

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

A community supported newspaper

Vol. 28, No. 26

Wednesday, June 28, 2023

\$1

PARADE PARTICIPANTS

As always, this year's Independence Day Parade will feature a wide array of participants. Read about two groups who'll make this year's parade special.

PG. 3



EXPANDING BUSINESS

Janet and Joel Mondlak expand their antiques business—Across the Street—in downtown Brandon.

PG. 21



LIBRARY LOVE

The Maclure Library in Pittsford won a Rural Library Grant from the Children's Literacy Foundation.

PG. 23

A COMMUNITY FOR GOOD

The Brandon Energy Committee introduces the Brandon Energy Community

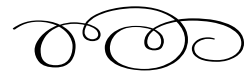
PG. 7



HUBBARDTON BATTLE

Hubbardton Battlefield will host its annual Battle of Hubbardton reenactment the weekend of July 8.

PG. 6



Summer

By Gene Childers

Summer is a time of ease
Sunshine, flowers, gentle breeze
No place better, if you please
Ask the birds, ask the bees
Picnics, fairs and artsy stuff
Fishing, swimming in the buff
Fills the heart with peace and love
It's Summer in Vermont!



A RAINY DAY cleared up enough to let this gorgeous rainbow appear over Brandon.



Photo by Mat Clouser



Vermont Marble Museum hires new Director

BY STEVEN JUPITER

PROCTOR—The Vermont Marble Museum has announced the hire of Molly Wickes as its new Director, effective July 1, the date of its re-opening after several years of closure. Ms. Wickes comes to the Museum with much experience in museum operations and collections management, having been Director of the Carpenter Museum, a local-history museum in Rehoboth, Massachusetts, and Director of Education at the Providence Preservation Society, among other positions in the

field.

Ms. Wickes has a B.A. in history and an M.A. in historic preservation, both from UVM. She is currently completing an M.A. in Library and Information Sciences at Simmons University in Boston.

Ms. Wickes arrives at the Marble Museum at a key juncture in its existence. It has been closed since the beginning of the pandemic in 2020. It occupies a building in downtown Proctor that had originally belonged to the Vermont Marble Company, (See *Marble Museum*, Page 15)

Brandon Selectboard discusses appointments, sidewalks, and paving

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—At its regular meeting on Monday evening, the Brandon Selectboard worked through its agenda, which included appointments to several town committees, the awarding of bids for paving of Arnold District Road, and the funding of the Union Street sidewalk project, among other topics.

At the beginning of the meeting, Town Manager Seth Hopkins welcomed Brandon Police Chief David Kachajian, who had been invited to introduce two new members of the Brandon Police Department to the Selectboard: Anna Burtch-MacLeod and Kevin Rimmer.

In Mr. Hopkin's report to the Selectboard, the full text of which is available on the town's website, he mentioned that the town's used sewer jetter and fuel tank had been successfully sold on the municibid.com auction platform. The 1999 jetter was sold for \$1,500 to a buyer in Michigan and the 2016 fuel tank was sold for \$1,250 to a buyer in Maine. The buyers are respon-

sible for the platform's premiums and for shipping.

Mr. Hopkins also noted that he had met with representatives from the Baptist Church and the Brandon Museum about the creation of ADA parking spaces for the church. Since the spaces will potentially encroach on the museum's property, the board of the museum will discuss the proposal at its meeting on July 11 and the town will proceed from there.

The Union Street sidewalk project is still in its initial phases and Mr. Hopkins is preparing the right-of-way paperwork with the affected property owners. The project will encompass not only new sidewalks on both sides of Union Street, but also new water and sewer pipes.

The project will require a \$300,000 match from the town, which was anticipated to come from the 1% Local Option Tax (LOT) fund. Given the current rate of replenishment—roughly \$60,000 per quarter—it would take 5 quarters or 15 months to accumulate. (See *Brandon SB*, Page 24)



JUNE & JULY 2023 EVENTS AT THE BRANDON TOWN HALL THEATER

Fri., June 30: 2-7pm · Sat., July 1: 8am-9pm · Sun., July 2: 11am-5pm · Mon., July 3: 11am-7pm · Tues., July 4: 11am-5pm · Wed., July 5-Fri., July 7: 11am-7pm · Sat., July 8: 8am-2pm (Auction Closes) · Sun., July 9: 10am-2pm (Item Pickup Only)

The 35th Chamber Of Commerce Auction, Inside, Instead!!

