

The REPORTER

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

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75¢



BRANDON HAS TALENT SHOW

The 8th annual Brandon Has Talent Show took place on Saturday night in front of a packed-house at Brandon Town Hall, featuring 23 of the most talented folks Brandon has to offer.

PG. 2



LEAF PEEPIN'

The majesty of Autumn was on full display last week, showing why Vermont is the place to be this time of year.

PG. 21



OV FIELD HOCKEY

The Otters picked up two more big-time wins last week, including a 3-0 victory over the Middlebury Tigers on Thursday.

PG. 11



PEDAL TO THE SEA

Angus Chaney rode his bike from New York to Maine to raise money for Rutland County's Homeless Prevention Center.

PG. 6



"THE LOWER FALLS of Lana" by Wyatt Waterman was one of many photographs on display at the Brandon Congressional Creative's "Whom We Honor" art show on Saturday at the Brandon Inn.

Church art show scratches at painful past

BY MAT CLOUSER

BRANDON — From its charter in 1761 until a legislative change in 1784, Brandon was known as the town of Neshobe in reference to the name given to the area by the Abenaki or Alnôbak (meaning "real people")—inhabitants of the area for thousands of years prior to the violent invasion of European colonialists who claimed the still unceded land as their own.

The word Neshobe has several meanings, one being "double water" and another being "keeper of the ceremonial fire," and its use in the area is thought to signify spiritual importance.

On Saturday, Oct. 8, members of the Brandon Congregational Creatives (BCC) — a group of artists from the Brandon Congregational Church—sought to honor that spiritual importance—and the people to whom it belongs—by way of an art show entitled, "Whom We Honor" which was held in the ballroom of the Brandon Inn.

Today, indigenous people—Abenaki or otherwise—make up just 0.4% of Vermont's population (according to 2020 census data) due primarily to centuries of attempted genocide—including state-run forced sterilization efforts within the last 100 years—on the part of European colonists and the local and federal governments that arose thereafter.

"These indigenous people have (See *Whom we honor*, Page 8)

Richard Welch of Brandon arrested for impregnating 11-year-old child

BY MAT CLOUSER

Brandon — 46-year-old Brandon resident Richard Welch was arraigned on charges of aggravated sexual assault on a child after DNA evidence showed that he had fathered a child with a 12-year-old girl.

Welch pleaded not guilty in Rutland criminal court on Wednesday but faces a minimum sentence of 10 years and a maximum of life if convicted and is being held without bail pending a weight of evidence

trial. No date for that trial has yet been set.

According to court documents, the investigators from the Child First Advocacy Center (CFAC) in Rutland County were first made aware of the situation on August 16 after the Brandon Police Department was contacted by the girl's father stating that he had been sent photographs of his visibly-pregnant daughter in town.

The father told police that he had been unable to see his

daughter since May despite having 50/50 custody with her mother.

Upon investigation, BPD noted that the child was "visibly" pregnant and that it appeared as if she was wearing a belly harness to conceal the pregnancy. At that time, BPD officer Sgt. Murach advised the girl's family that they should seek medical advice and that a failure to do so could harm both the girl and her baby. Sgt. Murach also reported the case to the Depart-

ment of Children and Families (DCF).

According to court documents, the child was confirmed to be approximately 38 weeks pregnant later that day and indicated that she would have been 11 years old at the time of conception.

During subsequent CFAC interview with the girl, records show her saying she was aware of the machinations of sexual intercourse by way of discussion (See *Richard Welch*, Page 5)



THE CAST OF the 8th annual 'Brandon Has Talent Show' took a curtain call on Saturday night.

Photos by Kevin White

8TH ANNUAL 'BRANDON HAS TALENT SHOW' PERFORMS TO A PACKED HOUSE

BY MAT CLOUSER

BRANDON — For the better part of a decade (with one year off due to COVID), the Brandon Has Talent Show has brought the best and brightest, cutest and funniest, loudest and quietest, youngest and oldest, most adorable and most cacophonous showstoppers in the 40-ish

square-mile area together for a night of singing, dancing, giggling, hula-hooping, and jubilation.

This year's edition—emceed, as always, by the charming effervescence and age-appropriate ribaldry of Dennis Marsden—featured 17 performances and 23 performers across two acts

and two-plus hours of music and dance, plus two numbers from Vermont's only jester—Emma Jeanne Hoops aka Brandon's own Emma Page—all performed in front of one the biggest crowds in the Brandon Has Talent Show's history.

This year's event was sponsored by Hayes Pallets and Ronnie, Carolyn, and Rick Hayes and was brought to life via a crackerjack stage crew of Kathy Mathis (props and costumes); Will and Erica Mathis (lighting/tech); Deb Jennings, Mary Shields, Allison Devino, and Christi Koch (backstage crew).

Allison Devino, Deb Jennings, Dennis Marsden, and Kathy Mathis all took part in hosting auditions for this year's show which featured (in order of appearance); vocals from Chloe and Hillary Collier; vocals and ukulele from Calle and Matthew Gibbs; dance from Woody Laraway and Chase Pockette; piano from Jeanette Devino; vocals from Adeline White; vocals and ukulele from Josh Pockette and "friends" Chase and Blake Pockette, Miranda Hayes, and Audrey Carrier; piano and vocals from Apple Laraway; a flow arts performance from Emma Page and friends Audrey Carrier, Chase and Blake Pockette; vocals from Audrey Carrier; dance from

(See Brandon talent, Page 3)



ADELINE WHITE PERFORMED "Home" from the musical Beetlejuice.



TOP: DENNIS MARSDEN emceed the show in one of many costumes designed by Kathy Mathis; Bottom: Emma Page (aka Emma Jean Hoops) closed the show with a dancing hula-hoop rendition of "Cruella De Vil."



FROM LEFT: MACKENZIE Howland and Aryanna Odell burned and yearned to kick off their Sunday shoes during their performance of "Footloose;" Chase Pockette, left, and Woody Laraway palled around during their performance of "You've Got a Friend in Me;" Hillary Collier looked on as her daughter Chloe belted out "Could Have Been Me."

Brandon talent

(Continued from Page 2)

Paisley and Apple Laraway; vocals from Jady Devino; piano and vocals from Wyatt Waterman; vocals from Bethany White; dance from MacKenzie Howland and Aryanna Odell; vocals from Jessica Crossman, and a surprise dance and hula-

hoop performance from Emma Page.

As always, all proceeds from the show (which was 100% volunteer-supported) went directly back into the restoration and renovation of Brandon Town, which, according to Marsden, has now "raised and spent"

over 1.6 million dollars since the Friends of Town Hall was established in 1998. This year's projects included scraping and painting the ceiling in the main hall, upgrading the fire suppression system downstairs, and adding a drop ceiling in the meeting room.



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BRANDON REPORTER

Op Ed

Vermont's Reproductive Liberty Amendment—here's what you should know.

BY JAMES LYALL

We all deserve the freedom to determine the course of our own lives. That includes the right to make decisions like whether and when to become pregnant, use temporary or permanent birth control, or seek abortion care.

This November, Vermont voters will have the opportunity to preserve those rights by passing Proposal 5, the Reproductive Liberty Amendment, which would add Article 22 to our constitution.

Article 22 would ensure that abortion stays legal in Vermont and that patients continue to have access to necessary reproductive care, including when serious complications arise during pregnancy.

You may have already received your ballot in the mail. If so, give it a look. Proposal 5 asks voters to consider whether Vermont should add Article 22 to the state constitution. It provides: "That an individual's right to personal reproductive autonomy is central to the liberty and dignity to determine one's own life course and shall not be denied or infringed unless justified by a compelling State interest achieved by the least restrictive means."

The part about "compelling State interest achieved by the least restrictive means" refers to a specific legal standard known as the "strict scrutiny test." This standard provides the strongest possible protection by limiting the government's ability to infringe on a given right: In this case, the right to reproductive

autonomy.

What does that mean in practice? If Article 22 were enacted and a future Vermont legislature tried to pass a law that restricted our reproductive autonomy—like by limiting our access to abortion or birth control, making procedures like vasectomies illegal, or requiring certain people to undergo forced sterilization—that law would almost certainly be deemed unconstitutional by the Vermont Supreme Court and stopped from going into effect.

With Article 22 in place, the state legislature would need to establish that there was an extremely important reason to enact a law that restricted our reproductive rights. Lawmakers would also need to prove that there was no other possible way to address that state interest without infringing on our rights. Otherwise, the law would be struck down, and our rights would be protected.

Unfortunately, opponents of abortion rights are trying to spread false information about this amendment and the legal standard it establishes. Vermonters should not be fooled.

Legislators, advocates, and legal experts carefully designed this amendment to protect our fundamental liberties from attack, and that's exactly what Proposal 5 does—nothing more and nothing less.

Following the U.S. Supreme Court's shameful ruling overturning *Roe v. Wade*, our most fundamental rights are on the line. Approximately half of (See *Reproductive liberty* Page 5)



Monster pumpkins

SPOOKY SEASON IS on full display thanks to these massive Jack-O-Lanterns in front of the Brandon Free Public Library (pumpkins by Ethan Nelson, carving by Gabriel Oberkirch).

Photo by Mat Clouser

Community Forums

Then Again: As Americans fought the British, the Abenaki were caught in the middle

BY MARK BUSHNELL/
VTDigger

What can be more terrifying than living in a society descending into chaos and on the brink of war?

Imagine for a moment that you are an Abenaki person living in Vermont at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. Suddenly you are living amid two warring groups and faced with a difficult decision: Which side will you support? Will you back the British or the rebelling American colonists?

Abenaki people faced this dilemma during the late 1770s when the war's outcome was far from certain. Who would want to have to make this kind of choice?

They had confronted this sort of question already, ever since Europeans first arrived in the region in significant numbers. Starting in the early 1600s, they had backed the French against the British for a century and a half.

That choice had perhaps been easier. The French had arrived in

Canada well armed, with a plan to establish colonies there, and eventually started moving into the Champlain Valley. The alternative to finding an accommodation with the French would probably have meant fighting them.

Besides, why not side with the French? After all, they were offering to help the Algonquin tribes, including the Abenaki, defeat their longtime foes, the Iroquois. The French wanted to ally with the Algonquin to gain a large piece of the region's fur trade.

From the perspective of the French, the Algonquin proved valuable allies throughout numerous wars that rocked the Northeast and Canada, starting with King Philip's War (1675-77) and not concluding until five wars and nearly a century later, with the French and Indian War, which ran from 1754 to 1763. That last war ended with a major French defeat, which meant the French were finished as a political and military force in North America, though, of course,

many French people continued to make their homes in Canada.

Although the fighting had stopped, the era created fresh challenges for the Abenaki tribes of Vermont. Peace brought a sense of stability that encouraged British colonists to move north into Vermont, where land was cheap, plentiful, and no longer sitting on the fault line between warring nations. Suddenly settlements sprang up seemingly everywhere.

Which colony owned the land that is today Vermont, was much in debate, with New York and New Hampshire making forceful claims. By 1764, New Hampshire's governor had issued charters to 112 towns in the area then known as the New Hampshire Grants. Not to be outdone, New York issued competing charters. By the mid-1770s, the two neighboring colonies had issued grants to roughly 3.5 million of Vermont's 5.9 million acres.

Issuing grants wasn't the same as actually settling the land. That (See *Abenaki dilemma*, Page 5)

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Letters to the Editor

In support of Stephanie Jerome

I am writing this brief letter to give strong support for Stephanie Jerome in this upcoming election. Over the years, I have been represented by a number of different people, but none have worked as hard as Stephanie.

The element that strikes me most about Stephanie is her tire-

less advocacy on behalf of her constituents in need of help. I have talked to many of them, and they agree that she burns the midnight oil, goes above and beyond, and follows through on every occasion.

The election is coming, and the ballots are in hand. Getting

out to vote is the most important thing we can do for our community. Everybody should vote!

For me, there is no question that I will be voting for Stephanie. She has my strong support, and I hope she has yours too.

Jay Merluzzi
Brandon

Reproductive liberty

(Continued from Page 4)

the United States could soon ban abortion—forcing countless people to remain pregnant and have children against their will—and criminalize essential health care services.

