

The REPORTER

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

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Wednesday, December 7, 2022

75¢

RNESU eyes 10.71% budget hike for FY'24

BY ANGELO LYNN

BRANDON — The Rutland Northeast Supervision Union Board is well on its way to adopting a Fiscal 2024 year budget with preliminary numbers projecting a 10.71% increase in spending, with certain line items like fuel seeing a 48% increase over the prior year. The Consumer Price Index (inflation) is around 9% over the prior year, which is driving up that aspect of the supervisory union's budget.

Specifically, the board is eyeing a spending increase of \$1,149,539, from a FY23 budget of \$10,773,367 to a proposed FY24 budget of \$11,882,906.

Primary cost drivers for the budget were:

- 6.85% increase in salary and benefits.
- 21.91% increase in EEE and PreK coordinator, representing a difference in spending of \$75,796 compared the previous year, but which represents only 0.71% of the total budget.
- 10% increase in Special Ed and Act 173 spending, representing an increase of \$625,850 for a line item that represents 5.83% of overall spending.
- 7.83% increase in overall transportation costs, representing an increase of \$101,693 for 0.95% of total spending.
- 48% increase in supplies, including fuel, seeing an increase of \$244,864 and representing (See RNESU meeting, Page 13)



Narrow miss

GOSHEN RESIDENT KRISTEN Mason was involved in a single-car accident Monday night in Goshen. The truck almost ended up in the north branch of the Neshobe River, but luckily no one was injured in the accident.

Reporter photo/George Fjeld

Reporter board shares vision for nonprofit newspaper

BY CAROLYN VAN VLECK

BRANDON — Interested readers of The Reporter learned about the upcoming transition from profit to nonprofit status of the local newspaper from the newly formed nonprofit board of directors and current editor and owner Angelo Lynn. About 20 community members were present at the Thursday evening meeting in the OVUHS auditorium with others attending via Zoom.

Brandon residents Steven Jupiter, George Fjeld, M.D., and Barbara Ebling, owner of The Book Shop in Brandon, are the current board of directors for the nonprofit, which is looking to add up to nine members to the board.

Jupiter said that he and Lynn had been talking about forming the nonprofit for the past six months with a transition date of Jan. 1, 2023.

Lynn, a fourth-generation journalist who bought the Addison County Independent in 1984 when he was 30, and bought the Brandon Reporter from Roy Newton in January 2005, noted that the three options facing the Reporter were: shutting it down, trying to sell it to an outside firm (which was unlikely), and helping the community form a community nonprofit to run the newspaper — a method of running newspapers that has been gaining popularity across the country as small newspapers face closure.

Lynn said that while The Reporter (See Reporter board, Page 13)

Bow hunter harvests enormous whitetail deer in Shoreham

BY GEORGE FJELD

SHOREHAM — Kristen Nolan Patterson, a 5'4" tall woman from Bridport, harvested a 231-pound, 7-point buck early in bow season this year. She was hunting from a tree-stand with a crossbow on the afternoon of October 5.

After tracking the deer down, she wondered if it would be over 200 pounds. Her husband, Taylor, wouldn't guess because he

might jinx it, she said. There was no question when it was weighed in at Buxton's store in Orwell.

"It was bigger than my husband's



deer," she said recently, giving her bragging rights for a whole year!

This organic, low-fat meat was processed at home and will go to good use as venison pot roast, steak, hamburger and sausage. Game meats are healthy alternatives

to common grocery store meats and processed foods.

Patterson, 28, has been hunting since she was 12 years old. She loves being in the outdoors and all the family traditions, she said, and recommends that anyone interested should try it.

Vermont Outdoors Woman is dedicated to getting women of all ages into the outdoors through hands-on education. Women from 16 to 80-plus years enjoy

programs offered by VOW. They offer two weekend retreats each year.

Hunter education courses and novice weekend mentors are available throughout the state. Check in with the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department.



ANNUAL LIBRARY AUCTION NETS MORE THAN \$7,000



AUCTIONEER BILL MOORE, celebrated artist Warren Kimble, and library board member John Peterson, work the room at the annual holiday auction at the Brandon Free Public Library on December 4th. Peterson holds a growler that the Red Clover Ale Company of Brandon donated for a year's worth of refills, which ended up selling for \$450.

Reporter photos/George Field (right) and Carolyn Van Vleck, above.

The Friends of the Brandon Free Public Library held their annual auction on Sunday, Dec. 4th, at the library. A raucous crowd bid generously for the items, many of which were made by local residents. The highest bid was \$750 for a beautiful double-sided handmade quilt. The funniest part of the event was when Warren Kimble bought

back the beautiful fern stand with an enormous poinsettia in it that he had donated!

The delicious and creative trays of cheeses, fruits, and cookies were made by Louis and Sarah Pattis, former owners of the Brandon Inn. Wine and punch were donated by the Friends of the Library.

The auction netted more than

\$7000. The money will be used to buy books for the library, as well as to enhance the summer reading program for local children.

There is a silent auction going on until next Friday, Dec. 16. Please come to the library and check out the fabulous items!

Thank you to everyone who generously donated to our Stuff-A-Truck HOPE Holiday Toy Drive.



These toys will bring many smiles this holiday season!



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BRANDON REPORTER

Guest Editorial

Good fences make good neighbors

BY BILL SCHUBART

The incursion of private-equity investors (PE) into nonprofit health-care, journalism, and corrections is doing untold societal and economic damage in the service of high-speed profiteering.

Private equity investors, usually limited partnerships, seek the right mix of equity and debt and typically buy and restructure companies that are not publicly traded. With few regulatory barriers or constraints, they're increasingly seeking opportunity in the nonprofit sector, giving them the opportunity to harvest monetary value from taxpayer-funded government resources like Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security.

Vermont (and the nation) have three economic sectors:

- the for-profit sector for businesses seeking opportunity and profit,
- the nonprofit sector advancing social mission work, and
- the government sector “for the people, by the people,” that oversees and funds with taxpayer dollars traditional government institutions like public education, a postal system, broadcast spectrum, transportation infrastructure, criminal justice, environmental oversight, fair trade, welfare, food systems and more.

In Healthcare:

Because of a longstanding ambiguity about whether healthcare in Vermont is a business or a public good, we're increasingly seeing the damage wrought by private equity buying into residential-care facilities and nursing homes — many of which are largely funded by insurance and federal agencies — and

also acquiring Medicare Advantage insurance plans and then altering premium costs, copays, and coverage to enhance profit.

Although most hospitals and federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) are legally nonprofits in Vermont, to the extent that hospitals have been regulated at all they're pretty much free to function as businesses. Budgets, rate approvals, and “certificates of public good” have not been issued with reference to an articulated goal of “population health” in Vermont.

Weill Cornell Medicine recently published their findings that PE ownership of nursing homes is linked to lowered quality of care and consequently higher Medicare costs:

“Nursing homes acquired by private equity companies saw an increase in emergency room visits and hospitalizations among long-stay residents and an uptick in Medicare costs, according to a new study from Weill Cornell Medicine investigators. The findings, published Nov. 19 in JAMA Health Forum, suggest that quality of care declined when private equity firms took over the facilities.

“Our findings indicate that private equity firm-owned facilities offer lower quality long-term care,” said Dr. Mark Unruh, an associate professor of population health science at Weill Cornell Medicine. “These residents are among the most vulnerable in our health care system and a lack of transparency in ownership makes it difficult to identify facilities with private equity ownership, which consumers may be interested in knowing.”

