

The *Brandon • Pittsford • Proctor • West Rutland • Lake Dunmore • Leicester • Whiting • Sudbury • Goshen*
REPORTER

A community supported newspaper

Vol. 28, No. 6

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

\$1



THE GRIFT

The Grift turned up the temps at Brandon Town Hall

PG. 2

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

State Rep. Stephanie Jerome keeps the community up to date with her work in Montpelier.

PG. 8



PG. 10



SOLITUDE

Middlebury Psych Prof Virginia Thomas explained her theories of positive solitude at the February Science Pub in Castleton on Sunday.

PG. 15

OV WRESTLING

OV wrestling racks up another tourney win! Tucker Babcock and Caleb Whitney celebrate 100 career wins each!

PG. 11

FISHING RECORDS

2022 was a great year for fishing on Lake Champlain. Three record-breaking monsters were reeled in.

PG. 11



Dennis Marden wins President's Award at the Chamber Dinner

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—On the coldest night of the year, when walking even just the length of Park Street was a major feat of fortitude, the Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce (See Dennis Marden, Page 9)



BRANDON CHAMBER OF Commerce President Pat Wood presents the President's Award to Dennis Marden at the Chamber's annual dinner on February 3rd, for his many contributions to Brandon.

Photo by George Fjeld

The Reporter reflects on its predecessors: The Brandon Bugle

BY GEORGE FJELD

BRANDON—The sudden departure of Mim Welton and the Dateline Brandon paper in April of 1996 left a void in the local news scene in Brandon. Shirley Hill, formerly of the Antique Rose Garden on Marble Street, called Frank Farnsworth saying "somebody has to put out the paper." Farnsworth had a printing business and he and his trusty employee Phil Keyes were quickly on it.

Their first edition of The Bugle (See The Bugle, Page 7)

Brandon appoints Seth Hopkins as Emergency Management Director

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—At a special meeting on Friday night, the Brandon selectboard appointed Seth Hopkins, currently chair of the board, to replace David Atherton as Brandon's Emergency Management Director (EMD).

Mr. Atherton resigned as Brandon town manager in a written letter to the selectboard on January 23 and then as EMD in an email

to the selectboard on January 27. In addition to his principal role as town manager, Mr. Atherton was also EMD, public works director, deputy health officer, and regional transportation commissioner.

"The board has operated under a policy of announcing appointed-position vacancies at the next regular board meeting and filling it through a process of outreach to the community and consideration by the

board," Mr. Hopkins wrote in an email to The Reporter on Tuesday.

According to Mr. Hopkins, the special meeting on Friday was called because the extreme cold expected last weekend prompted the board to seek an immediate appointment to the position rather than wait until the next regular board meeting. The Brandon selectboard meets on the second and fourth (See Seth Hopkins, Page 2)



FEATHERY FROST CLUNG to windows during the weekend's shocking cold.

Photo by Steven Jupiter

BRRR...ANDON!

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—Vermonters love to boast of their hardiness yet even the hardest among us had to admit that Friday night was rough. Jack Frost wasn't just nipping at our noses; it felt like he was hacking at them with an ice pick. Every inhalation of subzero air was a jab in the lungs. By Saturday morning, the temperature had fallen to -24, a deep freeze that caused houses to pop and crackle as their wood framing contracted in the cold.

RNESU closed all district schools on Friday because of the dangers posed by the weather. It was just too cold to transport children to school by bus.

Downtown, the Neshobe River transformed into something positively glacial as it tumbled over

the falls beneath the bridge.

In preparation for the bitter cold, the town arranged warming shelters at the Brandon Congregational Church and the American Legion. According to Brandon Town Clerk Sue Gage, no one availed themselves of the overnight shelter at the church.

"Good thing [no one had to use it.] But they had it all set up with area rugs and cots," Gage said. "I was tempted to stay just because it was so comfy!"

Sheila Gearwar, owner of Brandon House of Pizza, posted on Facebook that she would be closing early on Saturday because the restaurant was too cold to keep open.

It had been years since temperatures dropped so low. It was a gut

punch in what has otherwise been a relatively mild winter.

The cold snap broke records throughout New England. On New Hampshire's Mt. Washington, the tallest peak in New England, relentless winds sent the "feels-like" temperature down to -108, a record low even for the notoriously brutal site.

By Sunday, temperatures were back up in the 30s, making the weekend's foray into subzero territory a brief rupture in our normal lives, like an obnoxious relative that shows up uninvited for a night.

Woe to the snowbirds and second-home owners who forgot to turn off the water and drain the pipes before leaving for the winter!

Seth Hopkins

(Continued from Page 1)
Mondays of every month—the last regular meeting in January was on the 23rd and the first regular meeting in February will fall on the 13th.

At the special meeting on Friday, this sequence of events was not presented and caused some in attendance to question the timing of the meeting.

These questions then caused some sharp exchanges between town residents on Front Porch Forum over the following days.

Mr. Atherton reached out to The Reporter to make clear that he had resigned as EMD a week prior to the special meeting, sharing the January 27 e-mail

he'd sent the board. Mr. Hopkins responded to our request for comment with the clarification of the board's usual process, noted above, and their perceived need for a special meeting in these circumstances.

Mr. Hopkins was chosen as the new EMD because he had already

completed the courses required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), as part of his preparedness training as a reservist in the U.S. Coast Guard.

Selectboard member Tim Guiles, who has also completed the required training, was appointed alternate EMD, a backup position in the event that the EMD is not available during an emergency.

Also at the meeting, a motion was passed to designate Bill Moore as "Assistant Town Manager" until Mr. Atherton's departure, at which point Mr. Moore will become "Interim Town Manager" until a permanent town manager is hired.

At an earlier special selectboard meeting, on Monday, January 30, Mr. Moore had been appointed Interim Town Manager in executive session. In order to clarify to the public that David Atherton will remain town manager until his departure, and to ensure that proper open-

meeting voting procedures were followed, a vote was taken in public session on Friday night to reclassify Mr. Moore's position.

Because of the late warning, frigid temperatures, and coincidence with the Chamber of Commerce's annual dinner, Friday's selectboard meeting was sparsely attended. The few attendees used the public comment portion of the meeting to question the board about its approach to hiring a new Town Manager. One attendee stated that the board's advertisement for the position provided insufficient information about the position. Another attendee countered that a broad description was better than a narrow one.

Vice-chair Tracy Wyman stated that three people have expressed interest in the position so far. Two of those three are known: Seth Hopkins and Bill Moore. Board member Tim Guiles added that all three applicants are well qualified.

Mr. Guiles also noted that 9 people had already come forward to volunteer for the citizen advisory panel that will help the board evaluate the candidates who have been chosen for interviews. "I wish we had that kind of interest in other committees," Guiles said.

Applicants for both the citizen advisory panel and Town Manager will continue to be accepted by the selectboard until Monday, February 13.

OVUU meeting tackles budget, school transfers, and wellness

BY WILL ROSS

BRANDON—This week, the OVUU school board convened to discuss the annual district meeting presentation and communication plan, potential changes to elementary school choice policies, and programs being developed as a result of a new wellness grant.

The meeting opened with a moment of silence to mourn the loss of Barstow principal, David St. Germain.

The annual report, which highlights the proposed budget for the 2024 fiscal year along with tax implications, is currently at the printer and residents can expect to see it shortly. The board went over some final concerns to optimize the clarity of an additional budget flyer before it is sent out. Residents are encouraged to attend the annual district meeting held in the Otter Valley auditorium on March 1 at 6:30 p.m. to ask any questions or gain insight into budget decisions before voting. In-person voting will be available at each town's polling location on March 7th, but there are also mail-in and early voting options as well.

There has been a disproportionate number of young students choosing to change schools from Otter Creek Academy in preference of attending Neshobe, and superintended Kristin Hubert raised some concerns about how this might affect class size requirements. To minimize these class size issues, Hubert suggested a revision of the current school choice policy. Board members noted that there are many reasons that might influence school choice, be it scheduling, transportation, or social and family connections. Board member Brett Mullins brought up the possibility that there may be a deeper underlying problem that is influencing the decision to change schools beyond the policy itself, noting additional information could help to clarify the root cause of the issue. The board hopes to find a solution that will be most beneficial to young students and their families.

RNESU has received a substantial wellness grant to support the mental health and well-being of students as they transition (See OVUU SB, Page 5)

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WHILE TEMPS OUTSIDE dropped below zero, The Grift generated a lot of heat onstage at Brandon Town Hall. From L to R, Peter Day, Ryan Clausen, Clint Bierman, and Josh Panda.

Photo by Will Ross

The Grift brought the heat this frigid weekend at Brandon Town Hall

BY WILL ROSS

BRANDON—The Brandon Town Hall was the place to be last Saturday night. Local band, The Grift brought the heat on a frigid February evening with a lively performance featuring a mix of familiar covers along with many originals you won't soon forget. The Grift's upbeat selection of songs, tight vocals, and rocking guitar solos brought the audience to their feet and put the dance floor to good use, proving that even the subzero temperatures weren't enough to quell the spirit of town residents.

The event was put on by the Brandon Recreation Department as one of many events that will be featured in the coming year. Over 100 local residents were in attendance and the Town Hall provided a great venue with plenty of seating and lots of open space to get up and dance. The show was catered by local chef Nyam Bai who specializes in Cambodian fusion cuisine. Along with her famous Cambodian spring rolls, Bai had prepared plenty of baked goods and other delectable treats for audience members to enjoy. There were also beverages being served by Red Clover Ale Company, a local brewery just around the corner from the Town Hall.

Assistant Recreation Director Colleen Wright noted that the town is trying to hold events like this as often as possible. "Before Covid, we were having one event every other week, and we are trying to get

back into the swing of things," said Wright. The Recreation Department is emphasizing getting local bands to come out to perform. They have a variety of events in store for the coming spring, and with Saturday's show, it is evident that these events have a lot to offer.

As audience members saw on Saturday, The Grift have a tendency to transcend genres between and even within songs, making their sound difficult to classify. Their style is rooted in rock, with elements of pop, and funk woven throughout, all brought to the surface by the jam-band nature of the performances. The music is upbeat and groovy, with plenty of catchy hooks and vocal harmonies contrasted with skillful improvisation. Bassist Peter Day described the experience on Saturday as "fantastic," adding that he was pleasantly surprised with the degree of engagement from the audience. "We delivered the goods," remarked Day, in reference to the positive response from the crowd.