By ensuring that any future Vermont state laws restricting our reproductive liberty would need to pass the strict scrutiny test, Article 22 offers our best chance at preserving the reproductive rights we rely on today.

If the people of Vermont pass Proposal 5 at this critical point in our history, we can help safeguard reproductive health care for current and future generations.

Richard Welch

(Continued from Page 1)

sion with other children and via sexual education at school.

Initially, the girl said she was not sexually active and did not know how she could have become pregnant, stating that she sometimes sleepwalks but does not remember

anything, indicating she attributed her growing stomach to being a “chubby” kid despite having missed her period since December.

Upon subsequent interviews, the girl began to say that she thought that Welch might be the father of her child, born on June 30. Court documents show the girl denying that she’d

had sex with Welch but saying “maybe something could have happened while she was sleeping” and that she was a “pretty hard sleeper” who doesn’t wake up to “anything other than the smoke alarm.”

The girl also stated that she did not believe the father could be anyone other than Welch.

The affidavits show Welch describing to police how the girl

got into bed with Welch on multiple occasions and that Welch sleeps in the nude, although he claimed to have been dealing with erectile dysfunction for some time.

Records show that Welch also indicated that the girl had been

unhappy visiting her father’s house but fell short of accusing him of raping the girl, saying only that “he doesn’t know what happened.”

The girl’s mother also indicated that she thought the girl could have become pregnant at her father’s house while also acknowledging previous sexual assault allegations against Welch in which the affidavit says

Welch “stuck his penis inside one of her kid’s mouths and she had laughed at it.”

The child’s mother claimed it was untrue and that “all her kids were dragged into this,” adding that she had never seen “anything weird with Rick.”

Both Welch and the girl’s father took voluntary DNA tests. The results proved that the girl’s father could not be the father of

Abenaki dilemma

(Continued from Page 4)

was much harder, but thousands of colonists from Massachusetts and Connecticut, and some from as far away as Scotland, did move north into Vermont, believing it was their right to do so.

The land had, of course, belonged for untold generations to Indigenous people. But by the 1770s, the Indigenous population of Vermont had been drastically reduced by epidemics and warfare. Those who remained found their ancestral lands encroached upon by growing numbers of British settlers. The population of the Grants soared from roughly 400 settlers in 1762 to 20,000 in 1775.

Peace lasted barely a dozen years. When hostilities erupted again, the situation baffled some Abenaki. They were used to the British and French hating each other, but this war, a sort of civil war pitting a country and its own colonists, was bizarre. As one Abenaki woman said, “O strange English men kill one another. I think the world is coming to an end.”

Not surprisingly, individual Abenaki made different choices in deciding how to deal with this chaotic world. Some backed the British, while others supported the Americans. And many more tried to remain neutral since this wasn’t their fight.

But staying neutral proved difficult as Vermont played a strategic role in the war. The British military in Canada viewed the Champlain Valley as the best invasion route. In addition, the rebel stronghold at Newbury in the Upper Connecticut River Valley (known by Abenaki people as Coos or Cowass) was also a concern for the British.

Both sides viewed Vermont’s Abenaki population as an impor-


tant ally and tried to win them over. The British offered them favorable trading terms and promised that they could keep their ancestral lands. American colonists offered trade and military protection.

Each side won converts. Abenaki warriors were among the Native Americans who fought with the British in the unsuccessful defense of St. John in Quebec and the successful defense of Montreal. They also helped the British defeat the American force at Valcour Island on Lake Champlain in 1776. Other Abenaki warriors, however, joined Gen. Washington’s forces, laying siege to British-held Boston, and fought with the Americans during their failed invasion of Quebec.

Word of that spectacular American defeat at Quebec terrified Vermont settlers. The American army was in full retreat, carrying smallpox with it and being pursued by the British troops and warriors from several tribes. The townspeople of Newbury strengthened their fortifications and braced for an assault.

The news also frightened local Abenaki, who sought refuge in the settlers’ blockhouses. When an attack failed to materialize, the settlers and Abenaki people left the safety of the blockhouses, perhaps realizing that sometimes their fates were connected. Gen. Bayley and others viewed Abenaki warriors as an important buffer against a British attack on the Upper Valley. Bayley said he would match the trading terms offered by the British because “if the Indians trade with us, we need no Soldiers.”

In July 1777, a group of 45 Abenaki families left Canada for the New Hampshire Grants, (See *Abenaki dilemma*, Page 9)



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Pedal to the SEA: Cycling adventure raises over \$7,000 for Homeless Prevention Center

BY MAT CLOUSER

BRANDON — For many a Vermonter, harvest season is filled with a cycle of chores. There are crops to reap, wood to chop, and wood to stack (and stack and stack). All the kids are busy in school. Winter, we know, is inching closer, one snappy breeze and radiantly dying leaf after the next.

Somedays, autumn can feel like an endless battle against the wheel of time—no matter the incandescence of the leaves. It's hardly the time of year most would deem suitable for taking vacations to the beach, slipping from hammock to surf and back again.

And yet, for one Vermonter lucky enough to have some free time recently, the wheel of time and blaze of fall presented them-

selves as the perfect opportunity for a beach vacation—even if it was far from idly spent.

On September 23, Brandon, resident and Executive Director of the Homeless Prevention Center (HPC) Angus Chaney said to heck with it all. He stopped splitting logs and split for the beach instead. There was a catch, of course—he did it all to raise cash—\$7,000, in fact—for HPC (a nonprofit working with families and individuals in crisis to secure and retain housing in Rutland County) by way of what he deemed “Pedal to the SEA.”

It turns out, if the job is right (and includes a trip to the beach), there's little some folk won't do to keep at it.

An avid mountain biker, in addition to being an advocate for altruism, Chaney says the plan

came together quicker than frost on a pumpkin. “I had vacation time coming, and it's a great time of year to check out New England by bike,” he said. “I reached out to like-minded folks about sponsoring it as a fundraiser, and it grew.”

“If anyone's ever thought about getting on a bike and just going—I say do it,” said Chaney, who braved a five-day and 215-mile trek by mountain bike that took him on a mix of paved and gravel roads, single track, rail, and snowmobile trails all the way from the Adirondacks in New York, over the Green Mountains in Vermont, and the White Mountains of New Hampshire, before eventually depositing him at Ogunquit Beach along the coast of Maine on September 28.



HOMELESS PREVENTION CENTER Executive Director Angus Chaney posed atop the mountain bike. he rode from New York to Maine to raise \$7,000 for homelessness prevention.

Photos by Angus Chaney

Chaney said the highlights of his trip were vast and included his first-time riding any of New Hampshire's Northern Rail Trail, and he was able to enjoy some of his aunt's cooking and his uncle's coffee along the way.

Oh yeah, and there was the beach too. “Cruising down that last hill into Ogunquit and actually seeing the ocean come into view,” he said. “First thing I did was stash the bike and go swimming.”

As is often the case in life, Chaney said he had to take the good with the bad. “Arriving hungry in small towns to find all the restaurants and diners closed—that happened in a few

places, either because of COVID or the workforce struggles we're all seeing,” he said, speaking of some of the challenges he faced. “You tell yourself around mile 40 you'll get a cheeseburger when you stop at the end of the day, but you end up digging through the options available in a small gas station.”

“I got the last yogurt in Tilton, NH,” he continued. “Not having a car to zip 10 miles to the next town for a café in food deserts without reliable transportation. That's also why getting a home-

(See *Pedal to the SEA*, Page 7)

cooked meal when staying with family meant so much.”



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Pedal to the SEA

(Continued from Page 6)

Chaney said the first year of Pedal to the SEA was a test for him. “I want to thank the many folks from Vermont and points along the way for their generous support of this cause. There weren’t business sponsors like other HPC fundraisers,” he said. “The \$7,000 raised all came from donors who heard about it. Most are, of course, Vermonters and know about the mission of the Homeless Prevention Center. Still, it was also exciting to receive support from people along the way in New York and New Hampshire, even beyond New England.”

“Folks as far away as Mexico and Scotland got in the charitable cycling spirit, he continued. “With that level of support and enthusiasm... I might approach Vermont businesses in the biking world next time around to see if they’d be interested in sponsoring and anchoring the event at

the outset.”

Asked if he would do it again, Chaney didn’t hesitate. “Definitely,” he said, “in some form on some route at some point. I’ve already had the maps out again, thinking about next fall.”

He also said he’d like to grow the event enough to see other riders join in for some or even all of the trek. “I’d like to make that an option that people could ride a day of it if they don’t have time to do the whole thing,” he said.

As for the continuing work at home—without which there would be no ride at all, Chaney says there’s much work that needs to be done.

“Homelessness has come into full view in Vermont in the past few years,” he said. “That awareness is great and needed, but it’s also bringing out extreme opinions in some communities which aren’t always constructive or grounded.”

“HPC has a lot of programs it’s developed and refined over

“Folks as far away as Mexico and Scotland got in the charitable cycling spirit, [with that level of support and enthusiasm... I might approach Vermont businesses in the biking world next time around to see if they’d be interested in sponsoring and anchoring the event at the outset.”

—Angus Chaney



HE RODE FROM New York to Maine to raise \$7,000 for homelessness prevention. Bikes: Angus Chaney’s trusty mountain bike near the coast of Maine (bottom left), along the Northern Rail Trail in New Hampshire (top right), and among the trees in the Green Mountains.

time to meet people where they are in the journey back to housing, stability, and community. They’ve got options for individuals, families, and youth,” he went on. “Affordable apartments are getting harder and harder to come by—everywhere in Vermont—but there are also a lot of good housing initiatives and projects underway that HPC is connected with.”

Chaney says the need is staggering, but so are the successes and that since the start of the pandemic, HPC has helped rehouse 392 people. “Some of the big federal programs are winding down now, so a lot of HPC’s work will need to pivot to keeping those people secure with just the right mix of services and some rental assistance,” he said.

“It’s on us to keep balanced

with our handlebars straight as we go through the peaks and valleys with clients and our larger community.”

**Editor’s note: Anyone interested in contributing to Pedal to the SEA retroactively or more broadly to HPC can do so via their website at www.hpcvt.org*



A little bird, with plumage brown

THIS LINCOLN’S SPARROW was recently spotted at Stone Meadow in Wallingford.

Photo by SueWetmore

Whom we honor

(Continued from Page 1)

lived in Vermont for over 10,000 years,” said John Astone, whose photograph, “Neshobe Falls,” was part of the show. “However, they have met with attempts of annihilation... This is something that is missing from our history’s stories which have not always been truthful about the practice of stealing land and resources from indigenous people.”

Perhaps unsurprisingly, given our collective American history, the show—comprised primarily of works by BCC members—did not feature any works by indigenous artists. Still, it held to a theme of tribute, honor, and celebration that featured readings of work by indigenous writers and artists such as former US Poet Laureate Joy Harjo and Lyla June, among others, alongside the two dozen or so paintings, sculptures, and photographs by BCC’s contributors.

In this context, it is fair to ques-

tion the efficacy of a tribute without representation, especially by a Christian church, given Christianity’s complicity in attempting to eradicate indigenous people throughout history.

“The church has a long history of harm done to indigenous populations starting with the Doctrine of Discovery, Conversion Schools, and the removal of our people from lands once occupied by indigenous people,” said Don Stevens, Chief of the Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk-Abenaki Nation. “The true creed that is taught in most churches is to help and uplift those who are less fortunate than others in the communities they serve, not to cause harm.”

“If that is still the mission of the church, they should find ways to uplift our people, right the wrongs of the past, and live out the meaning of God’s work,” Stevens continued. “Celebrating indigenous people without representation or



JOHN ASTONE, LEFT, and Sue Wetmore were two of the speakers during a special reading portion of the BCC’s “Whom We Honor” art show on Saturday at the Brandon Inn. Photos by Mat Clouser

opportunity to participate or give back to the people you honor is just another example of the continued work that needs to be done.”

There are a growing number of voices within progressive Christianity that feel churches are long overdue for a reckoning with their past, and it is clear that the earnestness of art exhibits such as “Whom We Honor” is viewed by many as but one step in what must be a long, arduous process of reconciliation and reparations.

“I believe that reckoning must begin with an honest recognition and expression of regret for the cruel injustices that are part of

our shared history in this country with our indigenous people,” said Rev. Sara Rossigg of the Brandon Congressional Church. “Intentional efforts to increase our awareness and to honor and support surviving indigenous persons and communities is an important first step toward healing the painful wrongdoing of our past.”

