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SPORTS, 1B

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CABOT HOSIERY MILLS

New company president is the first from outside the family

Beth McDermott
AI-assisted reporter
Burlington Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

The company that makes Vermont’s popular Darn Tough socks, Cabot Hosiery Mills, has a new president. Angelica Taylor, who joined the com-

pany in 2021 as vice president of finance and later became chief operations officer, was recently promoted to president. That makes her the first person outside the Cabot family to hold the role, according to a community announcement from the company. “She has earned it,” said Ric Cabot, former president and current CEO of

Cabot Hosiery Mills. “Angelica’s leadership has been proven time and time again here in Vermont. She’s going to do big things in our industry.” As president, Taylor will manage the overall performance of the company, according to the announcement. **See PRESIDENT, Page 2A**



This archival image shows a worker handling a pair of Darn Tough Vermont socks. FREE PRESS FILE

For most of the country, bitter cold likely ending



People dress in extreme winter gear to ward off brutally cold, windy weather in Asbury Park, New Jersey, on Feb. 7. DOUG HOOD/ASBURY PARK PRESS

Polar vortex weakens hold on country

Doyle Rice
USA TODAY

Folks in the central and eastern United States who’ve endured weeks of bitter cold and snow are wondering: Is winter over? Will the polar vortex come back? Are we safe from the worst of winter’s wrath? Experts have some good news. “The most intense cold of the winter is largely behind the eastern and central states,” AccuWeather lead long-range meteorologist Paul Pastelok said in an online forecast on Feb. 11. Forecasters say there’s no sign of any intrusions of Arctic air across the central or eastern United States for the next couple of weeks. In fact, no additional outbreaks of severe to extreme cold are expected for the rest of the

winter, according to AccuWeather long-range experts. Weather Trader meteorologist Ryan Maue also has good news. “Heading into the final week of February – the main polar vortex cold pool reservoir remains largely locked up over Canada north of the Arctic Circle,” Maue said in an email to USA TODAY. “It really looks like we’re turning the corner on winter – into the home stretch,” he added Feb. 11 on X. However, some experts urge caution in throwing dirt on the winter. Polar vortex expert Judah Cohen of MIT said in his blog on Feb. 9, “the upcoming predicted pattern flip of cold Western US and mild Eastern US is not permanent in my opinion. I expect in late February or early March the pattern to resort to the dominant

pattern of the winter – mild Western US and cold Eastern US, even if briefly.” He said this would be consistent with a stretched polar vortex, though it remains weak overall. A weak or stretched polar vortex is bad news for winter weather haters in the United States. Folks rooting for spring want a strong polar vortex that’s bottled up over the Arctic. Additionally, though, Cohen said that even if the cold returns in March, “it is important to keep in mind cold in March is very different from cold in January and snows become increasingly elevation dependent.” Pastelok, in an email to USA TODAY, also cautioned that the vortex may stretch again next month, perhaps pushing some colder air from **See COLD, Page 2A**

BOLTON

Film shows how adaptive bike trails get built

Brent Hallenbeck
Burlington Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

You can learn how people built mountain-biking trails in Bolton to help those with disabilities stay active outdoors in a local film screening next week. On Feb. 18, the Kelly Brush Foundation will show “Best Day Ever,” a documentary detailing work to create The Driving Range trail system on 256 acres in Bolton by Richmond Mountain Trails. “By building an adaptive-friendly network, from design through construction, Richmond Mountain Trails is providing miles of safe, thrilling and new trails that can accommodate all riders,” according to that group’s website. The film screening will precede a Q&A session with Brush as well as Greg Durso of Brush’s namesake foundation. The two helped design and build the trails, according to an email sent by the foundation to the Burlington Free Press. The film will screen 20 years to the day after Brush sustained a spinal-cord injury while skiing for Middlebury College. The daughter of successful skiers, Brush always imagined she would ski for a top collegiate program. “Kelly’s dream was cut short her sophomore year, on Feb. 18, 2006, at Jiminy Peak in Massachusetts, at the Williams College Winter Carnival,” according to a 2014 Free Press article. “The giant slalom trail was solid and fast after rain the previous day,” the article reads. “Kelly, starting number 12, came over a knoll and caught an edge on an icy patch. She fought to

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A scene from the documentary “Best Day Ever” about The Driving Range adaptive mountain-biking trail system in Richmond. PROVIDED BY KELLY BRUSH FOUNDATION

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