The Grift has been together for over 20 years, originally forming in 1999 with Middlebury College students Clint Bierman and Jeff Vallone on guitar and drums, respectively. Bassist Peter Day joined in 2003, and since then the band has been playing at a variety of clubs, weddings, and events. Recently The Grift gained a new official member with Josh Panda, guitarist and vocalist extraordinaire. Saturday's show featured Clint Bierman on

guitar, Peter Day on bass, Josh Panda on guitar. Drummer Ryan Clausen held down the beat and at one point even snuck in a drum solo.

Despite its rich history, the band members are feeling more excited the future recently. "We are super fired up about it," said Bierman. Day echoed this sentiment: "I can honestly say I am more excited about it now than ever." Day attributed this bright outlook to a combination of reasons. "I think that Clint and my songwriting has bloomed," said Day. "A couple of years ago it started really clicking." This was evident as the band played as many as five new songs on Saturday each of which had a great response. "And the other reason is Josh Panda," Day continued. "Having Josh on board as a full-time Grift member has rejuvenated everything... He is on such a level vocally, songwriting, everything." Panda's vocals and guitar work certainly brought more depth to Saturday's show, and really showcased the wide range of ability levels within the group.

When asked how the band's sound has been evolving over the years, Day said, "It definitely has honed, a lot of it is the songwriting." Referring to the newfound synchronicity in the songwriting process, he added, "We kind of found our thing, great musicianship, with tight songs."

The Grift skillfully uses familiar elements of songwriting while still (See *The Grift*, Page 6)

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Pâte de Campagne with Cranberry Chutney & Mesclun Greens

Main Course

Salmon Wellington with Confetti Couscous, Tomato Tarragon Lemon Butter
Beef Bourguignon with Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Maine Lobster on Red Beet Risotto ~ \$10 surcharge
Cavatelli with Red Pepper, Asparagus, Mushroom, & Pesto Cream Sauce

Dessert

Flourless Chocolate Cake with Raspberry Ganache & Fresh Raspberries

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Hard Tellin'

BY DAVE PRAAMSMA

How frozen pipes helped build my character while destroying my basement

BY DAVE PRAAMSMA

In Vermont it's advisable to hold your tongue about cold winters until you've weathered at least a few good pipe freezings.

I'm not talking about a little plumbing trouble with some condo property in Killington. I'm talking pipes exploding, geysers in the basement, old-farmhouse-kind-of-trouble. The kind of frozen-pipes stories that get enshrined in family lore, passed on from fathers to sons. Frozen-pipe stories that can really hush a roomful of people.

I'll confess that this is a bullet I have dodged since moving here years ago. Frozen pipes, I've been reasoning privately in my mind, were not to be the fate of those of us safely living in 21st-century housing. It was those ancestral New England homesteads that you really had to worry about. Those curious constructions made by great-grandfathers with questionable plumbing skills. 150-year-old deals with field stones for foundations, old newspapers for insulation, and hay bales prayerfully piled up against the foundation.

This is not to say I wouldn't listen to these stories without compassion. I was Mr. Empathy there in the grocery store aisles during the coldest days of mid-winter. Nodding. Listening. Sympathetically squeezing shoulders. One such neighbor I encountered in Aubuchon one day shopping for pipe insulation. He had a flashlight in his hand, a

few cobwebs in his ball cap, a humorless expression stamped on his face. It did not take high-level Sherlock skills to deduce that this was an unhappy man who had just been crawling in the bowels of his house with a hair dryer. Without hesitation I made a few good righteous pronouncements about the evils of arctic winter weather. Offered my best condolences. And then slipped home to the room temperature of my snug little bungalow.

As the cold continued last February, I found myself visiting an old friend who also happened to be an innkeeper. We were chatting lightheartedly until one of us brought up the matter of the extended deep freeze. Any jocularly in our conversation was immediately suspended. (On the subject of deep freezes in Vermont there is little room for humor.) For the record, my friend's old New England guest house is positively labyrinthine. I was hesitant to wonder just what type ancient pipework was feeding his heaters and faucets.

"And how are your pipes doing?" I asked as casually as I could. He immediately took me on a no-nonsense inspection tour of his inn. Here was a man clearly in combat readiness. Around his more-exposed vulnerable pipework he had strung up some fancy heating wiring. Hatchways were strategically positioned along walls and flooring for immediate access and

(See Frozen pipes, Page 6)



Circle of life

EVEN FALCONS NEED to eat. This Peregrine Falcon was captured enjoying its lunch of pigeon atop a fence post in Bridport. Peregrines were extirpated from the eastern U. S. due to DDT in their diets. Starting in the 1980s they were reintroduced with young from the West and now Vermont has more than 55 breeding pairs. It's also one of the world's fastest birds; in power-diving from great heights to strike prey, the Peregrine may possibly reach 200 miles per hour.

Photo by Sue Wetmore

Community Forums Vermont environmental groups to rally Feb. 11 for climate and energy justice

WHAT

Hundreds of Vermonters and a coalition of over 30 Vermont organizations, organized by 350 Vermont, will rally in Montpelier to ensure the voices of the people are heard in the State

House and to call for clean energy solutions that:

- Keep dollars in Vermont and provide good paying jobs
- Are accessible and affordable for low- and middle-income Vermonters
- Protect human health, agricultural lands and biodiversity
- Truly reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Strengthen community resilience

WHEN

Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023, 1–3 p.m.

WHERE

The rally will begin at 39 Main St., Montpelier (City Hall)

and march to the State House.

DETAILS

The march will be led by the always fun and vibrant Brass Balagan and Families Rise Up Central Vermont Stroller Brigade. People will be signing postcards and photo petitions calling for a "just transition" to a clean energy future for Vermont — to be delivered to legislators on Tuesday, Feb. 14 (a Climate Valentine!). Speakers will include those directly affected by climate change, plus coalition members.

AFTER PARTY

Marchers can warm up from 3–4:30 p.m. at a masked indoor hangout at Bethany Church (115 Main Street). There will be snacks and warm drinks to share.

WHO

This event is organized by

350Vermont. Co-sponsored by: Acorn, BALE, Burlington Friends Meeting, Flight Free Vermont, Keep Vermont Cool, Migrant Justice, No Coal No Gas, Peace and Justice Center, Releaf Collective, Renewable Energy Vermont, Rights and Democracy, Safe Landing VT, Slingshot, SunCommon, Sola Vida, Standing Trees, Sunrise Chittenden, Third Act Vermont, True Center Yoga, Upper Valley Affinity Group, Vermont Climate and Health Alliance, Vermont Conservation Voters, Vermont Natural Resources Council, Vermont Progressive Party, VT Interfaith Power and Light, VT Renews, VT Renews BIPOC Council, Vermonters for People Oriented Places, XR Vermont.

The REPORTER

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A community supported newspaper

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Letters to the Editor

The Reporter is essential for Brandon

Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the PRESS...

Thus begins the First Amendment to the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution.

History has demonstrated that the suppression of free expression and thought marks the end of democracy itself.

Recently, Brandon was threatened with the loss of our beloved newspaper, The Reporter. Brandon needs The Reporter. We want to know how our neighbors are faring, school news, what's for sale at Blue Seal, etc. But more to the point, we need to hold our appointed and elected officials accountable. Too often Brandon's election day does not enjoy a competitive process, culminating in the appointment, not

the election, of unqualified and uninspired officials.

All municipal and government entities need the media to keep them in check. Brandon is no exception. Thanks to Steven, George, and Barbara for ensuring The Reporter's survival.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Big Al Leavitt
Brandon*

Why I think Cecil Reniche-Smith is best for Brandon

I will vote for Cecil Reniche-Smith and I strongly encourage you to do so as well. I know all three candidates well and I have positive things to say about them all. It is still a very easy decision for me. Cecil is the person we need in office right now. She brings the personality and disposition required to take productive and positive steps forward as a town.

Ms. Reniche-Smith is the person for the job- this year especially. She contributes to team unity and productivity. I know this from her community work, her efforts in completing the dog park, her time

on the planning commission, the way she is treasured by both the bookstore team and its patrons, and her other personal contributions to every social group she joins.

It's become an over-stated truism that Brandon, as a microcosm of the nation, is facing extreme division and polarization. In Brandon, though, we can also point to a strong and very healthy tradition of transcending those usual dividing lines in the interest of the greater local good. That tradition has been maintained and supported by folks of all political identities and affiliations. Cecil is someone who

embraces others and collaborates to achieve positive outcomes in diverse groups. She will bring valuable perspective and diversity to our board.

Cecil is a stand-out even in a candidate pool brimming with intellect and accomplishment. She'll bring policy expertise, legal experience, balance, perspective, and most importantly a collegial brand of productivity. If you don't know Cecil, ask around. We're fortunate to have her in town and we'd be even more so to have her on the selectboard.

*Ethan Nelson
Brandon*

OVUU SB

(Continued from Page 2)
from 6th to 7th grade. Staff members are currently developing programming to implement these funds. The goal is to make students feel connected to the school and like they are part of the community upon arriving in

7th grade. Programming would be geared toward non-curricular activities focusing on team and community building. It would ideally provide a way to showcase the opportunities the school has to offer to incoming students.

Local students receive College Honors

TWO LOCALS MAKE DEANS LIST AT REGIS COLLEGE

Congratulations to Sienna Diezel of Pittsford and Reese

Fitzgerald of Salisbury on being named to the Dean's List at Regis College in Weston, MA for Fall 2022!

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Frozen pipes

(Continued from Page 4)

trouble shooting. Space heaters were positioned preemptively like sentries. Of course, it is hard to see this kind of preparedness and not get the feeling that others know things that you do not. I warmly congratulated him on his winter readiness and then rushed home with my shrinking confidence.

Within the hour I found myself reaching for the dial on the wall of my own home. (Best to keep your own pipes active, he had advised, even if you use a wood stove.) Not long after turning the dial did my wife and I hear an unearthly growl come from the basement. We immediately dismissed the sound as nothing more than our furnace reactivating after a couple months of dormancy. A visit later to the basement proved otherwise.

Water was shimmering down the wall like a severely misplaced waterfall. Household objects were floating past my ankles. The walls were bulging with grotesque tear ducts ready to explode. It was like standing in the troubled hold of a sinking vessel, ruthlessly torpedoed by winter's worst.

Eventually, it was my calm-headed wife who located the right valve to shut off and we were able to assess the damage. The drywall I had lovingly put up in my basement was turning to porridge. (Drywall, I don't need to tell you, is brutally victimized in this business.) Whole swaths of it had to be cut away. For some reason I was seeing images of that Antarctic explorer who famously conducted self-surgery on his ruptured appendix.

