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Local holiday sales up over last year

By Bob Audette
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...Around Vermont itself, sales are picking up, said Tasha Wallis, the executive director of the Vermont Retail Association.

“We seemed to have a good turnout on the Thanksgiving Day weekend.” That turnout was especially good in Chittenden County, she said, because of the large number of Canadians who traveled across the border to spend some of their Canadian dollars in the United States.

Nationwide, she said, sales have been up about 4.5 percent over last year.

“There’s also been an increase in online shopping this year,” she said, and part of her job has been to encourage Vermont businesses to set up Web sites and make their products available to more people.