

The REPORTER

Brandon • Pittsford • Proctor • West Rutland
Lake Dunmore, Leicester, Whiting, Sudbury, Goshen

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75¢



FAREWELL TO SUMMER

Though summer may be a thing of the past, many of its flowers are still in bloom all over Brandon.

PG. 10



SPORTS REPORT

Fall is here and with it comes a number of opportunities for the athletes at Otter Valley Union High School.

PG. 14

W.RUTLAND SELECTBOARD

The West Rutland selectboard met on Sept. 12 to discuss a proposed grant to feature \$450,000 in affordable housing repairs.

PG. 3



PITTSFORD VILLAGE FARM

The Pittsford Village Farm received a \$22,000 Better Places grant to build a new pavilion.

PG. 21



GHR RECYCLING'S STEVE Heffernon (and his pup Brandy) smashed up an old diesel truck as part of a publicity stunt to highlight GMP's new electric trucks. Photo by Mat Clouser

Greenhouse emissions got you down?

GMP flattens fossil fuel fleet emissions at their Destroy-a-Truck event in Pittsford

BY MAT CLOUSER

PITTSFORD — In the 37th law of Robert Greene's book *The 48 laws of Power*, under the heading "Create Compelling Spectacles," Green wrote that "Striking imagery and grand symbolic gestures create the aura of power—everyone responds to them."

Perhaps knowing a few things about power themselves, Green Mountain Power (GMP) held its very own spectacle on Thursday morning with its Destroy-a-Truck event at GHR Recycling in Pittsford.

The event—aimed at celebrating the first step toward an eventual switch to an all-

electric fleet—more than lived up to its name. A heavy-duty diesel truck most recently used by a Rutland-based field electrical maintenance team was smashed to smithereens to make way for a new all-electric Lion stake body truck.

The event's name alone was spectacular enough that it drew

a number of different kinds of spectators, running the gamut from compelled media and company representative types to the curious onlooker.

One precocious child even had his mother pull him out of school to witness all the smash and bombast, hoping to signify (See *Destroy-a-Truck*, Page 9)

Brandon's inaugural Green Fleet Policy report aims to inform and inspire residents towards environmental change

BY MAT CLOUSER

BRANDON — Whether it be at Brandon selectboard meetings, the front page of *The New York Times*, the endless noise found doom scrolling on your favorite social media sites, or in conversation among those trapped in refugee camps from

climate catastrophes such as the recent flooding in Pakistan—climate change is a defining characteristic of human life these days.

All over the world, people struggle to find ways to grasp the issue—let alone what they might do about it. And yet, there

are people from all walks of life who would not shrink from existence in the Anthropocene (defined as a distinct geological age during which human activities have had an environmental impact on the Earth).

In other words, hope abounds—even in the face of

disaster.

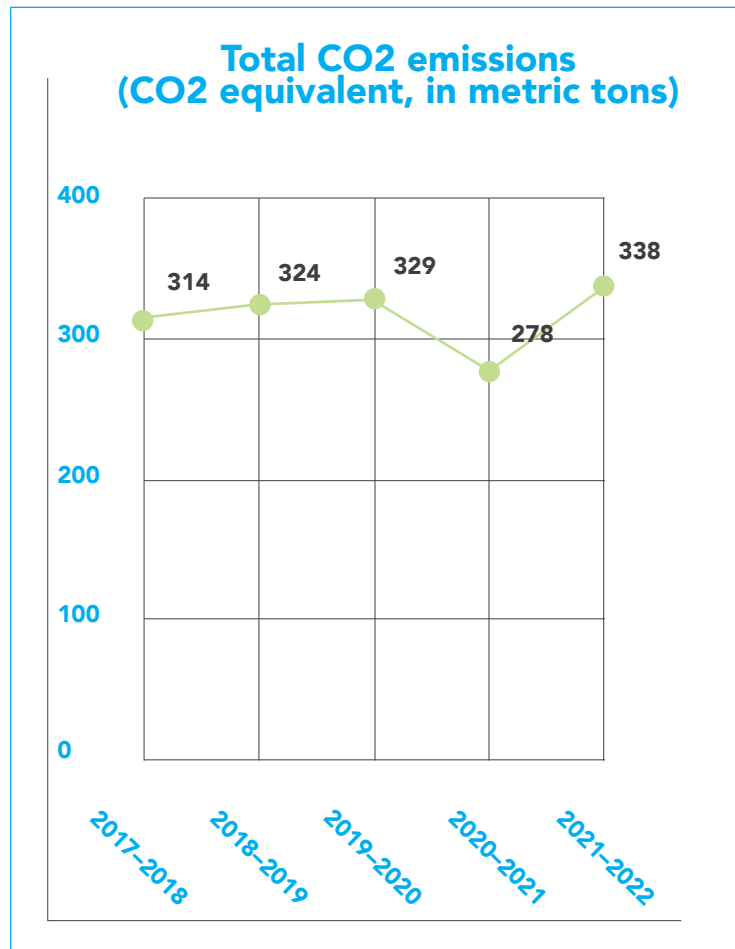
Of course, hope will not carry us so far as action. Brandon se— (See *Green Fleet*, Page 2)



Green Fleet

(Continued from Page 1)
 lectboard member Tim Guiles has been taking action since he became a dedicated environmentalist in the early 1990s—a dedication that he recently put on display again via the publication of a new carbon emissions tracking report which looks at the town of Brandon

ral Green Fleet Policy report during last week’s selectboard meeting. The report tracks the town’s carbon emissions through four primary sources (car fuel, truck fuel, heating oil, and propane) to arrive at Brandon’s estimated carbon footprint—in this case, 337.7 metric tons of CO2 for 2021-22.



specifically and that Guiles hopes will encourage personal action as well.

“It’s easy to profess environmentalism; it’s easy to profess inclusion and diversity and inequity,” he said, “the hard thing is when you actually have to do it. This is true in all walks of our life. This [report] is supposed to fortify us internally—to give us some guts to make difficult decisions going forward.”

Guiles unveiled the inaugu-

In the report (found on page 14 of the board’s packet from Sept. 12, available online at <https://www.townofbrandon.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Sep-12-Select-Board-Packet.pdf>), Guiles tracks the town’s usage over the last five years—work he says he was able to do with the critical assistance of town employees Elaine Smith and Jackie Savela.

In that data, Guiles mentions several items of interest. “The

largest producer of CO2 emissions comes from the diesel fuel we use to run our heavy equipment like dump trucks, the loader, the backhoe, and the grader. It shows that they are doing LOTS of good work for our town,” he wrote, adding that the Brandon Police Department and its six-vehicle fleet produced the second largest amount of CO2.

Guiles says that the numbers mentioned in the report aren’t meant to be viewed as good or bad, writing, “It is simply a measurement of how much CO2 our town activities generate when we burn fossil fuels to heat our buildings, operate our police cars, and do important things like maintaining our roads with heavy equipment.”

The report also mentions that in the last five years, Brandon has cut its carbon output in half (from 20.1 to 10.3) on things like gas mowers and other small equipment; lowered heating oil uses “significantly” at the town garage thanks to new thermostats and concerted efforts by the highway crew to use the heating system conservatively; and dropped propane usage at the town offices by way of electric heat pumps.

Despite a dip in usage due to the sudden economic halting of the COVID-19 pandemic, the report shows that the town’s energy usage is still on a slow upward climb. “Some of what this data shows,” says the report, “is that Brandon is busy doing good things—our roads are well maintained, and our town

is growing in a good way.”

“It’s important to remember that the carbon footprint isn’t just the environment—there’s a lot of social justice [in it],” said Guiles. “When degradation occurs, it’s often the people who are least able to deal with it that get hit the hardest and the soonest.”

To that end, the Green Fleet report outlines a number of items that the town is or could be doing to help meet the guide-



TIM GUILLES

lines of Vermont’s Global Warming Solutions Act, which calls for a 40% reduction from 1990 greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and net-zero by 2050.

“I know the energy committee is working hard on things like car sharing, where we might be able to get an electric vehicle into the community that would be available to people with modest incomes to allow them to participate in the electric revolution without having to own a car of their own.”

Additionally, Guiles’ report mentions the importance of the town’s readiness to replace large work vehicles with electric alternatives as they become available. “I’m quite excited about the likelihood of there being legitimate large-scale trucks very, very soon, which is why this conversation is so timely. It could be that in another selectboard meeting or two that we’re talking about replacing one of our trucks,” he said.

The report also names the continuing conversion of town

buildings to electric heat pumps and the urging of the police and fire departments to do similar conversions on the vehicles in their fleet as other ways the town can improve.

However, Guiles says the report is about much more than the town itself. “As much as this is about the town and the town making decisions,” he said, “it makes complete sense for people to personalize this into their own carbon footprint. We all need to be thinking—how are we going to get to that 2050 goal? It’s a completely reasonable exercise for each person to go through.”

There are several free, relatively easy-to-use online calculators (<https://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx> and <https://www3.epa.gov/carbon-footprint-calculator/> are good places to start), which help give a look at each household’s footprint based on items like travel, home, food, goods, and services—and can serve as a jumping off point for raising individual awareness about a collective problem.

“You can do it up in the legislature, which is important, but ultimately it’s when you buy the truck,” said Guiles, “It’s when you buy the heating system—that’s when you’re making a 20-year commitment to your carbon footprint.”

“This is totally non-partisan,” added Guiles, who also helps facilitate DIY solar installations for Brandon residents regardless of their varying forms of political inclination. “We can agree that it saves money right now.”

“My hope is through this Green Fleet policy, I can raise people’s awareness and sensitivity to being ready for those moments when we need to make those difficult choices,” he continued. “I think all of us need to choose the best choices today... I guarantee you ten years from now, there’s going to be better ways to heat—but this is the right one for today.”

Brandon CO2 emissions (CO2 equivalent, in metric tons)

	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Gas- Police	42.6	45.9	41.9	39.3	45.3
Gas- other	20.1	22.0	12.4	11.6	10.3
Diesel	142.4	124.2	142.1	130.3	148.5
#2 Heating Oil- Highway Garage	39.0	44.7	50.2	25.7	33.4
#2 Heating Oil - Town Hall	18.3	20.5	15.6	14.7	20.0
Propane - Police	6.9	7.2	7.2	7.3	6.4
Propane - Town Office	9.1	11.3	6.8	8.2	7.9
Propane - Town Hall	13.9	13.0	14.9	4.2	17.4
Propane - Waste Water	21.9	35.2	37.5	36.6	41.4
Total CO2 emissions	314.1	324.0	328.6	277.9	337.7

West Rutland selectboard works to improve affordable housing

BY MAT CLOUSER

WEST RUTLAND—The Westside selectboard met on Monday, Sept. 12, to discuss several upcoming projects, including a potential \$450,000 Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP) grant aimed at affordable housing upgrades, a new \$30,000 Carving Studio and Sculpture center-led sculpture trail, and ongoing issues with OMYA truck traffic on Whipple Hollow Road.

NeighborWorks Director of Operations Melanie Paskevich summarized the \$450,000 grant proposal on a new project featuring 27 low-income single-family home repairs and three rental unit repairs serving Addison, Rutland, and Bennington counties.

Potential repairs include health and safety modifications,

efficiency measures, handicap accessibility, lead-based paint removal, homeownership services, program management, and general administration upgrades.

NeighborWorks and the West Rutland have a history of partnering on similar projects for over twenty years, and the board moved unanimously to sign a resolution for the VCDP grant application.

The board heard from The Carving Studio and Sculpture Center about installing a sculpture trail near their sculpture garden. The total cost of the project would be \$30,000 (as part of a 50/50 grant) for design and construction—\$10,000 of which has already been raised. The board agreed to provide the remaining \$5000, and Town Manager Mary Goulette agreed to prepare the grant paperwork and gather let-

ters of support.

Ms. Goulette discussed having met with the OMYA team to discuss their truck traffic impacts on Whipple Hollow Road, including increasing maintenance costs and a potential bridge replacement, noting that Pittsford's police department had issued \$120,000 in truck fines over the last year alone.

The OMYA team said they are trying to address the problem via specific instructions and signage for their truck carriers. It was agreed that the board would send a letter to OMYA outlining the unforeseen maintenance costs and impact fees.

In other business, the board:

- Heard from Jack Greshober on the sidewalk scoping alternatives presentation. Greshober recapped the project's purpose and need statement and

input from the previous public hearing. Four new potential sidewalk alternatives were presented: A sidewalk with a curb and green space, a sidewalk with an integral curb, a sidewalk at grade, and a sidewalk with a retaining wall.

A preferred alternative was evaluated and recommended for each of the seven segments based on the best fit of that project area. Segment 7 on Dewey Avenue included a look at both sides of the street, with preference given to the north side because of fewer impacts. The next steps for the project are a VTrans review, the issuing of the final report, and detailed cost estimates.