I stood humbled. I was finally paying for my proudful assumptions of immunity. I had underestimated the Vermont Winters and I was going to have to pay exorbitant weekend plumbing rates as penance. (Not to mention a carpet or two in the basement.)

I'm happy to report that eventually we stopped taking on water. I told my wife, if there is any consolation, it's that we've now finally earned our chops as winter-hardened Vermonters. We could courageously now stand among the highest echelons of Vermonters who braved the worst of it and come out the other side.

She told me to go get a few more cans of spray foam insulation and be quiet.

Elsie Bailey celebrates 100th birthday

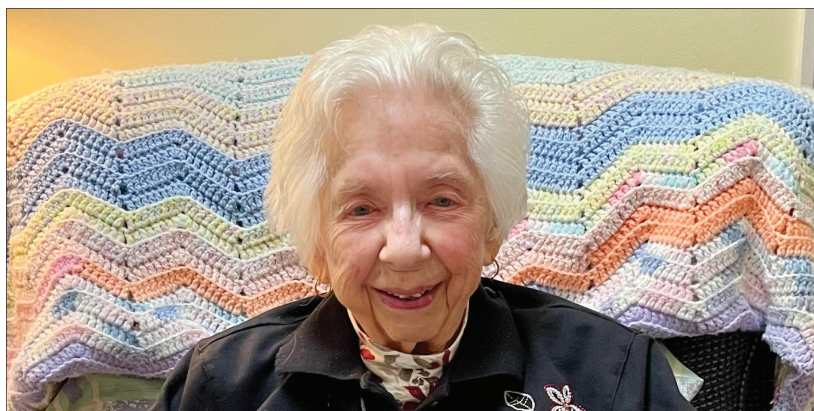
Elsie Bailey celebrated her 100th birthday at her home in Forestdale on Sunday. Born in New Zealand on January 6, 1923, she came to the United States in 1945 with her new American husband, Adrian Bailey, whom she'd met while he was on leave in New Zealand during WWII.

Elsie and Adrian

came to Brandon in 1947, settling first on Pearl Street and later on Conant Square. Adrian ran Bailey Brothers Auto on Grove Street for many years. He passed in 1983. Elsie and Adrian had two children, Greg Bailey of Rutland City and Kate Hyde of Bedford, New Hampshire. Elsie now has two grand-

children and five great-grandkids.

Longevity runs in Elsie's family: her mother reached the age of 102 and many other relatives lived well into their 90s. Elsie remained quite active in the community even into her 80s, volunteering for hospice care and delivering food for Meals on Wheels.



*Congratulations, Elsie, on reaching this milestone year!
Many more to come!*

The Grift

(Continued from Page 3)

maintaining originality with their tunes. "We do it with deep passion and deep respect," said Day. This passion shines through and it is clear that all the energy they bring to their shows comes from a love for music, and a desire to share it with people. The band members have many side projects going on including Peter Day's recently released solo album, A Question of Remembering, featuring seven singles that were released over the course of 2022. There is a new Grift album coming out which Day confidently felt will be the best one yet. Group members have another band called Neon Ramblers, which takes classic 80s pop tunes and reshapes them

into a bluegrass style. Upcoming events, new releases, and side projects can all be found on the band's website.

All in all, Saturday's performance by The Grift had a great turnout and audience members evidently had a stellar time. Upcoming events at the Brandon Town Hall include the continuation of Brandon Idol, a showing of an indie film called Butterfly Queen from a local Vermont filmmaker, World of Hurt Wrestling, and Wildlife Encounters, along with other local bands and additional events. And if Saturday's show is any indication of what some of these events have in store, it will certainly be an eventful spring in the little town of Brandon.

*This Valentine's Day,
give some Love from
The Bookstore!*

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The Bugle

(Continued from Page 1)
was published just a few short weeks later, on May 1, 1996. They had to get up to speed quickly. Luckily, Farnsworth had a few things going for him. First, he had previously published a weekly

preacher left Frank a small printing press and just enough information to allow him to produce the single sheet, 8.5" x 17" weekly update for the residents. It provided enough information to keep everyone up to date. Second, he had

photo developing in those days before digital cameras. Fourth, he knew the town. More on that later.

However, they did not have a name! Local resident Lisa Beede came to the rescue. She ran a contest to name the paper which got 90+ submissions. It needed to be short and have a catchy nickname. The Brandon Bugle was chosen after lengthy debate.

Farnsworth, with help from many townspeople, and by the seat of his pants published the final edition of the Dateline on April 19, 1996. The first edition of the Bugle was out on May 1st. It would be the community news and event recorder for the next 12+ years.

The Bugle would be Farnsworth's life for at least 48 weeks per year. He spent evenings and weekends attending various sporting and social events. He was the photographer for the Brandon Police Department. He got called at all hours of the day and night to go take pictures of accidents and crime scenes.

Laura Peterson wrote The Recipe Corner each week and would publish a recipe from a local resident. She also wrote Around Town, a musing about events or whatever struck her fancy. Farnsworth wrote Bugle Notes which had a little bit of everything. Nancy Rowe wrote a gardening column. Reprints of historical articles from The Brandon Union, written by E. S. Marsh and published earlier in the 20th century commonly made an appearance. There were many



FRANK FARNSWORTH TODAY.

Photos by George Fjeld

local ads and the lunch menu for the school as well. Off the Shelf from the Brandon Free Public Library debuted in the Bugle. The selectmen's (an old and discontinued term) minutes were printed verbatim, often before they were reviewed. Of course, each paper had plenty of pictures, for Frank, like Mim before him, always had his camera at the ready.

Each week, Frank and Phil would print the 8-10 page paper on the press. They would then collate, fold, and bundle up all 600 - 1,000 copies by hand. Frank had to guess how many papers he would sell based on the news and seasonal variations. They would put the bundled papers in the back of the car and off he would go to

distribute copies to the news dealers all over town.

Farnsworth moved to Brandon in 1989 when he was hired as town manager. He and his wife Francie moved here from Rangely, Maine where he had been town manager. He took care of Brandon's affairs until 1993 when he started his printing business, Otter Print and Copy, which he initially ran from the old Whippoorwill building. He subsequently moved it to the basement of his house on Wheeler Road. He published a paper called The Advertiser for a brief period while the Dateline was still ongoing. Frank retired a few years ago and is now a self described camera nut and itinerant fisherman.



THE VERY FIRST issue of Frank Farnsworth's Brandon Bugle, dated May 1, 1996. The Bugle picked up where Mim Welton's Dateline Brandon left off.

paper on the island of Vinalhaven off the coast of Maine. He inherited The Wind, as that paper was called, from a local preacher who was leaving the island. The

press, an AB Dick 360 on which he would print The Bugle for over 12 years! Third, he had spent time with Mim in her studio and darkroom. He'd learned the basics of

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Breanna Elaine to play Brandon Town Hall on Feb. 11

Rutland-based singer/songwriter Breanna Elaine celebrates the release of her second album *Seedlings* with her band Friday, February 11, at Brandon Town Hall at 7:30. Kristian Montgomery opens the show.

Breanna's music is dripping

with plenty of earthy folk sounds, but also has undertones of rock, bluegrass and even punk. She performs a mix of originals as well as a wide array of covers on both guitar and banjo. Comparisons have included Jewel, Alanis Morissette and Stevie Nicks.

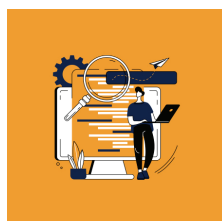
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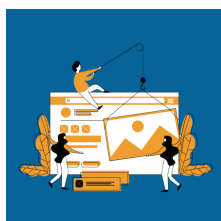
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Legislative Report

BY STEPHANIE JEROME

The real work for the year has begun

We are starting our fifth week of the legislative session and the pace is starting to pick up. Committees have moved on from the introductory work of bringing the new members up to speed and are now working on incoming bills. The legislative attorneys have been drafting the bills and all legislators have submitted their bills to meet the January 31 deadline—the work has begun!

This past week, we passed the Budget Adjustment Act (BAA) which contained significant one-time investments to meet the urgent needs of Vermonters. The bill allowed the Legislature to put additional funds the areas of housing, human services, rural infrastructure, agriculture, and other significant needs. For the BAA process, I was pleased to have gathered leaders from the House of Representatives, Senate, and Administration to work on a \$3 million program to assist small rural towns that do not have full-time administrators (like Sudbury, Goshen, and Whiting) to apply for and administer grants, as well as to manage projects. We have come up with a strong plan to help small towns access the many state and federal grant programs available to them.

These projects will improve each town's infrastructure by accessing these once-in-a-lifetime funds, help rural communities, and not leave any of the ARPA funds on the table. The BAA is an important step forward in delivering our promises to Vermonters.

Over the past two weeks, I have heard from many constituents who are concerned about the Vermont State Teacher's Retirement System's decreased Cost of Living Allowance of 2.5%. Although there may not be a legislative fix for this issue, the Speaker of the House, State Treasurer, and Chair of the Government Operations Committee are working to find a fair solution to this decrease. Other constituents are concerned about Unemployment Insurance, unexpected rise in health care costs, and unfair housing practices. Retired state employees are concerned about the potential change in their health insurance to Cigna Medicare Advantage program. In addition, I have heard from folks who are also concerned about trapping, energy costs, and funding of religious schools. I hope that I will continue to be a resource to you and connect you with the people/organization who can help

find a solution to the problems.

In the Commerce Committee, I am continuing to work on Economic and Workforce Development issues and am also looking at the progress made from last session. We are starting to work on bills which examine the Vermont Economic Growth Incentive program, earned wage access businesses, and data privacy issues.

Each week our Floor Session is started with a Devotional. I have invited Brandon resident Josh Collier to sing for the Devotional on February 15th! On that same evening at 7:30pm, Barn Opera will be the featured performance for Farmer's Night! If you are in Montpelier, please come to the Statehouse to be part of this magical evening and a 100-year Vermont tradition.

My next Constituent Coffee hour will be held on February 18th at 10am at the Brandon Free Public Library. Please stop by!

Take Care,

*Rep. Stephanie Jerome
(Brandon)*

*Vice-Chair, House
Commerce and Economic
Development Committee
Sjerome@leg.state.vt.us or
802-6838209*

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Dennis Marden

(Continued from Page 1)
merce (BACC) generated a great deal of warmth at its annual dinner on Friday, February 3.

At the historic Brandon Inn, the dinner brought together members of BACC to network and celebrate the Chamber's accomplishments over a delicious meal.