(See *Good fences*, Page 6)



Little hunter, big buck

KRISTIN PATTERSON, AT 5'4", harvested this enormous 7-point buck in Shoreham with a crossbow earlier this season. The buck weighed in at 231 pounds at Buxton's Store.

Photo provided by Proud Grandmother

Letters to the Editor

Why should we give gifts divided by gender?

I am concerned that a lovely Christmas gifting idea, organized by Project HOPE and promoted by the National Bank of Middlebury, has a damaging though easily correctable serious flaw. I am referring to the drive for community members to donate Christmas gifts to be distributed to children and teenagers from low-income homes.

When I was at the main branch of the bank yesterday, I saw the attractive display and appeal for people to “choose a tree” with gift ideas, and then buy and drop off the new unwrapped gift. My appreciation and idea of participating was dashed — to say the least — when I actually looked at the gift suggestions.

Actual example: Middle School

boys gift ideas: Science kit; gift cards to Marquis Theater and Subway; insulated water bottle; board game In a Pickle; book — Besties Find Their Groove.

Sounds nice, right? Where's the problem?

Now: “Middle School girls gift ideas: Hair iron and styling lotion; set of hair scrunchies; fleece blanket; gift card to TJ Maxx; book — Remarkably Ruby.

Saddened and puzzled by the apparent obsession with dividing kids relentlessly by gender — separate quite often is not equal — I have been trying to figure out what is going on. Is there some class prejudice here — as in, girls from lower income families aren't going to be in-

terested in science? What's the message here to girls getting presents of personal grooming items while they see their brothers getting science kits, water bottles or board games?

I know that gift-giving choices are often fraught, and many well-intentioned gifts miss their mark. But for next year, why not avoid this minefield of gender stereotyping — which limits everyone, but traditionally girls more than boys — and give suggestions that would have a broader appeal to all? (water bottle, gift cards, board games, soccer ball, science kit etc.)

Carolyn Schmidt
Whiting

The Reporter
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Vermont Democrats elect new leaders of House

MONTPELIER — Democratic members of the Vermont House of Representatives this morning selected their leadership slate for the coming 2023–2024 biennium during a public Democratic Caucus held at the State House in Montpelier.

Rep. Jill Krowinski of Burlington was elected by the 104-member caucus to return for her second term as Speaker of the House. Rep. Krowinski's nomination as Speaker must come before the tripartisan House of Representatives for full confirmation on the first day of the 2023 session, Wednesday, January 4, after she is sworn in for her seventh term.

Another veteran member of the House Leadership team, Rep. Emily Long of Newfane, was re-elected by her Democratic peers as Majority Leader. Long also held this position during the previous 2021–2022 biennium and before that, served as Assistant Majority Leader (Whip). She was recently re-elected by her constituents to a fifth term.

In a speech to her caucus, Rep.

Krowinski acknowledged the opportunities and challenges that come with her party's newly expanded majority. "We're a diverse party, with 104 members representing every corner of Vermont and a wide range of experiences and perspectives," she said. "Our goal is to come together as a caucus, build consensus, and pass legislation that helps Vermonters in all 14 counties, builds a more vibrant future, and leaves no one behind."

"On the campaign trail, we ran on our values and on everything we've done to create communities that support individuals, working families, and an economy that works for everyone. We listened to voters. It's clear that Vermonters are counting on us to continue investments in building housing opportunities for all walks of life, expand access to affordable high-quality child care, increase workforce and educational opportunities, pass legislation to reduce our carbon footprint and protect our state's natural resources, pass legislation to protect us from gun

violence, and so much more," said Speaker Krowinski.

In her speech to the Democratic caucus, Majority Leader Long highlighted the stable foundation that Krowinski has created for her to build on and the importance of expanding upon the successes of the previous biennium. "I know from experience that any success we achieve will require that we work together every day, listen to each other, and respect our different views before coming to consensus," says Long. "It's all about teamwork, clear communications, and trust. Our collective job is to make Vermont a safe and supportive place for every Vermonter to be able to live and work, in all 14 counties."

Krowinski and Long are joined by three legislators who will round out the 2023–2024 House Democrats leadership team: Rep. Kathleen James of Manchester as Assistant Majority Leader (Whip); Rep. Will Notte of Rutland as Assistant Majority Leader (Leadership Development); and Rep. Jana Brown of

Richmond as Assistant Majority Leader (Communications).

Rep. John L. Bartholomew of Hartland was re-elected to the post of At-Large Rules Committee Member, responsible for overseeing rules and parliamentary procedures on the House floor and training new members in their

use.

Biographical information:

Rep. Jill Krowinski of Burlington was appointed to the House in 2012. For nearly eight years, she worked at Planned Parenthood of Northern New England, her last role as Vice President of Educa- (See *Vermont Democrats*, Page 15)

Come Celebrate with us...

An Evening in Holiday Fashion dedicated to our Civil War Soldiers

December 10, 2022, 5pm
*Goshen Town Hall
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Join us for a night of history, carols, refreshments, and conversation!

Guest Presenter: Paul Andriscin
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Three Saturdays in December
December 3, 10 & 17 - 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.
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Letters to Santa:

Drop off your letters to Santa mornings in the Cafe from now until December 18th. It takes a while for mail to get to the North Pole!

The beautiful Neshobe Café

at the Brandon Inn celebrates the holidays. Open weekdays from 7–11 a.m. and Saturdays & Sundays from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. In addition to great coffee and tea options, enjoy our pastries, salads *and free candy canes for children!*

All decked out for the holidays, the Brandon Inn is a great place to host visiting family. Visit BrandonInn.com for availability. We are again working with the Brandon Area Toy Project to collect toys for local children. Toys should be appropriate for children from birth 'til and including 6th Grade. Pickup is Dec. 13.

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Obituaries

Regina Ann Murray, 73 Sudbury

SUDBURY — Regina Ann Murray, age 73, passed away Thursday, December 1, 2022, at Helen Porter Nursing Home in Middlebury.

Regina was born in Middlebury on May 2, 1949. She was the daughter of William and Priscilla (Delancey) Steele, Jr. She grew up in Sudbury and graduated from Otter Valley Union High School, class of 1967.

She began her working career at the Shoreham Apple Co-Op. She later worked for her father in Sudbury for many years. She loved music and bird watching.

She is survived by: two daughters — Tanya LaPorte and her daughter, Breanna, of Sudbury; and Charlene Parker and her husband Michael, and their three children Jared, Curtis and Amy Parker, plus a great-granddaughter, Rose Parker, all of Whitehall, N.Y.; a son, Mark Ladieu of Sudbury; and one brother, Larry Steele of Sudbury.

Several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins also survive her.



REGINA ANN MURRAY

Respecting her wishes a private memorial service “In Celebration of Her Life” will take place at a later date.

Memorial gifts in lieu of flowers may be made in her memory to: Brandon Area Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 232, Brandon, VT 05733. Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home in Brandon is in charge of arrangements.

Good neighbors

(Continued from Page 4)

Kaiser Health News(KHN) also recently reported on a new phenomenon called “patient financing” an emerging business in which private equity and banks finance medical bills that families can’t afford to pay.

“As Americans are overwhelmed with medical bills, patient financing is now a multibillion-dollar business, with private equity and big banks lined up to cash in when patients and their families can’t pay for care. By one estimate from research firm IBISWorld, profit margins top 29% in the patient financing industry, seven times what is considered a solid hospital margin.

Hospitals and other providers, which historically put their patients in interest-free payment plans, have welcomed the financing, signing contracts with lenders and enrolling patients in financing plans with rosy promises about convenient bills and easy payments.”