- Heard from Fuss & O'Neil on a \$123,573.81 proposal for a new marble pathway design. The cost was higher than the initial estimate, but VTrans-

at-the-ready consultant services said it was in line with other proposals it had seen this year. The town's match is 20%, and it was thought that they might need to ask for additional grant money once the right-out-way process is finished. The board voted unanimously to accept the proposal.

- Set the water and sewer rates with the following increases: Water Base \$8, Water Bond \$8.50 (for the Pleasant Sreet project), and Sewer Fixed \$12 for a total increase of \$28.50. Ms. Goulette also noted that the \$140 sewer bond is paid off and no longer billed. The board approved the semi-annual water and sewer rates at \$123 Water Base, \$108 Water Bond, and Sewer Fixed at \$220, for a total of \$451.

Veterans invited to share stories at Vets Town Halls across Vermont

VERMONT — All are invited to attend Vets Town Halls held this fall in Rutland, Lyndon, and Colchester. At these events, veterans are invited to stand before their community and speak for up to ten minutes about what their service means to them. Non-veterans are encouraged to attend and listen. The events are non-political, and all perspectives are valued.

This year's schedule includes Vets Town Halls on October 9 at the Godnick Adult Center in Rutland, October 16 in the Moore Community Room on Northern Vermont University's Lyndon campus, and November 6 at the McCarthy Arts Center at Saint Michael's College in Colchester. All are on Sundays at 1 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Snacks will be provided.

"Having an opportunity to gather with community members assists with the reintegration process and makes it possible for us to move beyond a narrative of conflict by honoring and sharing our stories," says Jon Turner, host at the Colchester location. "Attending these gatherings are a reminder of the community we wish to embrace after military service."

"We often hear about veterans, but we very rarely get to hear from them, to hear their own voices talking about their experience," adds Marty McMahon, who will host the Lyndon event. "We can't have a real dialogue with veterans until we take the time to listen with no judgment."

Vets Town Halls were originated by author Sebastian Junger (War, Tribe) to increase communication and understanding between veterans and civilians in their communities.

The first event of this kind in Vermont was a November 2017 Burlington town hall spearheaded by local event coordinator Kristen Eaton, with support from many individuals and organizations. The events have continued annually in Vermont, with a break in 2020 due to the pandemic.

This year, Vermont's events are supported by Vets Town Hall, a new 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation based in Vermont. The organization provides resources to local Vets Town Hall organizers nationwide. Other local partners include the Community College of Vermont, Northern Vermont University's

Student Veterans Association, and Saint Michael's College Military Community Services and Student Veterans Association. The Vermont Veterans Outreach Program will be present and available to offer peer support at all three events.

"Support of our military does not start with a 'support the troops' bumper sticker and culminate with grilled chicken on Memorial Day weekend," says

Rutland event host Kyle Aines. "As military members struggle to reintegrate back into society, it is imperative that society have a clear understanding of what they are transitioning from. The Vets Town Hall is that bridge and connection."

Veterans who would like to speak can indicate that when registering. Time permitting, veterans are also welcome to sign up to speak during the

events themselves. RSVPs are optional but encouraged at vetstownhall.eventbrite.com. Questions may be directed to Kristen Eaton at vermont@vetstownhall.org.

To learn more and RSVP (optional but encouraged), visit www.vtvetstownhall.org

Questions can be emailed to vermont@vetstownhall.org

About the event hosts:
(See *Veteran stories*, Page 7)

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Correction

In last week's Brandon selectboard story, Neil Silins was referred to as "Tree Warden Neil Silins," however,

Mr. Silins was speaking as a private citizen at the time of his comments. Our apologies for the confusion.

BRANDON REPORTER

Guest Editorial

Article 22 and elective abortions: Dangerous misinformation vs. the facts

BY GEORGE TILL

A lot of misinformation is being circulated regarding Article 22, which will appear as a ballot measure on November 8. As a member of the state legislature and a physician practicing obstetrics and gynecology (OB/GYN) for 40 years, I would like to offer my perspective.

In addition to being a member of the legislature, I serve as the Division Chief of General OB/GYN at the University of Vermont Medical Center (UVMCC), the division responsible for providing termination of pregnancy services at UVMCC.

Through these roles, I have learned the policies, health implications, and political landscape surrounding abortion rights in our state. In summary, legislative restrictions on reproductive rights are a huge risk to women's overall health.

Pregnancy terminations are very safe procedures, and the earlier in pregnancy they are done, the safer they are. When legislatures restrict access to reproductive healthcare, including abortion, we see a large overall increase in maternal morbidity and mortality.

This is why the passage of Article 22 is so important. It will change nothing about current restrictions regarding pregnancy terminations in Vermont but only prevent the political imposition of new restrictions in the future.

Perhaps the most common and

disturbing piece of misinformation being circulated surrounding Article 22 is the idea that it will remove all restrictions on abortion and “enshrine elective pregnancy termination up to the time of birth.” This is blatantly untrue.

There currently are, and there will continue to be, restrictions on abortion procedures in Vermont. What will be enshrined in our Constitution is that politicians (the legislature and the governor) will not determine what restrictions should be placed on abortion procedures, but rather that these restrictions will be left — as they are now and

as they should be — to the hospitals, professional medical organizations, and the Board of Medical Practice, which set standards of care with which Vermont providers must comply.

The Board of Medical Practice can revoke a physician's license for a single episode

of “failure to conform to the essential standards of acceptable and prevailing practice.” As such, practitioners are held to evidence-based standards.

Additionally, state regulations require that every pregnancy termination be reported to the state and, if beyond 20 weeks, reported with a completed death certificate that requires extensive background information about the parents and medical situation.

(See Article 22 Page 5)

There is not currently, nor will there be due to Article 22, any provider or facility in Vermont doing elective terminations beyond the gestational age of 21 weeks, six days, with 22 weeks being the currently accepted threshold of viability.



Did you know?

THE HERMIT THRUSH is the state bird of Vermont.

Photo by Sue Wetmore

Community Forums September is national suicide prevention awareness month

WILLISTON — The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Vermont (NAMI) is actively involved in the fight to address mental illness and suicide prevention throughout Vermont. September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month.

This is a time to raise awareness on this stigmatized and often taboo topic. In addition to shifting public perception, NAMI uses this month to spread hope and vital information to people affected by suicide with the goal of ensuring that individuals, friends, families, and the community have access to the resources they need to discuss suicide prevention and seek help.

Suicidal thoughts can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, or background. Suicidal thoughts and suicide occur too often but should not be considered common. In many cases, friends and families affected by a suicide loss (often called “suicide loss survivors”) are left in the dark. Too often, feelings of shame and stigma prevent individuals from talking openly about suicide. “Suicide is a community health issue. We need to change the culture that we live in and let people know that it is OK to talk about suicide and mental health,” said Laurie Emerson, Executive Director of NAMI Vermont.

Suicide facts and statistics:

- In 2021, there were 142 deaths by suicide in Vermont.
- Suicide is the second leading cause of death for ages 10-34.
- The suicide death rate is four times higher for men than women.
- Hospital rates for intentional self-harm are more than twice as high for women as for men.
- LGBTQ students are almost five times more likely to attempt suicide than their non-LGBTQ counterparts.
- In 2019, more than half of all deaths by suicide were by firearms.

(See Suicide prevention, Page 5)

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Vermont Agency of Education urges families to “Fill the Form” by October 1

MONTPELIER — The Vermont Agency of Education (AOE) is encouraging all families with school-aged children to “Fill the Form” by returning a request for information on household income by October 1, 2022.

These data, collected by individual school districts and reported to the AOE, are used to administer Vermont’s new universal school meals program and secure federal government funding for a broad range of education programs.

The specific methods for gathering this information vary by school, depending on its individual situation. Some schools are asking families to complete a Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) application, others are asking families to return a Household Income Form.

Regardless of the type of form, the intent is the same; the information is used to calculate district and school-level data on household income. These data are used to provide free school meals for all students and qualify schools for federal funding for “Title” programs, afterschool and summer programs, broadband access, special education, and more.

“The form may be different school by school,” said Secretary of Education Dan French. “But the goal is the same; feed students healthy, nutritious foods that support their learning, and provide critical federal funding to Vermont’s school districts for a broad range of programs.”

“Data on free and reduced-price lunch eligibility has long been the best way to measure student poverty rates in Ver-

mont schools,” added French. “These rates are a critical part of calculating how much funding Vermont receives from the federal government for a wide variety of programs. Ensuring accurate data is essential; that’s why we’re asking all Vermont families to step up and do their part by returning this form.”

Families received the appropriate form from their school as part of their back-to-school paperwork this year. While many have already returned their paperwork, state officials are urging families who have not yet done so to fill the form by October 1, the deadline for schools to collect this data and report it to the AOE. School meal applications may also be submitted later in the school year if a household’s economic situation changes.

“We know that good nutrition throughout the school day is essential for successful learning, said Anore Horton, Executive Director of Hunger Free Vermont. “Universal meals programs ensure that all students have the opportunity for success by reaching families who don’t or can’t complete the FRL application and reducing the stigma associated with eating free school breakfast and lunch so all can participate. That’s one big reason why we’re asking all families to fill the form. It only takes a few minutes, and it’s the right thing to do for your community.”

In May 2022, Vermont implemented Universal School Meals for the 2022-2023 school year. This enables all schools to offer free breakfast and lunch to all

students, regardless of household income. Even though meals are now free to all students, schools still need to gather family income data because it will help the state draw down the maximum federal dollars for school meals, which reduces the burden on Vermont taxpayers.

Unlike in previous years, when families seeking free school meals completed a Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) application, all families are now asked to complete the appropriate form, regardless of their income level and whether their students eat meals at school.

“Reliable, accurate data are an essential part of how we guarantee a 21st-century education system focused on quality and equity,” said Deputy Secretary Heather Bouchey. “Family income data goes way beyond meals; it’s used by nearly every federal education program to provide the funding that Vermont school districts rely on. There are many reasons why we’re asking Vermonters to help out and return this form.”

The families who fill out the form will complete one of two different documents, depending on the type of federal school meals program their school participates in. To comply with Vermont’s new universal meals law, schools choose to participate either in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) or Provision 2. Both provisions are administered by the Agency of Education Child Nutrition Programs unit and funded and overseen by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

(Fill the form, Page 7)

Article 22

(Continued from Page 4)

There is not currently, nor will there be due to Article 22, any provider or facility in Vermont doing elective terminations beyond the gestational age of 21 weeks, six days, with 22 weeks being the currently accepted threshold of viability.

Very rarely are terminations done after 21 weeks and six days in Vermont, and those are done only in the hospital setting at UVMMC. Hospitals are very highly regulated, and the UVMMC maintains clear guidelines prohibiting elective terminations from 22 weeks onward.

A pregnancy termination beyond 21 weeks and six days in Vermont only occurs in very specific circumstances, including for severe fetal anomaly, a fetal condition incompatible with life, or a dangerous, possibly life-threatening maternal health reason.

If termination is requested beyond 21 weeks and six days, an ethics consultation must be obtained to review the indications before the induction of labor or termination can be done. If the Ethics Committee does not agree, the termination is not done. We only do three to five terminations after 21+6 weeks per year at UVMMC. Article 22 will not change that.

Some Vermonters may wonder: Why is it important to make

this constitutional change if we already have laws protecting reproductive rights in Vermont?

In the last legislative session, there were no less than five proposed bills that would have restricted reproductive rights in Vermont. One stated specifically: “This bill proposes to narrow the right to reproductive choice.”

Without the proposed constitutional amendment, we can expect continued attempts to restrict reproductive rights in every legislative session.

Passage of Article 22 by popular vote on November 8 would be the final step of this multi-stage process to amend the Vermont state Constitution. The measure was originally approved by the House and Senate in the 2019–2020 legislative biennium and, as required, was passed again by both chambers in the 2021–2022 biennium.

These were critical steps to protecting the right to access reproductive services in our state, but they will be meaningless if Article 22 is not passed by a popular vote on November 8.

Rep. George Till of Jericho is a board-certified obstetrician-gynecologist who has served in the Vermont State Legislature since 2008. Dr. Till is also an Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the UVM School of Medicine.

Suicide prevention

(Continued from Page 4)

- 88% of firearm deaths were suicides in 2019.

- Transgender adults are nearly nine times more likely to attempt suicide than cisgender adults.

While suicide prevention is important to address year-round, Suicide Prevention Awareness Month provides a dedicated time to come together with collective passion and strength around a difficult topic. We can all benefit from honest conversations about mental health conditions and suicide because just one conversation can change a life.