The highlight of the evening was certainly the presentation to Dennis Marden by BACC President Pat Wood of the President's Award, given to "a business, person, or organization that has contributed greatly to our community."

Rather than simply run through a dry chronology of Mr. Marden's long tenure in Brandon, Ms. Wood presented it through figures dressed up as Mr. Marden in his various Brandon phases, each bearing a life-size photo of his smiling face.

The figures were the brainchild of Kathy Mathis, Pat Wood, and Sally Wood.

"It was so funny. They did an incredible job," said Marden in a later phone conversation. "Kathy swiped that photo of my face from my fridge!"

"It was so funny. They did an incredible job. Kathy swiped that photo of my face from my fridge!"

—Dennis Marden

watched many current Brandon residents grow up—Marden has also been heavily involved with the Brandon Town Players, a community-theater group that puts on productions at Brandon Town Hall. In fact, most of the wardrobe for the "Marden figures" came from the Players' costume collection.

And it is largely for his work with the Friends of Town Hall that Marden was honored on Friday. Brandon Town Hall was built in 1861 and by 1998 it was in such poor condition that the town was considering demolition. The Friends of Town Hall (FTH) was formed and the building was saved. According to Marden, more than \$1.5 million was raised and spent on the renovation. The beautiful space we now enjoy for concerts, plays, dances, lectures, and town

meeting is the result of the hard work put in by Marden and the rest of the FTH. The next time you're in the building, check out the displays of antique and vintage objects discovered in the building during

the renovation.

Marden has been President of the FTH since 2011. During its regular season (spring through fall), Marden is in charge of programming. He tries hard to book events that will appeal to audiences beyond Brandon. A popular recurring event is Silent Movie Night, which gives people a rare opportunity to see silent classics from the 1910s and 20s.

Marden is clearly devoted to this community he's called home for 32 years now.



DENNIS MARDEN POSES with his alter egos, all created by Kathy Mathis, Pat Wood, and Sally Wood to celebrate Mr. Marden's receipt of the Chamber's President's Award. Mr. Marden clearly relished the playful theatrics of the presentation. The costumes came from the wardrobe trunk of the Brandon Town Players, which Mr. Marden has been part of for years. Photo by David Roberts

"The community feeling you get here is unbelievable," he said. "People ask for help and they get help. The people in Brandon make this town what it is. I'm going to do as much as I can for as long as I can."

BACC Executive Director Bernie Carr took the floor during dinner to thank the Inn's gracious hosts—Joel and Darcy MacClaren—and to welcome seven new members to the BACC Board of Directors:

Pat Wood, individual member (President of BACC)

Nancy Spaulding Ness, individual member (Vice-president of BACC)

Laurie Bertrand, CPA (Treasurer of BACC)

Geoff Watson, National Bank of Middlebury (Clerk of BACC)

Jack Schneider, Brandon Yoga Center

Kirk Thomas, Vermont Protective Coatings

Lynn Wilson, individual member
Kevin Thornton, professor of history and former president of the Brandon Museum, gave a short presentation on his recent discoveries regarding Thomas Davenport, who invented the electric motor in Forestdale in the 1830s. The Brandon Museum is planning to open an exhibit on Davenport this summer.

George Fjeld, retired physician and a current board member of The Reporter, thanked the community for its support of the fledgling non-

profit.

State Representative Stephanie Jerome, who sits on the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development, spoke about COVID funds still available from the state. According to Jerome, few Rutland County businesses have received such funding and she urged people to see what they may qualify for.

The overall sense in the room was pride and excitement. Brandon has achieved a lot over the last several years and the members of the BACC have no intention of slowing down. Visit their website—brandon.org—to find out more about membership, events, and programs.

Still Not Vaccinated? Need a Booster?

COVID-19 vaccine clinics available throughout Addison County through March 31st.

Please call
Mountain Community Health
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for more information at
(802) 453-3911.

MCH will be offering Pfizer Bivalent Boosters for all ages 5+.

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** COVID-19 vaccinations available this Friday, Feb. 10, from 11 AM to 2 PM with MCH's Mobile Unit at 86 Shannon St., Middlebury and Saturday Feb. 11 From 9 AM to 12 Noon at Turning Point Center, 54A Creek Rd., Middlebury.



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**STATEMENT FROM ROWAN'S MOTHER,
HARMONY VAN EATON:**

“Rowan has been doing art since she was 9 months old. She loves all types of art, theater, animals, and cares very much about the environment and wild-life conservation. She enjoys being part of Rutland

Youth Theater and volunteering around Brandon. Her favorite show is Stranger Things, and she loves music from the 70s and 80s. Her first concert was Blue Oyster Cult! Rowan is an awesome big sister to her brother Leo and helps her mom around the house and farm every day.”

BRANDON REPORTER

Sports



OTTER VALLEY WRESTLING has had an outstanding season, coming in first or second at multiple tournaments. Many members of the team have finished at the top of their weight classes at these events. Go Otters!

Otter Valley wrestling team in first place again!

BY STEVEN JUPITER

JERICHO — The Otter Valley wrestling team continued its dominant season with a first-place finish at the Jason Lowell Memorial Wrestling Tournament on Saturday at Mount Mansfield Union High School.

The Otters vanquished the field with 170 points as a team. 11 OV wrestlers placed in the top four, including two champions, Caleb Whitney at 138 and Tucker Babcock at 152.

Whitney and Babcock both reached a career milestone with their 100th wins on the day as well.

Kingston Cotter finished second at 138, Isaac Whitney came in second at 182, Lincoln Wilcox was third at 132, Malachai Sheldrick was third at 152, Drake Felkl was third at 170, Simon Martin was third at 195, Keevon Parks was third at 220, Derek Li was third at 285 and Chase Cram was fourth at 160.



OV'S TUCKER BABCOCK and Caleb Whitney each logged their 100th career wins at Mount Mansfield. Congrats, gentlemen!

Three record-setting fish were caught in Vermont in 2022

RUTLAND, VT — Vermont Fish and Wildlife today announced that three fish caught in 2022 were certified as new state records.

In February, Swanton angler Matt Gingras landed a new Vermont record burbot while fishing on northern Lake Champlain in the West Swanton area. The burbot, caught on a live golden shiner set under a tip-up, weighed 10.9 pounds and measured 32 ½ inches long with a 17-inch girth. It beat the previous state record burbot caught in 2012 by 2.1 pounds. Unfortunately for Matt, his

reign as the state record burbot holder lasted just two months. In early April while open water bass fishing on Lake Champlain around South Hero, Stephen Estes of Auburn, New Hampshire, caught an 11.0-pound burbot casting a Ned Rig. The fish measured 34 inches in length and had a 17 ½-inch girth.

In May of 2022, North Hero angler Jacob Kinney was out bowfish-



STEPHEN ESTES OF Auburn, New Hampshire shows off the 11-pound burbot he caught in Lake Champlain in April of 2022.

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Jim & Liz McRae

Calendar of events

February

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 tourna-

ments.

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.

Prana Shakti Zoom & Studio Chair Yoga, Gentle, Wednesdays

From 10:30–11:30 a.m. at 155 Woodstock Avenue in Rutland Lina Cloffe Hanson (Parvati) offers an Earth Conscientious, Spiritual, Gentle Physical Yoga Practice. We meet on Mondays via zoom. Contact for Zoom link. (There is also a Monday Zoom only class)

Not everyone can get up and down off of the floor easily making traditional yoga classes difficult. If you have physical limitation or a health issue this might be the ideal class for you. With the help of a chair most people can practice yoga and reaping the benefits of increased circulation, balance, flexibility, mobility, strength and more.

We spend a fair amount of the time exercising in a seated position in the chairs but if possible, we also do exercises standing, using the chairs for support. The exercises can be adjusted for individual needs and we move at a comfortable pace. I think will soon notice a difference once you start. Looking forward to seeing you in class!

Lina (Parvati) has 20 plus years of experience teaching and a lifelong personal practice.

To stay tuned if there are any cancelations, follow on Facebook and get on email list. \$15/class



Maclure Library True Story, Theme: Love

On the 14th, beginning at 6:30 p.m., True Story is a storytelling event based on the popular NPR program "The Moth."

We invite all storytellers to sign up at the the library. your story must be true, told in the first person, without

notes, have a beginning, middle, and end and follow the theme. Your story can funny, sad, exciting, emotional or all in one!

Not a storyteller, but love to listen? Join the audience!



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.)

Yoga

Fridays

Maclure Library Knitting Circle

Come join us weekly to share projects from noon – 2:00 p.m.

Chaffee Arts Center All About the Arts Free Class for kids 3–5

From 11am–Noon...FREE! Students will have fun creating and doing activities with art, music, literature, and more!

One free book per student will be given weekly (while supplies last) thanks to our partners at Rutland Free Library. Adult must accompany children under age 4. Must pre-register by Wednesday each week Instructor: Lori Sullivan; Minimum 3

Brandon Audubon Birdseed Sale

Replenish your seed supply at Brandon Blue Seal on Route 7 from 9 am to 2 pm. Learn about bird feed and feeders, and join Audubon if you wish. Our bird experts can answer your avian questions while you shop and save a few bucks. More info at birding@rutlandcountyaudubon.org.



"Earthy folk sounds, undertones of rock and bluegrass"

Join Brandon-based singer songwriter **Breanna Elaine** and her band Friday night, Feb. 10 at 7:30 at Brandon Town Hall. Breanna will be celebrating the release of her second album *Seedlings*

Red Clover beer and Small Bites by Dallas Ladd will be available for purchase.

Tickets are \$18 in advance through Seven Days tickets, and \$20 at the door. *Kristian Montgomery opens the show.*



Wild Woods Music Song Circle, Wednesday, February 15th, at 7:15 p.m.