Started by Dame Cicely Saunders in London in 1967, the modern hospice movement began as a social mission to enable a dignified and supportive end-of-life experience. It’s long been a staple of any healthcare system and in Vermont existed as a free-standing nonprofit, The Visiting Nurse Association(VNA) until it was absorbed into the UVM Health Network(UVMHN) in 2017. Recent staffing challenges at UVMHN have since prompted an end to care for people with mobility impairments and care management functions.

Nationally, hospice has become a multibillion dollar business as The New Yorker magazine recently reported, “How Hospice Became a For-profit Hustle.

“It began as a visionary notion — that patients could die with dignity at home. Now it’s a twenty-two-billion-dollar industry plagued by exploitation.”

Healthcare news is similarly laden with the negative impacts of PE investments in healthcare. National Public Radio(NPR) recently reported:

“Newly released federal audits reveal widespread overcharges and other errors in payments to Medicare Advantage health plans for seniors, with some plans overbilling the government more than \$1,000 per patient a year on average.”

The ambiguity about whether healthcare in Vermont is a business or a mission-driven enterprise has made it ripe for the picking by PE investors seeking short-term profits. The basis of nonprofit entities is social mission not profit. When PE takes a stake in a social-service entity, the goals of profit vs. mission collide.

IN JOURNALISM:

Unlike healthcare, where the goal is to wring quick profits from the taxpayer-supported resources of federal programs supporting healthcare — or, as a cynical friend put it, “to suckle at the federal teat” — the goals in journalism are a mixture of profit, where available, and politics. Of the two, I would suggest that right-wing political goals are more the motivating factor.

There is reason enough to worry about PE and giant media companies snapping up local and hyperlocal print and broadcast news. The goal seems to be to wring out editorial and local infrastructure costs and then feed syndicated content into what is left.

Sinclair Broadcasting and Gray Television are two of several conservative companies snapping up struggling local media companies.

In the business sector, the free-market profit incentive reigns and will continue to do so. But it is within our power to limit what they do in the nonprofit sector and we should do so if we are to preserve the concept of mission investment in social wellbeing, especially given the rise in conservative rhetoric:

“We’ll see more attacks on public

institutions — libraries, universities, school boards, news organizations. They’ll be hard to parse and hard to think about as connected.” —Melody Kramer, Nieman Labs

The steady decline of local newsprint and broadcast organizations is a severe threat to democracy in and of itself, as I have written. Whereas the emergence of nonprofit journalism is a bright note these days and PE should not be allowed to co-opt it.

IN CORRECTIONS:

The criminal-justice system, from the courts to corrections, is a prime responsibility of government. But the business camel’s nose has long been under the tent here as well, sniffing profits from a taxpayer-funded system.

GEO Group, with revenues of \$616M and net income of \$38M, and CoreCivic, with revenues of \$465M and net income of \$68M, have thrived on government contracts to house the incarcerated, including Vermont’s. The Vermont Department of Corrections (DOC) has contracted with CoreCivic to house some 145 Vermont inmates at the Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility located in Tutwiler, Mississippi at a cost lower than if prisoners were housed in Vermont.

President Biden vowed to close private federal prisons in 2021, but has been unable to deliver on his promise.

A new and corrosive element which we do not have in Vermont are “concierge prisons,” private jails for the elite offender offering a high level of daily service, individual meals, wifi, family visits etc., all at a cost to the jailed person of about \$130 a day.

Still it is wholly appropriate for the government sector to allow and welcome partnerships in the for-

(See *Good neighbors*, Page 15)



AUDREY SCARBOROUGH, 85, RUTLAND

RUTLAND — Audrey Madge (Lee) Scarborough, age 85, passed away Monday, December 5, 2022, surrounded by her loving family at her home in Rutland Town.

A gathering “In Celebration of Her Life” will be announced along with the full obituary at a later date, time, and location following the holiday season.

The Miller & Ketcham Fu-



AUDREY SCARBOROUGH

neral Home in Brandon is in charge of arrangements.

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MEMBERS OF THE Brandon Festival Singers were first organized in 1981 and have been operating continuously for 40 years. Their upcoming concert will be December 11 at 3 p.m. at the Brandon Congregational Church. File photo.

Brandon's Festival Singers celebrate 40 years

BRANDON — The 40th Annual Brandon Festival Singers Concert will be performed on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 3 p.m. at the Brandon Congregational Church. This popular holiday event features the Festival Singers along with guest musicians, the Catamount Brass Quintet, performing a colorful, varied program of Christmas music.

The Brandon Festival Singers was started in 1981 by Gene and Jean Childers, who are the music directors at the Congregational Church. This was an effort to provide an opportunity for area

singers and musicians to come together to perform. The Congregational Church Woman's Club gave a donation for music and the church hosted the Festival Singers as a community outreach.

The first year there were 28 singers and 19 musicians from around Rutland County. Over the years, there have been upwards of 350 different performers from four counties. The choir has sung at Brandon events, in neighboring towns, at two local colleges and at the Vermont Bicentennial celebration at the State House.

For the 25th anniversary, the

BFS recorded a CD of original Christmas music as a fundraiser for charity. The group has maintained high musical standards over the decades while having fun, making new friends and sharing life experiences. There have been children and grandchildren of singers participating from the

very beginning. For many years, there were three generations of the Ripley family.

It is a very dedicated, close-knit group. Two singers who have sung since the first year are Beverly Sabatini and Ellen Knapp. The audience through the years has been equally dedicated and wonderfully

supportive.

If you have never attended this concert event, this would be a great year to start a new holiday tradition. There is no admission charge. A free will offering is received a portion of which goes to charity.

Reap the rewards of membership for just \$20 today!

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Calendar of events

December

Tuesdays

Maclure Library Story Time Playgroup

Looking for a fun, educational playgroup for your 2-5 year old? Look no further! From 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. join Miss Allie, a certified teacher, for a weekly FREE literacy-based playgroup. Light snacks will be provided, along with stories, crafts, songs, games, and more. To register, please email allie.griffiths@rcpcc.org with your child's name, age, and contact information for your family

Wednesdays

Ping Pong

The Green Mountain Table Tennis Club would like to announce the beginning of its new season!

The club has begun play on Wednesday evenings starting at 7 p.m. It will meet nearly every Wednesday year-round in the gym at the Rutland Area Christian School in Rutland, located at the corner of Melrose Ave. and Lincoln Ave. in Rutland, a block from the intersection of Route 7 and Melrose Ave. (110 Lincoln Ave., Rutland, VT 05701).

Being a part of this unique and exciting club offers a variety of activities, including regular practice, a challenge board, clinics for beginner and advanced play, singles and doubles, inter-club events with other table tennis clubs, and even tournaments.

If you are interested in table tennis as a recreational or athletic activity, we're interested in you! There is a modest membership fee of only \$30, although you can come twice free as our guest. Bring your sneakers and paddle (or use ours) and have some fun playing a great game of "Pong!"

For further information about the Green Mountain Table Tennis Club, call club representative Ronald Lewis at 802-247-5913, or visit our club's website at www.gmttc.com.

Trouble with math? Free tutoring is offered!

Free math tutoring is available in downtown Brandon on Wednesday afternoons from 2:45-4 p.m. at Fellowship Hall — the smaller brick building next to the Brandon Congregational Church.

Larry Rowe is offering help to any Otter Valley students who have questions or difficulties with mathematics or would like help with their math homework. Rev. Sara Rossigg will be in her office — 20 feet away from the worktable — during these sessions to ensure everyone feels comfortable and is safe.

