

As always, your feedback is welcome and appreciated.

Enjoy, ACEDC

From the Desk of the Executive Director

While writing this, my last "From the Desk" letter to our members, clients, partners, and

through some major economic disruptions such as COVID, a major downtown infrastructure project, and several weather-related disasters; the expansion of dozens of iconic Addison County businesses through development and finance assistance; bringing millions of dollars in federal and state programs to the region benefiting businesses, non-profits, job seekers, and municipalities; connecting business owners to resources, programs, services, other businesses, properties, and employees; and convening working groups such as the Addison County Workforce Alliance and the Addison County Partners. But what I am most proud of is the relationships and partnerships developed over these years. Partnerships that have helped expand ACEDC's impact on the region and State. These include folks at Federal agencies, the Congressional delegation and their staff, State Legislators, State agency officials and staff, statewide organizations, our RDC colleagues,

friends here in Addison County, I have taken some time to reflect on my time as Executive

The work we do at ACEDC is so rewarding because of the business owners we are here to support. They work tirelessly to keep production going and services flowing, to keep the doors open and the lights on, to pay the bills and taxes, to provide rewarding jobs for our citizens, and to support the community in which they also live. It has been an honor to work with so many business owners and managers dedicated to a vigorous economy and thriving community.

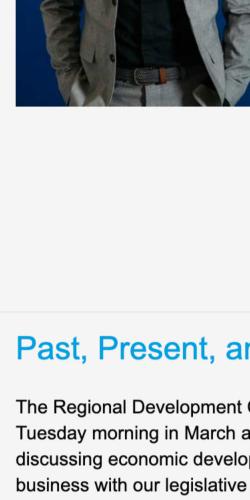
regional partners, municipal officials and staff, and state and local media.

I especially want to thank a particular group of business owners and partners: those who have served during my tenure on the ACEDC Board of Directors. These folks volunteer on the ACEDC and many other Boards, giving back to the community. What ACEDC has accomplished is largely due to their vision, commitment to the region, and advice and mentoring they provide to the ACEDC staff. I leave ACEDC knowing the organization remains under their solid guidance, with the

skilled and talented leadership of my successor, Alex Armani-Munn. **ACEDC News** Welcome to our New Executive Director Alex Armani-Munn!

Alexander Armani-Munn as the new Executive Director of ACEDC. Armani-Munn started in February and will work alongside outgoing Executive Director Fred

Armani-Munn plans to be both visible and proactive in the community. Over the coming months he will be meeting with business owners, local, regional, and state officials, legislators, and other partners to hear



community and to continue Fred's legacy of being an advocate for businesses and a facilitator of job creation and smart growth in Addison County. I will work tirelessly to support our business community, to promote Addison County, and to continue building on the many accomplishments of the ACEDC." Read More

Kenney for a period of familiarization and guidance.



LINCOLN PEAK

VINEYARD

Middlebury, grabbed two first place finishes in the 'Whey' category."

It was great to celebrate with Tamara and Joey Boise as they cut the ribbon on the Cyclewise expansion and addition of the Indian Motorcycle brand in New Haven. ACEDC assisted with a BGS Building Community grant used to move a storage building back on

the property to make room for the Indian showroom. ACEDC also partnered with the

Stonecrop Meadows Groundbreaking Celebration

National Bank of Middlebury and VEDA to finance the expansion. Congratulations Tamara



Lost Lantern Whiskey co-founders named to

Beverage Dynamics

Community News

Beverage Dynamics Magazine 40 under 40 list

40 list!

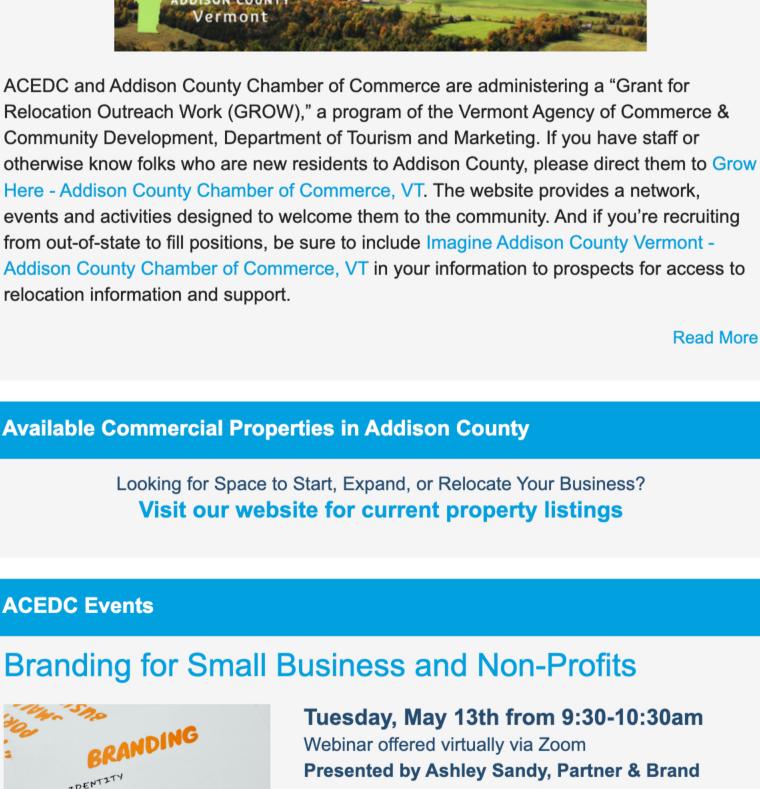
Congratulations to Lost Lantern Whiskey co-founders