Resources to use if you or someone you know is contemplating suicide:

- 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: 988 (call or text)

- Crisis Text Line: text “VT” to 741741

- Pathways Vermont Support Line: (833) VT-TALKS (call or text)

- NAMI HelpLine: Call 1-800-950-NAMI (6264), text “HelpLine” to 62640, or email helpline@nami.org (Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.—10 p.m.)

- Professional Counseling or Therapy

- NAMI Vermont Connection Peer Support Groups (online): namivt.org/support-groups/peer-support

- NAMI Vermont Family Support Groups (online and in-person): [groups/family-support](http://namivt.org/support-

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Friends and family members of individuals with suicidal thoughts may benefit from taking a class to better help their loved ones. NAMI Family-to-Family Class is a free, evidence-based eight-week course structured to help families and friends of individuals with mental health conditions understand and support their loved ones while maintaining their own well-being. NAMI Vermont is offering classes in October 2022 and March 2023. Visit namivt.org to learn more about the program. You may also contact NAMI Vermont directly at program@namivt.org or 800-639-6480.



**Middlebury Quarry
Open House
Saturday, Sept. 24
10am-2pm Rain or Shine**

Come see what we do!

Geology ROCKS!

- Guided bus tours
- Display of heavy trucks & equipment
- Learn how marble is processed for use in thousands of products
- Meet Omya employees & our contractors Shelburne Limestone Corporation (SLC)
- Collect a souvenir & enjoy a light lunch

The quarry access road (1333 Dairy Road) is located on the east side of Rt. 7, 2 miles south of Middlebury, VT and 1 mile north of the Rt. 125 & Rt. 7 intersection to East Middlebury. The turn will be prominently marked.

For more information, call our Community Feedback Line at: **802-770-7644**

or visit: www.omya.com/vermont

No Animals, Except trained Service Animals. This is a Tobacco Free Zone



Jennifer K. Rushlow named Dean of new Vermont School for the Environment

SOUTH ROYALTON — Jennifer K. Rushlow has been named dean for the newly announced Vermont School for the Environment at Vermont Law and Graduate School. The environmental public policy school overseen by Rushlow will focus on climate change, environmental justice, sustainable food and agriculture, clean energy, and animal protection.

Degrees with the Vermont School for the Environment include a master of climate and environmental policy (MCEP) and a master of animal protection policy (MAPP), with more to come.

These are in addition to the existing master of energy regulation and law (MERL) and master of food and agriculture law and policy (MFALP).

“The new Vermont School of the Environment

is teeming with possibility and energy, and I am honored and excited to get to work as its inaugural dean,” Rushlow said. “VSE students will graduate with a full toolbox of knowledge and skills for making change. Environmentalism has

changed since its early days, and we need more inclusive and ambitious policy solutions than we’ve tried before.”

“VSE’s degrees are designed to meet the challenges of today by teaching students how to navigate an increasingly divided political system while the clock is ticking,” Rushlow continued. “In this time of climate crisis and its disproportionate impacts on people of color and low-income communities

around the world, training leaders in environmental protection and community resilience is critical to our future.”

A member of the greater VLGS community since joining the summer environmental faculty in 2015, Rushlow has served as associate dean for environmental programs, professor of law,

and, most recently, interim graduate school dean; the latter of which she will continue on a temporary basis while VLGS conducts a search for the permanent graduate school dean. Rushlow will also continue in her role as faculty director of

the Environmental Law Center.

Before arriving at the Vermont institution, Rushlow was named Massachusetts Lawyer of the Year by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly in 2016 after she argued—and won—*Kain v. Department of Environmental Protection*, a landmark climate law case in which the Massachusetts state environmental agency was ordered to take concrete steps to address greenhouse gas emissions.

Rushlow holds a Juris Doctor from Northeastern University School of Law and a master of public health from Tufts University School of Medicine.

“Jenny is an innovative and creative leader, talented advocate for the environment, and an integral part of the VLGS academic community. Her ability to shape programs that harness law and policy to tackle emerging environmental issues is a perfect fit to be dean of the new Vermont School for the Environment,” VLGS President Rod Smolla said.

“At no time in history,” Smolla continued, “has the need for well-trained professionals equipped with the intellectual and practical skills to study, design, and advocate wise public policies and practices on matters relating to climate change and environmental protection mattered more to the world, and under Jenny’s leadership, our students will be in good hands.”

Obituary

Raju Mastaram, 59, Brandon

BRANDON—Raju Mastaram of Brandon died at his home on August 06, 2022, at the age of 59.

Raju was born on August 19, 1962, in Mumbai, India, to Jaya Desai and Kumar Mastaram. Raju is survived by his mother, Jaya Desai, his sister Daksha Desai, brothers Sharad Desai and Mahesh Desai, and many nieces and nephews.

Raju spent a few years in the greater New York area before moving to Brandon in 2002. He absolutely fell in love with the town and the community—it was home. He took over the Union Street

Grocery Store, which became his labor of love for the past 20 years.

The town fondly remembers him for distributing full-size candy bars on Halloween, his smile, and his quick wit. He enjoyed watching sports—any sports!

Friends and family will host a “Celebration of Life” on Sunday, October 2, 2022, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., at the Brandon American Legion Post #55. All are invited.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home in Brandon.



RAJU MASTARAM

Two local businesses receive VT's first retail cannabis licenses

MONTPELIER—The Cannabis Control Board approved its first batch of retail establishment licenses on September 14, 2022, to the following applicants, two and a half weeks ahead of schedule:

- Mountain Girl Cannabis (Rutland)
- FLÖRA Cannabis (Middlebury)

Champlain Valley Dispensary, Inc., CeresMED, Ceres (Burlington) was also included as an integrated licensee.

Integrated licenses may engage in the activities allowed under all current adult-use licenses, including retail sales. These businesses are currently licensed as dispensaries under Vermont’s medical-use program and may now engage in adult-use sales.

“Today’s license approvals mark a historic moment for Vermont that is decades in the making,” said James Pepper, Chair of the Vermont Cannabis Control Board. “We would not be here without the tireless dedication of cannabis advocates, the legislature, our agency partners, and most importantly, the CCB staff.”

Approved retail establishments may begin operation once they have paid their licensing fees, met

any outstanding contingencies, and received their local license if their municipality has created a local control commission. That date will vary from business to business.

While these approvals mark a turning point in the road to a more sensible adult-use marketplace, it is important to note that this is not the end of the journey. The board recognizes that delays in initial licensure for applicants—especially Vermont’s outdoor cultivators—means not everyone will be able to fully engage with the market this year, which in turn will create early supply shortages. A similar dynamic has occurred in the initial rollout of each adult-use state as the supply chain develops.

The CCB’s licensing team remains hard at work reviewing applications for all license types, and the board will continue to approve them on a rolling basis. “This market will take time to equalize, but with today’s licensing decisions, we have taken an important step towards creating something that can truly benefit Vermonters.”

More information on all approved licenses, including the register for license applications, may be found online at <https://ccb.vermont.gov/licenses>

Imposter email scams are on the rise for Vermont businesses

BURLINGTON — The Attorney General’s Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) is warning Vermont business owners, non-profits, and employees about an uptick in business imposter email scams.

In the last two months, CAP has received five reports of business imposter email scams resulting in a total loss of \$210,799. Scammers are impersonating employees or familiar business representatives’ emails and contacting company bookkeepers and office administrators, asking them to change bank account information, direct deposit information, or asking them to write checks.

By impersonating an employee’s email address or creating a fake personal email for the employee, scammers can steal money from businesses and steal paychecks from employees.

Vermont businesses and non-profits should always verify email addresses and speak directly with an employee or business representative in person or via phone when sending money or changing payment information.

Often, scammers will use an email address that only slightly varies from an employee’s true email. Be wary of any email coming from outside your company’s domain. CAP urges business owners to educate their

entire company on scams that target businesses.

Here are ways in which businesses and non-profits can better protect themselves and their employees from scams:

- Cybersecurity assessment: check internal controls and resolve vulnerabilities.
- Train staff regularly in cybersecurity and funds management protocols.
- Enlist internal protocols to verify the transfer of funds by engaging multiple staff members and voice verification using the trusted contact information.
- Help clientele identify common scams within the industry.
- The SLOW method can serve as a helpful starting point, encouraging parties to take their time during urgent transactions and connect with a trusted party like CAP.
- Never send money to parties you cannot verify.

To learn more about how to protect your business from these scams, watch CAP’s Avoiding the Business Imposter Email Scam Video and review the steps to verify at <https://ago.vermont.gov/cap/business-imposter/>.

If you or someone you know has lost money to this scam, contact law enforcement and report the scam to CAP at 1-800-649-2424.



MISHA PEMBLE-BELKIN



SHERMAN HUNT

Veteran stories

(Continued from Page 3)

town of Tinnmouth, Vermont. He joined the army in 2003 and served two tours in Iraq as a combat medic. He graduated from Castleton with a degree in criminal justice before joining Community College of Vermont as CCV’s Associate Director of Veterans and Military Services. He now works as a general contractor serving Rutland County. Additionally, he serves as a mentor for The Warrior Connection and is transitioning to a facilitator role for 2023.

• After a period of service in the Air Force as a medic, Marty McMahon (Lyn-don’s event host) returned to academic studies in literature, language, and rhetoric, receiving an MA and an MLitt from Middlebury College. Marty has worked as a high school teacher, a chimney sweep, and a field technician in alternative energy (including working as a contractor and crew chief on the Navy TACTS program, installing wind and solar systems on their off-shore platforms). He has taught at CCV, Vermont College, and Norwich (supervising cadets while teaching Military Literature to

Special Ops personnel in their Strategic Studies and Defense Analysis online program). For five years at CCV, he served as a Veteran & Military Resource Advisor while also facilitating the Veteran Reading Group for the Vermont Humanities Council.

• Jon Turner, the host of the Colchester event, served with the Marines between 2003-2007 and deployed to Haiti, Fallujah, and Ramadi, Iraq. Since his discharge, he has traveled extensively and worked with various communities to assist in the veteran reintegration process, from paper-making to outdoor recreation and farming. In 2014, Jon began to utilize the agricultural landscape as a classroom for community

members interested in resilient food systems through service learning projects, internships, and site visits for K-12, college students, and military veterans. Jon is the founding and former chair of the Vermont



MICHELLE CARVER

state chapter of the Farmer Veteran Coalition, recipient of the National Farm to School Innovations Grant, Sierra Club Military Outings Leader, and currently operates Wild Roots Community Farm in Bristol.

Fill the form

(Continued from Page 5)

- Schools in the first or “base” year of Provision 2 are asking families to complete the USDA’s Application for Free and Reduced Price Meals (FRL).
- Schools that are participating in the USDA’s Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) or are in Years 2-4 of Provision 2 and schools that do not offer the National School Lunch Program

are asking families to complete a Household Income (HIF) Form because the USDA does not allow these schools to collect FRL applications.

Schools are providing information, support, and resources directly to families. Families should contact their schools if they have questions.

For information about which schools are participating in which

provision, see: <https://education.vermont.gov/documents/22-23-meal-program-and-form-type-by-site-name>

For more information about income eligibility guidelines, direct certification, and meal availability, please see <https://education.vermont.gov/documents/public-notice-child-nutrition-programs>

Like all things vintage?

 are on page 12!

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New data confirms national significance of endangered bat colony in Hinesburg

HINESBURG — The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department reported on Tuesday that data from the 2022 field season confirm the national conservation significance of a large summer colony of Indiana bats in the northwestern part of the state.

Indiana bats are a federally endangered species. The colony, located on conservation land in Hinesburg, consists of over 700 bats.

“This finding is exceptional because we have not documented a surviving summer colony of over 100 Indiana bats in Vermont since the devastating declines caused by White-nose Syndrome in 2008-2009,” said small mammal biologist Alyssa Bennett.

“In Hinesburg this field season, we counted as many as 300 bats in a single roost,” Bennett continued. “That is similar to

historic numbers at this site and three times greater than anything we have found in Vermont over the past decade.”

In addition to its size, two other factors make the Hinesburg colony especially important as biologists continue to study the Indiana bat’s response to White-nose Syndrome and work to sustain and recover the species.

First, bats in the Hinesburg colony are making use of bat houses. This is unusual for the species across its range and has not previously



INDIANA BATS ARE a federally endangered species across their range. Vermont is the furthest north and east where the species is found. Photo by VTF&W

been documented in Vermont. In addition, bats were tracked back to large tree roosts on conserved land. Bennett says

this is evidence that habitat improvement efforts made more than a decade ago may be paying off.

Second, Indiana bats are found in the Midwestern to the Eastern US—Vermont’s Champlain Valley represents the northeastern extreme of their range. The Hinesburg colony is the most northeasterly known population of Indiana bats, which have only been found summering below 1200 feet in Vermont.