Call 802-236-9130 for more information. (Please note that Wednesday, Nov. 23 and Wednesday, Dec. 7 are days Larry has other commitments and will not be available.)

Friday 9th & Saturday 10th:

Rutland Free Library Book Sale

Join us on Friday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Public Always Welcome. Thousands of organized, gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles for all ages.

Always a broad selection of rare and antique books.

All purchases by donation only. Proceeds go to support library programs and collections. www.rutlandfree.org

Rutland Youth Theatre presents Annie, Jr.

Leaping Lizards! Join us as Rutland will "Stick up its chin and grin and sing 'Tomorrow! Tomorrow!'" when the Rutland Youth Theatre performs Annie JR!

Annie JR follows the story of an orphan named Annie living a "hard-knock life" at The New York City Municipal Orphanage run by the cruel Miss Hannigan. Annie dreams of being reunited with her parents and takes action to find them. In adventure after fun-filled adventure, Annie foils Miss Hannigan's evil machinations, befriends President Franklin Roosevelt and finds a new family in billionaire Oliver Warbucks, his personal secretary Grace Farrell and a lovable mutt named Sandy.

"Annie is a heartwarming show with an important message about the true nature of family. In the show, we see how a plucky little girl transforms her entire life by making the most out of every moment."

We look forward to seeing you and your friends + family at the show!

Come see us on Friday at 7 p.m., and Saturday at 2

Goings on around

2022 *HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST!



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18TH

We invite all Brandon Residents to join in the holiday fun. There will be FOUR categories judged this year:

- Residential - Currier and Ives Division – Beautiful, elegant, "Classy".
- Residential - Clark W. Griswold Division – Over the top, lots of lights, inflatables, music.
- Commercial – Businesses in Brandon and Forest Dale
- Civic Buildings/Organizations – Schools, Emergency Services, Organizations, Religious Organizations.

Judges will be out Sunday, Dec 18th, be sure to have your lights turned on by 5pm! To be sure they see you, Email info@brandon.org with your address and category or call Colleen at 802-282-6548.

Prize packages: A Beautiful Poinsettia, 1-year subscription to the Reporter and of course- Bragging rights (most important) and recognition in the Reporter!

On the same night you can start your wondrous evening by watching the fun and festive "Reverse Parade".

Sunday, Dec. 18 at 5pm
Brandon

What's a reverse parade? The displays are stationary, you drive past!



REVERSE PARADE

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7 p.m.
 \$15 + tax/fees, Children
 18/Seniors over 65: \$10 + tax/
 purchase tickets at the Para-
 Theatre Box Office or online
 ps://ci.ovationtix.com/36265/
 ction/1142090
 will also have a Concession Stand,
 ay Raffle Tickets and 50/50
 s for sale!!

Saturday 10th:

Christmas in Castleton
 and Annual Christmas in
 Castleton is a full day of family fun to
 celebrate the holidays, pick up gifts
 from small local businesses, enjoy a
 parade, visit Santa, and more!
 We have a full day of events ap-
 pealing for all ages in Castleton
 beginning on Main Street, the Fire
 Station, and Post #50 American
 Legion. Start by bringing the little
 one to the Castleton Free Library for
 holiday crafting, then enjoy lunch and
 shopping at the Christmas Market at
 the Gas Station and the Village
 where you can earn a FREE

Castleton

raffle ticket for every \$10 you
 spend with our vendors. At 5pm we
 will have the Tree of Remembrance
 parade down Main
 Street begins. Head over to Post#50
 American Legion for a ham supper at \$15 per person. The
 children can then enjoy cookies and a visit with Santa at the
 Castleton Volunteer Fire Station after the parade or ukulele
 performance in the Castleton Free Library. Top off the night with
 live music from the Cold River Trio at the Post #50 American
 Legion for \$10 per person.

Local photographer Caleb Kenna open studio
 print sale from 12 a.m. – 4 p.m., at his studio in
 Castleton (40 Old Farm Road). Kenna's prints, by the way, are
 printed by Brandon printer and photographer Don Ross.

Sunday 11th:

Brandon Festival Singers Christmas Concert
 After a two year pandemic hiatus, the Brandon Festival
 Singers are thrilled to finally present their 40th Anniversary
 Christmas Concert! The concert will begin at 3:00 p.m. on
 December 11th at the Brandon Congregational Church, 1
 Carver St. in Brandon. Gene and Jean Childers are the direc-
 tor and accompanist. There is a free will offering
 and mask wearing at your discretion.

Tuesday 8th:

West Rutland Marsh Monitoring Walk
 Join our friendly and knowledgeable birders on
 our monthly marsh walk in this Audubon Impor-
 tant Bird Area. No experience necessary. Go the
 full 3.7 mile loop or go halfway. Meet at the
 boardwalk kiosk on Marble Street at 8 am.
 West Rutland, West Rutland 05777
 Welcome! More info: birding@rutland-
 yaudubon.org

Sunday 11th:

Brandon Festival Singers Christmas Concert
 After a two year pandemic hiatus, the Brandon



EnerJazz Community Christmas Concert, December 7 at Union Church of Proctor

Union Church of Proctor is excited to present a free, family-friendly Community Christmas Concert on December 10, 2022 at 7:00 pm in the church sanctuary at 5 Church St., Proctor. The concert will be performed by the 18 member EnerJazz Big Band and will feature Holiday instrumental and vocal favorites.

When Enerjazz needed to find a new rehearsal location this past year, Union Church was happy to offer the Parish House auditorium with its wonderful acoustics. Now the band has offered to thank the church with this concert.

While there is no admission for the concert, the church will have a free-will offering to benefit the Heating Assistance Program of BROCC Community Action. The Heating Assistance Program is for people who "fall outside the lines", (including many elderly) and don't meet the guidelines for Federal programs. BROCC Heating Assistance provides help with their primary heat source (oil, wood, pellets, kerosene), which have all seen a rise in price this year.

So, mark your calendars. This will be a concert not to be missed! Everyone is Welcome!

Festival Singers are thrilled to finally present their 40th Anniversary Christmas Concert! The concert will begin at 3:00 p.m. on December 11th at the Brandon Congregational Church, 1 Carver St. in Brandon. Gene and Jean Childers are the director and accompanist. There is a free will offering and mask wearing at your discretion.

Noël's at The Franklin Events Center Christmas Holiday Fair
 Come shop the best vendors in Vermont and meet the maker behind your favorite products. Maple products, baked treats, CBD, honey, holiday decor, artisan crafts,

cozy knits, and more! Shop local this holiday with the Vermont Farmers Market. Three rooms of vendors representing some of the best Vermont has to offer. Free admission and lots of free parking!

The Vermont Farmers Market presents their annual Christmas Fair on Sunday, December 11th from 9am-4pm at the Franklin Conference Center in Rutland, Vermont. Shop 3 rooms of vendors! Free admission

Thursday 15th:

NewStory Center Cookie Party
 Enjoy holiday cookies while supporting a good cause From 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. bring 6 dozen cookies (all the same kind) to exchange for the same amount (or less). Containers will be provided. There is a minimum \$10 donation to support NewStory Center. If you don't want to bring cookies, just join us for a good time. Appetizers and drinks will be provided.

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FIND YOUR FOOTING.

Kids' December Holiday Program
 Ski and snowboard lessons • December 26-30
middleburysnowbowl.com

snowbowl
MIDDLEBURY



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



Brian Fillioe of Proctor called to recognize Sandy Felion. She and her husband, Rick used to live in Leicester, but moved to Illinois. Brian spoke with Sandy and she said that the photo is from 1976 when she harvested the turkey near Leicester Four Corners.