This year the auction will be in the Great Brandon Town Hall. If you want to attend an incredible Auction this summer, make sure it is this one. Enjoy the indoor auction bidding and eBay-style "Buy it Now" format so you can walk out the door with your treasure! The auction offers antiques, collectibles, new merchandise, surprises, and treasures from attics and barns. There will also be lots of gift certificates to dozens of local businesses including restaurants, brew pubs, fuel oil, services, and much more. Donations include dressers, beds, tools, art, chairs, beautiful dishes, and glassware. Original artwork from many of Brandon's famed artists and our usual selection of interesting and eclectic items...8 days to bid and buy!! Come to the Brandon Town Hall on June 30th, bid and buy on treasures and

enjoy our beautiful NEW downtown. Come back often to check your bids and see what new treats have been donated. Keep watch at Brandon.org for pictures and news. For more info call 802-247-6401 or email info@brandon.org. This is the Brandon Chamber's main annual fundraiser.

Sat., July 1: 9am-1pm 4th of July Celebration & Open House

Come in and visit/tour your town hall. Cold drinks and snacks will be available for sale. Bathrooms will also be available while we are open. Relax, talk to some of our incredible volunteers, learn about the history of the town hall and see what great events are coming to the Town Hall this season. Then around 10:00 a.m. sit on the front steps of the hall for an outstanding view of our great Independence Day Parade.

Sat., July 15: 7pm "The General" (1926) Silent Movie

"The General" starring Buster Keaton. Buster's Civil War-era masterpiece tells the story of a Confederate railroad engineer whose train is hijacked by Northern spies. One of the great movies of any era! This

is a repeat performance from 2011. This is a Free Will Donation Event. Sponsored by Gary & Nancy Meffe, Ben & Claudette Lawson, Bertram D. Coolidge, Frank & Ettie Spezzano, Ronald, Carolyn & Ricky Hayes, Hayes Palettes.

Sat., July 22 Dance to the Music of "Behold Dog" and "Kennedy Park"

While the instrumental music of "Behold Dog" can fit into more traditional genres such as Jazz Fusion, Hip Hop and Psychedelic, the hypnotic grooves of this collective of like-minded locals can just as easily find a home in the underground. Band Members include Caber Wilson (guitar), Ben Ransom (Bass), Dan Larsen (Percussion), Lennon Philo (Bass).

"Kennedy Park" is a post-hardcore band with members from Pittsford and Brandon including Benjamin Atherton (guitar/backing vocals), Luca Cifone (guitar/vocals), Osten Ladd (bass/backing vocals), Toby Mills (percussion) and Gunnar Tinsman (guitar/vocals). Celebrating almost one year since their official inception, they have been hard at work on an EP to share

with you this summer. All tickets are \$5.00 at the door.

Sat., July 29: 7pm L.C. Jazz Dance Band

This 17-piece volunteer Big Swing Band favorite, returns to the Brandon Town Hall for another night of music, singing and dancing. They play fantastic music, support music education through scholarships and have a good time. Come dance the night away or just sit back, tap your feet, and listen to the music. Tickets are: Adults...\$8.00, Seniors & Students...\$7.00, Couples...\$14.00. Sponsored by Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, Steve & Pam Douglass, Anonymous, Fyles Brothers, John & Lynn Wilson, Mike & Polly Goodspeed.



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WHO DOESN'T LOVE A PARADE?

BY STEVEN JUPITER

Get to know two of the invited participants in this year's Independence Day Parade.

ANITA COCKTAIL AND HER CREW

You might know her as Tonya Durant, a longtime Brandon resident who works at the Junction Store & Deli in Forestdale. You might interact with her ev-

ery day, maybe when you go into Junction to get milk or a half-pound of turkey breast, and never realize that to a large segment of Rutland County she's better known as Anita Cocktail, the wisecracking leader of a troupe of drag performers who

have been putting on shows all over Vermont for the last several years.



every day, maybe when you go into Junction to get milk or a half-pound of turkey breast, and never realize that to a large segment of Rutland County she's better known as Anita Cocktail, the wisecracking leader of a troupe of drag performers who

“It’s entertainment!” said Ms. Cocktail in a phone conversation. “Drag isn’t just putting on makeup and sequins. It’s not a glorified strip show. We’re performers. We tell a story. We sing. We dance. We do stand-up comedy.”

