



# ACRPC

*update*

June 2005

## commission calendar

JUNE	8	7:30 p.m. ACRPC Full Commission Meeting Location: Vergennes Opera House
	9	10:30 a.m. Creative Economy Forum Location: Three Tomatoes Trattoria, Downtown Rutland Info: (802) 775 - 5413
	9	7:00 p.m. VLCT Planning & Zoning Workshop Location: VIT, Hannaford Ctr., Middlebury Topic: Attracting Development Downtown
	29	7:00 p.m. ACRPC Executive Board Meeting Location: ACRPC Office
JULY	13	7:30 p.m. ACRPC Full Commission Meeting Location: TBA
	27	7:00 p.m. ACRPC Executive Board Meeting Location: ACRPC Office

## ACRPC Appointments

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission would like to thank the towns of Bridport, Starksboro and Waltham for returning complete annual update packages.

ACRPC would also like to remind those municipalities that have not returned ACRPC appointment forms that their representatives to the commission need to be appointed in writing by the end of June for ACRPC's July 2005 to June 2006 term. Appointment forms have NOT been received from:

- |             |            |           |
|-------------|------------|-----------|
| Addison     | Bristol    | Cornwall  |
| Ferrisburgh | Goshen     | Leicester |
| Lincoln     | Middlebury | Monkton   |
| Ripton      | Salisbury  | Shoreham  |
| Vergennes   | Weybridge  | Whiting   |

If you need another form, please contact the ACRPC office at 388-3141.

Meetings are open to the public.  
Minutes are available on-line at [www.acrpc.org](http://www.acrpc.org).  
For further information, contact ACRPC at 388-3141.

## Orwell Disaster Declared a Success

The disaster drill held on Saturday was a great success with over 100 attendees from more than 15 volunteer agencies. The drill commenced at 8:35 and a simulated Hazardous Material spill was responded to by four local fire departments. Command and control of the incident was delivered via the Addison County Mobile Command Post and the Orwell Emergency Operations Center with assistance from a local ham radio emergency communications team.



Of the 15 volunteers who played victims or anxious parents, a total of 11 injured received simulated treatment and were transported by 5 rescue squads. One serious injury was simulated to have been transported by helicopter. Volunteers playing anxious parents were counseled off-site by members of the Red Cross family services team and the CSAC disaster response team.

After evacuation of the victims, the leak was stopped by members of the State Haz-Mat Team with assistance from the Addison County Haz-Mat Decontamination team. Law enforcement and traffic control assistance was provided by State Police and Route 22A was kept open throughout the event. The disaster was declared over at 12:00.

A set of events were also put into play at Porter Medical Center designed to compliment the disaster in Orwell. At 9:00 a carload of simulated victims arrived at the hospital as if they had been brought direct from the scene without treatment. Hospital workers had to decontaminate these patients prior to admitting them into the emergency room to prevent contamination of that facility.



## ACRPC Awards its 1st Annual "Bertha"

At its annual meeting ACRPC awarded the first Annual Bertha Hanson Distinguished Service Award to Ellen Kurrelmeyer.

Bertha Hanson was one of the founding members of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission. She also served for many years on the Town of Starksboro Planning Commission and was a founding member of the Mt. Abraham School District. She had a friendly nature and a ready smile. When she spoke, people listened with respect. Bertha was a devoted student of history and active in her community.

In addition to the civic boards noted above, Bertha helped to found the Starksboro Historical Society and participated actively in her church. Being a farm woman, Bertha understood the need to find the proper balance between meeting the needs of people and the needs of the environment. Bertha was always a voice of reconciliation and common sense. She was a valued member of the Regional Planning Commission and all who knew her remember her with respect and affection.

In honor of Bertha and in light of all the qualities she exemplified, Don presented the first annual "Bertha" to Ellen Kurrelmeyer, Delegate from Whiting, for her distinguished service to the Commission over the course of her tenure.

Don explained that when we asked for suggestions for awards, we received a number of recommendations for Ellen by her peers. He quoted a couple of them to emphasize why we presented this award. One delegate stated, "She is smart, committed, efficient and deserves recognition." Another stated, "Ellen did a great job running the Utilities and Facilities Committee, she was focused dedicated and thoughtful."

Don concluded, "Ellen, Thank you for all your hard work on behalf of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission."

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## Cornwall Bike-Ped Study Underway

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission is sponsoring a feasibility study to identify one or more alternative routes that would provide bicyclists and pedestrians a safe means of travel between Cornwall and downtown Middlebury.

The study will be primarily looking at the area bounded by Route 30, Route 125 and Cider Mill Road - with an extension up Route 30 past the Cornwall School and ending at the Route 74 intersection.

A project kick-off meeting was held at the Cornwall Town Offices on May 26. It was very well attended by community members as well as other interested stakeholders. Erik Sandblom and Jon Olin of ESPC (the consulting firm doing the study) fielded questions and received feedback and suggestions from those present.

A local concerns meeting will soon be scheduled to provide opportunity for further feedback, and a public steering committee will be established at that time. For further information, contact Richard Kehne at Addison Regional Planning Commission, 388-3141.

## Vergennes Intersection Study Scheduled

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission is sponsoring a study at the intersection of Route 22A and MacDonough Drive in the City of Vergennes. This area is currently subject to significant traffic congestion and delays resulting from turning vehicles.

An analysis performed earlier this year demonstrated that a signal was warranted at this intersection; however, questions have been raised as to how a signal would affect truck traffic on Route 22A if this intersection becomes signalized. The study will examine all of the factors and identify the best possible options for reducing congestion and improving safety at this intersection.

A consultant will be selected sometime around June 17, and work will begin soon thereafter. A local concerns meeting will be scheduled at that time to provide opportunities for public feedback. For further information, contact Richard Kehne at Addison Regional Planning Commission, 388-3141.

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## Local Youth Assist with Riparian Plantings

Over the course of six days in May, ACRPC organized, along with help from NRCS and the Otter Creek Natural Resources Conservation District, riparian buffer plantings along the Middlebury River and the Lemon Fair. In all, we planted over 1,000 native trees and shrubs.

The restoration site on the Middlebury River was on the south bank just upstream from the Blake Roy Road Bridge. In 1996, willow waddles were planted. The goal of this years planting was to create a more diverse riparian buffer that in time may stabilize the banks and provide better terrestrial and

aquatic habitat. The riparian planting on the Lemon Fair involved planting trees in an area recently fenced off from dairy cows. The area is along the west side of Richville Pond, upstream from the Shoreham-Whiting Road.

The plantings would not have been possible without help of volunteers from Middlebury Union High School, Hannaford Career Center, the North Branch School, the Sudbury Elementary School and the Middlebury Boy Scouts. The planting were funded by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, NRCS, the Middlebury River Watershed Partnership and a Clean Water Act 319 grant obtained by ACRPC.

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## VPA Award Nominations Due

The Vermont Planners Association (VPA) is accepting nominations for its 2005 awards competition until June 16. The VPA Award Program makes awards in the following four categories: Outstanding Planning Project; Outstanding Plan; Outstanding Citizen Planner; Outstanding Professional Planner. For more information and nomination forms contact Jessica Hill, Vermont League of Cities & Towns, (800) 649-7915.