Terry Ferson also called in recognizing Sandy Felion.

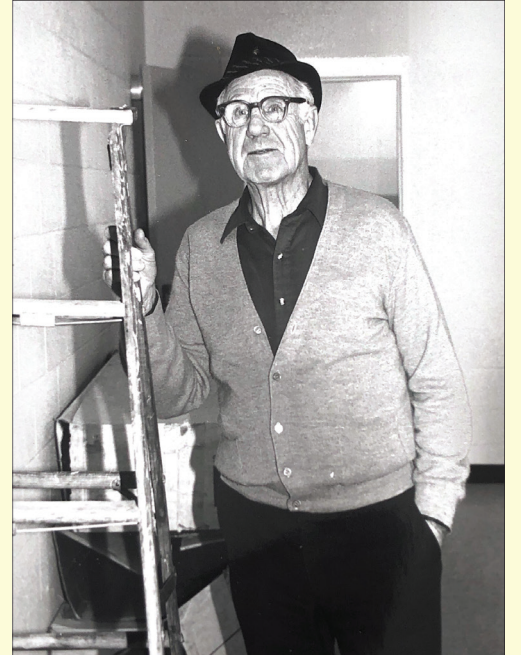
Sanford Rouse from Neshobe House in Brandon called to identify the woman with the turkey as Sandy Felion. Sanford says she moved out of state, but used to live in Leicester before they moved to Illinois.

Kurt Kimball called to recognize Sandy Felion, the woman with the turkey

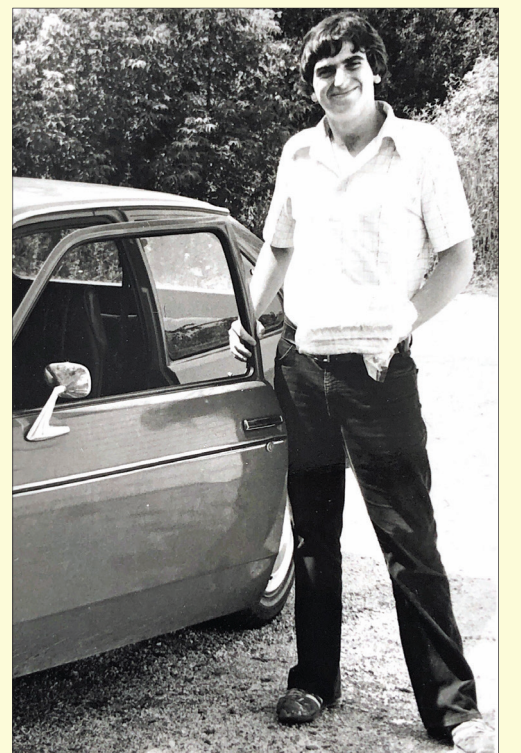


Terry was able to recognize the young man in the suit on the left. He is Larry Whelton of Brandon, the son of Mim (of Mim's photos fame!), and Max Whelton.

Pam Jackson wrote in to recognize the man with the crutches. Patrick Candon used to be the postmaster for the town of Pittsford for many years. Pat & Evelyn Candon were Pam Jackson's neighbors when she first moved to Pittsford in 1985.



Sanford Rouse was also able to recognize the older gentleman next to the ladder. This is Ferdinand Benoit, also known as "Frenchy." He lived in Brandon, but is now deceased.



Terry Ferson recognizes this young man as either Greg or Tom Cummings, both sons of Harlon Cummings who used to be a dentist in Brandon for many years. Terry is not sure which of the Cummings boys this is.

**E-mail
ads@brandonreporter.com if you can
identify someone in these photos.**

Or call us at 247-8080

Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

1. Chop up
5. Ones who utilize
10. Sings with closed lips
14. South American hummingbird
15. Serves as a coxswain
16. Liquor distilled from coconut or rice
17. Spur
18. Senile
19. Tanzanian people
20. Cruel
22. Boxing's "GOAT"
23. Yokels
24. London soccer team
27. Chinese chess piece
30. Supervises flying
31. 007's creator
32. Shaft horsepower (abbr.)
35. A spider makes one
37. Liquefied natural gas
38. Opaque smell
39. Brazilian palm
40. Periodical (slang)
41. You might step on one
42. Marvin and Horsley are two
43. Partner to cheese
44. Unpleasant smell
45. Field force unit (abbr.)
46. Fashion accessory
47. Cool!
48. Time zone
49. Songs to one's lover
52. German river
55. Go bad
56. Sword
60. Very eager
61. Leaf bug
63. Italian seaport
64. Napoleon Dynamite's uncle
65. Member of Jamaican religion
66. Large wading bird
67. Carries out
68. Eternal rest
69. It holds up your headwords

CLUES DOWN

1. Not low
2. Small water buffalo
3. A mark left behind
4. Archaic form of have
5. Fiddler crabs
6. Popular Hyundai sedan
7. Depart
8. Making over
9. Midway between south and southeast
10. Arabic masculine name
11. Type of acid
12. Popular 1980s Cher film
13. Outdoor enthusiasts' tools
21. Chinese city
23. "Star Wars" character Solo
25. The bill in a restaurant
26. Old, ugly witch
27. Burn with a hot liquid
28. To claim or demand
29. "A Doll's House" playwright
32. Involuntary muscular contraction
33. Pea stems (British)
34. Double or multiple fold
36. No longer is
37. Lakers' crosstown rivals (abbr.)
38. S. American plant cultivated in Peru
40. Cloth or fabric
41. Flanks
43. Disfigure
44. Angry
46. Baltic coast peninsula
47. Large, flightless birds
49. Plants of the lily family
50. Medieval Norwegian language
51. Polio vaccine developer
52. Not soft
53. Exchange rate
54. Voice (Italian)
57. Baseball's Ruth
58. Famed guitarist Clapton
59. Take a chance
61. Wife
62. Elaborate handshake

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
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20				21		22				23				
			24		25				26					
27	28	29		30				31				32	33	34
35			36			37				38				
39					40				41					
42					43			44						
45			46				47				48			
			49				50				51			
52	53	54				55				56		57	58	59
60					61				62		63			
64					65						66			
67					68						69			

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.

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

Level: Intermediate

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

K	C	E	N	P	E	L	S	S	O	D			
S	I	B	I	V	T	S	V	R	O	O	I	R	
I	V	B	A	D	I	R	M	G	O	O	D	V	
B	E	R	V	S	T	O	R	T	E	A	V	H	
S	E	D	V	N	E	S	E	S	E	S	E	S	
T	S	W	D	H	T	V	H	N	A	D			
V	W	S	V	I	M	C	V	W	S	E	E	T	
E	T	V	C	S	D	V	W	I	V	S	S	V	
L	V	D	O	G	N	L	B	E	M	B	O	C	
P	H	S	S	N	V	A	V	F	M	I	H	S	
	W	V	H	N	E	T	O						
S	K	O	I	H	E	L	T	V	H	S	R	V	H
I	S	O	I	K	E	T	I	N	V	D	V	O	D
K	V	V	S	E	X	O	C	V	C	N	I		
S	W	U	H	S	R	E	S	U	H	S	V	H	

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

RCHS has Holiday Gifts for Everyone on Your Shopping List!