“I am so glad to support members of our faith community as they are taking steps on this journey and the Brandon Congregational Creatives Group as they use their shared artistic endeavors as a vehicle to share their efforts toward this end,” she continued.

Rossigg also mentioned that while the church has no concrete plans for reparations at this point, she felt they were in a stage of trying to raise awareness and gather information so that if and when they do take additional steps, they might be as informed as possible. “This [show] was just a step in that direction,” she said. “We’re starting on a journey.”

BCC’s curators made sure to avoid the depiction of indigenous people in the artwork itself, opting instead to focus on landscapes and nature rather than the people themselves, thinking that to do

(See *Whom we honor*, Page 9)



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“FISH, EASTERN OYSTERS, and Tomato,” by Virginia Creighton was one of several paintings on display at “Whom We Honor.”



A DETAIL OF Julie Demaree's triptych "When Your Heart Breaks Open, Surrender to New Possibilities."

Whom we honor

(Continued from Page 8) themselves, thinking that to do so would be to "take steps away from indigenous people rather than towards them," adding that the reading of indigenous texts was an attempt to make space for indigenous voices in a way that they were able to in the present moment.

However—as Chief Stevens points out—if it is America's collective desire to address and atone for the misdeeds of many of our ancestors, it's clear that we must participate in that with the descendants of those who have been harmed—descendants who are still suffering all manner of pains as a result of the historical

and present-day transgressions against them—and who still live and breathe among us every day despite it all.

There is no question that indigenous people everywhere possess a spirit and resilience that is more than worthy of honor. Still, they must not be honored in absentia, as to do so only further reinforces their relative cultural invisibility.

Virginia Creighton, one of the show's primary organizers, said that while she did make attempts to include indigenous artists in the show, BCC was ultimately unable to do so, saying that BCC might go farther in the future to find Native American artists. "I envision the congregation taking part in this

kind of search," she said. "When the church strives for unity with all others, it is moving toward breaking a position of separateness and exclusivity."

"The history we learned as children is not the history we are aware of today," added Vicki Disorda, a contributing artist to the show who also read from Lyla June's *Indigenomics* (which June can be seen reading here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OShun3rQpiY>).

"The show has expanded all of our thinking," said Disorda.

*Editor's note: Anyone interested in supporting Abenaki art and culture may do so online at <https://abenakiart.org/>



THE ABENAKI AND other Algonquin tribes supported the French during a series of wars with the British between the mid-1600s and mid-1700s. After the French eventually lost to Britain and the American Revolution broke out, the indigenous populations of Canada and the Northeast had to decide which side to support.
Photo via Wikimedia Commons

Abenaki dilemma

(Continued from Page 5) seeking to settle somewhere north of Newbury. An American general ordered local officers to settle them near the American settlement. They wouldn't have to fight in the current military campaign, the general wrote, but "we expect that they hold themselves in readiness to give us their aid should it be wanted in the next."

Throughout the war, the loyalty of Abenaki living in Vermont shifted as events unfolded. Their fluid allegiance drove the British and Americans to distraction. The British grumbled that

Abenaki just picked whichever side they believed was strongest; the Americans had similar complaints.

How did the British and Americans think the Abenaki people should decide whom to support? Did they expect them to be motivated by loyalty to a cause that wasn't their own? Whatever side they chose to back, it must have been an excruciating decision in a dangerous and chaotic world, possibly with life-or-death consequences. Who can fault anyone if they made their choice based on self-interest?

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Crossword & Sudoku on page 17



**Photos
by Coleen
Wright and
Crystal
Eugair**

BOTTOM LEFT, WINNER of this year's Best Smile, Autumn Ketcham; bottom right, this year's overall winner, Stella Markowski; below, Aleah Chapin and Ashlynn Ketcham showed off their Halloween outfits as Anita Cocktail (dressed as Freddy Kruger) looked on.

CONTESTANTS FROM THIS year's Pumpkin Princess and Prince Pageant pose for the camera.

Pumpkin Princess and prince of Vermont Pageant

Brandon — Billed as a pageant that's meant to "lift people up," this year's Pumpkin Princess and Prince of Vermont Pageant took place on the afternoon of Sunday, October 9, at the Brandon American Legion.

Featuring formal and Halloween contest modeling, there was also a pumpkin design contest, raffles, sashes, and crowns. This year's judges were Erynn Doaner, Crystal Eugair, and Michelle Flint-Alger, while Shannon Wright emceed the event.

This year's winners were: Sophia Quenneville, Divisional

queen; Adaleigh Wade, Divisional Queen; Ivy Renaud, Princess; Amari Lever, Divisional Queen; Autumn Ketcham, Divisional Queen; Tristyn Laughlin, Princess; Stella Markowski, Princess; Ashlynn Ketcham, Divisional Queen; Aleah Chaplin, Princess; Lucas Lancour, Divisional King; Camero Behrendt, Divisional Queen; Gabrielle Loso, Divisional Queen; Deborah Hough, Divisional Queen, and Anita Cocktail, Princess.

Awards were also given for the following categories: Best eyes, Lucas Lancour; Prettiest hair,

Tristyn Laughlin; Prettiest smile, Ashlynn Ketcham; Photogenic, Stella Markowski.

The overall winner was Stella Markowski, while the Halloween Queen award went to Gabrielle Loso.



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Sports

OV field hockey snags 3-0 victory over Middlebury

BY ANDY KIRKALDY

BRANDON — The host Otter Valley field hockey team struck for two first-quarter goals against visiting Middlebury on Thursday, Oct. 6, and did enough the rest of the way to earn a 3-0 victory.

The Otters also defeated host Springfield on Monday, 4-0, as they jockey for seeding in a competitive Division II field.

OV Coach Jodie Keith was pleased with her team's quick start against the Tigers. Senior leading scorer Ryleigh LaPorte netted the early goals, one 1:25 after the opening whistle, assisted by another of OV's senior tri-captains, center-mid Sydney Gallo, and another goal with 33 seconds left in the quarter set up by sophomore forward Charlotte Newton.

"I always stress, get ahead early. You don't want to be playing from behind. I will say kudos to the team; on Tuesday, we did come from behind," Keith said.

Keith was referring to Tuesday's 4-3 overtime loss to undefeated D-I champ Bellows Falls. The Terriers struck first, but the Otters took a 3-2 lead before falling in a strong effort.

Keith believed her defense did not match that level of play against winless MUHS. She said her backline gave the Tigers too much room and failed to challenge for balls.

"They were just a different team on Tuesday when I ex-

plained to them if you play this way the rest of the season, we will have no problem when it comes to the playoffs," she said. "They were a little hesitant today."

Coach Brandi Whittemore's Tigers were also coming off a strong effort in a loss, a 1-0 setback to D-II contender Mount Abraham the previous Saturday.

She said her all-freshman front line continues to show promise but still isn't finishing most attacks with threats on goal. Positioning and communication remain issues that experience should resolve, Whittemore said.

"We're making progress, but still in the circle we're not executing the way I want," she said. "There is that one missing piece, or sometimes I think we try to do too much, or we're too close (to each other) and not supporting our teammates."

Whittemore was happier with the team's focus and defense, especially with starting sophomore defender Meredith Cameron out of action. Midfielders Erin Mulcahy and Maya Breckenridge helped out in the back to hold things together, and starting sweeper Lila Cook Yoder was a consistent presence.

But in the first period, they had trouble containing the Otters. First, Gallo controlled the right flank and drove solidly toward the goal. LaPorte picked the ball up to the right of the cage and

found the far side.

Shortly afterward, Tiger junior goalie Jolee Heffernan three times denied LaPorte. But as time wound down, OV worked the ball down the right side to Newton on the end line. She carried toward the goal and found LaPorte open out front, and LaPorte reverse-sticked the ball in to make it 2-0.

The play evened in the second period. Tiger senior center-mid Hana Doria threatened with hits into the circle, and freshman forwards Navah Glickman, Ireland Hanley, and Kenyon Connors buzzed around the OV zone.

As the third quarter opened, Heffernan denied a flurry of shots, but with 6:03 gone, freshman Breanna Bovey made it 3-0 with her third goal of the week and her varsity career. LaPorte drove a ball from the circle's top right toward the left post, and Bovey redirected it in.

The Tiger defense and Heffernan hung tough after that. Breckenridge and freshman mid-die Quinn Doria stymied an OV corner as the third period wound down. In the fourth, on one penalty corner, Heffernan (eight saves) and Breckenridge each blocked two shots.

OV played D, too. Freshman Michaela Hobbs recovered to deny a breakaway bid by Tiger Ivy Gates, and OV goalie Lily Morgan blocked a short shot by Glickman and dove to knock

a ball out of harm's way for her only saves. The Tigers also earned two corners as they kept plugging.

Whittemore said she sees more belief in their play.

"It (the Eagle game) gave them confidence," she said. "Hopefully, with the confidence, they'll start to see the progress they're making, and we can finish the season strong."

Keith said the emergence of Bovey and Newton on the OV front line to join LaPorte and dangerous senior wing Mackenzie MacKay, the third tri-captain, has made the Otters more dangerous.

"I have a freshman and a sophomore on the front line, and they've really come a long way from the beginning of the year,"

Keith said.

Against Springfield on Monday, LaPorte, assisted by Gallo, gave OV the early lead, and McKay broke the game open with a second-half hat trick. Newton set up one of the goals, and Morgan made one save. Cosmo goalie Zada Grant made 14 saves.

The Otters are one of a half-dozen teams with a shot at the D-II title, but with the offense clicking and the defense capable of playing the way it did vs. Bellows Falls, Keith said her team should be in the mix.

"I think we'll do fine," Keith said after Thursday's game. "If we play the way we did Tuesday, I think we can hang in there with the rest of them."

OV golfers qualify for 2022 Division II state tournament

BRANDON — The 2021 Division II champion Otter Valley boys' golf team qualified to defend its title on Thursday, Oct. 6, by finishing second in the qualifying tournament on the Otters' home course, Neshobe Golf Club.

Hartford won the tournament by firing a collective Hartford 339, three strokes ahead of the Otters. Stowe (354), Harwood (360), Woodstock (364), and Peoples (369).

Those five teams will compete for the D-II title this

Thursday at Orleans Country Club.

Hartford's Joseph Barwood shot a 3-over par 75 at Neshobe to edge OV's Lucas Politano and Mill River's Mattie Serafin by one stroke for medalist honors.

Joining Lucas Politano in playing for OV were Thomas Politano (85), Jordan Beayon (87), Matt Bryant, Otter Valley (94), and Jackson Howe (97).

Lucas Politano finished tied for second overall with a four-over 76.



OTTER FRESHMAN MARISSA Dick and Tiger freshman Ivy Gates are toe-to-toe as they chase down this loose ball during OV's 3-0 victory on Oct. 10 in Brandon. Reporter photo/Steve James

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Calendar of events

October

15:

Union Church of Proctor game night

The Union Church of Proctor will gather in the parish house for board games and a Cornhole tournament on Saturday, October 15 at 7 p.m.

As in the past, they ask that you bring a dessert to share. Everyone looks forward to the desserts. See you there!

Swing Noire performs at Brandon Music

Brandon Music is delighted to welcome Swing Noire back on Saturday, October 15, at 7:30 p.m. to perform their inimitable jazz style. Great energy, soul, sophistication, and improvisation are the hallmarks of a Swing Noire performance.

Swing Noire invokes the energy of a swingin' jazz club and can transport their audiences quickly back to the early days of jazz with their unique take on Hot Swing in the spirit of Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli.

As Vermont's best-known acoustic, Hot Club style quartet, Swing Noire makes music that "will entrance and surprise you."

Performing as the original quartet, Swing Noire features David Gusakov on violin and viola, Rob McCuen on solo guitar, Jared Volpe on rhythm guitar, and Jim McCuen on double bass.

The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. Concert tickets are \$25. A pre-concert dinner is available for \$35.

Reservations are required for dinners and recommended for the show and can be made online at <https://www.brandon-music.net/>

The venue is BYOB.

Call (802) 247 4295 or e-mail info@brandon-music.net for reservations or more information.