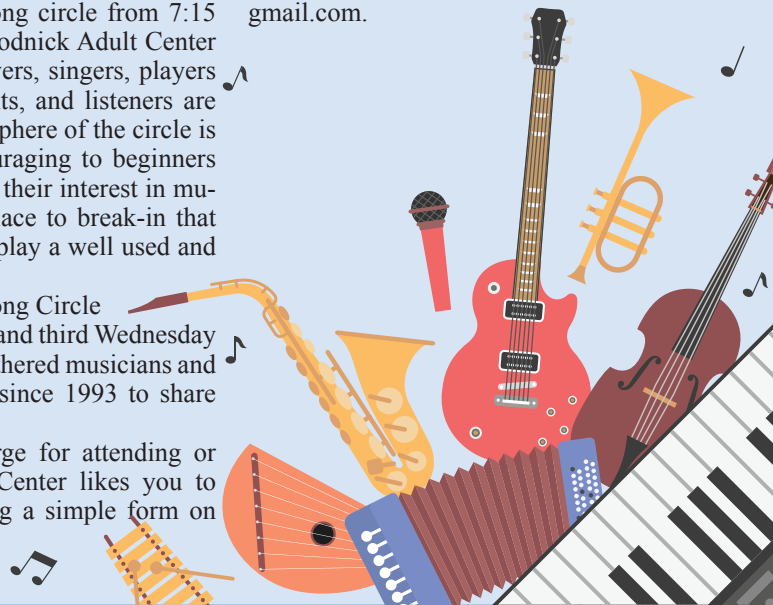
If you wooed your loved one with music and song on Valentine's Day, why not take a moment or two and woo us too. We love music, song, and the people who make it, so on Wednesday, February 15th, come along and join our song circle from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m., at the Godnick Adult Center in Rutland. Music lovers, singers, players of acoustic instruments, and listeners are welcomed. The atmosphere of the circle is easy-going and encouraging to beginners or anyone developing their interest in music. This is a good place to break-in that new instrument or to play a well used and loved one.

The Wild Woods Song Circle that meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month, has gathered musicians and singers continuously since 1993 to share their music.

There is no charge for attending or performing, but the Center likes you to register by completing a simple form on

an annual basis. Simply show up and enjoy good music.

For further information, call Jack Crowther at 802-775-1182 or e-mail Gus Bloch, song circle leader, at gusbloch@gmail.com.



ndays

ndon Town Hall Painting with Crystal Ketcham leads an all ages painting event! You CAN paint! More info, contact Crystal at tman88@gmail.com

study of art is the most important study a garden designer can pursue."

turday 11th:

edy Park with End User at Sister Wicked double bill action this time around folks. End User, alternative rock band from Pittsford, will be opening up night at 8:00. Post-hardcore, local musicians Kennedy follow up at 9:15.

g your head and mosh it out. onation suggested.

riday 17th Saturday 25th:

and Welcomes the Return of Winterfest for a two-year hiatus, Winterfest returns in full February 17-25 with events for all ages and abilities. Winterfest has been a Rutland staple for 20 years, but what began as a 4-hour event one day in February has blossomed into a 7-day festival during winter break. This year, Winterfest is bringing back crowd favorites like sledding down Center Street, Human Foomball, and the Real Rutland Feud while adding some future favorites to the roster.

le – Feb. 11



Photo by Roy Pilcher

"Winterfest has been a long-standing

new people and new sponsors, Winterfest is undergoing a renaissance of sorts. There's something for everyone to do: stuff for kids, adults and families. This year, there are 24 different groups including businesses, nonprofits, Rutland City, and the Town of Brandon: a good group of people."

Things kick off Friday, February 17th with a snowy story walk at Pine Hill Park. On Saturday, Giorgetti Arena opens its doors for free ice skating from 5-7pm. On Tuesday, Feb. 21st, folks can sled down Center Street and play or participate in a game of Human Foomball. Teams of 6 compete for the glory. Registration is \$50 per team and funds go to support Come Alive Outside. Spectators are welcome to watch the action for free. Wednesday morning at 10am, kids and adults can wear their P.J.s at the Paramount to watch a flick, then join in the Great Bigfoot Chase at the Rutland Free Library at 1pm. Thursday evening at 6, cornholers of all abilities will

tradition in Rutland and after a year off, we are excited to bring it back! Over the years the events have evolved and so many great memories have been created," says Winterfest event co-chair April Cioffi. "Spark some joy and come play at Winter Fest!"

Coming together as a community in this challenging time of year is incredibly important for mental and physical health and is the reason for throwing a big winter festival. Most events are free, and some paid events are open to spectators for free.

"Hopefully, people are as excited and engaged as they were in the past," says Winterfest event co-chair Russ Marsan. "With

compete in a mini tournament at the Rutland Recreation Center. Friday night at 6:30, bring the kids or a date to Skate with Bigfoot. The Loved Ones and Little Ones Dance wraps up Winterfest on Saturday, February 25 along with the ever-popular Real Rutland Feud at 7pm at The Paramount Theatre. Tickets to the Loved Ones and Little Ones Dance are \$15 per couple while tickets to the Real Rutland Feud are \$30 per person.

For more information, visit <https://www.rutlandrec.com/winterfestevents>, call 802-773-1853 or email aprilc@rutlandrec.com.

Monday 20th:

The Rutland Extension Master Gardener Group presents author Martha Molnar At 7:00 P.M. at the Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St, Rutland, VT 05701

Martha Leb Molnar has a certificate in Botany from the NY Botanical Gardens. She is a freelance writer and commentator, and this is her third book. Martha will talk about her new book, *Playing God in the Meadow: How I Learned to Admire My Weeds*, in which she and her husband, having found their dream acreage in Vermont, try to stave off the non-native invasives. This is not just for gardeners! You can buy the book from Phoenix to read ahead of time, or just come and enjoy Martha's compelling rendition.

Goings on around town

Show your sweetheart some Valentine's sugar



We're running a Valentine's Day special feature in Feb 15th issue of *The Reporter!*

For only \$10, you can take out a 2.25" x 3" ad with a message of up to 20 words and your choice of vintage, modern, floral, or playful graphic.

Please send your message and a check to **Brandon Reporter, 294 Wheeler Road, Brandon, VT 05733**. You may drop off your message & check at that address as well. Please include a phone number or email where we can reach you if we have questions. **Or you can scan the QR code below to pay online.**

Messages received after 2/13 will not be included. Messages without payment will not be included. Messages with profanity will not be included. Keep it wholesome, folks!



LOVE
LOVE
LOVE
LOVE

Dearest Pookie,

My favorite place to be is together with you.



Wherever you are is where I want to be.



Love,
Schmoopie



Sample valentine



Vintage sample



Floral sample



Playful sample



Modern sample

What on earth was that used for?

BY JANET MONDLAK

BRANDON—From listening to music to cleaning and caring for one's house and working in the kitchen, there are many examples of how gadgets and household items have changed and progressed over the years. I love to contemplate items from our past and think about things that used to be so common that everyone had them but which are now basically useless. Some items are easily repurposed while others – well, there is just nothing that can be done with them. It is especially fun to talk with kids about some of these items and even have them guess what things were used for.

I'll start with the spittoon, one of my personal favorites. In the late 19th century, spittoons were common in all types of gathering places, especially where men congregated. I suppose that means that men were the spitters! Spittoons were mostly used for disposing of chewing tobacco. They were commonly made from pottery, brass, cut glass, or fine porcelain. The classier the establishment, the more upscale the spittoon. I recently had a customer at our shop, Across the Street, who was looking for a receptacle to hold utensils on her kitchen counter. It did not go over well when I suggested the spittoon.

That brings me to stoneware crocks, which were originally used to store perishable foods such as



A CERAMIC SPITTOON. These were used to catch chewing tobacco (or the accompanying juice) back in the day

butter, salted meats, and pickled vegetables before refrigeration was in every home. Most crocks have a number stenciled on the front. That is an indication of its size. A "1" is a one-gallon crock. A "2" is a two-gallon crock. The largest one we have ever had was a "25". It was heavy! Stoneware jugs, also referred to as liquor crocks, were once upon a time used to store moonshine. Nowadays, crocks are more often seen in the garden, on the floor as a dog's water bowl, or on the countertop to hold kitchen utensils. This is a far more palatable item than the spittoon! I frequently see antique jugs substituting as vases, especially for tall grasses or cattails. Good repurposing!

In the bedroom years ago, mattresses were made of grass or straw. They would have been supported with rope lacing. People used a special wrench, known as a "bed key," made specifically to tighten up the rope to keep the mattress from sagging. Sounds like a lot of work to me! And what can you do with that wrench nowadays?

There was a time when all clothes and linens were ironed to remove the wrinkles. Before electric irons, clothes irons were called

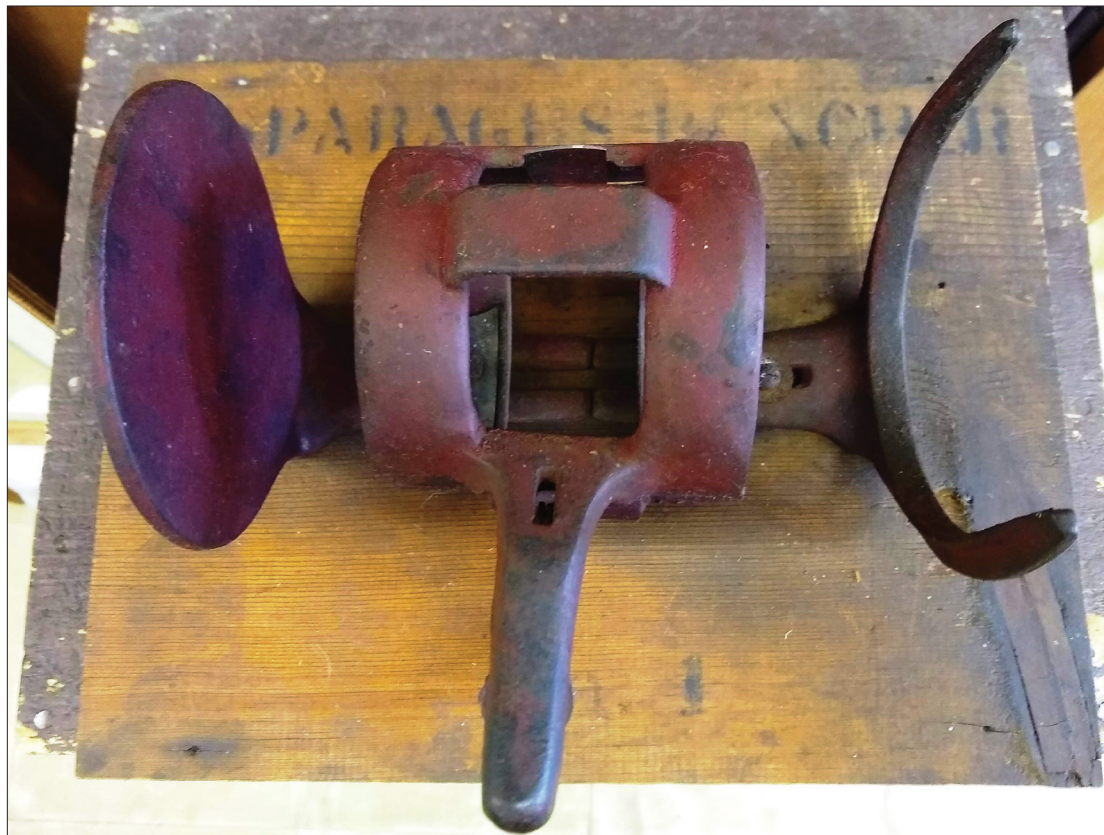


AN 1800S "BED wrench" or "bed key." These were used to tighten the ropes on old beds. The saying "sleep tight" comes from the pleasure of sleeping on tightened ropes.