Do you have animal lovers and supporters of the Rutland County Humane Society (RCHS) on your gift list this holiday season? If so, RCHS has lots of items that will make purrrfect gifts for everyone on your list! Our stylish and cozy knit pom beanies will let people know you support RCHS, while keeping you warm this winter, and our 30 oz tumblers are a great way to keep your coffee hot or your water cold while you're out and about. We also have our 2023 RCHS "Pet Mania" calendars. With over 75 pictures of adorable pets, including dogs, cats and rabbits, it's perfect for family and friends! We have a variety of colors of RCHS leashes, or frisbees for your furry friends to chase out in the snow! Stop by the Shelter and do some shopping, or check out our gift shop online at rchsvt.org. For more information, please call the Shelter at 802.483.6700.

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

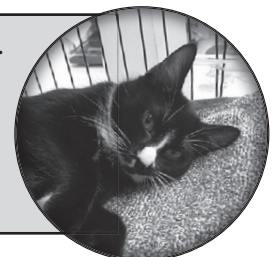


MEET MAC - 2-YEAR-OLD. NEUTERED MALE. BORDER COLLIE MIX. BLACK WITH WHITE.

Mac is a very sweet boy who has a lot of love to give. Mac arrived at RCHS on May 19 from a busy shelter down south. He has since been living in foster as he was being treated for Heartworm. Now he is heartworm free and ready to go home! Since he has been living in a home environment, we have been able to learn a lot about him. The first thing you will notice is that he recently received a haircut. So, when it grows back out, you will see his gorgeous border collie coat, which he should keep as it is intended to keep him cool in the summer, and warm in the winter. Mac will need an active family, but he has a very chill personality for his breed. He absolutely LOVES attention! One thing the foster has noticed is he really is not a fan of being alone. He would be a good fit for someone who will be home most days, or able to take him along during the day. He is true to the herding breed as he will be your shadow and be at your feet wherever you go. We feel he would do best in a home without cats as he does not seem to like them.

MEET SKYLAR - 6-MONTH-OLD. NEUTERED MALE. DOMESTIC SHORT HAIR. BLACK & WHITE.

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



RUTLAND COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

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765 STEVENS RD. • PITTSFORD



ADOPTION CENTER OPEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.



Off the Shelf

New books at the Brandon Free Public Library

Adult Fiction

"None of This Would Have Happened If Prince Were Alive"

by Carolyn Prusa

Ramona has a terrible boss, a temperamental potty-training toddler, a critical mom, a neighborhood kid, a guinea pig, a cheating husband and more, taking up mental space and her sanity as a Category Four hurricane hits the shores of Georgia.

"A World of Curiosities"

by Louise Penny

(Chief Inspector Gamache Novel, 18) Spring has returned to Three Pines. The reappearance of siblings, orphaned when their mother was murdered many years ago brings up old wounds, secrets, puzzles, hidden messages and more. The Inspectors Gamache and Beauvoir must solve the connection between them and the discovery of a disturbing letter written by a stone mason 160 years ago.

Did you know?

Our Silent Auction runs from 12/6 - 12/17 and will be open during library hours! Bidding closes at 12 noon on 12/16.

"The Whittiers"

by Danielle Steele

The death of their parents brings six siblings home to figure out how to move forward. The oldest, Lyle, has reached a breaking point in his marriage. Gloria's big job on Wall Street has kept her single (and cynical). The twins, Caroline and Charlie, moved out long ago to start a fashion business that's now faltering. Benjie, with special needs, is hit hard by the loss of his parents and needs his siblings' help. Annabelle, the youngest, drops out of college and starts to spin out of control. As the oldest four come together to support the two youngest, selling the house, along with

all the memories that live in its walls, feels like yet another devastating loss. Could there be another way, as unconventional as it seems? A story of love, loss, and the bonds of family.

"The Twist of a Knife"

by Anthony Horowitz

Horowitz becomes the prime suspect in a murder investigation—and only one man can prove his innocence: his newly estranged partner in solving crime, Detective Hawthorne. Anthony's new play, Mindgame, is about to open at the Vaudeville Theater in London's West End. Hawthorne declines a ticket to the opening night. The play is savagely panned by the critics, one of whom is found the next day stabbed in the heart with an ornamental dagger which turns out to belong to Anthony, and has his fingerprints all over it. Thrown into prison and fearing for both his personal future and his writing career he realizes that only one man can help him.

But will Hawthorne take the call?

BPD fields domestic calls

Brandon Police Report

BRANDON — In quiet week, Brandon Police had a few domestic and vehicular incidents to address.

On Nov. 30, officers responded to River Street for a domestic disturbance between a husband and wife over allegations of infidelity. Officers were able to de-escalate the situation between the two parties and left the residence without further action at that time.

The following day a suspicious male was reported as having chased a couple of teenagers near Furnace Road asking them to "kill him." Officers searched the Forest Dale area, but the male had left and was last seen heading in the direction of the Goshen

Vermont State Police-New Haven requested assistance on Dec. 2 in locating a suspect that needed to be cited for a petit larceny case out of Addison County. The suspect was reported to be in the Grove Street area walking towards the Leicester town line. The area was searched, but the individual in question was not located.

Just after 7 p.m. the same day police responded to a report of an operator of a motor vehicle that had been stopped around McConnell and Basin Roads for an extended period of time and had not moved. The responding officers located the driver, unconscious behind the wheel of the running vehicle. The officers checked on the male, who appeared to be under the influence. He was determined to have a criminally suspended driver's license and was later taken into custody. Police began an investigation of the incident, and additional criminal charges may be sought later.

The following afternoon police obtained a warrant to search a vehicle seized from an incident earlier on McConnell Road near Basin Road. When searched, drugs were found in the car. Police are investigating further.

The same day officers were called to a domestic disturbance on River Street. Police determined it to be the same ongoing issue with the same individuals and that the subjects had been drinking. The involved parties were spoken with at-length about their options moving forward. No criminal violations occurred.

In other police activity, Brandon Police:

ON NOV. 28

- Patrolled the area around Conant Square, Champlain Street and Grove Street in response to a recent robbery in the area. No suspicious activity observed.

ON NOV. 29

- Provided traffic control on Park and Marble Streets for a funeral service procession.
- Took fingerprints for nursing licenses.
- Received a report of what

sounded like gunshots around Center Street near Walgreens.

ON NOV. 30

- Assisted a resident who came into the station requesting a copy of an incident that occurred over the weekend.
- Took fingerprints for nursing license and coaching position.
- Responded to a 2-vehicle motor vehicle accident on Park Street where one operator suffered a minor injury.
- Received a complaint of someone receiving threatening text messages.
- Responded to a domestic disturbance on River Street.

ON DEC. 1

- Served subpoenas at the request of the Rutland County State's Attorney's Office at a residence on Birch Hill Road.
- Took fingerprints for school employment.
- Searched for a suspicious person in Forest Dale.
- Assisted - a resident living on Mulcahy Drive with questions regarding Relief from Abuse Orders.
- Advised a citizen on how to apply for a no stalking order.

ON DEC. 2

- Conducted a background investigation.
- Assisted staff at the Barn Opera House on Pearl Street in developing a security policy.
- Assisted Vermont State police in locating a petit larceny suspect.
- Responded to a complaint of a vehicle blocking a business entrance on Center Street.
- Responded to a DUI on McConnell Road/Basin Road.

ON DEC. 3

- Searched a vehicle seized from an earlier incident McConnell Road near Basin Road.
- Made traffic stops on Champlain Street for speeding and on Forest Dale Road for crossing over the center line, nearly striking an officer's cruiser. Two tickets were issued.
- Responded to a false alarm activation on Pearl Street.
- Notified a member of the community on E. Tinmouth Road that their relative from Clarendon had died earlier in the day.
- Responded to a domestic disturbance on River Street.