However, climate change modeling for this species suggests that as lower elevations warm, the species may be pushed further northeast and to higher elevations.

“This colony’s size, use of bat boxes and persistence at the extreme of the Indiana bat’s range means there may be new opportunities for conserving this species in Vermont and the northeast,” says Bennett. “Are Indiana bats moving further north and east as summers become warmer? Are there other colonies that could benefit from habitat improvement? Thanks to this year’s findings, these are the questions we’ll be working to answer in 2023.”

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See page 17

Destroy-a-truck

(Continued from Page 1)

a larger commitment to ensuring a habitable planet on which said youngster might grow up to make their own spectacular, smashing life.

“What an amazing symbol of this first big step to electrify our entire field fleet—crushing a fossil fuel truck!” roared Tiana Smith, GMP’s head of Electrification, feasting her eyes on the GHR demolition team of Steve Heffernon and his dog Brandy as they used their tractor to smash up the old truck six ways from Sunday.

“This new all-electric truck and an all-electric line truck on its way will displace about 100 tons of carbon emissions per year, all while making the grid more flexible and resilient and reducing costs for all GMP customers through vehicle-to-grid (V2G) charging,” said Smith as the old truck popped and hissed, shooting a mysterious effluvium into the air behind her, inching closer to its diesel-y grave.

According to Montpelier’s climate collective, Energy Action Network, driving with fossil fuels is the largest source of carbon pollution in Vermont, making up about 40% of all carbon pollution.

This means that anytime consumers and business switch to electric versus fossil fuels, they can do their part to help Vermont meet its climate goals.



GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER’S new stake body “Lion” electric truck was unveiled on Thursday.

Photo provided.

Vermont provided a grant of about \$915,000 in VW settlement funds to help launch

GMP’s fleet-wide switch away from fossil fuel, and GMP will gather data for the state on truck performance and charging and emissions reductions.

The stake body (aka Lion) truck has 200 miles of range. The trucks will reduce both carbon and noise pollution and will aid in a 60% reduction in maintenance and an 80% drop in fuel costs.

GMP will further help to reduce costs by about \$100,000 for all GMP customers with V2G charging, allowing the truck batteries to share energy with the grid during peak usage times.

A substation operations worker for GMP who has been driving trucks for 25 years, Roger Bathalon, was on hand to see the old diesel truck martyred for the EV cause, though he said he wasn’t sad to see it go as he will be driving the new truck regularly.

“The new truck is pretty cool. There’s a lot of pick up, and it has a real smooth and quiet ride,” he said.

As for the child in the crowd, “It was loud!” they said. “Especially when the hood was

crushed and—pffffwww—the air flew out!”



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Mutability ["The flower that smiles to-day"]

By Percy Bysshe Shelley

*The flower that smiles to-day
To-morrow dies;
All that we wish to stay
Tempt and then flies.
What is this world's delight?
Lightning that mocks the night,
Brief even as bright.
Virtue, how frail it is!
Friendship how rare!
Love, how it sells poor bliss
For proud despair!
But we, though soon they fall,
Survive their joy, and all
Which ours we call.*

*Whilst skies are blue and bright,
Whilst flowers are gay,
Whilst eyes that change ere night
Make glad the day;
Whilst yet the calm hours creep,
Dream thou—and from thy sleep
Then wake to weep.*





A farewell to summer

Summer may officially be in the rear-view mirror but that didn't stop these flowers from blooming. Clockwise from top left: Rose; New England Aster; Sunflower with honeybee; Sedum; Queen Anne's Lace and Golden Rod; Black-eyed Susan; Hibiscus; Scarlet Lobelia; Chicory, a lush looking garden on Park Street, and Zinnias.



**Photos by
Lyn Des Marais**

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Calendar of events

September

Tuesday:

Chess Club

Join us every Tuesday evening for a fun night of chess from 4:00–6:00 p.m. at the Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer Street, Rutland.

Brandon Public Library Pins & Needles Crafting Group
The club will meet 5:30–7 p.m.

Brandon Public Library Teen Advisory Group

This advisory group meets every first Tuesday of the month from 3:30–5 p.m.

Brandon Public Library Book Discussion Group

Starting at 6 p.m., this group also meets every first Tuesday of the month.

Brain Club: Virtual Weekly Community Education Series

Brain Club is a weekly community education series (6–7 pm resuming July 12) where we will be joined by professionals from various fields to teach us about different ways that brains of all types navigate everyday life, followed by Q&A from the audience. Each week will have a presenter or panel about a different topic, oriented around a monthly theme. All webinars are recorded for on-demand viewing.

Wednesdays:

Brandon Public Library Meditation Group

Meet us for an hour of calm from 12:30–1:30 p.m.

Thursdays:

Summer Storytime Playgroup with Sophie

Join us at 10 am at the Maclure Library. for stories, crafts, snacks and free play!

2 January 7:

Sheldon Museum's "Artists in the Archives: Community, History, and Collage"

Local history museums and archives are vital to building healthy communities and anchoring our understanding of the world. Collage artists have unique skills that are particularly useful in our historical moment.

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Sheldon Stewart-Swift Research Center, an international network of collage artists was invited to engage the Sheldon archival collections. Under the curatorial direction of Kolaj Institute Director Ric Kasini Kadour and with the support of the Research Center staff, twenty-three artists from seven countries created collage prints that reflect the idea of community in the 21st-century world.

In this exhibit, artists from Canada, Denmark, Ireland, Poland, Scotland, Ukraine, and several US states created collages to explore how the archival material expresses an aspect of a community. The resulting artwork offers commentary on how community ties formed around food, local industries, and social activities, how the natural environment fostered social connections and the intimate lives of women.

Artists also probed the Eurocentric character of the local community and the marginalization of people of Asian, African, and Jewish descent, largely absent from the Sheldon's collections.



27th annual Northeastern Atlatl Championship at Chimney Point, Sept. 23–Sept. 25

ADDISON—The Chimney Point State Historic Site in Addison, Vermont, is hosting the annual Northeastern Open Atlatl Championship on Saturday, September 24, 2022, with special workshops on Friday and Sunday. All activities are outside. This is the 27th year of the event, and always a highlight of Vermont's September Archaeology Month.

On Saturday, the Chimney Point field, on the shore of Lake Champlain, will be the scene for contestants of all ages to use the atlatl, an ancient spear-throwing tool found around the world before the bow and arrow, to test their prowess in accuracy and distance by throwing at a variety of targets.

Event attendees can watch and cheer them on. Contestants are strongly urged to pre-register. Call 802-759-2412 and leave a message. Consider bringing a picnic lunch and a portable outdoor chair for your comfort.

The competition starts with registration at 10:30 a.m., followed by the "International Standard Accuracy Competition," the accuracy test with painted animals and other targets, and the distance event. The contest ends with a "Grand Champion" shootout.

Categories include youth (ages 16 and under), girls and boys, women, and men. Contestants usually range from interested novices to some of the best in the country. Competitors pay \$10.00. Visitors are \$5.00 for adults and free under 15. The museum will be open at special times during the day.

On Friday, September 23, from noon to 5 p.m., the site offers an atlatl workshop with Thunderbird Atlatl. Attendees will make an atlatl, fletch three darts, receive coaching advice, and much more. The fee is \$70 and includes all materials; pre-registration is required. Call 802-759-2412.

On Sunday, September 25, from 10:00 to 4:00, sign up for "Barry's Wood Spoon Carving" workshop. The fee is \$60 and includes all materials. Pre-registration and pre-payment are required. Call 802-759-2412.

The Chimney Point State Historic Site presents the history of the region's three earliest cultures—Native American, French Colonial, and early American. The site was used by Native Americans for thousands of years, was the location of the 1731 French fort, and the museum is in the c.1785 tavern building.

It is located at 8149 VT Route 17W in Addison at the foot of the Lake Champlain Bridge. The phone number for pre-registration and information is 802-759-2412. The site is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursdays through Sundays, through October 9.

For more information about the Vermont historic sites, visit www.historicsites.vermont.gov.

24:

Silver Lake Bird Walk

From 8 a.m.–11 a.m. The Otter Creek Audubon Society and Moosalamoo Association invite you to celebrate National Public Lands Day with a bird walk to Silver Lake. Migrating songbirds, especially confusing fall warblers, will be the focus, as well as any water birds we might find on the lake. Meet at the Silver Lake Trail parking lot on Lake Dunmore Road/Route 53, Salisbury, VT. The event is free, and no registration is necessary.

Dissipated Eight a Capella Group

The Dissipated Eight, Middlebury College's male a Cappella group, returns for their 6th year at 7:30 p.m. at Brandon's Town Hall. Their signature harmonies, touches of comedy, and interaction with the audience make them a Town Hall favorite.

The group sings a range of songs from modern-day pop to traditional barbershop. Their stage presence, and comedic routines, in addition to some solos and group numbers, will be sure to entertain.

Tickets: Adults, \$8, Seniors and Students, \$6.

25:

Brandon Fire benefit cornhole tournament

The Brandon Fire Department hopes you're ready for the 7th Annual BFD Cornhole Tournament. Registration is at 11 a.m., and the tournament starts at 1 p.m.

They'll be at Estabrook Park this year. Food and drink on site will be provided by Mae's Place and BBQ by the Dunmore Hose Company Members. This event is sponsored and hosted by the Dunmore Hose Company in their efforts to support the Brandon Fire Department. The entry fee is \$20 per team of 2.

For more information, go to <https://www.dunmorehose.com/cornhole>

Pittsford Historical Society potluck and photo presentation

The Pittsford Historical Society announces a public presentation, in the Fellowship Hall of the Pittsford Congregational Church. The annual Members' meeting will start at 5:30 with a pot-luck supper, followed by the meeting and the election of officers. After that comes a public presentation by Michael Dwyer: "Tales of a Photo Detective." Michael will share photos and stories from a lifetime of retrieving and identifying family pictures—some rescued from being thrown away. His examples illustrate a century of photography going back to Daguerreotypes from the 1850s. The second part of the presentation will draw on audience participation for those who had sent in photos for him to examine before the Sept. 15 deadline.

29:

Brandon Congregational Church; A service of remembrance and celebration of life

Starting at 6:30 p.m. the Board of Deacons of the Brandon Congregational Church wishes to invite you and your family to a special service to honor and remember those in our broader community who have passed away within the last year.

They will be asking the name of your loved one when you come into the church to be prepared to call you forward. This is a participatory service during which you will be invited to light one candle in

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ory of your loved one.

will also be an opportunity to remember other family members and friends who have passed away, and there will be a special remembrance for those who have passed during the pandemic years.

one is welcome. Light refreshments will be served after the service in the Fellowship Hall, located next to the church. If you have any questions, please contact BCC at 802-247-

Vermont Student Anti-Racism Network's Day of Equity

The Vermont Student Anti-Racism Network (VSARN) is bringing together a day to promote racial equity and youth leadership at the Statehouse in Montpelier, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.. The day will be complete with workshops exploring more about anti-racism work concepts, music from a student band, and conversations with some Vermont Legislators.

The day will break and feature local food trucks selling their

Afternoon, there will be three speakers: Astrid Young from Middlebury High School, Zoraya Hightower from the Peace and Justice Center, and the winner of the Democratic primary for Vermont Congress, Becca Balint.

We join us! We ask that everyone planning on attending complete our registration form. You can find the registration form on our website <https://vsarn.org/> if you scroll down on the home page and click the register icon.

VSARN:

VSARN is a group of students from around the state working to build anti-racist schools. We endeavor to educate ourselves and others about race, power, privilege, and oppression in order to foster a more inclusive and anti-racist commu-

Burlington Taiko at the Mahaney Arts Center Friday, September 30, and Saturday, October 1

Prepare to be mesmerized by the powerful, spellbinding, and propulsive sounds of the Taiko drums. To kick off the Mahaney Arts Center's 30th anniversary, Burlington Taiko performs two half-hour sets on the MAC's back lawn each afternoon. Come early on Friday to follow a parade from the center of campus starting at 3:30 PM. All ages. Rain

or shine.

4:30 and 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 30, and 2 and 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 1, at the MAC plaza and back lawn. Free.

All events are subject to change. Audiences can visit the Arts at Middlebury website (www.middlebury.edu/arts), call 802-443-MIDD (6433), or email mac@middlebury.edu for updates.



nity, starting with our schools. We strive to disrupt the racial hierarchy of our society, starting with our own group.

October

1:

Dr. Cornell West

The Greater Burlington Multicultural Resource Center will host Dr. Cornell West as a featured

speaker during the Diversity Speaker Series at the Flynn Theater in Burlington at 6 p.m. Dr. West will be joined by a community panel asking questions.