Volunteers needed for Storywalk at Neshobe School

The Neshobe school and PTO are looking for volunteers to help install the Storywalk around the Neshobe School.

A Storywalk can be temporary or permanent. The posts at Neshobe will be made of 4" x 4" pressure-treated wood set in concrete for a secure permanent footing.

Each laminated page will be protected from the elements using a sheet of plexiglass screwed down into a plywood base.

Special thanks to LaValley's Building Supply and the Home Depot for donating all the materials needed to build the Storywalk.

The teachers and staff of Neshobe School are collaborating with the Neshobe PTO to create this wonderful Storywalk on Saturday, October 15, 2022, starting at 8 a.m. The holes will be dug with a tractor (thanks to parent TJ Dickinson).

Volunteers will be tasked with placing the post in the hole and filling it with concrete. We will have a school-wide ribbon-cutting ceremony to introduce the Storywalk to the community in the fall, featuring the book *Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt*, a science-related picture book by author Kate Messner.

Please email Craig Davignon at cdavignon@rnesu.org or the PTO President, Andrea Quesnel, at anquesnel@rnesu.org to sign up or ask any questions.

We hope to start at 8 a.m. on Saturday, October 15, and be completed by noon. In case of severe thunderstorms, the alternative date will be Sunday, October 16, at 8 a.m.

Marble Museum Open House October, 15

The Vermont Marble Museum and the Preservation Trust of Vermont [PTV] invite the public to an open house and exhibition at the historic home of the Vermont Marble Company, 52 Main Street in Proctor, on October 15 from 4-7 p.m.

The public can enjoy films, artifacts, and food before the Museum moves and refines the collection into a new space within the historic marble complex in the coming months.

For many in the Marble Valley, the Vermont Marble Company's plant and the exhibition has been well-visited cultural, historical, and industrial landmarks.

In 2012, when the building and museum collections were at risk of being sold piecemeal, the Preservation Trust of Vermont stepped in to purchase the building and its collections and moved to secure the museum's future. With their successful purchase of much of the collection and the historic marble exhibit, PTV helped usher in the non-profit Vermont Marble Museum to ad-

vocate for the collection and the building's long-term preservation.

With careful management and plans to respect the site's historic buildings, Zion Growers will begin the reuse of the building as part of their fiber-based hemp processing. This new use is a compatible one that honors and continues the industrial use of this historic mill complex.

The Preservation Trust of Vermont will continue to own the collections, maintain a 99-year lease for the museum's benefit, and co-hold a protective historic preservation easement on the entire building in partnership with the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board.

At the October 15 event and moving forward, the Vermont Marble Museum welcomes the community to share its thoughts and insights about the direction that the retooled museum and its future programming should take and how it can become a more meaningful community cultural institution; one that recognizes both the past and pres-



ent roles of marble in the valley to tell the stories of the people who labored here for centuries in various trades.

Forest Immersion Workshop with Lynn Levine

Lynn Levine of Nature Connect will lead a Forest Immersion workshop on Saturday, October 15 (the rain date is October 16), from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in Dummerston.

Join naturalist and forester Lynn on a journey to connect with the forest, ourselves, and each other. Explore the sounds of birds, the smells of flowers, the magic of ferns, the strength of trees, and much more through science and storytelling.

A forest is a place that provides the opportunity to be calm, creative, and curious. For Lynn, "When the sun lights up a leaf, my mind stops, and I'm present again." In this workshop, participants will have the opportunity to find what speaks to them.

Lynn is a naturalist and environmental educator and is the author of the recently published book, *Identifying Ferns the Easy Way: A Pocket Guide to Common Ferns of the Northeast*.

Identifying Ferns the Easy Way was the Winner of the 2019 Informational Nonfiction Book Award from the Independent Publishers of New England (IPNE). Levine is also the author of two popular tracking field guides and two children's books.

This workshop is limited to a maximum of 10 people. As part of the \$20 registration fee, each participant will receive their own copy of *Identifying Ferns the Easy Way*. The registration deadline is Wednesday, October 12. Pre-registration with payment is required.

Please complete your registration no later than Wednesday, October 12, at this link: <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=qo4r6efab&oeidk=a07ej98dcn5270d19f4>

For questions or assistance with the registration process, please call the VWA office at (802) 747-7900. This workshop is sponsored by the Vermont Woodlands Association.

Woods Walk to highlight 50 years of intensive hardwood management

Join the Vermont Woodlands Association for a Woods Walk on Saturday, October 15. The walk will highlight

the over 50 years of intensive hardwood management at Hawkes Tree Farm in Woodstock. The property is owned and managed by Gerry Hawkes.

Mr. Hawkes has practiced intensive hardwood management on his 43-acre property since he purchased it in 1969. Mr. Hawkes will lead the walk and share the work done on the property through the years and its successful results. The work has transformed the property from being overstocked with low-quality trees to a healthier woodland with well-spaced, high-quality timber.

Mr. Hawkes is a professional forester who, in the past, has managed about 30,000 acres for private clients in Vermont and served as a consultant on USAID, World Bank, and United Nations projects in Africa and Asia.

The event will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and take place rain or shine, so attendees are encouraged to dress appropriately in good hiking shoes. Hawkes Tree Farm is located at 796 Wayside Road

Extension, Woodstock, VT 05091. Since GPS is not always reliable in getting to the tree farm, detailed directions are listed below. From Woodstock: Take Route 12 North out of Woodstock. Set an odometer at the iron-sided bridge on the edge of town. Go approximately 3.5 miles on Route 12. Look for Wayside Road, a gravel road on the left, which immediately crosses a small brook next to Route 12. The first place you will see on this road is the former River Bend garden center in a green-roofed barn with greenhouses in the back.

After about a mile, the town road will cross a dam on a pond. Keep going straight on Wayside Road Ext. Go approximately one mile up this road (do NOT turn right after the pond). Where the town road takes a sharp left, you continue straight through a gap in the stone walls where the #796 and the name Gerry Hawkes are on a mailbox. Go by the log piles, and we will park and meet in front of the 4-bay shop. From Bethel: Take Route 12 South by Silver Lake and Barnard General Store. From Barnard General Store, continue about 6 miles south on Route 12. Look for Wayside Road, a gravel road on the right, which immediately crosses a small brook next to Route 12. The first place you will see on this road is the former River Bend garden

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Vermont Marble - A C
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TIME: 4-7 P.M.
PLACE: VERMONT MARBLE MUSEUM, 52 MAIN STREET, PROCTOR, VT 05647

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in a green-roofed barn with greenhouses in the back. About a mile, the town road will cross a dam on a pond. Going straight on Wayside Road Ext. Go approximately a mile up this road (do NOT turn right after the pond). Where the road takes a sharp left, you continue straight through in the stone walls where the #796 and the name Gerry is on a mailbox. Go by the log piles, and we will park and meet in front of the 4-bay shop.

Sara's Stories 6th Annual Chili Cook-off

Join us from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Pittsford recreation center for a corn hole tournament, and beer garden by Liambro Tasty.

16:

Autumn Concert at the Pittsford Congregational Church

Olivia Boughton (soprano) and Alastair Stout (piano and organ) offer hymns interspersed with classical favorites and lyrical folk songs. The concert will also feature a performance of Alastair Stout's Sing a Song of Seasons, a new short cycle of seasonal folk songs.

The event is free, but freewill offerings are accepted.

Pittsford Cemetary Association annual meeting

The Pittsford Cemetery Association will hold its annual meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 16, at the Pittsford Congregational Church. The public is welcome.

Del Lange at the Maclure Library in Pittsford
Many Meanings of Maple

Del Lange discusses maple sugaring, focusing on why it has become so important to Vermont's identity and how it shapes who we are as Vermonters.

Song Circle at the Godnick Adult Center in Rutland

A song circle will be held Wednesday, Oct. 19, at the Godnick Adult Center in Rutland from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. The song circle welcomes singers, players of acoustic instruments, and listeners. Admission is free. Those taking part must fill out a form with background information but only need to fill it out once a year. For further information, call Jack Crowther at 775-1182. You may also email gusbloch, song circle leader, at gusbloch@gmail.com.

Helping Farmers: a peer network virtual session

Learn how that farming can be stressful, from extreme weather to equipment breakdowns, regulations, staffing, shifting markets, and more.

Over the past 10-plus years, Farm First has provided farmers and their families with support, resources, and information to address the stress unique to farming at no cost.

Gain awareness about the services offered by Farm First, and learn about a new program, the former Peer Network, Farm First is holding a virtual community meeting; all Vermont farmers, families, and agricultural service providers are encouraged to attend on Thursday, October 20, 2022, from 6 to 7 p.m. The virtual event is free; registration is available at <https://farming.org/events>.

Following local, in-person community meetings, organizers will engage participants in discussion about the unique challenges of the ever-changing nature of farming.

During this event, participants will meet and connect with other farmers from around the state;

learn about resources available from Farm First; learn about a peer support network we are developing in Vermont; get information about peer training and how you can get involved.

Farm First is particularly excited to share about the formation of the Farmer Peer Network, which will be a group of farmers who are specially trained to be a resource to their fellow farmers. They will be trained in core resources available to help farmers in Vermont and how to offer non-judgmental active listening that helps others feel heard and reduces stress.

To learn more about the meetings and to register to attend, please visit FarmFirst.org/events.

22:

Nosferatu at Brandon Town Hall

Get into the Halloween spirit with a classic silent horror film celebrating the 100th anniversary of its release. *Nosferatu* (1922), the first screen adaptation of Bram Stoker's novel *Dracula*, will be shown with live music on Saturday, Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. at the Brandon Town Hall and Community Center, 1 Conant Square, Route 7 in Brandon. Admission is free, and donations are welcome to help support ongoing Town Hall renovation efforts.

The screening will feature live accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, a New Hampshire-based composer who specializes in creating music for silent cinema.

Nosferatu (1922), directed by German filmmaker F.W. Murnau, remains a landmark of the cinematic horror genre. It was among the first movies to use visual design to convey unease and terror.

The passage of time has made this unusual film seem even more strange and otherworldly to modern viewers. It's an atmosphere that silent film accompanist Jeff Rapsis will enhance by improvising live music on the spot for the screening.

"The original *Nosferatu* is a film that seems to get creepier as more time goes by," said Rapsis, a resident of Bedford, N.H., who accompanies silent film screenings at venues across the nation. "It's a great way to celebrate Halloween and the power of silent film to transport audiences to strange and unusual places."

For more about the music, visit www.jeffrapsis.com.

22 23:

The Champlain Philharmonic

The Champlain Philharmonic (CPO) is back to their regularly scheduled programming and will perform their Fall Concert Series on Saturday, October 22nd at Grace Congregational Church in Rutland at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, October 23rd at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury at 4:00 p.m.

The concerts will feature works that reflect all the different ways we have love in our lives—passion, joy, beauty—the stories that love can tell, and love for our family and community.

The orchestra will perform Bernstein's *Selections from West Side Story*, Elgar's *Salut D'amour*, and Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture*. The program will also feature works by Vermont composers Su Lian Tan and CPO's Matt LaRocca. Su Lian Tan is a much sought-after flutist and composer. Tan has been commissioned by groups such as the Grammy-winning Takacs String Quartet, Da Capo Chamber Players, and the Vermont Symphony. Also a dedicated teacher, Tan is a professor of music at Middlebury College, where she continues to be a mentor to talented young musicians. She has given seminars and master classes at Oberlin College, Boston University, and the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music in Singapore, to name a few.

CPO Music Director Matt LaRocca is on the faculty of the University of Vermont and is also the Director of Music-COMP, an organization that teaches composition to students throughout Vermont and facilitates live performances of their music by professional musicians. LaRocca is the Artistic Advisor and Project Conductor for the Vermont Symphony Orchestra and curates their Jukebox concert series.

Tickets are \$15 for General Admission, \$10 for Seniors (60+), and \$5 for Students.

For the Saturday performance, tickets can be purchased in advance at www.champlainphilharmonic.org. For the Sunday

performance, there will be a \$1 preservation fee for all online and in-person sales. For tickets, call the Town Hall Theater box office at 802-382-9222 Mon-Sat, noon-5 p.m., or visit www.town-halltheater.org.