ON DEC. 4

- Patrolled Pearl Street near Barn Opera House at the request by of the facility director.
- Enforced speed limit on Grove Street and issued one warning.
- Made separate traffic stop on Grove Street for speeding and issued a ticket.

SPREAD THE WORD!
Have an event to add to our calendar?
EMAIL US AT NEWS@BRANDONREPORTER.COM

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE

LEO July 23-Aug. 23
Leo, if you are feeling under the weather this week, you will have to put on a smile and push through. It is the holidays, after all. Seek as much help as others can muster.

VIRGO Aug. 24-Sept. 22
Virgo, you are on borrowed time regarding your finances. Take a careful look at your budget this week and make the tweaks necessary to stay afloat if income wanes

LIBRA Sept. 23-Oct. 23
A companion animal in your life needs some attention, Libra. There may be some vet bills to contend with, but luckily you can handle that without much issue.

SCORPIO Oct. 24-Nov. 22
The activity you have been turning to provide mental stimulation just may not be cutting it any longer. Start to explore some other options and see if there may be a better fit, Scorpio.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 23-Dec. 21
A health issue that has been getting the better of you for some time will be resolved in the days to come, Sagittarius. It'll be birthday good news. Start celebrating.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 20
Capricorn, after a tumultuous few weeks, things in your life finally settle down. Embrace the opportunity to rest and do not take on any new projects until next year.

AQUARIUS Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Aquarius, things may not be going completely according to plan on the professional front. But at home you have gotten into a solid groove. Use this win to boost your mood.

PISCES Feb. 19-March 20
There is much more to a situation than meets the eye, Pisces. Delve deeper to learn about a person's true motivation.

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 8 Raheem Sterling, soccer player (26)
Dec. 9 Judi Dench, actor (86)
Dec. 10 Ada Lovelace, mathematician (d)
Dec. 11 Rita Moreno, Actor (91)
Dec. 12 Dickey Betts, guitarist (79)
Dec. 13 Taylor Swift, singer-songwriter (33)
Dec. 14 Tycho Brahe, astronomer (d)

RNESU meeting

(Continued from Page 1)

2.28% of total spending.

In general, the proposed budget sees no program changes for district-wide curriculum; no changes in the technology department; no proposed staffing changes for the board or superintendent offices; in the business office the district added an assistant business manager/financial analyst and eliminated a shared position; and under Special Services added an executive assistant and adjusted programs to meet student needs.

BOARD SEATS OPEN

In other RNESU board news, the board will hold a special joint meeting with the OVUU board on Wednesday, Dec. 7 at 6 p.m. at the OVUHS library to ratify a paraeducator/bus driver

master salary agreement that was recently negotiated. A regular OVUU board meeting will start at 6:20 p.m. following the joint special meeting. Budget review and board openings are among the items to be discussed.

The RNESU board will meet on Wednesday, Dec. 14 at 5 p.m. at the RNESU central office, and online, to continue discussions on the proposed FY24 budget.

The following OVUUSU board seats are up for election at Town Meeting this coming year:

- Brandon, one seat now held by Kevin Thornton.
- Goshen, one year remaining of a three-year term.
- Leicester, one seat now held by Jennifer Mallory.
- Pittsford seat, now held by Brett Mullin, two years remain-

ing of a three-year term.

• At-large, two seats now held by Devon Fuller and Jeremy Gildrien; candidates can be from any OVUUSD towns — Brandon, Goshen, Leicester, Pittsford, Sudbury and Whiting.

• The Barstow Unified Union School District has one at large seat open.

All seats are for three-year terms unless otherwise noted. Petitions are available at each town clerk's office and at the RNESU office at 49 Court Drive in Brandon. Completed petitions, along with a signed consent of candidate form, are due to the town clerk's office by Jan. 30, 2023.

Reporter board

(Continued from Page 1)

had been profitable all the years he has operated it, the bigger challenge he said was filling key positions.

"The biggest challenge facing The Reporter," Lynn said, "was the shortage of labor, and the lack of housing" — problems that many other businesses throughout the state and region are also facing since the pandemic started in the spring of 2020. That problem, however, can be temporarily solved if interested community members step forward to volunteer for the nonprofit this first year.

Other than the communities' support through subscriptions and getting businesses to advertise, he said community members could help by agreeing to report on specific aspects of community life that they are involved with. In newspaper lingo, such positions would be referred to as "beat reporters," such as a reporter who covered sports, or agriculture, or the schools. A person might volunteer to write, for instance, occasional reports on the local 4-H club, or Rotary, or the events of a local library, or a bi-weekly column on what was happening at their local elementary school.

The Reporter would still hire reporters to cover the town select-board and school boards, along with some feature stories and serious issues facing the community, he said, but all the other smaller things of importance could be covered by community members.

The Addison Independent, he said, will continue to provide some third-party services (front office, some sales and distribution) to assist The Reporter in its early years of operation or until they are not needed.

He said the normal operation of the newspaper by the nonprofit would allow the newspaper to become sustainable, but that modest donations and higher revenue from subscribers would be two-legs of the three-legged revenue stool needed to build a thriving paper to serve the area's needs.

At the newspaper's previous peak (roughly 2015-2017), Lynn said, the business hired three full-time employees (Lee Kahrs as editor, Alyssa Zohlman as business manager/advertising sales, and Stephanie Manning as the graphics designer.) To get back to that peak, he said afterward, would only require local businesses to once again advertise regularly in the paper and to encourage area readers to contribute by buying a year-long subscription with a little added on for those who could afford it.

A PAPER FOR EVERYONE

Steven Jupiter emphasized that while the current board was only composed of three people, all from Brandon, the intent was to broaden the scope and depth of the board to include Proctor, Pittsford, Leicester, Goshen, Sudbury, Whiting and the other communities that have historically been covered by the paper.

"We started with three board members, people who I know, because that's the minimum you need to form a nonprofit board," he said, "but our intent is to have representation on the board from each town and possibly from each major area of interest the paper covers."

"We want this paper to represent the entire communities we cover," he said, "and not just be a paper that caters to a few of us. We want a diverse board, representing young people as well as older, and people

who represent the cultural diversity of our communities."

Jupiter encouraged people with an interest in seeing The Reporter be a strong newspaper reflecting the local culture to step forward with ideas of how to make the paper better and help make that happen.

Dr. George Fjeld, who recently retired, explained that the role of the board would be initially to act as publisher, set the goals, make sure the paper complied with journalistic norms, insured financial stability, and handle the staffing of the paper. Money to publish The Reporter, he said, would come from subscriptions, newsstand sales, advertising, donations, and grants.

Jupiter added that the board planned on expanding both the volume and interests in the newspaper by adding gardening, hunting and fishing, cooking, agricultural, conservation, nature, volunteer spotlight, military news, and other matters of interest.

He emphasized that a community newspaper needs to be "all about a community" and asked townspeople get in touch with him regarding story ideas at sjupiter@brandonreporter.com. He reiterated that the board "hopes to make The Reporter more personal and community-oriented again" by inviting town residents to contribute community news — including weddings, births and anniversary announcements — plus any events that they might be putting on. "In other words," he said, "to make it a real mirror of the community."

An advertisement on page 15 of today's Reporter provides a way to get in touch with each board member and ideas on how individuals can be involved.

