



NEWSLETTER

What's Happening?

PLEASE NOTE: THE FRIDAY H&W in South Hero is canceled for this week only. Please plan instead to attend the No Kings Rally on Saturday!

Saturday, October 17, 2:30-4:30pm – JOIN THE “NO KINGS” VOTEFEST!

<https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/1051062/>

Let's join the millions of Americans taking part in the next NO KINGS! Our event will be in South Hero – a VoteFest at the Worthen Library!

It's a VoteFest on the sidewalks starting at 2:30 with a joyful rally of signs, flags and music, promoting Voting and Voting Early (e.g., ~~Don't Delay~~ **Vote Today!**). Extra signs will be there or bring yours!

And it's a VoteFest in the Library (head to the backdoor) starting at 3:00! Come warm up with cider and cider doughnuts from Hackett's Orchard. We'll register new voters and get our election questions answered with support from our Town Clerks. We'll also test our knowledge of election trivia and generally **Celebrate Our Right to Vote!**

Bring friends and join the fun!



Join Indivisible Champlain Islands in celebrating our right to vote!



at the Worthen Library in South Hero
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm - Honk & Wave - sidewalk
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm - VoteFest - library lower level

- ☒ **Register** to vote
- ☒ **Learn** all about voting
Q&A with Grand Isle County Town Clerks
- ☒ **Play** Vote Trivia
So you think you know a lot about voting?
- ☒ **Celebrate** our Right to Vote
With friends, Apple Cider, and Cider Doughnuts



IndivisibleCI.org
IndivisibleChamplainIslands@gmail.com

Still wondering, “What’s this No Kings all about?” Here are explanatory videos, starting with Indivisible National co-founder Ezra Levin:

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/yhlu3PuHMrw>.

Click on the picture in this link for a video from the No Kings org:

<https://bsky.app/profile/indivisible.org/post/3mxuqxqjz7h2i>

This Week – OUR BALLETS HAVE ARRIVED – IT'S TIME TO VOTE!



Ballots should have been received by all registered voters in Vermont by this week, and if you haven't received yours, contact your Town Clerk. You can confirm your registration online at the *Vermont Voter Portal* at <https://vote.vermont.gov/public/dashboard> and you can register online.

Please consider voting as soon as you receive your ballot!

Mailing it back is an option. But if you're going to mail the completed ballot back, plan to mail it as soon as possible (no later than October 20) to ensure it gets back in time (by November 2 at the latest).

Dropping it off is a better option. You can personally hand in your completed ballot at your Town Office during regular business hours, or you can deposit your ballot in the locked drop box at your Town Office which will be available 24/7 until close of business on November 2.

Once you return your ballot, you can track it online at the *Vermont Voter Portal* at <https://vote.vermont.gov/public/dashboard>

Voting in person on Election Day is always an option. If you do not return the ballot by November 2, you will bring your ballot with you to vote at the Town Office on Election Day, November 3.

Replacement ballots. If you make a mistake while filling out the ballot, follow the directions at the top of the ballot and visit the Town Clerk for a new ballot. If you do not receive your ballot or lose your ballot, visit your Town Clerk for a ballot.



Trying to decide how to vote? Here are some suggestions to help you:

Election Guides: Check out the **Election Guides** in last week's *The Islander*, this week's *Seven Days*, and *VTDigger* (<https://vtdigger.org/2026-general-election-guide/>).

Candidate Websites and Events: The candidate websites are a good source of information, and watch or sign up for updates on events where you can meet the candidates.

Candidate Interviews and Debates: In the federal and statewide races, you can find candidate interviews and debates past and still to come on **Vermont Public**: https://www.vermontpublic.org/about-us/2026-09-14/vermont-public-2026-general-election-debates?utm_source=website&utm_medium=mininav&utm_campaign=election2026.

Legislative Scorecards: If you wonder how incumbent candidates in the VT House and Senate have voted on VT legislative issues, **VPIRG** has **Legislative Scorecards** for the issues they are following: <https://www.vpirg.org/legislative-scorecards/>



Warning: In searching for information, do NOT visit **VOTESAFE.ORG**. It's NOT safe. It's reportedly a Scam to collect and sell your data.





Why Vote Early? It means your voice is **locked in and safe**. It gives you room to fix anything that goes wrong, such as a signature mismatch. It means not waiting in line on Election Day or dealing with any potential interference or chaos that day. It means not worrying if something comes up that would prevent you from getting to the polls on Election Day. And dropping off the ballot yourself means not having to worry about any meddling that the Trump regime may try with the return of ballots through the mail.

