Nothing will change in the next 3 months that will change your fundamental rights as a citizen. Do your research, make sure you are aware of your rights and be sure all your papers are in order. Be smart, and be safe, and you should have no trouble. But I am not a legal expert, and if you are truly concerned you should talk to a trusted adult.

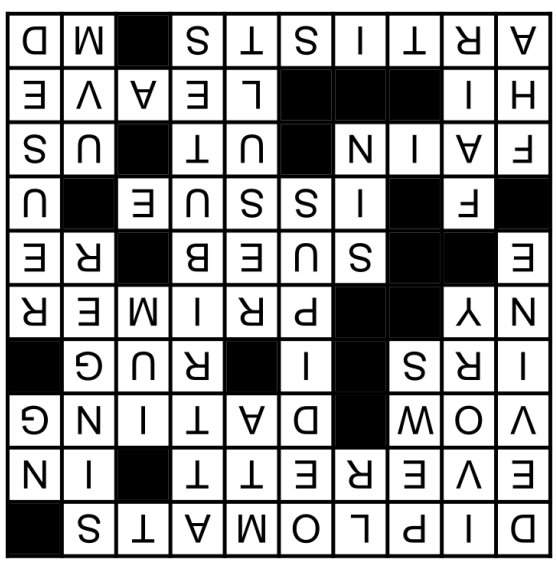
For future submissions to Amber, please either scan the QR code or email directly to cvuhawksnest@cvsdvt.org.

Sudoku answers will come next issue

Answers from Crosswords

From page 3

Clarion, March 1970



The Nest, April 2025