In fact, Anita Cocktail is a stand-up queen, whose specialty

is comedy. The outlandish make-up and clothing are just part of the persona she’s been creating for the last six years.

“I love to interact with the audience, to get them to laugh,” she said. “I’m up close and personal. I get the crowd involved.”

Drag queens are conventionally understood to be men in flamboyant women’s clothing, playing with exaggerated notions of gender. But Anita Cocktail is a woman who simply likes to perform as an even more outrageous version of herself. As with drag performers generally, the costumes allow her to sink into the character she’s created for herself.

“I was always fascinated by drag queens when I was a kid,” she said. “I thought the transformation was amazing.”

Yet drag seemed like something reserved for men. Then, six years ago, she had an epiphany: anyone can do drag.

“My drag mother, Luci Furr-Matrix, told me ‘Girl, you can do anything you want to do,’” recalled Ms. Cocktail. “It gave me so much more confidence.” And thus was born Anita Cocktail. (A “drag mother,” in the community’s parlance, is an experienced drag performer who takes a newcomer under her wing and teaches her the ropes.)

The name “Anita Cocktail” came from a comment that Tonya made before her first on-stage appearance in drag. She

was so nervous, even to the point of shaking, that she said “I need a cocktail” and the name stuck. Like a drag performer’s costumes, their drag name is usually meant to say something about the character the performer is playing.

Anita Cocktail is now a drag mother herself, helping fledgling performers in Rutland County to find their voices, refine their acts, and get out in front of people.

The drag scene in Rutland is growing, she said. For the last 5 years, Ms. Cocktail and her crew have been performing on the second Saturday of every month at Merchants Hall in Rutland City. The owner of the venue, Jacob Patorti, was very open to the idea. Ms. Cocktail and her crew also perform in Burlington, Bennington, New York, Massachusetts. They’ve even performed several times here in Brandon: at

the American Legion, the Brandon Town Hall, and the Brandon Inn.

“The community has really embraced us,” she said. Despite the harsh rhetoric lobbed at the drag community by some folks lately, Ms. Cocktail has no intention of slowing down or pulling back.

“Drag is not a crime,” she said. “It’s not going away. It’s been here for hundreds of years. Men did drag in Shakespeare’s plays. It’s not any different than Halloween or theater. It’s just a variety show, like Carol Burnett.”

Ms. Cocktail had been approached by the Brandon Independence Day Parade Committee for several years but 2023 was the first time that she was available to participate.

“They got us early,” Ms. Cocktail laughed. “We’re not going to (See Parade participants, Page 9)

Thank You to all the businesses and individuals who helped us make our new Pavilion a reality!

- Casella Construction
- Carrara Concrete
- Chuck Charbonneau
- Dave Hyman
- Ferguson Waterworks
- Florence Crushed Stone
- Gagnon Lumber
- Pioneer Outdoor Education & Training
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- Will Kimball



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Letter to the Community from Brandon T.M. Seth Hopkins

At the 12 June 2023 selectboard meeting, I advised the selectboard that the FY23 (current year) town budget was projected to be overspent when all is said and done for this fiscal year. On page 7 of those minutes, which the board approved at its 26 June meeting, the chair of the board noted that the Town may be over budget, and the statement I made in response appears minuted as follows: “Seth Hopkins reported Jackie Savela has indicated the Town will be slightly over projection at the end of the fiscal year.” There was then a comment from a board member and a couple of questions from the public which were answered, and finally a recommendation from the town treasurer who was present. This was not an incidental side conversation, this was a substantive discussion involving public officers, board members, management, and citizens. The budget running over into deficit is a matter of board awareness and public record.

My calculation considering the town bookkeeper’s summary report including the warrant which was just paid is that the budget will be overspent by 2.16%, on the order of \$74,573 against a \$3,447,460 adopted budget. 18% of that shortfall is \$14,000 of unrealized but anticipated/budgeted revenue due to the failure of the Town’s application for mosquito abatement money from the trustees of public funds in FY23. \$60,573 or 1.75% is overspending of expense lines.

Town staff expects two additional warrants of bills to be presented to the selectboard in July (beginning of FY24) to encompass prior year (FY23) expenses. They also advise there are some unbooked revenue items for the current year’s budget (FY23).

The question was also raised as to what is the plan regarding the

budget, and I would submit the following as being the straightforward and really the only available process:

1 We will close this year’s budget and any shortfall will be made up by the unrestricted general fund. This is in essence satisfying the deficit by using excess (surplus) from prior years, requires no borrowing, and respects the fact that we took more from the taxpayers than was required in prior budget year(s).