Tickets are \$10-43 at <https://www.flynnvt.org/Events/2022/9/cornel-west>

2:

Brandon Harvest Fest

Fall Fun in Brandon! Hay Rides, Petting Zoo, Music, Vendors, "Mac Down" macaroni and cheese competition, Food by Dallas. Buy your scarecrow, face painting, games, books, and more, as there are many ways to enjoy a beautiful fall afternoon! Free admission, free entertainment!

Estabrook Park in Brandon, from 1–4 p.m.! Brought to you by the Allie Mae Foundation, Neshobe PTO, the Brandon Area Toy Project, and Brandon Rec.

7:

Sheldon Museum "Bop-by-the-Barn" and auction

You are invited to a lovely fall evening party in the Sheldon Museum's Garden and Barn with music by Atom and the Orbits, a fall barbecue buffet provided by Lucky Star Catering, and an onsite bar with beer, wine, and non-alcoholic drinks, including refreshments donated by Aqua Vitae and Shacksbury Cider.

Event runs from 5–7:30 p.m. Tickets include access to a fun, live auction featuring local products and art and entry into a drawing for a "Vermont local" gift basket. Attendees must purchase tickets in advance for this event. Tickets are \$50 per person and are Will Call only.

Bop by the Barn & Auction benefits the Sheldon's general operating costs. <https://www.henrysheldonmuseum.org/events/bop-by-the-barn>

Many of the activities at this year's Dead Creek Wildlife Day are tailored to children, Saturday, October 1, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

If you enjoy wildlife, be sure to plan to attend the 20th annual Dead Creek Wildlife Day in Addison, Vermont, on Saturday, October 1.

Activities at Dead Creek Wildlife Day are especially for people who enjoy hunting, fishing, birdwatching, and learning about Vermont's diverse wildlife and ecosystems. The event is held at the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department's Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA) on Route 17, west of Route 22A.

Registration can begin the day with a raffle demonstration at 7 a.m. Registration tents at Dead Creek WMA will open at 9:30 a.m. and will feature wildlife-related exhibits and activities such as decoy carving, bluebird boxes, and nature



owlark and an hour of learning how to take photographs of wildlife.

This will also be the last year to see Warden Dog Crockett in action sniffing out gunpowder as he retires from the department in October. Retriever dogs will be working in the area ponds, and all of the favorite nature walks will be happening. All events are free, and a free shuttle bus will provide regular access to nearby field events throughout the day.

"We want to welcome visitors to the 20th year of the popular Dead Creek Wildlife Day," said Amy Alfieri, manager of the Dead Creek WMA. "The activities are fun, the demonstrations

are very exciting, and the setting is beautiful. Visitors love to see the live animals and working dogs, and the kids love to build their own bluebird box to take home."

The festival is hosted by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, Vermont.

Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation, Delta Waterfowl, and Otter Creek Audubon Society.

For more information and event schedule, visit Vermont Fish and Wildlife's website (www.vtfishandwildlife.com) and check under Watch Wildlife.

Our Yard once again will be hosting the **Town of Proctor Fall Festival**, which returns to the town park, Saturday September 24, 2022 11am-3pm.

Followed by the amazing firework display at dusk at the Little League

The Festival will have a live music by The Whisper Band, the Proctor Fire Department chicken BBQ, bouncy house, dunk tank, pony rides, goat petting zoo, vendors, and Proctor Free Library pie sale.

Proctor Jr. Sr. High School classes will be offering corn hole, duck pool, painting, basketball game, temp tattoos, carnival games and food stands!

Hope to see you all there!



Sports

Otter Valley Union High School fall sports report

BY ANGELO LYNN

BRANDON — As the Otter Valley fall 2022 sports season heats up, a strong field hockey team looks to be competitive, the school's golf team has its eyes on getting back to the state championship to defend their 2021 title, and competitive soccer and football programs are in the making.

and leadership, we have gained a freshman (Jackson Howe) who is doing very well so far in matches and should help the team score come time for states again. We also have Addison Boynton and Rowen Steen returning as sophomores and a new sophomore, Jacob Tripp."

A team goal, Hughes said, "is

most of her team returning and is hopeful for a stronger season.

"We are very fortunate to have lost only one senior to graduation, so we have a strong group coming back this year," she said. "Some players to watch for will be our five seniors: Elena Politano, Bryn Blanchard, Emily Peduto, Ella Brytowski, and Lexi Hedding. They are the spine of our team."

The team will also have an experienced returning goalkeeper in junior Linnea Faulkner, Blanchard said, adding that other players to keep an eye on are juniors Brookelyn Kimball and Sierra Cormany, and sophomores Laura Allen, Randi Lancour, Mallee Richardson, Clara Ciphone, Miley Lape, Lauren Palmer, and Savanna Cook. Joining the team this year are a couple strong freshmen, Jazzy Madrigal and Emma Stanley.

"A key to the team's success this year," Blanchard said, "is playing together as one unit," while a team focus will be "making purposeful passes and passing to feet."

"Communicating with one another on and off the field and improving each practice and game would be a 'successful' season for our team," Blanchard added.

While the team "struggled last year (one victory) with injuries and having very few subs on the bench ... we made great improvements by the end of the season." Still, the team has its work cut out for them this year.

"There are so many great teams in our division that the competition is tough," Blanchard said. "I am hoping this year to be more competitive and to show our true potential."

BOYS' SOCCER



OV GOLF TEAM

GOLF: REPEAT CHAMPIONS?

Last year the OV boys' golf team wrapped up what was arguably the greatest golfing season in the school's history with the NHSGA High School Golf National Invitational Tournament at the famed Pinehurst Golf Course in Pinehurst, N.C.

The boys had snagged OVUHS immortality in the fall of 2021 and qualified for the 53-team national tournament by absolutely crushing the Vermont Division II state tournament — winning their first title since 1969 by 22 strokes over second place Stowe — a victory that the Otters had predicted before the season began.

Though they may have liked to place higher in the national tournament (they finished 47th), the future this fall is bright for the Otter team as 2021 graduate Hayden Bernhardt was the only team member not due back this season to defend its title.

Golf Coach Greg Hughes noted that four of the five state champions from last year (Lucas Politano, Thomas Politano, Matthew Bryant, and Jordan Beayon) were back and that while "Hayden was a huge factor in team chemistry

to get back to states and do it again. I think our guys have confidence and high hopes to repeat a state victory this year, and success to them is reaching that goal. As a coach, I would want nothing less of that mentality."

Hughes said the OV girls' golf team did not lose anyone, noting that Anna Lee and Elena Politano (all three of the Politanos are also playing soccer) are now seniors and "looking to improve from last year."

GIRLS' SOCCER

In the girls' soccer program, Coach Tammi Blanchard has



OV GIRLS SOCCER



OV BOYS SOCCER

For the OV boys' soccer program, new Coach Brian Thomas is taking over from seven-year coach Dick Williams. Thomas had been coach of the boy's JV program at OV and previously had been the assistant and head coach of the school's middle school soccer program (and previously coached the school's JV and middle school basketball programs.)

Thomas is looking at a rebuilding season as the team lost "seven outstanding seniors" to graduation and will be "filling the gaps" with seniors Ryden

nor Denis, Brody Lathrop, Jacob Warrell, Timothy Baron, Benjamin McGuigan, Jason Hartwell, and Taber Kerins.

The team captains are juniors Owen Thomas, Aiden Decker, and senior Brian Stanley.

"A successful season would consist of carrying on Coach Williams's foundation of defending the heck out the ball, maintaining possession, and consistently finding the back of the net," Thomas said. "We just want to compete in every game, whoever we face."

FIELD HOCKEY

After a stellar season last



OV FIELD HOCKEY

Richardson, Thomas Politano, and goalie Brian Stanley; juniors Alden Decker, Max Derby, Owen Thomas, and goalie Isaiah Wood; and sophomores Lucas Politano, Logan Letourneau, Drew Pelkey, Luke Calvin, Haston Byrne, and Kaiden Lee.

Joining the team, Thomas said, were "a highly energetic group of freshmen," including Con-

year in which OV went 11-3-1, OV field hockey Coach Jodie Keith admits the team has some big holes to fill this year as four starting seniors graduated. OV is nonetheless returning a strong team with good prospects.

"We definitely have some big holes to fill this year," Keith said. "We had four starters graduate: (See Fall sports, Page 15)

Fall sports

(Continued from Page 14)

Riley Keith, Alice Keith, Britney Jackson, and Marissa Connors. All had been playing on varsity since 9th grade, so their leadership, skill level, and experience at the varsity level will be missed.

“We have 10 returning players; all played on varsity last year. This will be our goalie’s third year on varsity, so having an experienced goalie in the net will be crucial to our success this season,” she added.

Getting more specific, Keith singled out several players to watch this season.

“We have four returning defensive players, one returning midfielder, and four returning offensive players. Elizabeth Atherton and Matelin Laporte saw a lot of game time last season and are really stepping up and filling the leadership role on a defense that was left when Marissa Connors graduated. Sydney Gallo and Alice Keith worked tirelessly at midfield last year, so having Sydney back this year to help mentor a new player in the midfield position is huge for us. Ryleigh Laporte and Mackenzie McKay started on offense for us last season and are returning this season also.”

The captains for this year’s team are Sydney Gallo, Ryleigh Laporte, and Mackenzie McKay.

“The keys to the team’s success are going to be communication and teamwork,” Keith said. “One person playing well isn’t going to win games for us. We need everyone to work hard every day in practice and in games, find each other’s strengths and build on those. In 2021, we had one player graduate, so everyone returning last year was very familiar playing with each other. This year we have seven new players, and four of them have earned starting positions. As the season progresses and the returning players and new players build relationships, we will begin to see how strong this team is.”

Looking ahead to the season, Keith noted the team was 3-1 currently with a 4-0 loss to a very good Woodstock team, but on Monday night this week defeated defending Division III state champion Windsor, 2-1.

“I feel that we could be as successful as last season,” Keith said. “This is a very talented group of players, and they love playing field hockey — and that’s the

most important thing.”

OV FOOTBALL

This year’s team is being led by returning quarterback Whitney and fellow seniors Richard Lafontaine, Cody Pariseau, Tucker Babcock, Keevon Parks, Carter Blair; juniors Gavin Disorda, Luca Polli, and Cody Mulcahy; and sophomores Robert Hutchins, Tucker Maranville, Noel Pearsons, Mark Jackson, and Isaac Whitney. Head Coach is Jordan Tolar, the defensive coordinator is Ken Stanley, and the assistant coaches are Mitchell Caron, Bill Rose, Alexander Polli, and Dylan Stevens-Clark.

CROSS COUNTRY

For the OVUHS cross country team, Coach Cameron Perta said the team’s season “looks pretty similar to last year! We only graduated one senior, so the program did not lose too many runners. In fact, we’ve even added a few. That being said, we could certainly use a few more runners. Our numbers are pretty small still — especially with the lower grades. We only have one runner below 10th grade.”

Kelsey Adams is the lone senior returning to the 11-person squad. He’ll be supported by juniors Isaiah Bagley, Dillon Ladd, and Baker LaRock; sophomores Luke Calvin, Calvin Ladd, Jiley Lape, Sara Loyzelle, Jazmin Rivera and eighth-grader Jonathan Johnson.

As for the team’s prospects, Perta pointed to improvements with each individual on the team.

“With a sport like cross country, I generally like to define success in terms of individual improvement — how much faster are you compared to last year or compared to the start of the season? Having that kind of mindset always gives you something to strive for.”

The team will compete in 10 races this year.

CHEERLEADING

This year, the Otter Valley Cheerleading squad consists of senior Zoe Elliot, juniors Brooklyn Kimball and Lajay O’Connor, sophomore Grace Kenyon, freshman Noelle Seigle, eighth-grader Chloe Thow, and seventh-grader Leah Chapin.

**Editor’s Note: Team photos for the football and boys cross country teams were unavailable at the time of publication but will be published as soon as they become available.*

OVUHS Sports round-up

GIRLS SOCCER

OV took a 2-1 victory over West Rutland on Wednesday, Sept. 14, thanks mainly to the outstanding play of its entire roster. Bryn Blanchard and Malle Richardson scored goals for the Otters.

Ella Brytowski, Lexi Hayes, Savannah Cook, and Emily Peduto were outstanding defensively, while Linnea Faulkner turned out another excellent showing in goal.

FIELD HOCKEY



The Otters topped Brattleboro 5-1 on Saturday, Sept. 17, thanks to a goal from Mackenzie McKay and two goals each from Sydney Gallo and Ryleigh Laporte — one of whose goals came

off a penalty stroke. Gola keeper Lily Morgan had seven saves. “Our defense is getting stronger every game,” said head coach Jodie Keith.