For more information, please visit www.champlainphilharmonic.org.

27:

Bees Besieged: A History of Beekeeping

"The bees are the color; everything else is black and white," said Bridport beekeeper Kirk Webster. Beekeeping goes back 10,000 years, but bees have been much in the news recently as a multi-pronged scourge has devastated many of the nation's 2.5 million colonies. Meanwhile, hobby beekeeping has grown exponentially.

Bill Mares, writer, and beekeeper for 45 years, will tell of the origins and evolution of beekeeping, sometimes referred to as "farming for intellectuals," with a particular emphasis on his research in Vermont.

This talk is free, open to the public, and accessible to those with disabilities.

Salisbury Meeting House, 853 Maple St., Salisbury, Thursday, October 27, 2022, at 7 p.m.

Hosted jointly by the Salisbury Historical Society and the Salisbury Conservation Commission

Bees Besieged: A History of Beekeeping is a Vermont Humanities program supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Middlebury College Theatre Department presents *Rhinoceros* by Eugene Ionesco

The Middlebury College Department of Theatre will present Martin Mooney's adaptation of Ionesco's *Rhinoceros*, directed by Jay Dunn. It is the first offering in a season dedicated to examining the stories we tell in order to survive.

Written by Eugene Ionesco as a thinly-veiled clap-back at the rise of fascism in Europe, this quasi-allegorical dark satire about a political pandemic stretches towards its bookend a century later as the rise of authoritarianism and post-fascism again rears its ugly head in our global political systems.

An outbreak of rhinocerotis stampedes through Anytown, USA, quickly becoming a pandemic that turns its citizenry into a savage herd of "rhinoceri." All of them, that is, except for Bérenger, who refuses to relinquish his humanity.

In this dire comic vision of civilization run amok, Ionesco depicts the struggle of the individual to maintain integrity and dignity alone in a world where all others have succumbed to the primal thrill of brute force and the mindlessness of the mob.

A play and playwright typically described as absurdist, *Rhinoceros* finds a new, terrifying resonance in our collective experience of the COVID-19 pandemic, where the story of an ideology defeated decades ago finds its historical rhyme in a contagious, deadly virus killing millions right now.

While once contemporary audiences could comfortably watch a comedy about other people in another time, *Rhinoceros* in 2022 reflects the horror of nature, and our own natures, clawing modern humanity back onto the food chain.

Rhinoceros will be performed on Thursday, October 27 through Saturday, October 29 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, October 29 at 2 p.m. in the Seeler Studio Theatre in the Mahaney Arts Center on the campus of Middlebury College.

The production is open to the public, and spectators must be vaccinated. Please join us for a post-show discussion following the Friday evening performance. The show runs approximately 100 minutes with one intermission.

Tickets are \$15 for the general public; \$10 for Middlebury College faculty, staff, alums, emeriti, and other ID card holders; \$8 for youth (under 21); and \$5 for Middlebury College students. For tickets or information, call (802) 443-6433 or go to <https://middlebury.universitytickets.com/>.

The Mahaney Arts Center is located at 72 Porter Field Road in Middlebury, just off Route 30 South. Free parking is available.

Open House Exhibition
Cultural Investigation: Ripped Apron
October 15, 2022
7 PM
Vermont Marble Museum
Main St., Proctor, VT
Film, Exhibition, and Conversation about Vermont Marble Museum
in part by Vermont Humanities, Bissell Foundation, Inc., and Preservation Trust.
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*Goings on
around town*

Vermonters can remove junk cars for cash and compliance

MONTPELIER — Vermonters can make extra cash by removing their junk cars. In 2015, Vermont created the Salvage Yard Rule (bit.ly/SY-Rule) to protect human health and the environment by ensuring the safe, proper, and sustainable operation of salvage yards.

Vermonters with four or more unregistered and uninspected cars or vehicles (or other junk) on their property need a Salvage Yard Permit. The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has ramped up efforts to clean up unpermitted salvage yards and to help more Vermonters follow the State's rules.

"More often than not, Vermonters who find out that they are not in compliance choose to follow the rules. They go on to apply for a permit, remove or donate their vehicles, or register and inspect their vehicles," said DEC Commissioner John Beling. "We do, however, see cases where compliance is not met, and we need to take enforcement actions, which can include requiring penalty payments."

DEC TIPS

Contact a nearby permitted salvage yard to arrange a pickup or to drop off vehicles. Salvage yards will often pick up vehicles for free and may offer cash for scrap metal. Remove any trash from vehicles and get vehicles ready and accessible for pick up—Note that vehicles under 15 years old need the title to transfer the vehicle to a salvage yard. Vehicles that are 15 years old or older do not need the

title to transfer.

Use a towing service to bring vehicles to a salvage yard. Towing companies may accept the value of the scrap metal as payment for the towing service.

Reach out to DEC to get help with calling and coordinating the removal of vehicles. Contact DEC Accessible Assistance Specialist Jackie Peterson at 802-461-7182 or Jacqueline.Peterson@vermont.gov.

Donate vehicles, boats, or campers to Good News Garage (bit.ly/GNG-Donation) or Sierra Club Foundation (bit.ly/SCF-Donation), and they will pick up for free. Receive a tax deduction as well. To learn more, call Good News Garage at 877-448-3288 or Sierra Club Foundation at 855-337-4377.

REGISTER AND INSPECT VEHICLES.

To become a permitted salvage yard, fill out and obtain a Certificate of Approved Location (bit.ly/VT-COAL) from the town where the salvage yard is located. Then, fill out an application (bit.ly/SYP-Permit), submit it to the Vermont Salvage Yard Program (bit.ly/VT-SYP), and pay the annual permit fee.

Vermonters can face civil penalties if they do not follow the salvage yard rules. However, prompt correction may lessen the possibility or severity of any enforcement actions.

For more information about salvage yards, permits, rules, and more, visit the Salvage Yard Program webpage (bit.ly/VT-SYP).



Public records show VT Agency of Resources attempts to weaken and conceal climate recommendations

MONTPELIER — Announced on Oct. 5, public records requests by Vermont citizens represented by the Montpelier-based nonprofit, Standing Trees revealed how the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) attempted to weaken and conceal recommendations in a report that it contracted from experts to help the state increase its resilience to natural disasters and climate change.

Standing Trees previously petitioned the state to halt 3,750 acres of proposed logging in and around Camel's Hump State Park, where a new management plan was recently completed, until it had complied with a law requiring rulemaking for state lands to ensure transparency and accountability in decision making.

Based on revelations from Public Records Act requests that further discredit ANR's management of state lands, Standing Trees has notified the state that by law, it must now commence rulemaking within 30 days. If it does not, Standing Trees will file suit.

"As a thirty-year resident of Duxbury, we've lived through climate-related disasters on the shoulder of Camel's Hump before. Hurricane Irene caused millions of dollars of damage to our roads and bridges, and our roads have never fully recovered. Clearly put, logging in the forested headwaters in our town puts our community, our roads, and our safety in jeopardy," commented Jamison Ervin, one of the lead petitioners. "The records we've obtained show that the state has willfully hidden and ignored expert advice that could save lives and property in order to continue business-as-usual logging practices."

The report, "Enhancing

Flood Resiliency of Vermont State Lands," was contracted by the Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation (FPR) to "evaluate current practices and management plans and to make recommendations for improved management with the specific goal of attenuating flood flows, thereby improving water quality and reducing downstream flooding." It was issued in 2015.

The report was never referenced in the 2021 management plan for Camel's Hump.

"We put the state on notice earlier this summer that it was out of compliance with the law," said Standing Trees Executive Director Zack Porter. "But we had no idea, until now, that the state knowingly hid important research to protect public safety, paid for with public dollars, from the people of Vermont. Because no rules govern ANR's conduct when managing public lands, ANR was able to hide these crucial facts from the public when deciding the future of Camel's Hump."

Climate experts warn that precipitation in Vermont is increasing overall and is more likely to come in extreme rainfall events as the climate changes. The report stresses the importance of using state lands to slow, spread, and sink floodwaters into forest soils, especially in headwaters where 90% of Vermont state lands are located.

Logging roads and practices are highlighted as drivers of water quality degradation, sedimentation, and increased overland flows. Recent research at UVM predicts that climate-driven flooding could cost the state \$5.2 billion in property damage over the next century.

Fearing that the 2015 report would "drastically alter the type of work our foresters do

on a daily basis," internal FPR emails obtained by Standing Trees show an agency grappling with the report's implications and fearing for the future of logging on state lands

If the report's recommendations were followed, wrote one FPR forester, "then it is a simple fact that many tens of thousands, possibly even hundreds of thousands of acres of previously managed forest land will need to be removed from the roles of active management, and millions of board feet of timber that have been grown and tended over the last hundred years will be allowed [to] go beyond their commercially useful age."

"I can say with certainty that it is impossible to conduct any timber harvests in Camel's Hump Management Unit while prohibiting a [log] landing [in] Hydrologic Conservation Zones" [proposed by the 2015 report]," wrote another.

Other documents obtained by Standing Trees revealed an example of logging on state lands prior to a requisite screening for endangered species. There were no repercussions for the state because no binding rules exist to hold the state accountable.

"If these are truly public lands, then rulemaking is the first step towards democratizing their management," commented attorney Jim Dumont, who represents Standing Trees and the Vermont citizens named in the petition. "Rulemaking opens up for public and legislative scrutiny of how an agency makes its decisions. Today, there is no transparency or accountability in state land decision-making. The documents we obtained through the Public Records Act clearly demonstrate that rulemaking is overdue."

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Fall is the perfect time to get planting

BY LYN DES MARAIS

BRANDON — As I age, I see the wisdom of planting flowering trees, shrubs, and annuals (for color), but every autumn—ever the optimist—I move and transplant copious amounts of perennials in the hopes that perhaps, next year, I'll attain that perfect perennial garden in my head. I should heed Abby Adam's advice from *The Gardener's Gripe Book*:

"Perennials are trouble. Expensive to buy and difficult to maintain, they need constant weeding, deadheading, and trimming to look their best. Actually, they only look their best for that brief moment when they are in flower, and then they go back to looking their worst. Many perennials, I concluded, prefer to live in England."

The problem is I don't care. I love to work, I love to be outdoors, and I love to grow plants.



FALL PLANTERS CAN get it on by planting Berry White Hydrangea.

So, it is with great enthusiasm that I say (and imagine me doing the Snoopy dance of sheer joy): **IT'S PLANTING TIME!**

If the garden catalogs and on-line images of the perfect border garden seduce you, too, break out your tools and start digging. Late September and all of October is the perfect time for moving and planting perennials, bulbs, and shrubs.

It's cool out. Every nursery and hardware store has mums and bulbs galore—sales abound. What's a gardener to do? How can one possibly resist? I say Don't.

Bulbs, perennials, and shrubs, oh my!

TULIPS

If you love tulips, remember, so do deer. Plant accordingly. Because of hybridization, almost all tulips really only look fabulous in their first year and, therefore, should be treated as annuals.

Please write in if you have found a variety that comes up reliably after one year, and let me know how many years it's come back.

A few companies tout perennial tulip varieties, but I haven't had time to try them. I encourage gardeners to carve out a spot or a container or two for tulips in their garden and plant them.

Enjoy the range of colors and experiment. Menton (pink)

and Queen of the Night (deep purple) are particularly beautiful and create a dramatic display.

DAFFODILS

Daffodils are wonderful early perennials. Deer don't tend to eat them. They are reliable bloomers, and they spread. They make a glorious show at a meadow planted by Miller Hill Farm along Route 73. Check which are early middle and late spring bloomers and plant in masses.

Of course, the best value per bulb is to buy in bulk. Grab a family member or friend, and the planting goes quickly. Daffodils can be planted on your lawns, as borders along your property, or live in raised beds or pots. They thrive in the full early spring sun, so they can be planted under deciduous trees.

OTHER WONDERFUL BULBS

There are other wonderful bulbs to plant. Allium (ornamental garlic), mainly tall, comes in wonderful flower sizes in purple and white. Crocus are small but pack a lot of color. Snowdrops, English Bluebells, anemones (windflowers or pasqueflowers), iris, and hyacinths all come from bulbs and should be planted now for early spring color.