named to the Beverage Dynamics Magazine 40 under

Nora Ganley-Roper and Adam Polonski on being

Vermont's housing market has been struggling to meet 2025-2030 demand due largely to pandemic population growth combined with increased construction costs. This has

resulted in unhealthy vacancy rates, increased cost of **Target** living, and a per capita unhoused rate ranking the second highest in the country. To take stock of the issue, as required by the HOME Act of 2023 and ACT Annual need: 396 181 of 2024, The Vermont Department of Housing and



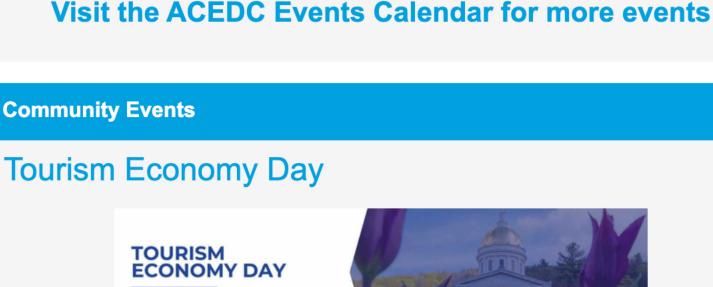
Tuesday, June 10th from 11:30am-1pm In-person at the National Bank of Middlebury 30 Main Street, Middlebury, VT Lunch will be provided. **Presented by Ryan Thornton, Communications & Outreach Coordinator at Vermont Employee**

Organization Best Practices

Ownership Succession Options

ACEDC Events

BRANDING



Visit our Community Events Calendar for an extensive list of local and virtual events

Employment, Training and Education Opportunities

Middlebury Spring Job Fest

SPRING JOB FEST

154 Creek Rd, Middlebury, VT 05753

Interviewing Skills - Fridays at 1pm

VERMONT • JOB CORPS CENTER

Job Corps

Culinary Arts

Clinical Medical Assistant

Office Administration

Automotive Mechanics

Welding – Basic & Advanced

Building Construction Technology

Our fields are:

(\$) Free! (for job seekers and employers)

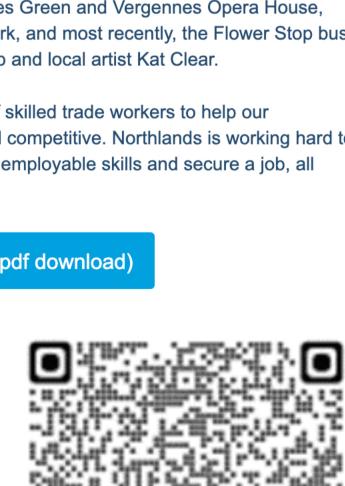
Job Fairs

Thursday, May 1st | 11 am - 2 pm OUTDOORS at Middlebury Rec. Center

Vermont Department of Labor #Hiring2DayVT Virtual Job Fairs **Weekly VT DoL Virtual Workshops** Resume Writing Workshop - Mondays at 9am Regional Employment Connections - Mondays at 1pm Interviewing Skills - Tuesdays at 9am Re-Employment Strategies - Wednesdays at 9am

interview and resume preparation, job searching, and help finding housing and transportation. Students can also receive advanced training in more specialized fields at





Director of ACEDC. We have managed some successes over the last eight years: Assisting hundreds of start-ups, very small, small, and medium-size businesses generally and

We are pleased to announce the appointment of

from them about their hopes, needs, concerns, and opportunities for the future of business in Addison County. "I am excited to immerse myself in the

Armani-Munn.

Past, Present, and Future The Regional Development Corporations spent a Tuesday morning in March at the Statehouse discussing economic development, housing, and business with our legislative delegation. Here, former ACEDC Executive Director and Chair of the House Appropriations Committee, Rep. Robin Scheu, talks

with current ED Fred Kenney, and incoming ED Alex Welcome to our newest ACEDC members!

Farmwise Solutions, LLC

Is your ACEDC member profile up to date? We want our member directory to be a useful resource for everyone; please take a few minutes to make sure your business profile is up to date. We have a video tutorial and written instructions to guide you through the process. If you have any questions or issues, please reach out by emailing us at info@addisoncountyedc.org or calling 802-388-7953. **ACEDC Members and Partners in the News Honored at National Dairy Competition**

and Joey!