FOOTBALL

The OV team’s 29-14 home victory on Saturday, Sept. 17, over winless

Springfield gave the program a couple of firsts: The 1-2 Otters claimed their first win of the season and coach Jordan Tolar’s high school head coaching career. They are currently in ninth place in the 13-team division,

one spot out of the playoff picture.

OV took an early lead on Keevon Parks’s 11-yard TD run and a two-point conversion. The score was set up by a 37-yard pass from QB Caleb Whitney to Luca Polli.

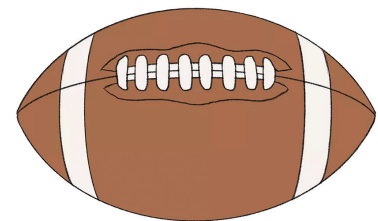
Otter Isaac Whitney intercepted a Springfield pass and then scored on a 1-yard run to make it 15-6 at the half. Caleb Whitney dashed into the endzone from 20 yards out in the third period to increase the lead to 22-6.

A 1-yard run by Cosmo QB Carson Clark and a two-point conversion made it at 22-14, but

the Otters answered with a 9-yard Parks run early in the fourth quarter.

Parks finished with 120 yards on 16 carries, and Noel Pearsons also ran well, including a 43-yard ramble.

Clark threw for almost 300 yards for Springfield, including a first-half TD.



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SEE PAGE 24 FOR THE FALL GAMES SCHEDULE



Mim's Photos

Can you identify any of the people in these vintage photos from Mim Welton's Dateline Brandon newspaper archives? Let us know!



E-mail ads@brandonreporter.com if you can identify someone in these photos.
Or call us at 247-8080

Recognized



Tom and Carolyn Whittaker got in touch to recognize Tom Lyons, at 54 Park St. where he is gathering sap. Tom used to make maple syrup on a home-made arch behind the house.



Jill Borkman of Brandon called to recognize her nephew and niece, both from Brandon. Connor Horvath, her nephew, is now 34 years old and lives in Connecticut. Breanna Warren, her niece, is now 29 and lives in Brandon with her husband and their two-year old.



Tom and Carolyn also recognized John Williams from Sudbury. Here he was fishing in Alaska, likely with son Phillip. John was Road commissioner for Sudbury, worked for the Vt. Highway Department and repaired electric motors in retirement.

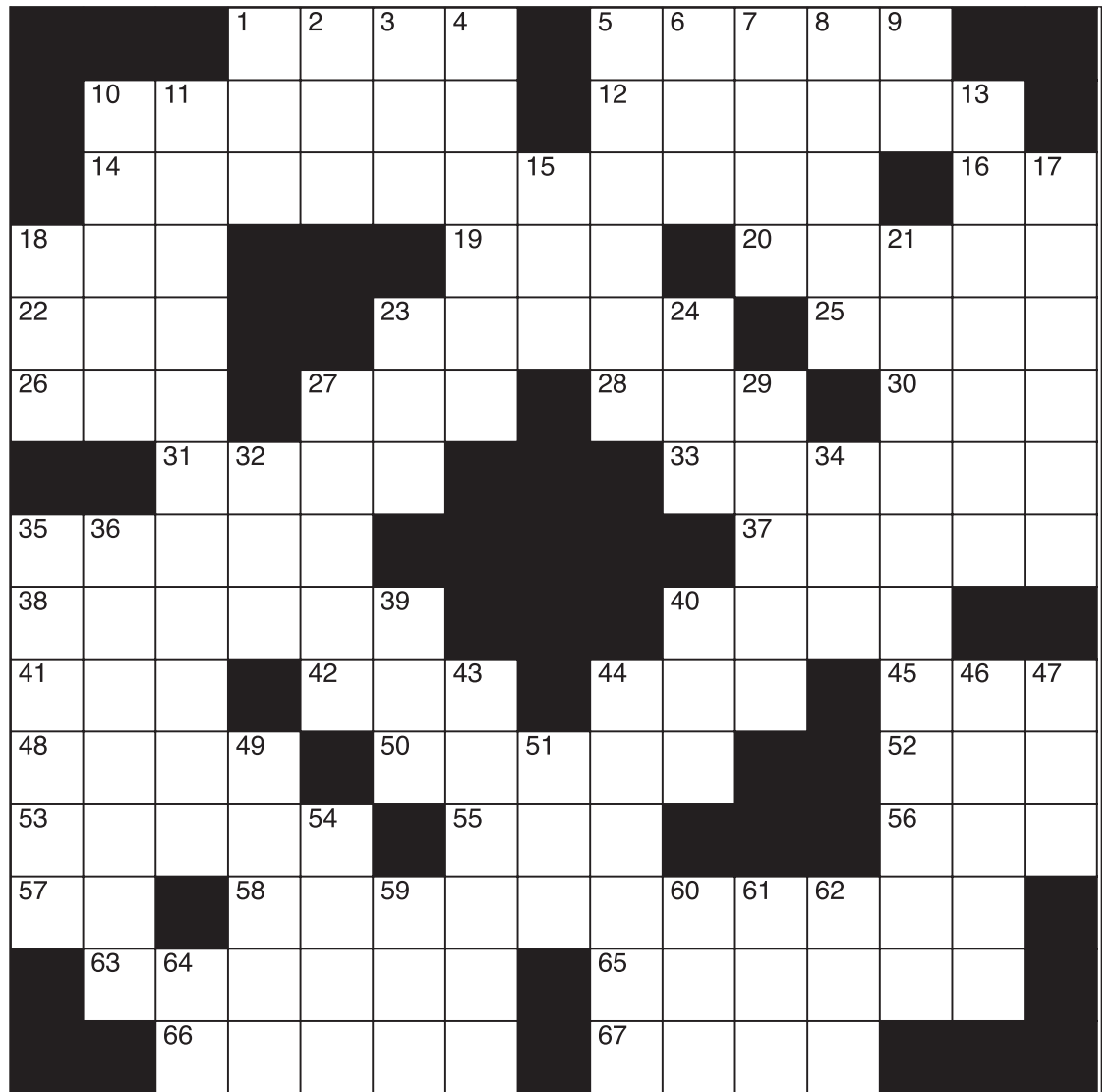
Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

1. Crops sown in winter in India
5. Nursemaids in East Asia
10. Investigates
12. Treated like a child
14. About religious belief
16. Widely used exclamation
18. Car mechanics group
19. Not good
20. Indigenous people of Alberta
22. Everyone has one
23. Fencing sword
25. Soaks
26. The human foot
27. Of she
28. Erythrocyte (abbr.)
30. Soldiers
31. Energy, style and enthusiasm
33. Playwright O'Neill
35. Stone parsley
37. Small stones
38. Gas descriptor
40. Monetary unit of Samoa
41. Jeans manufacturer
42. NHL great Bobby
44. Cool!
45. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
48. Winged
50. Partner to "oohed"
52. Defensive nuclear weapon
53. Coated
55. Furry household friend
56. Chinese principle underlying the universe
57. Prefix meaning "within"
58. Makes easier
63. Transferred property
65. Branched
66. Hillsides
67. Abba __, Israeli diplomat

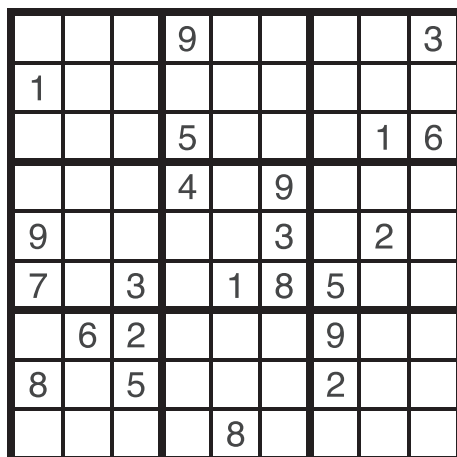
CLUES DOWN

1. Eggs in a female fish
2. Military mailbox
3. Unit to compare power levels
4. Line on a map connecting similar points
5. One who accepts
6. Partner to cheese
7. Ancient Greek sophist
8. About hilus
9. Southeast
10. Where actors ply their trade
11. Beloved Philly sandwich
13. Intend
15. Talk excessively
17. Bronx cheers
18. Drain
21. Renews
23. Monetary unit in Asia
24. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
27. Carthaginian statesman
29. Aged
32. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano
34. Firearm
35. Consolation
36. An island in the north Atlantic
39. Pitching statistic
40. Disconsolate
43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
44. Call it a career
46. Behave in a way that degrades someone
47. Health insurance
49. Recommend
51. Baltic peninsula
54. Father
59. After B
60. Bar bill
61. Doctors' group
62. 2,000 lbs.
64. Equal to one quintillion bytes



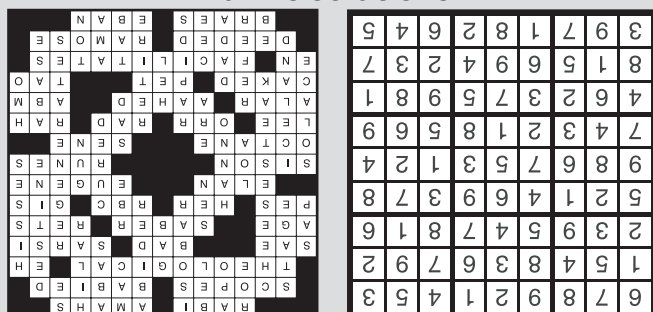
Sudoku

Here's how a sudoku puzzle works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku every row, every column and every box must contain the numbers 1 through 9. Each number must appear only once in each row, column and box. Figure out where to fill in the missing numbers by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers that are filled in, the easier it gets to solve.



Level: Intermediate

Puzzle solutions



RGHS Pet Mania Calendar Fundraising Contest Ending Soon

The "Pet Mania Photo Contest" for the Rutland County Humane Society is currently underway, with just a few more days to go! Monday, September 26th at 7pm is the last day of the contest. There are many ways that you can participate; enter a cute photo of your pet, vote for your favorite photos, even reserve a day to honor your pet. The photo which receives the most votes will be the featured photo for the cover of the 2023 wall calendar! The runners up, 2nd-13th most voted for photos, will be the featured photo for the month of their choosing. Visit the RGHS website at www.rchsvt.org to learn more, enter your photo or vote for your favorite animal! All funds raised from the photo contest will help RGHS care for the animals that come through our doors each year. If you have any questions please contact Sam at Sam@rchsvt.org or 483.9171 ext 203.

I COULD BE THE NEW FRIEND YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR!



MEET ELLIE - 2-YEAR-OLD. SPAYED FEMALE. PITBULL MIX. BLACK & WHITE.

Ellie is a high-energy lady looking for an active family to join! She is very social, and loves to meet people! She seems to want to be around people and probably would do best in a home where she wasn't left alone for long durations. She does need to work on some of her basic manners, such as jumping. If you are interested in meeting her, please call the Adoption Center at 802-483-6700 to set up an appointment.

MEET ROSEY - 3-MONTH-OLD. SPAYED FEMALE. DOMESTIC LONG HAIR. BLACK & WHITE.

If you are looking for an energetic ball of energy, please consider checking out our kittens. They are goofy and playful and ready to keep you entertained. They have all been spayed and neutered and have received their age-appropriate vaccines. It will be important to get them into your vet shortly after adoption to ensure they stay up to date on their vaccines. They are all using the litter box well at the shelter. They play with toys and their friends' tails! They enjoy being handled and are anxious to find their forever homes. If you are interested in learning more or scheduling an appointment, please call the Adoption Center at 802-483-6700.



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Off the Shelf

New books at the Brandon Free Public Library

New books this week!

Thank you to Brenda Whitaker for a new batch of large print books this week!

"Desperation in Death" by J.D. Robb

In memory of Hilda Crosby. Detective Eve Dallas investigates the death of a young teen and discovers a seedy world of sex-trafficking. She'll need help from her billionaire husband Roarke, and his connections to the ultra-rich to find out who's behind it all while struggling to keep her rage in check.

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Jane and Seth must join forces to unlock the fascinating puzzle, even as they hurtle

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Police deal with vandalism and assault at OVUHS

Brandon Police Report

BRANDON — It was an eventful week for Brandon Police. The week began with student issues at Otter Valley Union High School, where OVUHS officials called police on the morning of Sept. 12 for assistance with an out-of-control student who was vandalizing property outside the building. The school called back before an officer was dispatched and said that the child was now in control and that no police response was necessary.

Later in the day, a 12-year-old student at Otter Valley came to the police station to report that they had been assaulted in the bathroom at the Otter Valley Union High/Middle School a few hours prior and that several students were videotaping and cheering on the assault as it occurred. As a result of an investigation into the matter, a 13-year-old female juvenile, whose name has not been released due to her age, was issued a juvenile citation to appear in the Rutland County Superior Court-Family Division in December (2022) for arraignment on the delinquent act of aggravated assault (with a weapon).

