

60—The Burlington (Vt.) Free Press, Thursday, October 15, 1987

# Teens have place to call their own

By Molly Walsh  
Free Press Staff Writer

Once upon a time, Burlington teenagers had no place to hang out. But once upon a time ain't no more.

Now they have a place to exchange ideas, eat ice cream after school, hear or perform live music, take classes and produce their own television show. That place is 242 Main, which opened in April 1986.

"Kids have a lot to say during their high school years," said Kathy Lawrence, arts coordinator for The Mayor's Youth Office, which runs the center.

The walls at 242 Main are a form of teen expression. They are covered with detailed murals and painted-on lyrics to Beatles songs, anti-war slogans and poetry. This ranges from a e.e. cummings "no one, not even the rain has such small hands" to anonymous rhymes like "I need to powder my nose... your love is like a rose."

One afternoon this week, 242 Main was buzzing with all sorts of activity. On the steps, students gathered for a voice class taught by Jody Albright. Inside, young musicians learned what lineup will be for "The Battle of Bands" Oct. 21, an annual contest that drew a crowd of 1,000 to Memorial Auditorium last year. Bands and the order in which they will battle it out this year: Rock Candy, The Toll, Coda, Out Of The

Blue, Razor's Edge, The Rage. Other teens discussed a Halloween skateboard contest that will take place on the Church Street Marketplace, and others played air hockey or ate Winooski Chip Mill cookies.

Holly Morris, 13, thinks the center is a good place to be. "The people are real friendly, they are easy to talk to," Morris said. Jessica Hoehn of Burlington is taking a voice class and helps produce the teen cable television show, "242 Main Presents." "We learn to use a video. We go out and interview people," the 12-year-old said.

Nareth Leang, 15, comes to the teen center every day after school. She works behind the counter serving ice cream, pizza and sagels, and smokes in a round of Time Fantasy (a pinball spin-off) when she gets a chance. As jobs go, it's not too bad. "I like it," she said. "I have a lot of friends who come in and talk to me."

242 Main is known as a happening place for music — especially the kind that is described as speed, trash or heavy metal. Kids with mohawks and Twisted Sister T-shirts wander in and out, as do members of local bands. It is one of the few places in Burlington where people under age 21 can hear live rock music free or at low cost. Many bands enjoy the attentive, straight-edge (substance-free) audience.

Jazz and acoustic groups also

perform at 242 Main, but turnout is much greater for heavy-metal groups like the San Francisco-based Death Angel, which performed at the teen center recently. At 242 Main Friday for an 8 p.m. show, Francis Slance with special guest Stone Killer.

Seth Feeley, 16, an avid skateboarder who comes to the center a few times a week.

"While we're not only here for them, that whole group of kids seem drawn to the place," Lawrence said. Whether the kids come for a sketch class or a heavy metal concert, they adhere to rules against drugs or alcohol at the teen center. "They are respectful," Lawrence said.

"If people want to drink, they'll go somewhere else," said

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R-13  
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WHAT IS BURLINGTON TALKING ABOUT? Check Maggie Maurer's column Sunday in the Living section of the Free Press. Call 863-3441 for home delivery.

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STARTS FRIDAY!

## Teen sketch, cooking classes offered

Two classes are starting this week at 242 Main Street, Burlington's teen center.

On Thursdays, Sketch Class will be taught by Jenaeann Lamm, who studied for eight years at the Art Students League of New York and has won numerous awards in national art competitions. Students will concentrate on composition, proportions and perspectives. They will do portraits, landscape drawing and gesture drawing. Classes run through Nov. 13 and Nov. 20.

## Shelburne Craft School courses set

**SHELburne** — The Shelburne Craft School is offering a variety of short workshops for which children and adults can create art and crafts products. Batik, weaving, placemats and wreaths are some of the workshops on tap for adults. Children's

workshops will focus on mask-making, basket-making and wood-work, among other topics and projects. This month, the school's gallery is featuring a collection of traditional weavings and pottery by Yocasta Pennella Indians. The November exhibit will consist of pottery and baskets from Togo, West Africa, and pit-fired pinch pots by resident potter Leslie Koehler.

The gallery is open every day except Wednesday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call 865-3648.

## Kids' scene

**How to submit listings**  
We welcome news items for Kids' Scene, but we should receive them at least eight days before publication.

Please send or bring them to Bridget Barry, Kids' Scene, The Burlington Free Press, 191 College St., P.O. Box 10, Burlington, Vt. 05402-0010. Your news release should include piece of event, complete address, date, time, admission (brief description of the event) and a telephone number. We will publish as many listings as space permits.

## Today

**Sketch Class**, 8:15-10:15 a.m., portraits, gesture drawings, 242 Main Street, Burlington, 4-5:30 p.m. Information: 688-8000, ext. 110.

## Friday

**Creative cookery**, garnishes, dips, entrees, desserts, 242 Main Street, 4-5:30 p.m. Information: 688-8000, ext. 110.

**Story Hour**, for 3- to 5-year-olds, Winooski Memorial Library, 10 a.m. Information: 855-0421.

## Saturday

**Clavier's Vaudeville Show**, presented by the Shriners Northern Crown Unit, Burlington High School Auditorium, 2 p.m. \$5. Information: 955-8648.

**Mime, Magician, Shadow Artist** Leonard Fackler presents a show for the whole family, Johnson State College, Johnson, 1 and 4 p.m. \$4. Information: 644-0061.

**Mask Making**, Halloween special, make a plaster cast of your own face, 10 a.m. to noon, Shelburne Craft School, Shelburne. Information: 985-3648.

**Footpath Dance Co.** presents a dance program for children, 11 a.m., Chandler Music Hall, Randolph, free for children, \$2 for adults. Information: 728-5279.

**Posters and banners class** at the Printing Museum, Burlington, 1:30-4:30 p.m., \$13.50 for members, \$15 for non-members. Information: 656-0790.

## Tuesday

**"Leaf People,"** arts and crafts class, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Discovery Museum, Essex Junction. Members: \$1. Non-members: \$3, all ages. Pre-organization required. Information: 878-8857.

**Mask Making**, 3-5 p.m., Shelburne Craft School, Shelburne, \$20. Information: 985-3648.

## Continuing

**242 MAIN**, downstairs Memorial Auditorium, College Street, Burlington, Monday through Friday, 2:30-5 p.m., plus Friday and Saturday evenings from 7:30-11:30 p.m. Sponsored by The Mayor's Youth Office. Information: Burlington City Hall, 658-9300, ext. 110 or 863-2944.

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