Vermont Cabot Creamery Cooperative/Agri-Mark "This year, Vermont Cabot Creamery Cooperative/Agri-Mark teams racked up 15 ribbons, including seven first place finishes. The Cabot teams topped the nation in several cheese classes including cheddar, natural slices and shredded. Cabot also took first place in the 'Sour Cream' category with their Cabot Creme Fraiche. The Agri-Mark team, based out of Read More Cyclewise Expansion Ribbon Cutting - New Haven,

Read More

Read More

Read More

Annual avg: 113

Annual Home Construction: 2021-2024 Average vs Target

Read More

Read More



that Vermont needs 41,000 new rental and owner-

current workforce, and attract new residents."

occupied residences in the next 5 years "to stabilize

housing prices, normalize vacancy rates, help grow its

Resources for Businesses & Municipalities

on Vermont trade, and advice for Vermont Businesses.

Vermont Tariff Resources

Imagine Addison County ACEDC and Addison County Chamber of Commerce are administering a "Grant for Relocation Outreach Work (GROW)," a program of the Vermont Agency of Commerce & Community Development, Department of Tourism and Marketing. If you have staff or otherwise know folks who are new residents to Addison County, please direct them to Grow Here - Addison County Chamber of Commerce, VT. The website provides a network, events and activities designed to welcome them to the community. And if you're recruiting from out-of-state to fill positions, be sure to include Imagine Addison County Vermont -Addison County Chamber of Commerce, VT in your information to prospects for access to relocation information and support.

Strategist at LONDONmiddlebury

Ownership Center

Community

BANK

Thanks to Community Bank, NA for sponsoring our business education series!

the Vermont workforce. You're invited to join tourism and hospitality industry leaders at the State House to engage with legislators and raise awareness of the collective contributions

BRISTOL VOLUNTEER FAIR

Looking to Make a Difference? Engage with local organizations, explore volunteer opportunities, and discover ways to contribute to the growth and well-being of our community.

Wednesday, April 16th

4pm-7pm

Imagine

Vermont

The Vermont Department of Labor is once again

sponsoring a Spring Job Fest series. The Middlebury

Alliance, will be held Thursday, May 1st from 11am-

2pm at the Middlebury Rec Center. These outdoor events have a farmer's market feel and have been

highly popular in the past. The event is free for both

employers and job seekers.

Visit our website for a current list of job opportunities

event, co-sponsored by the Addison County Workforce

Tuesday, July 8th from 9:30-10:30am

Presented by Porter Knight, Certified Professional

Webinar offered virtually via Zoom

Organizer at Productivity Vermont

The Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development has created a Vermont Tariff Resources page to provide information on tariffs, the Vermont Tariff Taskforce, data

Read More

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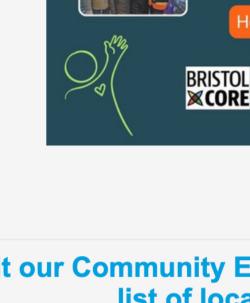
Read More

Read More



of these industries to the Vermont economy.

Bristol Volunteer Fair





Northlands offers tuition free, hands-on training in seven of

earn their HSD/GED & driver's license, all at no cost! Room

& board, meals, and recreation trips (movies, bowling, etc.)

prospective students can apply any time of the year. This is a federally funded program. Historically, Northlands' student

the fastest-growing technical trades. Students can also

are all included. We have rolling, open enrollment, so

population has been about 10% Vermonters, but we're

Growing our VT population is a big focus for us, as local

However, we've welcomed many students from out of state

excited to have 30-40% Vermont students currently.

students can more easily transition into employment.

who have elected to stay in Vermont permanently after

finding success in their chosen industry.

any of the 120+ Job Corps centers across the nation. Northlands is the second largest employer in Vergennes with over 100 employees. We currently have openings in Security, Residential, and Recreation.

Students receive transition/employment support for 1 year after graduation, including

Urban Forestry (the only program like it in the Boston region!)

Employment Applications

Addison County Economic Development Corporation 1590 Route 7 South, Suite 8, Middlebury, VT 05753 (802) 388 - 7953 Email Website ACEDC activities are made possible, in part, by a grant from the State of Vermont through the Agency of Commerce and Community Development. Loan programs are made possible by USDA/Rural Development. ACEDC is an equal opportunity

service provider and lender, with all services and funds available on a non-discriminatory basis.

We work closely with many local employers and industry specialists to keep our training upto-date, set up Work-Based Learning experiences in the field, and refer students for employment after completion. Some of our partnerships include Lake Champlain Transportation, Basin Harbor Resort, Vergennes Grand Senior Living, Vermont Community Broad Band, LeCompte Landscaping, Fab-Tech, Iroquois Manufacturing, and many more! Our students volunteer frequently in the community as well, helping set-up & take down Vergennes Day and Addison County Green Energy Festival, providing landscaping for Bixby Library, holiday decorating at the Vergennes Green and Vergennes Opera House, designing bike racks for Vergennes Memorial Park, and most recently, the Flower Stop bus stop on Green Street with Vergennes Partnership and local artist Kat Clear. Vermont, like the nation as a whole, is in need of skilled trade workers to help our community and infrastructure remain current and competitive. Northlands is working hard to help youth from Vermont and New England gain employable skills and secure a job, all without accruing any debt. Job Corps Toolkit (pdf download)

Student Applications

Stay up to date between newsletters by visiting our News Feed, the ACEDC Events and Business Community Calendar webpages, and following us on social media!