SPECIAL NOTICES TO **Residents of South Hero and Grand Isle**

South Hero Residents please note: If you drop off your ballot before Election Day, November 3, you will do so at the current Town Office. If you wait to vote in person on Election Day, however, the polling place will instead be at the South Hero Congregational Church at 24 South St. in South Hero.

Grand Isle Residents please note: There is an additional local issue that did not get on the ballot that all registered voters automatically received. This issue is the question whether to approve the adoption of a Draft Grand Isle Charter dated August 17, 2026 ("Town Charter"). See a copy of the draft at: <https://grandislevt.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/GRE26-001-Town-Charter-ReDraft-Grand-Isle-Charter-08-06-26-w-8-17-26-as-approved-date-mis.pdf>, and see an explanation of what happened and how to cast your vote on the Town Charter at: <https://grandislevt.org/town-charter-how-to-vote/>. As part of the current process, a Vermont Absentee Ballot Request (obtained from the Town Clerk) must be filled out in order to pick up the special ballot from the Town Clerk needed to vote on the Town Charter.

MORE OF WHAT'S HAPPENING!

Monday, October 19, 6:30pm – Large-Scale Data Centers in Vermont
in Green Tara Space, 3275 US Rt 2, North Hero and Virtual

Join the Vermont Conservation Voters and Grand Isle County Democrats for a **community presentation on the push to bring large-scale data centers to Vermont**. Parking space is limited, so please consider parking at the nearby library. There is a **Zoom option**, and the meeting **will be recorded and shared** with the RSVP list. Register here:
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/br4TXhXgSE2_g4RV79VHTg-/registration

Wednesday, October 21, 8-9pm – What's Next? Election Defense
<https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/1041684/>

The No Kings coalition will be leading an **online discussion** about the **final push for voter turnout** and **what happens post-election**:

- how the No Kings coalition is **preparing for election enforcement**, and
- how we can start to plan now to **be ready to protect the results** of the elections.

If you're wondering **who the No Kings coalition includes**, here is a link showing the **Steering Committee organizations** (including Indivisible), and the many **partner organizations**:

<https://www.nokings.org/partners?shem=aimspe>.

Thursday, October 22, 8-9pm – Final Preparation for Election Defense
<https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/1014767/>

The No Kings coalition will be leading a **training session** to **prepare for engaging in sustained mobilization and results protection work** depending on opposition response to the election results.

Friday, October 23, 4-5pm – Defend Democracy Protest in South Hero
<https://www.mobilize.us/indivisiblechamplainislands/event/982416/>

The Friday “Honk & Wave” rally resumes on October 23. It’s critical that we show up now! We need everyone to vote like our future depends on it, because it does!

We have a chance now to elect politicians who will defend our democracy and fight for us! Let’s return Power to the People!

Bring your signs and flags and music, and your family, friends and neighbors! Let’s make some noise!

Join us on the sidewalks between the Worthen Library and Two Heroes Brewery. Find out More! Contact: <mailto:ici.honk@indivisibleci.org>



Tuesday, October 27, 5:30pm – “Get Out the Vote” Event and Potluck
in the Worthen Library in South Hero and Virtual

ACLU VT invites you to a:

“Get Out the Vote” Event and Potluck at the Worthen Library in South Hero.

Learn tips on how to talk about the **Midterms**, write postcards encouraging neighbors to vote, and sign up/ask about phone banking. Bring a dish and share in a potluck with your community!

Come in person or participate virtually. Sign Up/Find out More! Email Emmy at: eauld@acluvt.org



Tuesday, November 3, 7:00am-7:00pm – Election Day 2026!

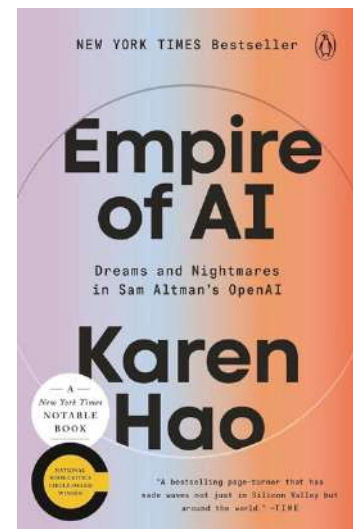
If you haven't voted early, this is your last chance to vote in the Midterm Elections, and you must vote that day in person at your polling place. You can even register that day in person with ID if you haven't registered already. Bring your ballot with you to vote on Election Day.