REAL ESTATE



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Impressive 2-story commercial building with 6,614 sq. ft. This meticulously maintained building was entirely renovated in 2007. Features a spacious commercial kitchen, office space, conference room, and a yoga/pilates room. All rooms are large and bright with ample lighting and natural light. The building is well insulated, with a state-of-the-art heating system with radiant heat and 3 separate Buderus Logamax furnaces. ADA compliant with a lift/elevator, 4 restrooms, ample paved parking, 3-bay garage and a spacious back yard. There are a multitude of potential uses for this building. Located in Historic Brandon Village. A great investment opportunity offered at

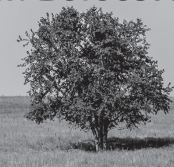
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Building lot with barn for sale in Leicester Vt.



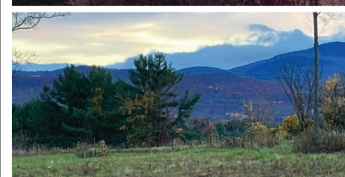
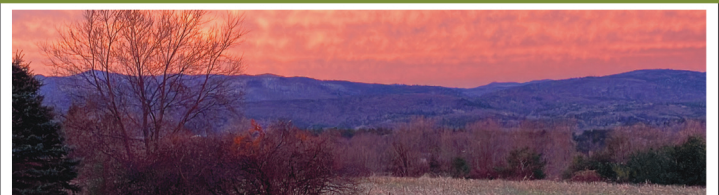
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This property address is 1025 Lake Dunmore Road Leicester and is 3.3 miles from Branbury State Park.

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Good neighbors

(Continued from Page 6)

profit and nonprofit communities when they contribute to decarceration and lower recidivism rates as with many on-the-job training and internships.

Vermont's nonprofit sector is rich with educational and social opportunities inside prisons such as Writing Inside, Children's Literacy Foundation (CLIF), Liberal Arts In Prison (LAPP), Mercy Connections Mentoring, Step Out VT, and Community College of Vermont (CCV) classes. All are vibrant examples of productive collaborations between the nonprofit sector and a government institution.

As Vermont poet Robert Frost famously said in his poem Mending Wall, "good fences make good neighbors."

If we are to preserve and support the different goals of our three sectors — business, mission and government — we must be clear about

the boundaries of each. We must regulate and appropriately tax the business sector to support government institutions. We must be clear about what's business and what's a nonprofit mission-driven enterprise. And we must establish clear boundaries.

To that end, I would propose in the upcoming biennium that the Vermont legislature pass the following law:

"Act XXX shall prohibit private-equity investments in Vermont's mission-driven, nonprofit health-care, journalism, and corrections enterprises. Nothing in the law shall be construed to restrict the business community's program-related foundation grants, partnerships, or philanthropy."

Note: Bill Schubart is an entrepreneur, philanthropist and frequent columnist for Vermont newspapers.

Vermont Democrats

(Continued from Page 5)

tion and Vermont Community Affairs. She has also served as Commissioner for the Fletcher Free Library, Vice Chair of the Health Care Oversight Committee, and Chair of the Vermont Poverty Council. Krowinski also served as Executive Director of Emerge Vermont, an organization that recruits, trains and provides a network for Democratic women who want to run for office.

Rep. Emily Long of Newfane grew up in Vermont on a small farm and helped operate a family art business for more than 40 years. A passionate supporter of public education, she has served since 1994 on local school boards. She was a long-time member and president of the Vermont School Boards Association and a member of the board of directors of the Vermont School Boards Insurance

Trust. Long was elected to the Vermont House in 2014.

Rep. Kathleen James of Manchester was first elected to the House in 2018 and has served on the Education Committee since then. In 2020, she was appointed to the Select Committee on the Future of Public Higher Education in Vermont. The following year, she worked on a legislative task force focused on updating Vermont's education finance system. She's a 2022 Toll Fellow (Council of State Governments) and joined the Democratic leadership team in December 2021 as Assistant Majority Leader (Communications).

Rep. Will Notte of Rutland City was first elected to the House in 2018 and has served on the Judiciary Committee since joining the legislature. In 2020 he was appointed to the Judicial Retention Committee.

He also serves on the Rutland Free Library Board of Trustees. He previously served eleven years on the Rutland City Board of Aldermen, including two years as president, and served seven years on the Rutland Redevelopment Authority.

Rep. Jana Brown of Richmond grew up in rural Rutland County and has devoted her professional career to state government and the nonprofit sector. She served for seven years as an Assistant Attorney General in two different states and since 2014 has worked for a literacy nonprofit serving communities throughout Vermont and New Hampshire. She is currently a member of the Richmond Free Library board of trustees. She was elected to her first term in 2020 and sits on the House Education Committee.

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We're transitioning to a nonprofit newspaper. Here's how YOU can get involved!

- While we will hire a reporter to cover hard news, we'll need "community correspondents" to also cover clubs and organizations (Lions, 4-H, Rotary, American Legion and others), as well as town news for each community and elementary school news (PTA meetings, social outings and the like.)
- We'll need interested parents and others to cover some of the school's sports teams. So if you're a parent who attends most of a team's games, we're eager to train you to write brief game summations and take a few pictures. We'll still strive to cover home varsity sports, when we can, but extra hands will provide that much better news coverage.
- Photos: if you're a good photographer with a single-reflex lens camera, perhaps with a telephoto lens, we're always looking for good scenics, sports and other special event coverage.
- Subscribe and advertise: If you're a business, please contact us for advertising and we'll be there asap to help you market your business to *The Reporter's* readers in seven area towns. If you're an area resident, please subscribe by going to www.brandonreporter.com or call 802-247-8080.

Contact us are the following emails:

Steven Jupiter: sjupiter@brandonreporter.com

George Fjeld: GCFjeld@gmail.com

Barbara Ebling: bebling25@gmail.com

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Full Listing

SOWETO GOSPEL CHOIR:

Hope - It's Been A Long Time Coming
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PINK FLOYD LASER SPECTACULAR

Saturday, January 14 | 8:00 PM

America's Top Psychic Medium
MATT FRASER

Friday, January 20 | 7:30 PM

BRIAN GLOWACKI

Live comedy taping!
Saturday, January 21 | 7:00 PM

MAGIC ROCKS!

Illusionist Leon Etienne
Friday, January 27 | 7:30 PM

KEB' MO'

Wednesday, February 15 | 7:30 PM

NATALIE MACMASTER & DONNELL LEAHY

Sunday, February 19 | 7:00 PM

BORED TEACHERS

Monday, February 20 | 7:30 PM

THE MARSHALL TUCKER BAND

Friday, February 24 | 8:00 PM

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Saturday, March 18 | 2 & 7 PM

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TERRY FATOR

Thursday, April 20 | 7:30 PM

WHOSE LIVE ANYWAY?

Feat. Ryan Stiles, Greg Proops, Jeff B. Davis & Joel Murray
Friday, April 21 | 7:30 PM

TUSK: ULTIMATE FLEETWOOD MAC EXPERIENCE

Saturday, April 22 | 7:30 PM

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THE HOURS

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FEDORA *Giordano*

Sunday, January 15, 12:55 PM **Encore**

LOHENGRIN *Wagner*

Sunday, March 19, 12 PM **Encore**

FALSTAFF *Verdi*

Saturday, April 1, 12:30 PM

DER ROSENKAVALIER *Strauss*

Saturday, April 15, 12 PM

CHAMPION

Terence Blanchard / Libretto By Michael Cristofer
Sunday, April 30, 12:55 PM **Encore**

DON GIOVANNI

Mozart
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