RULES OF PLANTING BULBS

The general wisdom for planting bulbs is as follows: Plant two-to-three times as deep as the bulb is tall; plant them four-to-six inches apart and plant with the bulb tips facing up. You don't need fancy equipment to plant them. You don't need fancy bulb food. You can dig them in individually or dig a trench.

Make sure the best soil is where the roots are. When you fill back in around the bulb, make sure there are no air pockets. Bulbs can handle most soils but don't love our Rutland and Addi-



CROCUS IS AN excellent springtime bloom that can be planted in the fall.

son county clay. So, mix a small amount of clay with topsoil and compost and put that below and around the roots, or add small stones for drainage to the topsoil and compost mix. I plant bulbs right up until the ground freezes.

PERENNIALS AND SHRUBS

This is the perfect time to plant perennials and shrubs. Perennials can all go in the ground now happily. They are headed into winter, and most are or will be dormant soon. They will root this autumn, and then, in the spring, probably earlier than we realize, they awaken and start to grow.

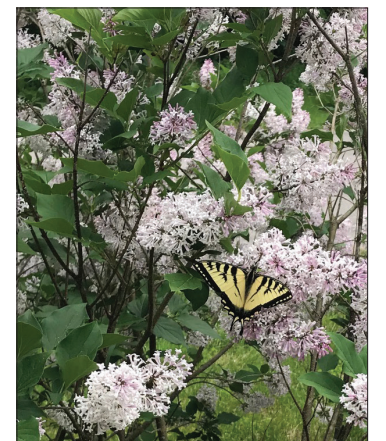
Do water them thoroughly after planting and once a week until a heavy frost. Because shrubs are harder to move once established, read their description card carefully, and look them up to see how fast they grow, how large they grow, and their sun needs before you plant them.

Plant them according to their variety and type, and water them thoroughly. Spirea, boxwood, juniper, blueberries, mock orange, weigela, and lilacs are great

shrubs for the full sun. Shade and partial shade are great for growing viburnum, hydrangea, azaleas, and rhododendrons. Mulch all shrubs and water them once a week until a killing frost.

AS ALWAYS, HAVE FUN

Warren Kimble reminds everyone to "have fun." This is especially relevant in a garden. Gardening should be fun because it will absorb your free time. So, have fun.



A BUTTERFLY AT play amongst the lilacs.



Mim's Photos

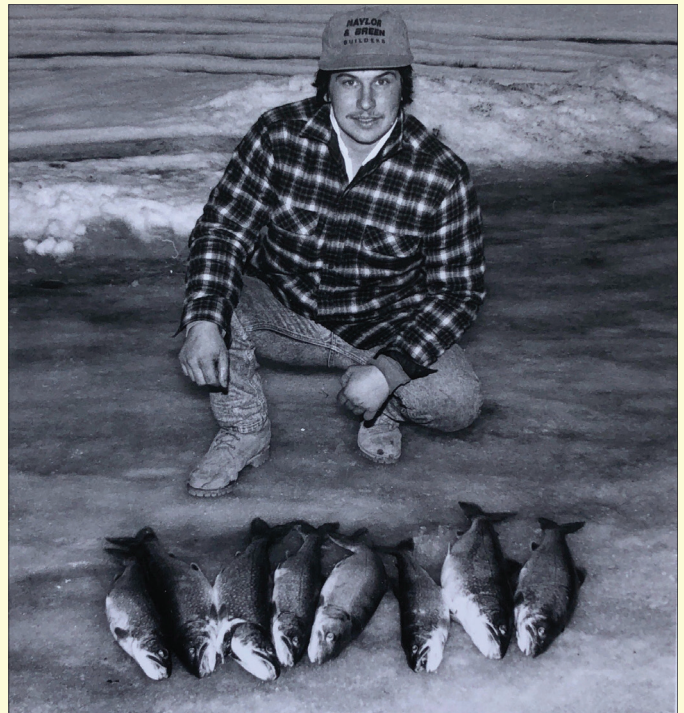
Can you identify any of the people in these vintage photos from Mim Welton's Dateline Brandon newspaper archives? Let us know!

Recognized



Kurt Kimball of Brandon recognized the gentleman on the left with white hair and dark glasses. He is Jim Mann, who used to be the Brandon Town Manager in the early '70s.

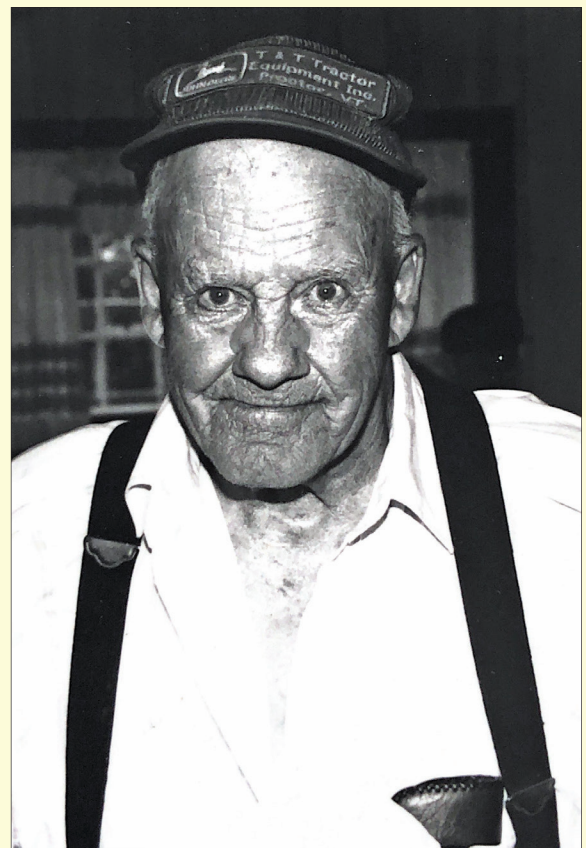
Sue Wetmore recognized both Jim Mann and the late Joe Borkman, the gentleman on the right with arms on the table.



Kurt Kimball identified Paul Houle of Leicester.



Michael Dwyer recognized several people in the Otter Valley Class of 1993 photo. From left to right, Stephen Williams is the boy with dark hair and glasses; the girl standing to the left of the girl in the OV jacket is Stephanie Nailor; fourth from the right is Shasta Whitford, and third from the right is Donna Brutkoski.



Kurt Kimball also recognized this photo as Garfield Fay who he used to live in Goshen.

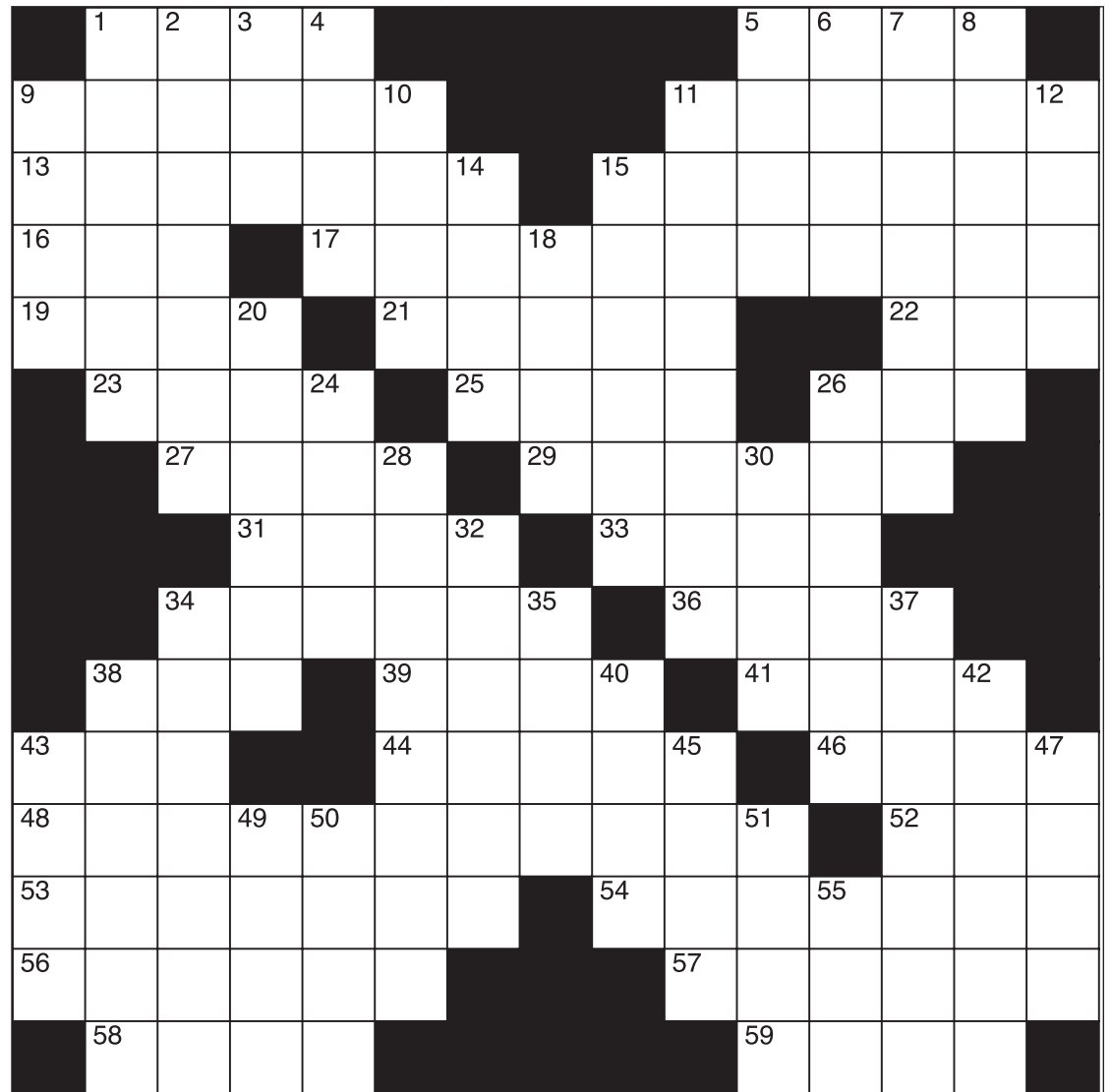
Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

1. A way to communicate
5. Historic city
9. Not the same
11. Hitting a horse to clear a jump
13. One hurt the Titanic
15. Fine dense cloth
16. Architectural structure
17. Where Serena works
19. Stringed instrument
21. Estimate
22. Where sailors work
23. Popular Terry Pratchett novel
25. Popular slow cooked dish
26. Twisted Sister's Snider
27. "Office Space" actor Stephen
29. Put the ball in the net
31. Ancient Greek city in Thrace
33. High school math subject
34. Looked into
36. Rhode Island rebellion
38. A pea is one type
39. You can put it on something
41. Where golfers begin
43. Make a mistake
44. Semitic Sun god
46. Ancient Greek City
48. Beheaded
52. A place to stay
53. Inanely foolish
54. Most unnatural
56. "Dennis" is one
57. Soothes
58. Exam
59. Leaked blood

CLUES DOWN

1. Triangular bone in lower back
2. Building toy
3. Pointed end of a pen
4. Insect repellent
5. College army
6. Highly spiced stew
7. Exploited
8. Main course
9. A bottle that contains a drug
10. The most worthless part
11. Everyone needs one nowadays
12. Japanese wooden shoe
14. Antelopes
15. A way to cut
18. Brooklyn hoopsters
20. Gradually receded
24. Ripped open
26. College grads get one
28. Amino acid
30. Unruly gathering
32. Legislative body
34. Resembling pigs
35. Russian assembly
37. Take over for
38. Put in advance
40. Satisfy
42. Felt
43. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
45. Witnesses
47. Some build hills
49. de Armas and Gasteyer are two
50. Ancient people of Scotland
51. Cheerless
55. Unwell



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.