If you don't have a ballot, you can still get a ballot and vote by signing an Affidavit of No Ballot Cast from the Town Clerk.

Thursday, November 9, 5:30-6:30pm – Pro-Democracy Book Club in the lower level of the Worthen Library in South Hero

AI is in the news every day, which is why you need to read the next book: the new bestselling page-turner *Empire of AI* by Karen Hao. It's the inside story of Sam Altman's OpenAI (which launched ChatGPT) and the people controlling the AI technology. But it's more than that. The book pierces the veil of an industry that is defining our era.

Read and find out why Hao asserts: "I've found only one metaphor that encapsulates the nature of what these AI power players are: empires." All are welcome to join the discussion on November 5. Find out More! Contact: ici.bookclub@indivisibleci.org



Ways To Take Action As The Midterms Approach!

Advice this Week from Aaron Rugar, Independent Journalist and Publisher of the Substack newsletter *Public Notice*:

Look at the shabby state and increasingly authoritarian trajectory of the country and ask yourself if we can withstand two more years of a lawless Trump administration wreaking havoc with no check from Congress, then vote accordingly. This is not the time for a protest vote or purity politics.

The Postcard Warriors–5200 Postcards to 5 Different States!

Amazing! Can you believe it? 5200 Postcards have been written to 5 different states by the Postcard Warriors!

Congratulations to Doug and the Postcard Warriors! They are now in the final stretch, finishing the last postcards, which have mailing dates very soon.

Thank you to all for putting in so much time and effort to get out the vote in key states for this critical Midterm Election! Your efforts are appreciated!

How to Become a Poll Observer

A few more volunteers are still needed to serve as Poll Observers in Grand Isle, North Hero and Alburgh on November 3, Election Day. If available for a 2 hour shift in any of those towns (you do NOT have to live in that town), *please sign up as soon as possible*.

As a Poll Observer, you'll be in a group of two, located outside the polling location. You'll be watching for any attempt at election interference, which you will report and film on your phone.

Sign Up or Find out More at: indivisibleciwork@gmail.com

How to Participate in a Community Canvass Day in Vermont

VPIRG and VCV (Vermont Conservation Voters) are conducting a 2026 Vermont Community Canvass Tour across Vermont. The day starts with a training, and the rest of the time (2-4 hours) is spent knocking on doors to get out the vote. Drivers are also needed to help get canvassers to the neighborhoods where they're needed most.

Locations include St. Albans on October 10, Milton on October 18 and Burlington on November 1, as well as other towns in the state.

Contact VCV for further information and to register to canvass or drive:
<https://vermontconservationvoters.com/vcv-partners-with-vpirg-for-fall-canvass-tour/>

How to Canvass in NH or NY-21 With Other Vermonters

In NH: Saturday, October 24 will be Vermont Day in New Hampshire. Janet Savage can provide information on the NH locations and group carpooling. Contact Janet at: 802-279-8554.

The NH Canvassing is organized through *Lean Left Vermont*: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1v2DMHwQKxiiqbu5w-bRv0CvH5JoCCQtK9_9x53RJ67c/edit?tab=t.0. There is a link to a **Canvassing Guide** on that site, and training is also available on Wednesdays from 5-5:45pm.

Finn Walther is the VT organizer for NH and can be reached for questions about training, signups and other details. Contact Finn at: 802-356-992 or fwalther@organizenh.org.

In NY: Attorney Jim Dumont from Bristol has been **coordinating groups from Vermont to cross the lake to New York and knock on doors as a group** in support of Blake Gendebien (D), a dairy farmer running one of the most watched House races in the country in NY-21 (which has been Elise Stefanik's district): <https://blakegendebienforcongress.com/>.

The campaign runs a **Zoom Training on Saturdays at 10am** that covers the canvassing process from start to finish.

To find out more about joining the Vermont crew, contact Jim Dumont: dumont@gmavt.net.

How to Register Democrats Through Text Banking

Text banking is yet another virtual option. *GrayPAC* (also mentioned below under phone banking) conducts text banking. In addition, *Field Team 6* is active in contacting hundreds of thousands of **unregistered likely Democrats in crucial swing states and districts** throughout the country utilizing text banking.