"sad" irons. Why sad? One theory is that because they weighed so much, they made for some very sad women. Each iron weighed between five to nine pounds. The irons traditionally did not have a handle – they were just a hunk of metal. A metal or wooden detachable handle would fit on top and click in place. When the iron cooled, sad grandma could click it off, put it back on the hot stove, and click on a new one. Now they make great door stops. And grandma is happy.

Long before the vacuum cleaner was invented, how did rugs get cleaned? Easy answer – rug beaters! Of course, one had to gather the rug and get it outside to a clothesline or fence post so they could then beat the heck out of it. Between sad-ironing, rope-tightening under the mattress, and carpet-beating, I would imagine sad grandma had some major muscle in her upper arms.

These days vinyl records that play at a speed of 33 1/3 rpm (commonly referred to as 33s), are all the rage. Everyone from teens to aging hippies are touting the quality of listening to music from the turntable and not from a digital streaming app. But there were so many other types of records and listening devices. There were 8-tracks and vinyl 45s and 78s as well as cassette tapes and CDs. Before all of those, there were Edison cylinders. Phonograph cylinders were the earliest commercial medium for recording and reproducing sound and were



AN ASPARAGUS BUNCHER. Perhaps bunching asparagus was very difficult in olden times.



EDISON CYLINDERS: THE earliest commercial music recordings were etched on these wax tubes. They were popular around the turn of the last century.

popular from about 1895 to 1915. The hollow cylindrical tubes have an audio recording engraved on the outside surface, which can be reproduced when they are played on, you guessed it, a cylinder phonograph.

There are loads of kitchen devices that while still functional, are not as practical as newer models.

In our shop we have an Asparagus Buncher. I had to look this one up to determine what it was for. You'd be right if you said it was designed to cut and bunch asparagus!

If you want a homework assignment where you will not be graded on and do not even have to turn in, do some reminiscing. Think about your grandparents' house and try to

remember some old-fashioned, out-of-date gadgets they had. Or maybe you have some items around your place now that are totally useless but you can't get rid of. And give yourself a gold star on the homework assignment if you have an old-timey gadget that has been repurposed, the ultimate in recycling. But that's a topic for another day!

Middlebury Professor ponders solitude at Science Pub in Castleton

BY STEVEN JUPITER

CASTLETON—I've often joked that no one moves to Vermont to be around people. The population here is small and spread out and the way of life much less insistently social than in other places. Vermonters spend a lot of time pursuing often-solitary activities: hunting, fishing, hiking, gardening, reading, painting, writing, wood-working...it's a great place to pursue your own interests. But are Vermonters lonely? What's the difference between loneliness and solitude? What makes for positive solitude as opposed to painful isolation?

Virginia Thomas, Assistant Professor of Psychology at Middlebury College, led a rapt audience through the subtleties of solitude at The Taproom on Lake Bomoseen on Sunday afternoon, as part of the Science Pub series that brings people together for philosophy and food.

Thomas considers herself something of a solitary creature—she called her public self her “presentation mode”—and began researching the topic in large part because of an interest in her own behavior. Why do some people thrive in solitude while others wither? Why does society see sociability as strength and solitude as weakness? Can people be taught to enjoy solitude rather than fear it?

In a presentation titled “Embracing Solitude”—so named to reflect Thomas's goal of teaching people to view solitude positively—Thomas distilled much of her research on solitude into a few principles.

According to Thomas, solitude is a positive experience when it is:

- chosen
- enjoyable
- meaningful

In other words, when people consciously decide to spend time alone and engage in enjoyable activities that have meaning for them, solitude is perceived as a positive experience. This completely gibes with the experiences of most people: when you're engaged in a solitary activity you enjoy, you perceive the solitude as positive.

By contrast, according to Thomas, solitude is a negative experience when it leads to:

- rumination (dwelling on conflicts and/or fears)
- loneliness (yearning for but not receiving social contact)
- boredom (“a lack of meaningful engagement with yourself



PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSOR VIRGINIA Thomas of Middlebury College presented “Embracing Solitude” at the February Science Pub at The Taproom on Lake Bomoseen in Castleton on Sunday.

or your surroundings”)

Again, this completely tracks with the lived experiences of most people. Much substance abuse arises from an inability to maneuver oneself out of this kind of negative headspace, to replace negative experiences of solitude with positive ones. Drugs and alcohol temporarily “turn off” the unwanted feelings of isolation.

Thomas also disputed the common distinction between “introvert” and “extrovert,” noting that very few people are truly one or the other. The desire for and tolerance of solitude depend not only on one's natural personality but also on one's particular circumstances. A self-described extrovert may need “alone time” after a busy week while a self-described introvert may have bouts of happy sociability. Again, the perception of solitude depends largely on whether it's chosen rather than imposed.

Social media poses a special problem when discussing solitude, Thomas noted. It's neither truly social nor truly solitary. It occupies its own middle ground between the two spheres. When we look at Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, or Twitter, we may experience the sensation of social engagement, but we tend to use social media when we're physi-

cally alone. Do we use these platforms to self-soothe when interaction with other people isn't available? Or should we look at these platforms as social interaction with built-in boundaries: engagement we can switch off at our pleasure, without the awkwardness of terminating a “real life” social interaction?

Psychologist Donald Winnicott once described positive solitude as “the capacity to be alone without distress.” For Professor Thomas, dissecting solitude in all its facets is key to her mission of teaching people to expand their capacity for its positive aspects.

The Science Pub is a monthly event that draws folks from all over Rutland County. Brandon resident Connie Kenna attended Sunday's event with her friend Ingrid Pixley of Leicester. “We enjoy hearing about scientific topics,” Kenna said. “I like to work my brain,” added retired pediatrician Kathie Hession of Pittsford.

The next Science Pub will take place at 4:00 on Sunday, March 5 at the Southside Steakhouse in Rutland. The topic will be Rivers, Lakes, Oceans...on Mars? and will be presented by Marisa Palucis, Assistant Professor of Life Science at Dartmouth College. These events are free, except for drinks and food.

Act 250 in crosshairs as environmental groups prioritize forest loss

BY CLARA MCENEANY/
VtDigger

Environmental advocates across the state head into this year's legislative session with the goal of updating Act 250 — Vermont's land use and development law — to protect one of the state's biggest natural resources: working forests.

Advocates believe the wide-ranging 1970 law doesn't sufficiently regulate the impacts of large development on forest lands, causing mass forest fragmentation and loss, according to Jamey Fidel, forest and wildlife director at the Vermont Natural Resources Council, a nonprofit.

“There's no real attention to whether there's going to be any future role of that forest when the land is being developed, as well as (it) being available as working lands,” Fidel said. “Will they be able to provide habitat for wildlife (in addition to preserving timber sources)? So, this is a way of zooming out and saying, let's focus on some good site design.”

In the last decade Vermont has lost up to 10,000 acres per year of its forests due to permanent development and suburban sprawl, according to the U.S. Forest Service.

“Our policies in Vermont haven't caught up to this change in trajectory and trend,” said David Mears, executive director of Vermont Audubon Society, the conservation nonprofit focused on birds and their habitats. “There's a couple of different ways in which we can lose these forests: They can be lost to permanent development, which is the worst-case scenario. Box stores, subdivisions and the like are a permanent loss of forest land as well.”

In the past environmental groups have tried getting multiple bills on the issue of forest fragmentation through the legislature, including last session's H.606, which made it through the Legislature but was vetoed by Gov. Phil Scott.

“The bill would have put us on a path to protecting 30% of Vermont's landscape by 2030, 50% by 2050, including 10% of the state,” said Zack Por-

ter, executive director of the activist group Standing Trees, which aims to protect and restore forests in New England.

“And (the bill would set) a goal for 10% of the state to be put into wild lands management,” Porter continued. “But 10% compared to the 3% (that is conserved) today would be a major step forward. We know we must do this if we want to keep the biodiversity that we have today and if we want to give a chance to the wildlife that were extirpated from Vermont years ago.”

Groups are working to push similar legislation this session. But a third of the Legislature is new, and environmental groups worry legislation will face roadblocks because fledgling lawmakers need to catch up on yearslong issues.

“I think it's very important that everyone takes the time to really understand these issues because they're complex and interconnected,” Mears said. “At the same time, we are looking at the housing shortage; we're looking at the challenges of workforce development. Are (legislators) making sure we have enough people to fill the jobs in the state that are necessary in the natural resources and environmental fields?”

Advocates agree that meeting the needs of Vermont's forests are crucial to meeting the state's goals in combating climate change. Those goals are spelled out in the state's climate action plan adopted in 2021, which looks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through measures that include forest management.

“All the different kinds of ecosystems play such an important role in storing and holding carbon,” Mears said. “They also serve as a source of resilience, a strategy for us for adapting to and responding to the impact of climate. Also, a vital importance to addressing the loss of wildlife and birds that we've been seeing over the past several decades.”

At this point, forest advocates are bullish on their chances of changing Act 250 this session and overcoming vetoes from Scott.



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



Helyn Anderson of Brandon called to recognized the two adults on the right as Pat and Paul Kearn, also of Brandon. She also recognized Father Croce and thinks that the young boy beside him might be Eric Kearn, Pat and Paul's son, though she's not positive about that.

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





Off the Shelf

New books at the Brandon Free Public Library

Adult Fiction

Black Sun by Rebecca Roanhorse

A ship's Captain who can control the water through song, a Sun Priest, a blind man who would be a God, and a highly trained warrior intersect at the cusp of the fulfillment of a prophecy in this fantasy tale set in the pre-Columbian era.

How to Sell a Haunted House by Grady Hendrix

When Louise finds out her parents have died, she dreads going home. She doesn't want to leave her daughter with her ex. She doesn't want to deal with her family home, stuffed to the rafters with the remnants of her father's academic career and her mother's lifelong obsession with puppets and dolls. She doesn't want to learn how to live without the two people who knew and loved her best in the world. Most of all, she doesn't want to deal with her brother, Mark, who never left their hometown and resents her success. Unfortunately, she'll need his help to get the house ready for sale because it'll take more than some new paint on the walls and clearing out a lifetime of memories to get this place on the market. But some houses don't want to be sold, and their home has

Did you know?