	9				7		4	
						6	9	
1					6	3		
		5				9	7	
		8	4					
				7		5		3
	2	3	6	4				
9								
	6			3	1			9

Level: Intermediate

Puzzle solutions

S	E	A	L	B	L	T	E	S	T	E	N	M	E
S	E	A	L	B	L	T	E	S	T	E	N	M	E
S	E	A	L	B	L	T	E	S	T	E	N	M	E
S	E	A	L	B	L	T	E	S	T	E	N	M	E
S	E	A	L	B	L	T	E	S	T	E	N	M	E
S	E	A	L	B	L	T	E	S	T	E	N	M	E
S	E	A	L	B	L	T	E	S	T	E	N	M	E
S	E	A	L	B	L	T	E	S	T	E	N	M	E
S	E	A	L	B	L	T	E	S	T	E	N	M	E
S	E	A	L	B	L	T	E	S	T	E	N	M	E

#SNE Loves Pets Campaign for Rutland County Humane Society!

The Rutland County Humane Society has been selected to participate in the 2022 #SNE Loves Pets Campaign! This campaign is dedicated to supporting and promoting animal health, safety, and happiness, in addition to encouraging people to adopt shelter animals. During the month of October, Subaru of New England will be donating \$100 per cat or dog adopted, up to \$3,100 for the month! Also, for every photo or video posted on social media that includes #SNE Loves Pets throughout October, Subaru of New England will donate \$5 to a local New England animal organization, including Rutland County Humane Society! Please share pictures and videos of all your fur babies on Instagram, Facebook, or Tiktok and include the hashtag #SNE Loves Pets. For any questions or concerns, please reach out to Sam at Sam@rchsvt.org.

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

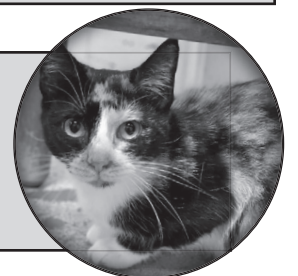


MEET DUDE - 2-YEAR-OLD. NEUTERED MALE. LAB/GREAT DANE MIX.

Red. This boy is not only adorable but very sweet. He loves everyone that he meets and loves to jump up and give kisses, and forgets how big he is. So, his manners may need some fine-tuning. He came to RCHS with an older eye injury that led to his eye recently being removed. Since he was already partially blind in that eye before having it removed, he hasn't seemed phased by it. He doesn't seem to enjoy the energy of children, so he would be best in a home with either older or no children. He does love his toys and will prance and bounce around with them.

MEET EMMA - 2-YEAR-OLD. SPAYED FEMALE. DOMESTIC SHORT HAIR.

Torti with White. Emma is a quiet but sweet lady. She arrived at RCHS on 9/9/22 and has been enjoying her time in the Community Cat Room with her new friends. She seems to like the other cats and spends her time napping, playing with toys, and trotting around the room.



RUTLAND COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

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Off the Shelf

New books at the Brandon Free Public Library

New in Adult Non-Fiction

The Seed Detective : Uncovering the Secret Histories of Remarkable Vegetables by Adam Alexander

Did you ever wonder how peas, kale, asparagus, beans, squash, and corn have ended up on our plates? So did Adam Alexander. In *The Seed Detective*, Adam shares his own stories of seed hunting, with the origin stories behind many of our everyday food heroes and how these vegetables and their travels have become embedded in our food cultures.

New in Adult Fiction:

The Sleeping Car Porter by Suzette Mayr

It's 1929, and Baxter is lucky enough, as a Black man, to have a job as a sleeping car porter on a train that crisscrosses the country. On this particular trip out west, the

Did you know?

Children's author Ashley Wolff is coming to BFPL October 15th at 11 am with an engaging presentation to promote early literacy and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library!

passengers are more unruly than usual, especially when the train is stranded for two extra days; their secrets start to leak out and blur with the sleep-deprivation hallucinations Baxter is having. When he finds a naughty postcard of two queer men, Baxter's memories and longings are reawakened; keeping it puts his job in peril, but he can't part with the postcard or his thoughts of Edwin Drew, Porter Instructor.

Ghost Eaters: A Novel by Clay McLeod Chapman

Erin hasn't been able to set a single boundary with charis-

matic but reckless Silas, who has been chasing the next big high since graduation. When he texts her to spring him out of rehab, she knows enough is enough. She's ready to cut Silas off and move forward with her life. But when Silas turns up dead from an overdose, Erin's world falls apart. That's when she learns that Silas discovered a drug that allowed him to see the dead. She doesn't believe it's real but agrees to a pill-popping "séance" to ease her guilt and pain. When she steps back into the real world, she starts to see ghosts everywhere from her Southern hometown's bloody and brutal past. Are the effects pharmacological or something more sinister?

New in Junior Fiction:

Play Like a Girl by Misty Williams

The author's memoir of her 7th grade year when she joined the boys football team. A story of friendship, courage and touchdowns.

BPD handles cats, cows, owls, and bears; oh my!

BRANDON — Brandon Police were called to the River Pub on Center Street around 5 p.m. on Oct. 4 in response to a report of a bear cub stuck up a utility pole behind the restaurant. Police kept people away from the area until the cub could climb down and leave the area.

Later that evening, police received a report of someone peeping in a window of a multi-residence building on Steinberg Road but could not locate the suspicious person.

Police helped a Birch Hill Road property owner on Oct. 6 when he filed a complaint that a logger had illegally cut down trees on his property without his permission. The investigation is ongoing to determine if the matter is a civil or criminal issue.

Later in the day, after assisting with some loose cows on Richmond Road, officers received another report of a suspicious male allegedly peeping into the windows of local businesses in the Center Street area. The caller believed they were possibly "casing" them to break in. The responding officer checked the area but was unable to locate anyone.

Oct. 7 brought a call from a patron at the Brandon Inn who complained of a tub leaking from the room above his. Officers determined that the leaking water was due to a child playing in the bathtub. Police recommended that the guest contact the innkeeper to address the issue further.

The following day police responded to a 911 call from an elderly resident on Sunset Drive. The responding officer

Brandon Police Report

determined that the woman had inadvertently dialed 911 while trying to telephone her friend's phone number. The officer assisted her in making the call to her friend after determining that the woman was okay.

Soon after, police assisted with an injured owl found on Furnace Road. The owl was brought to the Brandon Police Department to be cared for until Fish & Wildlife could be contacted.

At roughly 6:45 p.m., police and Fire Departments responded to Wintergreen North on New Road for a fire alarm activation. Officers determined that the alarm was caused by clothes that had been accidentally ignited after being placed on a stovetop.


A little over an hour later, police received multiple 911 calls about an erratic driver on Franklin Street near Nickerson Road. When police located the vehicle, they found that the operator was suffering from a medical episode and transported him to Rutland Regional Medical Center. Further investigation found that the subject had also been involved in a motor vehicle crash in the town of Rutland in which he had hit a guard rail.

On Oct. 9, the rescued owl, dubbed "Barnabas," was released to a volunteer transporter from the Vermont Institute of Natural Science so that its injuries could be tended to before hopefully being released into the wild.

(See Police report, Page 19)

 **SUBMIT YOUR BIRTH, ANNIVERSARY, OR WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS**
news@brandonreporter.com

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE



as calm as possible while ticking off the boxes on your to-do list. Ask for help if you need it.

what lies beneath that quiet surface. Use your voice and get others excited about your thoughts.

LEO July 23-Aug. 23
Your leadership skills will be on display this week, Leo. People at work and at home will call on you to make decisions and guide them through various situations.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 20
Try not to hide in the shadows this week, Capricorn. This is your time to be in the spotlight and show others what you are made of. A spark will inspire you to act.

AQUARIUS Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Getting back into the swing of things after time away can take a little while, Aquarius. You may have forgotten some steps or feel out of practice. Don't be too hard on yourself.

ARIES March 21-April 20
Aries, maintain your alignment with your dreams and tap into your warrior instinct if you come up against a significant obstacle later in the week.

VIRGO Aug. 24-Sept. 22
Virgo, this week you could come up with a new plan to make a big difference in the world. It may start with an assignment at work or be inspired by volunteering.

PISCES Feb. 19-March 20
You're used to dealing with situations as they arise, Pisces. Plan ahead for what you anticipate will come along this week.

TAURUS April 21-May 21
Taurus, you're naturally good at juggling many different tasks simultaneously. Don't be surprised if someone recognizes this and gives you a few projects to handle.

LIBRA Sept. 23-Oct. 23
Libra, try to learn as much about the people around you as possible. They may share strategies that can affect your life in many positive ways. Start asking the right questions.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

Oct. 13 **Sacha Baron Cohen**, actor, satirist (51)
Oct. 14 **Usher**, singer-songwriter (44)
Oct. 15 **Mira Nair**, filmmaker and producer (66)
Oct. 16 **Oscar Wilde**, writer (d)
Oct. 17 **Rita Hayworth**, actress (d)
Oct. 18 **Lindsey Vonn**, alpine skier (38)
Oct. 19 **John Lithgow**, actor (77)

GEMINI May 22-June 21
The theme of this week is "opposites" for you, Gemini. If you're a normally tidy person, you'll leave a mess behind. If you are prompt, you will arrive late. It could be refreshing.

SCORPIO Oct. 24-Nov. 22
You may need to brush up on your charm skills, Scorpio. Sometimes you come at people at full force. You could benefit from employing a more slow and steady approach.

CANCER June 22-July 22
This week there will be a great deal of pressure on you, Cancer. Try to remain

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 23-Dec. 21
Sometimes you can be naturally shy and quiet, Sagittarius. This week show others

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Police report

(Continued from Page 18)

Later in the day, a report came in of suspicious activity on Wheeler Road, where an individual was thought to be digging up the roadway. Further investigation determined that a homeowner was fixing the edge of his driveway and that no damage was done to the public street.

Soon afterward, police responded to a report of a cat stuck in a tree on Park Street. The cat later fell out of the tree with no injuries. Police informed Brandon Animal Control of the incident.

Around 4 p.m., police responded to a complaint that some individuals were harassing a juvenile female on Grove Street. The individuals had been involved in an altercation with another student at Otter Valley Union High School in September. Police are investigating possible charges of disorderly conduct with an underlying hate crime motivation.

In other activities, police:

On Oct. 3

- Took fingerprints for school employment, a nursing license, and a school chaperone.
- Monitored Center Street traffic for cell phone violations.

On Oct. 4

- Made a routine business check at Walgreens on Union Street and Hannaford Supermarket on Supermarket Drive.
- Received a 911 hang-up via a cell phone near Smoke Rise Campground on Grove Street. The person had dialed 911 ac-

identally while trying to figure out how to use their new Apple Watch.

- Took fingerprints for a school volunteer and school employment.
- Responded to a report of a bear cub stuck on a utility pole behind the River Pub on Center Street.
- Enforced speed limit on Grove Street, stopping two vehicles and issuing two warnings.
- Investigated suspicious activity on Steinberg Road.

On Oct. 5

- Took fingerprints.
- Enforced speed limit on Forest Dale Road in front of the Brandon Police Department.

On Oct. 6

- Responded to a complaint on Birch Hill Road.
- Conducted a background investigation at the request of BRAVO for a new applicant to the program's restorative justice board.
- Stopped three vehicles for speeding on Forest Dale Road and issued tickets to all operators.
- Took fingerprints for an after-school program.
- Stopped a vehicle on Forest Dale Road for defective equipment. The driver was ticketed for failing to display license plates.
- Served a trespass order at a residence on West Seminary Street.
- Stopped a motor vehicle on Forest Dale Road at McConnell Road for spinning its tires as it entered the intersection and is-

sued a warning to the operator.

- Patrolled Steinberg Road for suspicious activity.
- Assisted with loose cows on Richmond Road.
- Enforced speed limit on Champlain Street, issuing three warnings
- Investigated a report of suspicious activity on Center Street.
- Stopped three vehicles on Champlain Street; two were issued warnings for speeding, and the third, a suspected DUI, was found to be sober.
- Enforced speed on Franklin Street.

On Oct. 7

- Assisted the Addison County State's Attorney's Office with the service of a subpoena on a witness that resided in the Town of Brandon.
- Stopped a vehicle on Center Street for a stop sign violation.
- Assisted the Vermont State Police with a DUI screening on Franklin Street near Otter Valley Union High School.
- Served a notice against trespass to a juvenile, ordering him to keep off a private residence on Park Street.
- Made motor vehicle stops on Grove Street and Franklin Street for speeding and defective equipment, issuing two warnings and a ticket.
- Assisted a Brandon Inn guest with a leak.
- Made a routine business check at Walgreens on Union Street.