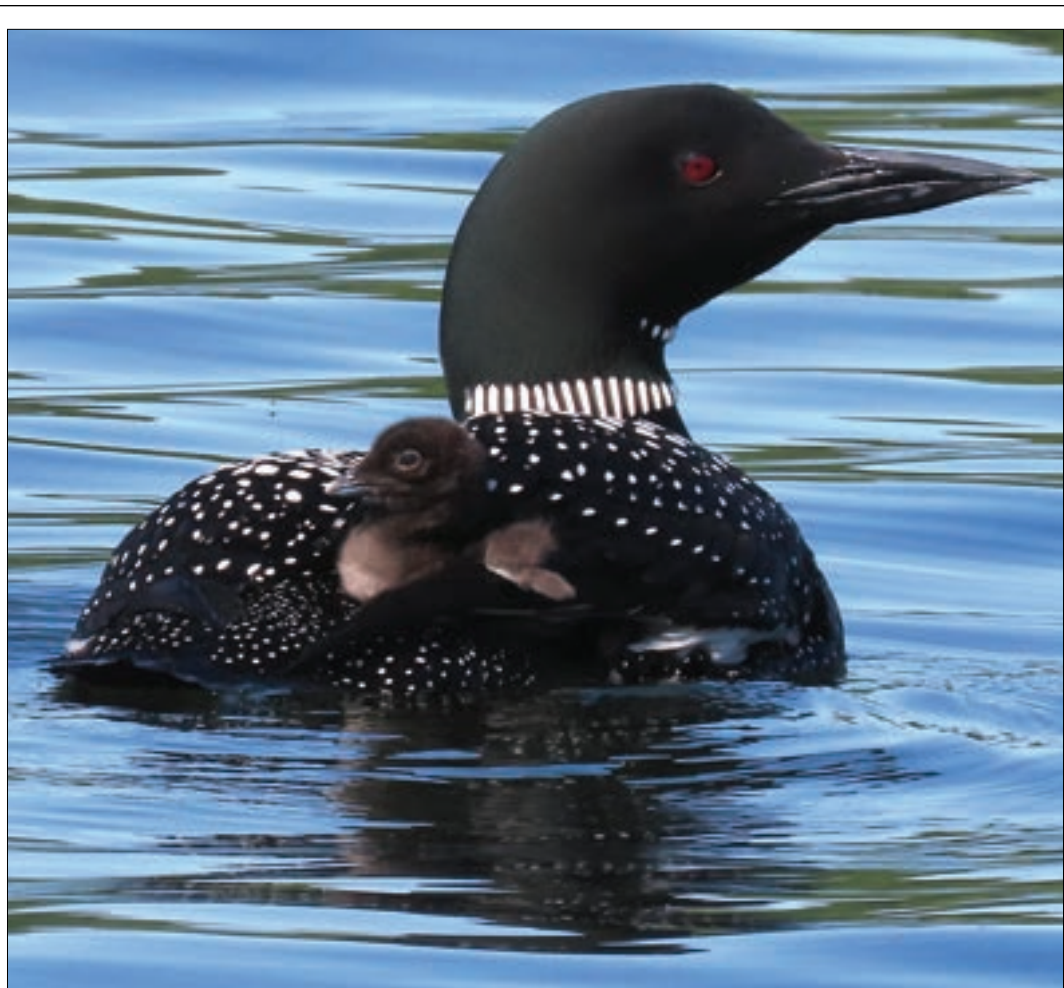
2 We will meet the Town’s obligations for all the grants it has applied for and been awarded, through funding sources determined by the selectboard.

3 We will open the FY24 budget next week and work within that budget, which was developed by the previous town manager, bookkeeper, selectboard, and budget committee during the eight hours of the collaborative budget workshop series in November and December 2022 and adopted by the voters in March 2023.

4 We will identify in preparation for the FY25 budget workshop series all departments’ medium- and long-term anticipated needs so that the FY25 budget more adequately plans for operations, equipment, and capital investments. The selectboard is already aware that the highway foreman recommends a paving allocation which is 2½ times our customary range for that.

The selectboard and community may therefore expect that the FY25 budget will require upward adjustment, and the selectboard will need to determine whether it places priority on a lean budget with accompanying risk of deficit for actual and necessary expenses, or on a more robust budget which sufficiently provides for the departments’ operations and is unlikely to result in a deficit condition.