We now have weekly meetups for Pokémon and Magic the Gathering Commander game play! Tuesdays from 3:30–5!

other plans for both of them...

The End of Drum-Time by Hanna Pylvinen

In 1851, at a remote village in the Scandinavian tundra, a Lutheran minister known as Mad Lasse tries in vain to convert the native Sámi reindeer herders to his faith. But when one of the most respected herders has a dramatic awakening and dedicates his life to the church, his impetuous son, Ivvár, is left to guard their diminishing herd alone. By chance, he meets Mad Lasse's daughter Willa, and their blossoming infatuation grows into something that ultimately crosses borders—of cultures, of beliefs, and of political divides—as Willa follows the herders on their arduous annual migration north to the sea.

Liar, Dreamer, Thief by Maria Dong

Katrina's carefully crafted world begins to crumble when she witnesses the suicide of Kurt, a co-worker for whom

she's had a slight "stalkerish" obsession. In his last words, he blames Katrina for his death. Stunned, she begins to comb through everything she's collected about him over the past few years and realizes he had been stalking her as well. Each revelation uncovers another disturbing truth, and the past she thought she left behind grows ever closer.

Exiles by Jane Harper

Federal Investigator Aaron Falk is on his way to a small town deep in Southern Australian wine country for the christening of an old friend's baby. But mystery follows him, even on vacation. The weekend marks the one-year anniversary of Kim Gillespie's disappearance. One year earlier, at a busy town festival on a warm spring night, Kim tucked her sleeping baby into her stroller and vanished. No one has seen her since. As Falk soaks up life in the valley, he is welcomed into the tight-knit circle of Kim's friends and loved ones. But the group may be more fractured than it seems. Between a friend, the missing mother, and a woman he's drawn to, dark questions linger as long-ago truths begin to emerge. What would make a mother abandon her child? What happened to Kim Gillespie?

Cold puts crime on ice

Brandon Police Report

BRANDON — Bitter Cold seemed to put a damper on activity in Brandon last week. Nevertheless, Brandon Police had several calls requiring their assistance.

The first came On Jan. 31, when a Rutland City resident reported concerns that his inheritance money was being stolen and wanted to meet with an officer on Supermarket Drive. The male was advised to get in contact with Rutland City Police to seek further assistance as the ongoing issue was occurring in Rutland City and not Brandon.

A vehicle unable to maintain its lane on Furnace Road was stopped On Feb. 1. Mark Decrisantis, 64, of Forest Dale was arrested for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol. Decrisantis was later processed and then released on a citation to appear before the Rutland County Superior Court-Criminal Division On Feb. 21, for arraignment.

A missing persons report came in later in the day for a Bristol resident last seen at a doctor's appointment in the Town of Brandon the day before. Police are involved in an ongoing investigation into the whereabouts of the individual in-question.

When police responded to a Feb. 3 report of a suspicious person allegedly trying to get into the Junction Store and Deli on Forest Dale Road, they that the suspicious person was in fact an employee leaving the business. Later in the day police were called to a two-car accident on Arnold District Road. One vehicle had passed another vehicle on the left as it was making a left-hand turn into a driveway. The vehicles received damage but no injuries were reported.

Police assisted with an ongoing marital and/or property dispute issue occurring on Grove Street On February 4. The matter was determined to be civil in-nature and not a police matter.

On Feb. 5 police received a report of orange traffic cones on Marble Street, causing a traffic hazard. Police immediately removed the cones from the roadway. At this time it is unknown who initially placed the cones in the roadway.

In other activity, Brandon Police:

On Jan 30

- Took fingerprints for nursing licenses and a coaching position.
- Received a request for assistance from a Rutland city resident.

On Jan 31

- Patrolled Center Street on foot and secured open exterior

door at Town offices.

- Received lost property and returned it to its owner.
- Stopped a vehicle on Champlain Street for following too closely and issued a warning.

On Feb. 1

- Responded to the parking lot of the Hannaford's Supermarket on Supermarket Drive and documented it for insurance purposes.

- Took fingerprints for teacher license.

- Served a subpoena on behalf of the Rutland County State's Attorneys Office at a residence on Park Street.

- Stopped a vehicle on Furnace Road for DUI.

- Received a missing persons report.

On Feb. 2

- Took fingerprints for nursing license.

On Feb. 3

- Enforced speed limit on Grove Street

- Responded to a two-vehicle crash on Arnold District Road.

- Responded to a report of a suspicious activity at Junction Store and Deli on Forest Dale Road.

On Feb. 4

- Investigated false alarms at Otterside Animal Hospital in Conant Square and the police station on Forest Dale Road.

- Made multiple traffic stops on Franklin Street, Conant Square, and Grove Street. Violations included speeding, defective equipment, tailgating, and failure to produce proof of liability insurance. Issued five warnings and three tickets

- Assisted with an ongoing marital and/or property dispute issue occurring on Grove Street.

- Enforcement traffic rules on Center Street. No violations were observed.

On Feb. 5

- Responded to a report of orange traffic cones causing a traffic hazard on Marble Street.

- Made multiple traffic stops on Conant Square, Franklin Street, Marble Street and Grove Street. Violations included speeding, failure to display a license plate and failure to produce proof of liability insurance. Issued four warnings and three tickets.

- Received an accidental 911 call from a residence on New Road.

- Enforced speed limit on Grove Street.

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE



Start slowly and build up to bigger projects when you gain confidence in your abilities.

LEO July 23-Aug. 23

Celestial energy has you temporarily doubting your abilities, Leo. Normally you are quite confident in your creativity. Give things a little time to settle down.

ARIES March 21-April 20

You might feel caught up in a daze this week, Aries. Your mind continues to wander, but your thoughts will settle down soon enough.

TAURUS April 21-May 21

Make an effort to bring more people onto your side, Taurus. You can't possibly win everyone over, but others might be receptive to your ideas with the right approach.

GEMINI May 22-June 21

A sit down with a higher-up could be in order soon, Gemini. Explain your attributes and what you have been doing for the company and make an effort to compromise, if necessary.

CANCER June 22-July 22

Cancer, you are still following through with resolutions to be more organized.

VIRGO Aug. 24-Sept. 22

Virgo, excitement could be on the horizon. Caution is needed, but don't hesitate to embrace the renewed vigor this development inspires.

LIBRA Sept. 23-Oct. 23

Libra, this week you may start micro-managing other people without even realizing it. You certainly want things to be in order, but sometimes you have to let others be.

SCORPIO Oct. 24-Nov. 22

Retail therapy has its allure this week, Scorpio. If you must buy, direct your purchasing dollars toward a sweetheart for Valentine's Day or another special occasion.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 23-Dec. 21

Sagittarius, ground yourself with the small luxuries in your life that bring you

joy. This could be the company of friends or cherished mementos.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 20

Misinformation seems to circulate with ease, but don't believe everything you hear this week, Capricorn. You may need to do some fact-checking of your own.

AQUARIUS Jan. 21-Feb. 18

Aquarius, you could be tempted to indulge in a little gossip as the rumors start flying this week. Take the high road and resist the urge to join in.

PISCES Feb. 19-March 20

Pisces, if you feel a little off your game this week, find a friend who can offer you a pep talk. That's all you need to bounce back.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

- Feb. 9 Michael B. Jordan, actor (36)
- Feb. 10 Leontyne Price, opera singer (96)
- Feb. 11 Damian Lewis, actor (52)
- Feb. 12 Charles Darwin, naturalist (d)
- Feb. 13 Stockard Channing, actor (79)
- Feb. 14 Danai Gurira, actor/playwright (45)
- Feb. 15 Sir Ernest Shackleton, explorer (d)



ABOVE: THE MATERIALS and finished product of the Silver Bells' first-ever sip-n-paint at Brandon Town Hall. Below: The Hull family of Brandon show off their terrific finished work.

Silver Bells' first paint-n-sip a success

Silver Bells of the Brandon Area Toy Project hosted their first-ever paint and sip (with hot chocolate and cookies) at the town hall today. We had an amazing turn out. The teacher of the event was Crystal Ketcham, and the participants were the Hull family, the Ketcham family, and Page family! We had an amazing turn out. There were so many laughs, jokes and smiles between all of the participants. Everyone went home with a beautiful piece of work, and a memory to share.



Middlebury's Haymaker Bun Company bakery nominated for James Beard Award

BY FRED THYS/VtDigger

Haymaker Bun Company of Middlebury has been nominated for a prestigious James Beard Award for outstanding bakery.

"This is such an honor," said owner Caroline Corrente. "I religiously follow James Beard Awards. I'm in complete shock."

Corrente said she learned the news from a friend who sent her a text.

This is the first year that the James Beard Awards have had a separate category for bakeries.

Corrente said she started Haymaker from her home kitchen in 2017. A trained pastry chef, she was home on maternity leave, trying to figure out her next professional step. She came up with the idea of

doing specialty brioche buns — sweet ones, savory ones, chocolate ones. Her specialty is her cinnamon bun.

In 2018, she and her husband had the opportunity to move into a space in downtown Middlebury with a deck that overlooks Otter Creek. Their cafe serves breakfast and lunch.

"I'm super proud of my team," Corrente said. "It's been a really hard past few years for everyone in my industry, between the pandemic and labor shortages and rising food costs. We work really hard and we wake up really early."

Burlington's Foam Brewers has been nominated for the outstanding wine and other beverages program. Its beers on tap range from Pave-

ment India Pale Ale to Pagan Science American Wild Ale, aged on peaches.

"It's a pretty nice surprise," said Bob Grim, Foam's co-founder and head brewer. Grim said he found out when he received an email from another Vermont brewer.

Grim said he sees the nomination as recognition for Foam's work to support Vermont agriculture, a part of the brewery's ethos since its start.

"When we opened, we incorporated that into who we were," said Grim. "We wanted to work with the people in our community."

Last year, Nisachon "Rung" Morgan, owner of the Thai restaurant Saap in Randolph, took home the award for best chef in the Northeast.