The following day, police received a late report of an untimely death at a residence on Town Farm Road, where an elderly woman had taken a fall two weeks prior. At the time, she was transported to Rutland Regional Medical Center and subsequently succumbed to her injuries. Police determined that the cause of death resulted from medical complications from an injury sustained in the fall.

Just before noon on Sept.

13, Police responded to Grove Street and Steinberg Road intersection for a report of a car collision between a car and a deer. The deer had jumped onto the windshield of the car, shattering it. The vehicle also had minor body damage. The driver sustained minor scratches from the broken glass and refused medical treatment. The deer was killed instantly as a result of the collision. Vermont Fish & Game was contacted about removing the deer.


A Franklin Street complained about numerous cars illegally parked later that afternoon. Police determined that the cars were parked for a funeral and, as a courtesy, let them remain there until the funeral was over.

Sept. 14 brought a vandalism complaint from a resident on Spellman Way. The complainant reported that a neighbor vandalized her vehicle the night before by throwing cheese slices on it while walking around intoxicated. The investigating officer spoke with both parties. The suspect, who denied involvement, was advised to cease and desist from any further childish behavior in the future and to stay away from the complainant.

Police also got a call about a dog left in a vehicle on Park Street. The windows of the vehicle were open, and the dog did not appear to be in distress. Police informed the vehicle (See Police report, Page 19)



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WEEKLY HOROSCOPE

LEO July 23-Aug. 23
The planets are trying to tell you to slow down and take a day off, Leo. You just have to listen more closely or you could run the risk of burnout in the days to come.

VIRGO Aug. 24-Sept. 22
Virgo, this week things may get a bit more intense than you anticipated. Intensity doesn't necessarily mean you will have a bad time. Everything will be exciting and fast-paced.

LIBRA Sept. 23-Oct. 23
Libra, focus on your personal relationships this week, as you may need to modify a few things and do some house-keeping in your social relationships.

SCORPIO Oct. 24-Nov. 22
Focus on the finer details of life this week, Scorpio. If you have been waiting to have a gourmet dinner or to take a luxurious trip, now is the time to do so.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 23-Dec. 21
There's conflicting energy in the cosmos this week, Sagittarius. All of what you think was right may be turned on its head. Some new decisions may need to be made.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 20
It may be challenging to figure out where you stand with someone this week, Capricorn. You thought you had it all figured out, but the tides have changed dramatically.

AQUARIUS Jan. 21-Feb. 18
You'll continue to face the difficult decision of whether to tend to your own needs or help someone close to you, Aquarius. It's a fine line to walk with no easy answer.

PISCES Feb. 19-March 20
There's a positive drive guiding you along, Pisces. If you've been putting off your to-do list, now you will have the energy to get things done.

ARIES March 21-April 20
Don't push yourself too far this week, Aries. That is a surefire way to be overcome by stress and deplete your energy, which you need to get things done. Pace yourself.

TAURUS April 21-May 21
Hold your tongue and try not to get into any heated arguments with people either at work or in your social circles, Taurus. Avoid controversial subjects.

GEMINI May 22-June 21
There's a strong pull toward wanting to play as well as getting work done, Gemini. Is there a way to delegate some work so you can focus on recreation? Figure things out.

CANCER June 22-July 22
Cancer, you may have some exciting plans brewing but you might not know how to put them in motion. A friend may offer to help get the ball rolling.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

Sept. 22 Sue Perkins, comedian, (53)
 Sept. 23 Hasan Minaj, comedian (37)
 Sept. 24 Jim Henson, puppeteer (d)
 Sept. 25 Mark Rothko, painter (d)
 Sept. 26 Serena Williams, tennis player (41)
 Sept. 27 Dith Pran, Photojournalist, (d)
 Sept. 28 Koko Taylor, singer (d)

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The following day, police received a late report of an untimely death at a residence on Town Farm Road, where an elderly woman had taken a fall two weeks prior. At the time, she was transported to Rutland Regional Medical Center and subsequently succumbed to her injuries. Police determined that the cause of death resulted from medical complications from an injury sustained in the fall.

Just before noon on Sept.


13, Police responded to Grove Street and Steinberg Road intersection for a report of a car collision between a car and a deer. The deer had jumped onto the windshield of the car, shattering it. The vehicle also had minor body damage. The driver sustained minor scratches from the broken glass and refused medical treatment. The deer was killed instantly as a result of the collision. Vermont Fish & Game was contacted about removing the deer.

A Franklin Street complained about numerous cars illegally parked later that afternoon. Police determined that the cars were parked for a funeral and, as a courtesy, let them remain there until the funeral was over.

Sept. 14 brought a vandalism complaint from a resident on Spellman Way. The complainant reported that a neighbor vandalized her vehicle the night before by throwing cheese slices on it while walking around intoxicated. The investigating officer spoke with both parties. The suspect, who denied involvement, was advised to cease and desist from any further childish behavior in the future and to stay away from the complainant.

Police also got a call about a dog left in a vehicle on Park Street. The windows of the vehicle were open, and the dog did not appear to be in distress. Police informed the vehicle (See Police report, Page 19)

 **SUBMIT YOUR BIRTH, ANNIVERSARY, OR WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS**
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WEEKLY HOROSCOPE

LEO July 23-Aug. 23
The planets are trying to tell you to slow down and take a day off, Leo. You just have to listen more closely or you could run the risk of burnout in the days to come.

VIRGO Aug. 24-Sept. 22
Virgo, this week things may get a bit more intense than you anticipated. Intensity doesn't necessarily mean you will have a bad time. Everything will be exciting and fast-paced.

LIBRA Sept. 23-Oct. 23
Libra, focus on your personal relationships this week, as you may need to modify a few things and do some house-keeping in your social relationships.

SCORPIO Oct. 24-Nov. 22
Focus on the finer details of life this week, Scorpio. If you have been waiting to have a gourmet dinner or to take a luxurious trip, now is the time to do so.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 23-Dec. 21
There's conflicting energy in the cosmos this week, Sagittarius. All of what you think was right may be turned on its head. Some new decisions may need to be made.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 20
It may be challenging to figure out where you stand with someone this week, Capricorn. You thought you had it all figured out, but the tides have changed dramatically.

AQUARIUS Jan. 21-Feb. 18
You'll continue to face the difficult decision of whether to tend to your own needs or help someone close to you, Aquarius. It's a fine line to walk with no easy answer.

PISCES Feb. 19-March 20
There's a positive drive guiding you along, Pisces. If you've been putting off your to-do list, now you will have the energy to get things done.

ARIES March 21-April 20
Don't push yourself too far this week, Aries. That is a surefire way to be overcome by stress and deplete your energy, which you need to get things done. Pace yourself.

TAURUS April 21-May 21
Hold your tongue and try not to get into any heated arguments with people either at work or in your social circles, Taurus. Avoid controversial subjects.

GEMINI May 22-June 21
There's a strong pull toward wanting to play as well as getting work done, Gemini. Is there a way to delegate some work so you can focus on recreation? Figure things out.

CANCER June 22-July 22
Cancer, you may have some exciting plans brewing but you might not know how to put them in motion. A friend may offer to help get the ball rolling.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

Sept. 22 Sue Perkins, comedian, (53)
 Sept. 23 Hasan Minaj, comedian (37)
 Sept. 24 Jim Henson, puppeteer (d)
 Sept. 25 Mark Rothko, painter (d)
 Sept. 26 Serena Williams, tennis player (41)
 Sept. 27 Dith Pran, Photojournalist, (d)
 Sept. 28 Koko Taylor, singer (d)

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Police report

(Continued from Page 18)
owner of the dangers of leaving a dog unattended in a hot car.

In the evening, police aided Brandon Area Rescue with a woman having a diabetic emergency at a residence on Carver Street. Middlebury Rescue subsequently transported the woman to the hospital for treatment.

The following morning police were dispatched to the area of Grove Street near Brandon Community Health Center for a report of a cow wandering in traffic, but the animal was not located.

In the afternoon, police were called to OVUHS to check on a male slumped over the steering wheel of a blue Nissan SUV in the parking lot. It was believed he might have been intoxicated, but the responding officer found this not the case. The person in question had only been parked in the school's parking lot to nap during his break from flagging on Route 7 for the ongoing paving project.

Shortly after, police were called to the gravel pits off Blackberry Lane for a report of a male who had accidentally shot himself in the knee with a 9mm pistol. Upon arrival at the scene, the responding officer applied a tourniquet to the victim's leg to stop the bleeding. Brandon Area Rescue and the Brandon Fire Department arrived a short time later and took over medical treatment. The victim, who was conscious and alert, was stabilized by EMS personnel and then transported to the Rutland Regional Medical Center for further treatment.

In the early hours of Sept. 16, police seized weapons as part of a temporary relief from abuse order at a residence on Franklin Street and logged them into the evidence room at Brandon Police Department.

In the afternoon, officers responded to an accident on 763 Franklin Street for a female who tipped over her scooter and was on the ground with an injury. Officers secured the scene and assisted Brandon Area Rescue in lifting the female onto the stretcher. She was then transported to Porter Hospital.

A mother on Wyman Road called for assistance with her out-of-control child on Sept. 17. The mother of the child spoke to Rutland Mental Health and was given guidance by the Brandon Police Department on how to handle her situation in the future.

Half an hour later, police were called to investigate an untimely death at a residence on Town

Farm Road. Police determined that the cause of death was due to ongoing illness and natural causes.

At the end of the week, on Sept. 18, police got a request from a female member of a local church for the police department to locate and speak to a female who attended mass at her church earlier in the day. She believed the woman was homeless and emotionally disturbed. Officers were able to locate the female, however, the woman appeared to be mentally competent and possessed money to buy food.

They got another report later in the day of a female screaming at the gazebo on the town green on Park Street. Officers arrived and determined that the female was homeless, had mental health issues, and was yelling because she was upset that she didn't have any band-aids for injuries to her feet. The responding officers provided her with some first aid supplies and sent her on her way without further issue.

In other activity, Brand Police:

On Sept 12

- Patrolled Center Street on foot patrol.
- Received two reports of a juvenile problem at Otter Valley Union High/Middle School.
- Took fingerprints for school employment.
- Received a walk-in complaint of an assault at Otter Valley Union High/Middle School.
- Conducted a property for a residence on Wheeler Road.
- Received late report of a minor accident in the parking lot of Neshobe Elementary School. Both operators exchanged insurance information with no issues.
- Conducted directed traffic enforcement on Center Street for cell phone violations. No violations were observed.
- Enforced speed on Franklin Street. No violations were observed.
- Made a motor vehicle stop on Forest Dale Road for speeding and issued a warning to the operator.

On Sept 13

- To ok fingerprints for citizenship and school employment.
- Investigated an untimely death on Town Farm Road
- Responded to a collision between a vehicle and a deer at the intersection of Grove Street and Steinberg Road.
- Responded to a report of a male with mental health issues who was causing a disturbance at Jiffy Mart on McConnell Road.

- Investigated a Motor Vehicle Complaint on Franklin Street.

- Conducted a traffic patrol at Woods Market Garden near Franklin Street and Wood Lane intersection.

- Responded to a report of ongoing vandalism to mailboxes on Forest Dale Road but could not find the suspect.

On Sept 14

- Responded to a report of vandalism to a vehicle on Spellman Way.
- Received a late report of a vehicle possibly hit by a shopping cart in the Hannaford parking lot. The Incident was documented for insurance purposes.
- Conducted a welfare check on an elderly female on Franklin Street.
- Served a subpoena to a North Street resident
- Reponded to a report of a dog shut in a parked car on Park Street.

- Received a walk-in complaint of vandalism to a motor vehicle.
- Took fingerprints for school employment.
- Assisted EMS with a woman having a diabetic emergency at a residence on Carver Street.
- Patrolled Woods Market Garden for suspicious activity in that area for a case under investigation.

On Sept. 15

- Responded to a report of a loose cow in the road on Grove Street.
- Took fingerprints for a school volunteer.
- Received a repeat complaint concerning illegal dumping on Syndicate Road and Carver Street.
- Assisted the Vermont State Police in checking an address on Grove Street in Brandon for a missing 15-year-old juvenile. The juvenile was not located at the residence.
- Responded to a report of Suspicious activity in the parking lot at Otter Valley Union High School.
- Responded to an accidental gunshot wound at the gravel pits off Blackberry Lane.
- Received a report of a road rage incident on Northern Grove Street but could not locate the vehicle.