You can find out more about *Field Team 6* on their website at <https://www.fieldteam6.org/all-volunteer-ops/volunteer>,

and learn about text banking in a 10-minute video tour: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KN6kuG82cYs>

How to Volunteer and Donate to Local Vermont Campaigns

Are you wondering how to volunteer your time and/or make donations to campaigns for local Democratic candidates? You can contact their campaigns on the websites listed below to find out answers to your questions about the candidates, volunteer opportunities, lawn signs, and donations:

KIM GLEASON for
VT Senate



kimgleasonforvt.org

DAVE SKINNER for
VT House of Rep's



skinnerforvermont.com

SYLVIA JENSEN for
VT House or Rep's



sylviaforvermont.com

How to Engage and Protect Voters Through Phone Banking

Why does phone banking matter? Here is a video from *Indivisible National's* website that features an Indivisible group sharing stories of why their members phone bank:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CIQAgLY1I4o>

There are numerous phone banking opportunities. Here are just a few, which also offer virtual training to first time users:

Indivisible National offers opportunities to be virtually trained and then engage in phone banking focused on voters in Target Races in the country: <https://indivisible.org/resource/phone-banking-resources/>

GrayPAC conducts a Senior-to-Senior Phone Bank (as well as Text Bank, which is explained in another section) called Party Line to reach fellow seniors about what's at stake in this election and help turn out voters: <https://graypac.org/2026/09/10/graypac-launches-party-line-senior-to-senior-outreach-program/>

The *Environmental Voter Project* is conducting virtual Phone Banks nearly every day to turn non-voting and seldom-voting environmentalists out to vote in this election:

<https://www.environmentalvoter.org/get-involved>

Lean Left Vermont offers virtual training on Sundays from 4-6pm (“Sunday Power Hour”) that is specifically designed for new users. Once trained, there are several phone banking opportunities, including recruiting poll observers for North Carolina and New Hampshire and helping newly registered voters in Pennsylvania.

Find out more about phone banking and other *Lean Left Vermont* opportunities by visiting their website at <https://www.leanleftvt.org>, signing up for their newsletter, and checking out the “Take Action” tab.

How to Support the People Who Report The Truth

Trump is continually attacking the press, branding journalists as treasonous or worse for accurately reporting the news.

We need to support the independent journalists who are putting it all on the line to report what is happening in this country.

Think about who your go-to people are who warn and inform and report the truth. If they have a paid subscription, that presents an opportunity to support them. It’s in our best interest to make sure they are well funded for the fight ahead.

AND THERE’S MORE!

“How Vermont Shut Down ICE” by Daniel Hunter, October 15

Here’s a story on the “Shut Down ICE” Week of Action in Williston. The prologue to the article explains, “By targeting tech infrastructure critical to ICE’s new surge of arrests, Vermont residents are showing what it looks like to go on the offensive.”

<https://wagingnonviolence.org/2026/10/vermont-resistance-ice-infrastructure/>

“The Trump Administration Has Been Sued More Than 750 Times. Track These Cases” by *New York Times* authors, updated September 29

There actually have been over 900 lawsuits. Here is a snapshot of where the cases against the Trump Administration stand at this point.

https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2026/us/trump-administration-lawsuits.html?unlocked_article_code=1.JFE.AV-U.HH5na9Wu9jED&smid=url-share

Check Out A Great New Song and Video - “No Kings” by The Resizters Band

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8OldYjnfutY>



Weekly Protests!

Weekly Protest in South Hero – Every Friday 4-5pm

Defend Democracy Protest in South Hero

<https://www.mobilize.us/indivisiblechamplainislands/event/982416/>

between Worthen Library and Two Heroes Brewery, South Hero

NOTE THAT THIS IS CANCELED FOR THIS WEEK ONLY!

Weekly Protest in Williston – Every Wednesday 12-1pm

Stand Up Against ICE at White Cap Business Park, Williston—Register:

<https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/896871/>

in front of ICE surveillance center, White Cap Business Park

426 Industrial Ave, Williston VT

Weekly Protest in Milton – Every Saturday 11am-12pm

Milton-Westford-Georgia Weekly Honk & Wave for Democracy

<https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/892881/>

in front of Hannaford Milton, 259 US 7, Milton VT

Weekly Protest in St. Albans – Every Saturday 11am-12pm

St. Albans Stands Up for Democracy

<https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/797327/>

corner of Main St. and Fairfield St., St. Albans VT

Weekly Protest in Fairfax – Every Saturday 11am-12pm

Northern Vermont Stands Up for Democracy

<https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/819163/>

Fairfax Community Center, 1210 Main St., Fairfax VT

Food is collected for the Fairfax Food Shelf during the rally.

We welcome any comments, questions or suggestions concerning this newsletter. Contact: ici.newsletter@indivisibleci.org