On Oct. 8

- Enforced speed on Forest

Dale Road and issued two warnings.

- Patrolled Center Street on foot.
- Stopped a vehicle at the intersection of Champlain Street and Grove Street for a stop sign violation and issued a warning.
- Assisted an elderly resident on Sunset Drive.
- Stopped a vehicle on Franklin Street and issued a warning.
- Helped an injured owl on Furnace Road.
- Responded to a fire alarm at Wintergreen North on New Road.
- Investigated reports of an erratic driver on Franklin Street near Nickerson Road.

On Oct. 9

• Assisted Pittsford Police with a suspicious incident complaint at Winslow Farm on Route 7 in Pittsford.

- Handed over the injured owl to the Vermont Institute of Natural Science.
- Investigated the report of suspicious activity on Wheeler Road.
- Received a report of a cat stuck in a tree on Park Street.
- Investigated a report of harassment and a possible hate crime.
- Made motor vehicle stops on Conant Square, Grove Street, and Franklin Street and issued a warning and a ticket.

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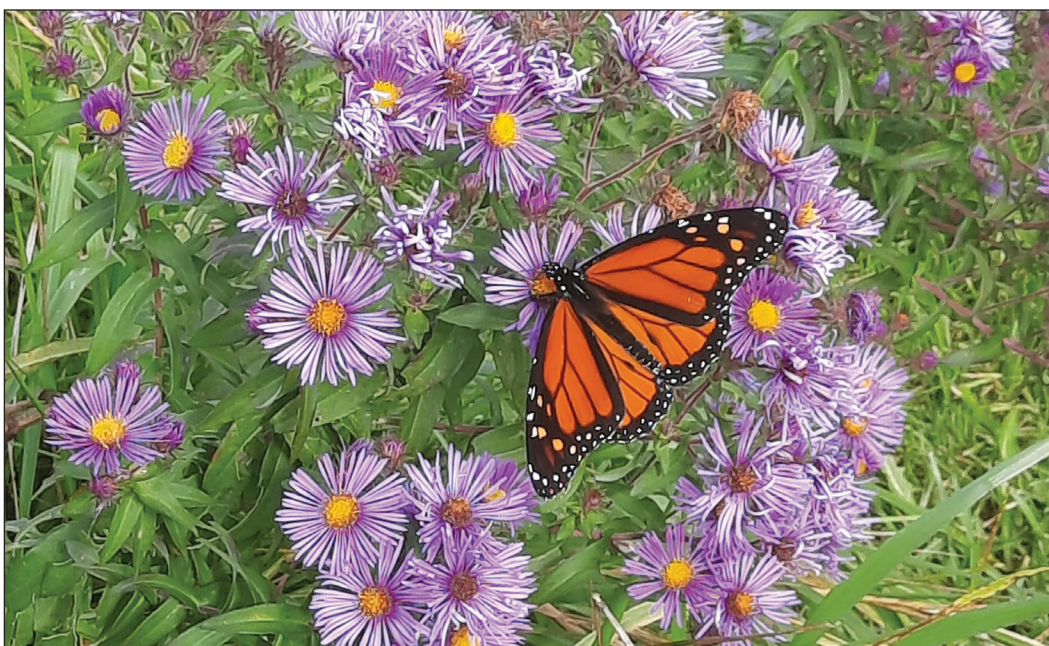


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Butterfly fluttering-by

THIS LATE SEASON monarch butterfly was seen on Mt. Pleasant Acres in Brandon.

Photo by Kelly Devino

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*Sonnet 73:
That time of year thou mayst in me behold*

*That time of year thou mayst in me behold
When yellow leaves, or none, or few, do hang
Upon those boughs which shake against the cold,
Bare ruin'd choirs, where late the sweet birds sang.
In me thou see'st the twilight of such day
As after sunset fadeth in the west,
Which by and by black night doth take away,
Death's second self, that seals up all in rest.
In me thou see'st the glowing of such fire
That on the ashes of his youth doth lie,
As the death-bed whereon it must expire,
Consum'd with that which it was nourish'd by.
This thou perceiv'st, which makes thy love more strong,
To love that well which thou must leave ere long.*

By William Shakespeare



*Photos by
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New standardized tests coming in 2023 for English, math, and science

MONTPELIER — The Agency of Education (AOE) announced on Oct. 5 that it had selected Cognia as Vermont's new statewide assessment vendor after an open and competitive bid process.

Cognia will develop and implement new statewide assessments for English language arts (ELA), math, and science, beginning in the spring of 2023.

The tests developed by

Cognia will replace the Smarter Balanced Assessment and the Vermont Science Assessment (VTSA).

"I am very pleased that Cognia will provide Vermont's new statewide assessment," said Secretary of Education Dan French. "Cognia's approach to diversity, equity, and inclusion in the development and implementation of assessments aligns with Vermont's values, and the accessibility and user experience of their testing resources will make working with the assessments easier for students, families, and educators."

Cognia will provide Vermont's full suite of testing services, including formative resources and annual summative assessments. Additionally, the organization offers advanced accessibility features and accommodations and an

enhanced user interface for test setup and viewing results.

The vendor and AOE will work with Vermont schools to ensure a smooth transition to the new test.

Cognia will provide implementation support and training for district test administrators and strong customer service.

"We requested proposals specifically focused on providing an assessment aligned with Vermont's commitment to equity,"

"We requested proposals specifically focused on providing an assessment aligned with Vermont's commitment to equity,"

—Amanda Gorham,
Agency of Education's
Director of Assessment

ty," said Amanda Gorham, AOE's Director of Assessment. "We are excited to work with Cognia to develop and implement our statewide summative assessment program for years to come. The AOE is investing in fairness and more socially just practice and we're looking forward to this new relationship developing further."

"We recognize the importance of being able to look back on previous years' data in a meaningful way," added Gorham. "As part of the contract, Cognia will develop a methodology to compare scores on the new assessments to legacy assessments used in prior years."

"While the test itself is changing, as is the vendor administering it, it's important to note what is not changing," said Deputy Secretary Heather Bouchey. "Vermont is required to administer statewide tests of English

language arts, math, and science under federal law. The basic structure of assessment remains the same; participation requirements, reporting, and federal accountability will not change with the move to Cognia."

"In addition, these data are a critical part of how we measure academic achievement year over year," added Bouchey. "This has never been more important as we recover from the COVID-19 pandemic."

Several states currently contract with Cognia to provide statewide summative assessments, including Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Rhode Island, as well as the Multi-state Alternate Assessment and the Collaborative for the Alternate Assessment of English Language consortia. Cognia (formerly Measured Progress) provided Vermont with the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) from 2004 – 2015.

Cognia provides a fully integrated system, including assessment development, implementation, and reporting. The organization has taken on a holistic focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion. More information about Cognia's assessment services can be found on their website.

The new tests will be rolled out during the 2022-23 school year. The Agency and Cognia will work with school districts to ensure assessments are ready for students in the spring and schools are ready to administer them.

Collaboration between GMP and VERMONT Magazine offers cash prizes for poetry and prose

COLCHESTER — Two Vermont writers can win \$1,250 and be published in VERMONT Magazine if they win the Vermont Writers' Prize for Prose or Poetry, and their entries are being accepted through January 1, 2023.

The Prize celebrates writing about all things Vermont and is a collaboration between Green Mountain Power (GMP) and VERMONT Magazine, published by Old Mill Road Media. The Prize was established in 1989 to honor the legacy of Vermont historian Ralph Nading Hill Jr., who also served on GMP's Board of Directors.

"We encourage everyone to get writing and enter. The award has evolved and changed through the

years along with Vermont. The idea is to give writers a way to flex their creativity in showcasing what Vermont means to them through the written word whether they pen a poem or craft a short story or essay," said Kristin Carlson, a Writers' Prize judge, and GMP vice president. "The Vermont experience can mean so many different things, and it is inspiring to see what writers share through their work."

Entries should be focused on "Vermont—Its People, Its Places, Its History or Its Values." Works must be previously unpublished, and writers cannot be previous winners.

"Old Mill Road Media is thrilled to partner again with Green Mountain Power on the

34th Annual Vermont Writers' Prize," said President, Founder, and Publisher Dr. Joshua Sherman. "We look forward to receiving stories of Vermont and sharing them with the readers of Vermont Magazine."

The deadline for entries is January 1, 2023. Works of prose must be less than 1,500 words, and poems must be less than 40 lines. You can be an amateur or professional writer, and students are encouraged to enter. Writers must live in Vermont.

GMP and VERMONT Magazine employees are ineligible.

Submissions can be made online at <https://vermontwriterprize.submittable.com/submit>.

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are on page 16!

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING THE TOWN OF PITTSFORD, VERMONT

Hereby Notices
Re: A Hearing for a Domestic Pet Complaint

Mr. Wayne "Artie" Forrest III is Hereby Noticed to attend:

The Select Board and Dog Hearing Board of Pittsford, Vermont, will hold a Public Hearing pursuant to 20 V.S.A. § 3546 on **November 2, 2022 at 5:30PM**, Pittsford Town Offices, 426 Plains Road, Pittsford, Vermont, 05763 to hear evidence and receive testimony on a complaint of a "vicious or nuisance dog" owned/kept by Mr. Wayne A. Forrest III presently residing at 593 High Pond Road, Brandon, Vermont, 05733 and/or 2783 Fire Hill Road, Florence, Vermont, 05744.

This hearing will be open to the public to attend, but it is not open to public comment. Only those offering evidence in the above-stated matter will be allowed to participate.

TOWN OF PITTSFORD FINAL SIDEWALK STUDY MEETING

The Town of Pittsford will be holding a Final Sidewalk Study Meeting to discuss the engineering scoping study conclusion along with the community.

The Town of Pittsford secured a grant to study the desirability and feasibility of building additional sidewalk segments within the Village. The Town utilized the grant funding award and partnered with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission and hired the engineering firm of Dubois & King to gather and analyze information, solicit and collect community input and ultimately to (a) recommend where future sidewalk segments could be built and (b) estimate the cost of construction for each recommended project.

The engineers met with Town staff on several occasions, walked the streets of Pittsford, identified challenges that may be present on each potential route and developed preliminary cost estimates to build several different stretches of sidewalk.

On Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at 6:30 pm, the Select Board and the engineers of Dubois & King will host a Final Summary and engineering report to the Select Board to review all of the findings.

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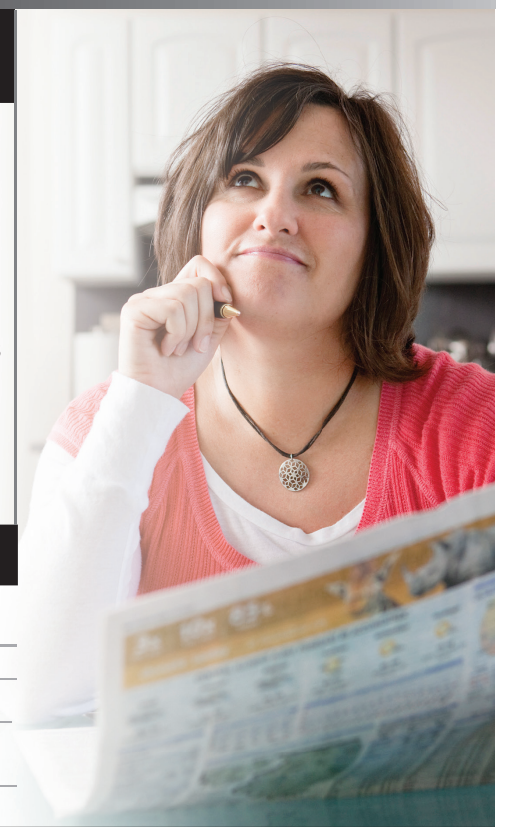
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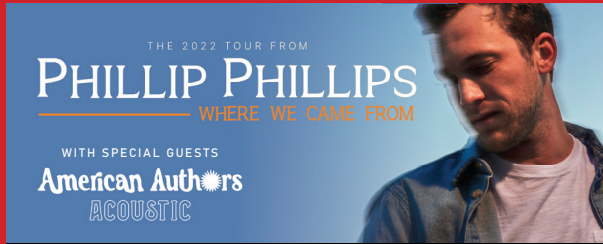
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