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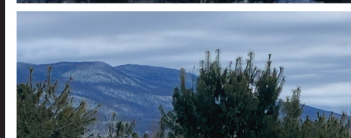
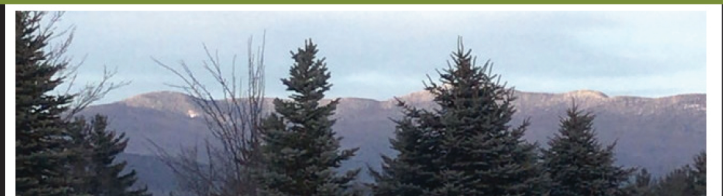
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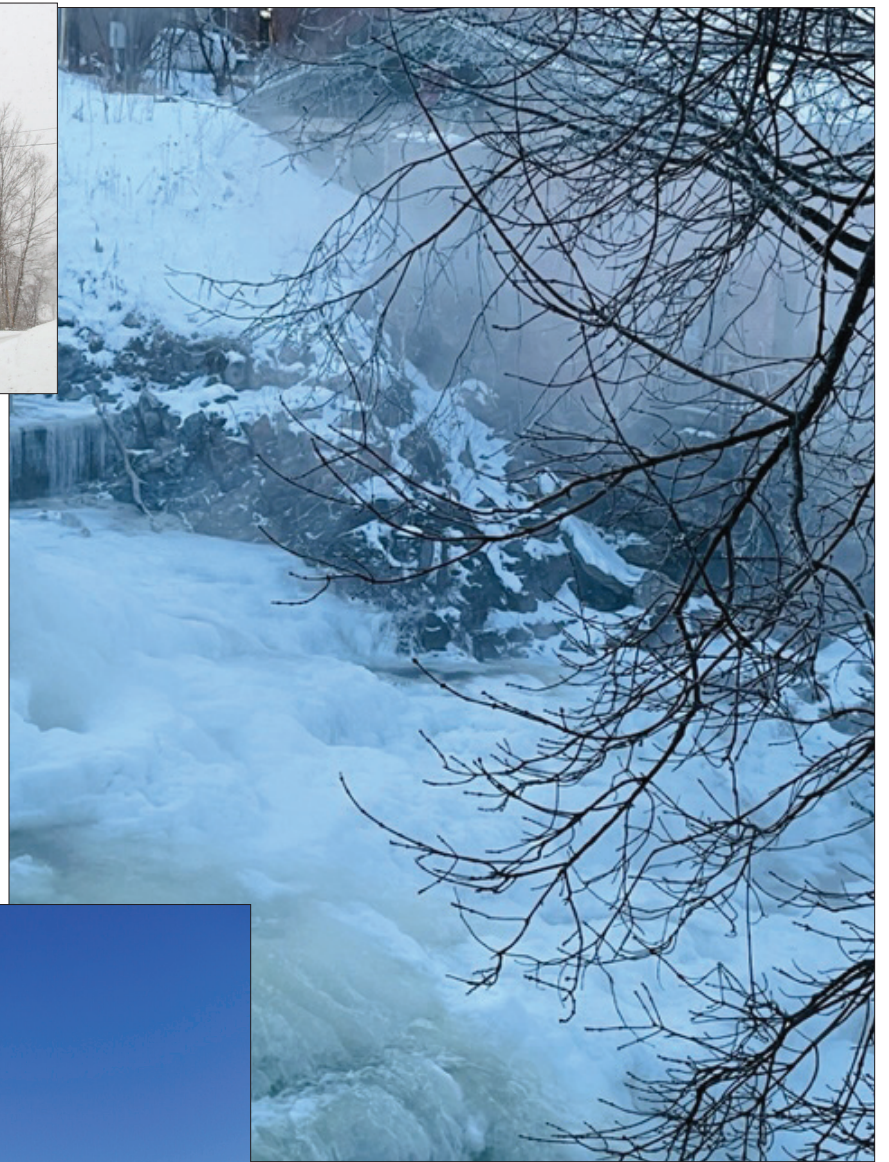
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Photos by Susan Johnson, Steven Jupiter, and Sandy Mayo



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Mim's Photos

are on page 12!



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Record fish

(Continued from Page 11)
ing at night for carp on Lake

Champlain and took a fish that weighed an incredible 63.4 pounds. This monster carp smashed the previous record set just last year by Bradley DiSorda — a fish that weighed 44 pounds 11 ounces, also taken on Lake Champlain by bow. Kinney's new record measured 39 ¼ inches in length while its girth was an immense 37 ¼-inches.

Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department fisheries biologist Shawn Good, who administers the state's Record Fish Program, says Kinney's carp is the heaviest fish ever entered in the program.

"The department started tracking state record fish in 1969, and this 63-pound carp is far and away the largest fish ever entered," said Good. "As a matter of fact,

looking through the more than 1,200 entries received over the last 53 years, seven of the ten biggest fish on the list are carp. The other three fish in the Top 10 are a muskellunge, a lake trout and a channel catfish."

Good says with the increased interest in carp fishing in North American waters in the last 10-20 years, Kinney's giant really shines a light on the potential Lake Champlain has as a world class carp fishing destination.

"Bradley's record carp last year was no slouch at nearly 45 pounds," said Good. "But then Jacob's fish beating it by nearly 20 pounds is really just mind blowing."

Good says that at 265,000 acres and 120-miles long, Lake Champlain offers a nearly untapped carp population that receives very little attention.

"I think that die-hard carpers, whether they fish European style, or go after them with fly gear, would be floored at what Champlain has to offer. The



MATT GINGRAS OF Swanton proudly displays the 10.9-pound burbot he caught in Lake Champlain in February.



JACOB KINNEY TOOK this 63.35-pound carp while bowfishing last May in the Alburgh area of Lake Champlain. It beat the existing carp record set in 2021 by nearly 20 pounds.

The Town of Brandon is looking for a Town Manager!

The Town Manager is appointed by and reports to the five-member Town Selectboard. The Town Manager is the government's Chief Executive Officer and appoints and oversees the administrative and operating staff. The Town Manager's responsibilities include:

- Supervising the administration of the Town of Brandon's affairs
- To see that the ordinances of the Town and the laws of the state are enforced
- To develop, maintain and improve key stakeholder relationships within and outside the community
- To sign all contracts, deeds, or leases that the Selectboard may authorize and make recommendations to the Selectboard concerning affairs of the Town as they seem appropriate and desirable
- To keep the Selectboard advised of the financial conditions and current and future needs of the Town
- To prepare and submit to the Selectboard the annual budget estimate
- To prepare and submit to the Selectboard reports as required by that body

Starting salary for the position is \$80,000 to \$100,000 depending upon qualifications and experience.

If you are interested in applying for this position, please send a resume and letter of interest to:
Select Board Vice Chair, Tracy Wyman,
Town Office
49 Center Street, Brandon, VT 05733

Deadline for submissions is: Monday, February 13, 2023

lake not only produces trophy sized fish but it also provides consistent action for carp in the 15 to 20 pound range. It truly is a carp angler's dream paradise."

Good says that for anglers looking for new challenges and adventures, Vermont provides many overlooked fishing opportunities.

"Vermont has an abundance of waters with a wide diversity of fish species that can be targeted and caught by hook-and-line, which speaks to both the variety and quality of sport fishing opportunities supported by healthy waters and good aquatic habitat," said Good.

A great example of that, according to Good, is seeing the burbot record broken three times in the last 10 years, and

twice last year in just a two-month span.

"While fishing remains excellent for more traditional species such as bass, trout, salmon, and pike, there are so many other fish out there that can provide amazing action with real trophy potential. Fish like burbot, bowfin, drum, gar, fallfish, suckers -- the opportunities are endless," said Good.

"The three records set in 2022 just reinforce the notion that Vermont anglers are expanding their fishing pursuits and having a great time while doing it."

For more information on Vermont's fishing opportunities, Record Fish Program and more, visit Vermont Fish and Wildlife's Fish page at <https://vtfishandwildlife.com/fish>.

PUBLIC NOTICE

**TOWN OF PITTSFORD, VERMONT
WWW.PITTSFORDVERMONT.COM
ADOPTION OF TOWN OF PITTSFORD
TRANSFER STATION ORDINANCE**

This ordinance includes the Town of Pittsford Transfer station limitations, unauthorized use fines, dumping fines, requirements for admission to the transfer station, emergency conditions, authorization for attendants, transfer station hours, listing of what is accepted, and what the users are allowed to do. A full copy of the ordinance is posted on the town website. Please reach out to the Town Manager with questions at PO Box 10 Pittsford, VT 05763 or by telephone at (802) 483-6500 ext. 20. Citizens have a right to petition pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 1973 for a vote on the Ordinance.

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SEASON SPONSORS:



KEB' MO'

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15 | 7:30 PM

Natalie **MACMASTER** & Donnell **LEAHY**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19 | 7:00 PM

BORED TEACHERS
WE CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

COMEDY TOUR

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20 | 7:30 PM

WILDLIFE ENCOUNTERS

ECOLOGY & WELLNESS CENTER

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 | 11:00 AM **\$1!**

THE MARSHALL TUCKER BAND

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24 | 8:00 PM

TOTO

Dogs of Oz Tour

2025

MONDAY, MARCH 6 | 7:30PM

GRACE POTTER

ALONE

LONELY TOWN TOUR

FRIDAY, MARCH 10 | 8:00 PM

CELEBRATING THE GORGEOUS BEER EXPERIENCE

MARKS & SPENCER

WINTER BEER

2023

MARCH 15 & 16 | 7:30 PM

Menopause

The Musical

SATURDAY, MARCH 18 | 2 & 7 PM

Peking Acrobats

FRIDAY, MARCH 31 | 7:30 PM

DC's REFLECTING FOOLS

SATURDAY, APRIL 1 | 8:00 PM

Disney **Winnie the Pooh**

THE NEW MUSICAL STAGE ADAPTATION

created by Jonathan Rockefeller

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5 | 6:30 PM

girl named tom

LIVE! WINNER OF NBC'S THE VOICE

THURSDAY, APRIL 13 | 7:30 PM

WINNER OF AMERICA'S GOT TALENT

TERRY FATOR

VOICE OF ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY, APRIL 20 | 7:30 PM

WHOSE LIVE ANYWAY?

FRIDAY, APRIL 21 | 7:30 PM

TUSK

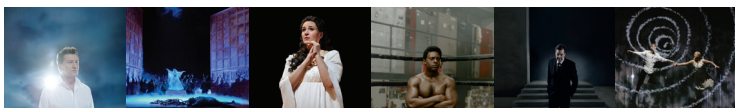
THE WORLD'S #1 TRIBUTE TO FLEETWOOD MAC

SATURDAY, APRIL 22 | 7:30 PM

The Metropolitan Opera

Sponsored by: Kathy & Bill Harm

HD LIVE



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 | Sunday, May 21, 12:55 PM *Encore*

DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE Mozart | Sunday, June 4, 12:55 PM *Encore*

More shows added every month!



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