On Sept 16

- Patrolled Center Street on foot.
- Served a temporary relief of (See Police report, Page 23)

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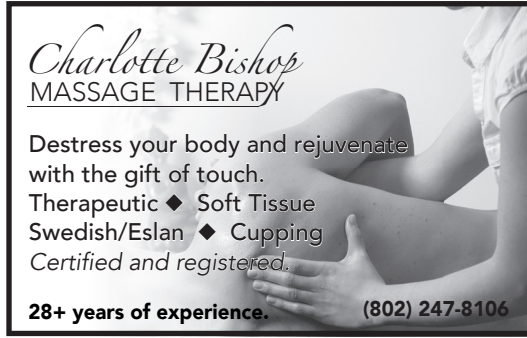
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BAIRD MORGAN STANDS at the future site of a new pavilion at Pittsford Village Farm.

Photos by Mat Clouser

Pittsford Village Farm to start construction on new pavilion

BY MAT CLOUSER

PITTSFORD — One aspect of rural life that city folk often misunderstand is the sense of community. It's almost counter-intuitive; a less is more kind of deal. It might seem like living in a place with fewer people—take Pittsford, for example—would mean fewer interactions with people overall. While that may be partially true, it's the quality of those interactions that lead to a sense of place and community that can't be found as easily in the anonymous drone of city life.

Since 2018, the Pittsford Village Farm (PVF) has looked to put that sense of place and community front and center. After 15 years of negotiating, which included founding a 501 (c) (3) back in 2003, Baird Morgan was able to purchase the farm with the town's blessing so long as he and his partners kept focused on agricultural, economic, and community-related endeavors.

Those community endeavors got some good news recently with the announcement of a \$22,000 Better Places grant program, an initiative of the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development and the Vermont Community Foundation. The

statewide program “empowers Vermonters to create vibrant and inclusive public places in the hearts of Vermont communities.”

The grant, done in partnership with the Maclure library, will be used to create a new pavilion for outdoor activities and entertainment. Library Directory Shelly Williams expressed her enthusiasm for the Pavillion, saying, “It's going to open up a lot of programming opportunities for the library.”

Williams said the library doesn't have a tone of space, so giving kids the opportunity to run outside is critical. “It's a gorgeous piece of property,” said Williams, “but it lacks trees. It's going to be fabulous to have shelter over there.”

In a laser-focused campaign to raise the necessary funds to qualify for the grant, PBF was given a 60-day window to secure its match. Members of the greater Pittsford community rallied to the cause, raising more than \$11,000 to qualify for their portion of the matching funds. Funds which Morgan said came in amounts as little as \$10. “We got all sorts of people putting money into the hat,” said Morgan. One donation even came from a woman

Morgan dated back in 1961 and hadn't spoken to in years.

Construction of the Pavilion will start in late September, and there will be a dedication of the building in late October.

In keeping with the sense of community, Casella Construction is donating employees and equipment to prepare the site and finish the concrete work; Joseph P. Carrara and Sons and Gagnon Lumber are providing a discount on concrete and lumber for the structure, and Chuck Charbonneau is donating labor to do the actual construction.

As for future plans, Morgan says there's always a lot going on and that he has long-term dreams for moving and refurbishing the barn to create an events center, although he says “that's so far down the line it's ridiculous.”

Less ridiculous, however, are the plans to renovate the old farmhouse to include a community

center for library overflow, community meetings, and afterschool programs; an early childhood education center; and apartments on the top floor. “We want to make this a first-class operation,” said Morgan, adding that he's still working to determine how PVF will raise funds for the approximately \$2 million-dollar renovation project.

Baird, who also helped start

the Pittsford trail system back in the 70s, said that whatever they do, it will be done with an eye on preserving what they have as opposed to developing anything larger. “We bought [the farm] so that it would be preserved as a natural landscape in perpetuity,” he said. “Selfishly, we did it because we wanted to see it look like this forever.”



THE PITTSFORD VILLAGE Farm aims to renovate the old farmhouse to hold a community center and an early childhood education center as well as apartments.

Photo by Mat Clouser

USDA to gather data about farm labor during October

HARRISBURG, PA — The USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will conduct its biannual Agricultural Labor Survey in October. The survey will collect information about hired labor from more than 2,000 farmers and ranchers in the 11-state Northeastern Region.

NASS will publish the data on November 23 in the Farm Labor report available on the NASS website. Survey recipients who do not respond by October 19 may be contacted by NASS to arrange an interview or sent a reminder email.

In the survey, NASS asks producers to answer a variety of questions about hired farm labor

on their operations, including total number of hired farm workers, total hours worked, and total

wages paid for the weeks of July 10-16 and October 9-15, 2022.

Survey recipients can respond online at agcounts.usda.gov through NASS's new respondent portal or by mail. On the portal, producers can complete their surveys, access data visualizations and reports of interest, link to other USDA agencies, and more.

"Agricultural labor data are critical in helping producers when hiring workers and estimating

expenses," said King Whetstone, director of the NASS

Northeastern Regional Field Office. "The data that farm operators provide through NASS's Agricultural Labor Survey also allow federal policymakers to base farm labor policies on accurate information."

The USDA and the U.S. Department of Labor use the survey data to estimate the demand for

and availability of seasonal agricultural workers, establish minimum wage rates for agricultural

workers, and administer farm labor recruitment and placement service programs.

"By asking about two separate time periods each time we collect these data during the year,

we are able to publish biannual data and capture seasonal variation," said Whetstone. "This

approach reduces the number of times we survey farms while ensuring that accurate and timely

data are available."

Participants are encouraged to visit youtu.be/6oWSOjGTQzU for further information and assistance with completing this survey.

All previous Farm Labor publications are available on the NASS website at nass.usda.gov.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the Northeastern Regional Field Office at (800) 498-1518.

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Police report

(Continued from Page 19)
abuse order on Franklin Street, including weapon seizure.

- Assisted Royalton Police Department in serving a relief of abuse order.
- Patrolled the area of Wood Lane and Franklin Street.
- Enforced speed on Carver Street and issued one ticket for speeding.
- Made motor vehicle stops on Carver Street (ticket issued for speeding), McConnell Road, and Franklin Street (warning issued for speeding and defective equipment).
- Responded to a scooter accident on Franklin Street.
- Patrolled Franklin Street and Wood Lane.
- Received report of vandalism at Pine Hill cemetery.

On Sept. 17

- Received false alarm report at 3279 McConnell Road.
- Patrolled the intersection of Franklin Street and Wood Lane.
- Responded to a two-vehicle

accident on Conant Square. There were no injuries, and both operators were able to drive their vehicles away from the accident scene with no issues.

- Responded to an out-of-control juvenile disturbance on Wyman Road.
- Investigated an untimely death on Town Farm Road.
- Patrolled Grove Street.
- Responded to an intoxication issue on Conant Square. The male was transported to detox in Rutland.

On Sept. 18

- Responded to a request for assistance with a juvenile problem on Barlow Avenue.
- Enforcement traffic on Franklin Street, where one car stopped based on a defective equipment violation.
- Made a motor vehicle stop on Union Street for defective equipment and issued a ticket.
- Made a welfare check on a female church attendee at the request of a church member.
- Aided a female with first aid issues on Park Street.

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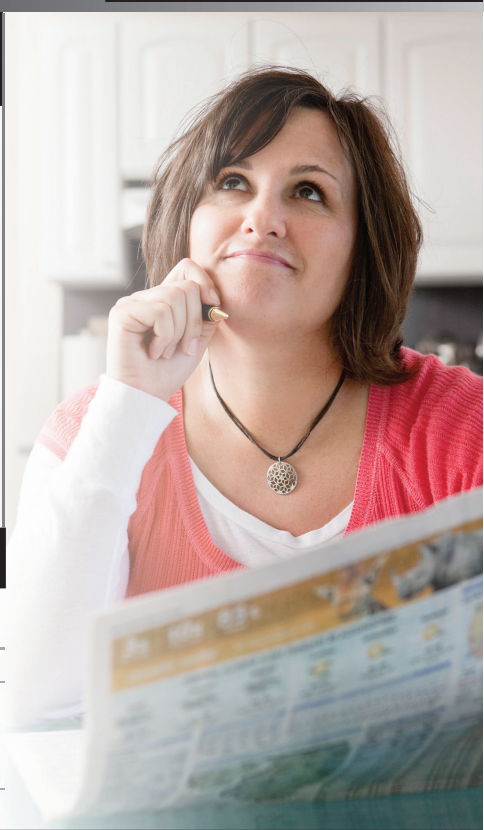
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9/6	@ Bomoseen (WRV, FH, MSJ, OV) (B/G)	3:30
9/7	@ Woodstock (Wood, KMS, Rut, BBA, OV, Hart, WRV) (B/G)	3:30
9/8	@ Manchester (BBA, Arl, MAU, Wind, OV) (B/G)	3:30
9/13	@ Lake Morey (Riv, OV) (B/G)	3:30
9/19	@ Bomoseen (FH, LT, OV) (B/G)	3:30
9/20	@ Woodstock (Wood, Hart, OV) (B/G)	3:30
9/21	@ Killington (KMS, Wind, MSJ, WRV, Hart, OV) (B/G)	3:30
9/26	@ Rutland (Rut, MR, MSJ, OV, LT) (B/G)	3:30
9/28	@ Woodstock (Wood, Wind, KMS, MR, OV, Hart) (B/G)	3:30
10/3	@ Woodstock (Wood, OV, KMS, LT, WRV, Hart) (B/G)	3:30
10/5	@ Woodstock (Wood, OV, KMS, MR, MSJ) (B/G)	3:30
10/6	@ Div 2 Sectionals VT - Ralph Myhre (B)	9:00
10/11	(State Girls - Williston (G))	9:00
10/13	State Boys - Orleans CC (B)	9:00
10/31	(New Englands - Mohegan Sun)	TBA

Varsity Cross Country (10)

9/6	@ Rutland	4:45
9/13	Otter Valley (SR)	4:45
9/20	@ Hartford	4:45
9/27	@ Mill River	4:45
10/1	@ Thetford Trail Run	9:00
10/4	@ Long Trail	4:45
10/11	@ Rutland	4:45
10/22	@ Hartford (SVL Cham)	10:00
10/29	@ Thetford (State Cham)	9:00
11/12	@ New Englands	TBA

Girls Varsity Soccer (16)

8/23	@ Vergennes (Scrimmage)	5:00
8/30	Poultney (Scrimmage)	5:30
9/2	@ Proc (Black River TNMT)	6:00
9/3	@ GM OR L&G (Black River TNMT)	6:00/8:00
9/6	@ Woodstock	4:30
9/9	@ Middlebury	4:30
9/14	West Rutland	4:30
9/23	Hartford (Homecoming)	4:30
9/26	@ MSJ	4:30
9/28	Mill River	4:30
9/30	Springfield	4:30
10/5	Fair Haven	4:00
10/8	@ Hartford	6:00
10/11	Woodstock (Senior Game)	4:00
10/17	@ Springfield	6:30
10/20	@ Fair Haven	6:00

Boys Varsity Soccer (15)

8/27	OV Jamboree (Sharon, Verg (Scrimmage))	11:00
9/2	West Rutland	4:30
9/7	@ Proctor	4:30
9/13	Woodstock	4:30
9/17	Hartford	11:00
9/20	@ Green Mountain	4:30
9/24	Fair Haven (Homecoming Game)	10:00
9/27	MAU	4:30
9/29	@ Hartford	6:30
10/6	Green Mountain	4:00
10/8	@ Woodstock	11:00
10/11	@ Bellows Falls	4:00
10/15	@ Fair Haven (Proctor Taranovich Showcase)	1:00
10/18	@ Stratton	4:00
10/22	WRV (Senior Game)	11:00

Varsity Field Hockey (15)

8/27	@ Mt Abraham (Scrimmage)	8:00/12:30
8/30	Rutland (Scrimmage)	5:00
9/3	@ Brattleboro	11:00
9/8	@ Rutland	4:00
9/10	Woodstock	11:00
9/12	@ Windsor	4:00
9/17	Brattleboro	11:00
9/20	@ Burr & Burton	4:00
9/24	Springfield (Homecoming)	11:00
9/28	Fair Haven	4:00
10/4	Bellows Falls	4:00
10/6	Middlebury	4:00
10/10	@ Springfield	4:00
10/15	@ Woodstock	3:00
10/19	Windsor (Senior Game)	4:00
10/22	@ Fair Haven	11:00

Varsity Football (10)

8/23	@ MAU (Scrimmage)	12:00
8/27	@ FH (Scrimmage - FH/CVU/MR)	10:00
9/3	@ Rice	1:00
9/10	@ Mill River	1:00
9/17	Springfield	1:00
9/24	Mt Abraham (Homecoming)	1:00
10/1	@ Windsor	1:00
10/8	Poultney	1:00
10/15	@ BFA-Fairfax	2:00
10/22	MVU (Senior Game)	1:00

Addison County's Hometown Dealer



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