(See Letter to Brandon, Page 5)



Water taxi!

LAKE DUNMORE LOON on Wednesday of last week with one of its day-old chicks.

Photo by Sue Wetmore

Warning to Brandon residents from Chief Kachajian

Brandon Police Chief David Kachajian advises Brandon residents to remove valuables from their cars and to lock their car doors when parking outside after a rash of car burglaries in Brandon over the last two weeks. Thieves are looking for unlocked cars and seem willing to take anything of value, including tools. Chief

Kachajian stated that the police have video evidence and a suspect. He also stated that some of the stolen material has been recovered in Rutland City. But don’t risk becoming a victim: lock your cars and don’t leave valuables behind in them.

Community Forums The Friends Zone and Food Shelf closed for the holiday

The Friends Zone and Food Shelf will be closed Tuesday July 4th in observation of Independence Day. The Food Shelf will instead be open Saturday July 1st 9-1 to help meet

the needs of our community. We welcome our Friends to join us at the Salisbury Meetinghouse, 853 Maple Street, Salisbury, on Tuesday July 4th for an Old-Fashioned Ice

Cream Social from 2-4. Thank you, Members & Friends of the Brandon United Methodist Church.

United Methodist Church will have a treasure trove of goodies for sale

The Brandon United Methodist Church is having a Fund-Raising Tag Sale Saturday July 1st 9-1, 1 Franklin Street. Rain or Shine.

Table space will be available for a monetary donation to the church.

The Brandon United Methodist Church is home to the Food Shelf and Friend Zone. For more infor-

mation or to assist the church in its endeavors to help sustain the marginalized & underserved in our community or to help restore or historic building, please call (802) 247-6524 or contact Vicki Disorda (vqueenoftheearth@gmail.com or (802) 345-4125). Donations mail be mailed to Bran-

don United Methodist Church, PO Box 55, Brandon, VT 05733. All donations specifically for the Food Shelf should be sent to Brandon Emergency Food Shelf, PO Box 345, Brandon, VT 05733. Thank you.

The REPORTER

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

A community supported newspaper

The Reporter is a nonprofit, community-supported newspaper managed by a volunteer Board of Directors.

Current board members are Steven Jupiter, president; Dr. George Fjeld, treasurer; Barbara Ebling, secretary. Graphic design by Sepi Alavi

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BRANDON REPORTER

Notes from the Pulpit

The importance of rest

BY PASTOR JOHN
HARDMAN-ZIMMERMAN

R. I. P. We usually associate this acronym with that final "rest" we call death. At that end point, all striving has certainly ceased and we "rest". And "peace"? Well, hopefully the passing was peaceful. What about "peace" as an ongoing state of eternal being? Well, hopefully. Some of us believe so. Some of us have had signs or dreams or visitations from beyond that give us peace. Some of us remain restless for want of either.

We don't have to wait for R.I.P. to "rest", of course, although in our hectic lives, it can be elusive. Judaism and Christianity, among other religions, have a weekly day of rest built into their personal and communal life, a Shabbat/Sabbath. This day of rest is rooted in a theological paradigm that God rested after bringing Creation into

being, so we need to rest after our work "week" as well.

Resting on Shabbat/Sabbath is meant as a time for physical, emotional, and spiritual renewal, so important for our health and well-being. As important as work is for our sense of purpose, provision, and worth, and as a way of contributing to the good of society, being on the go-go-go wears us down. When Communist Russia under Stalin tried enforcing a 7-day work week, it wore the people out and had to be nixed. We can find ourselves doing much the same. Burnout is not uncommon.

Wouldn't it be nice to have an extended Shabbat/Sabbath, a sabbatical of sorts that is also a spiritual retreat? This month, for the first time, I have done just that. Rather than retiring or taking a vacation in which I'm likely to be just as busy, I have extended my

day of rest to a month of rest with an emphasis on using that time as a spiritual retreat. Turns out, rest came by way of sickness for the first half of the month - a sure sign I needed just that. Now, physically rested up, I have more energy than I've known in a long time. Now I am able to attend to the "spiritual retreat" aspect of my sabbatical as I listen to the rest of what the Spirit is saying and rest in a peace that is alive with gratitude, awe and wonder at the life we've been given.

Needing Shabbat/Sabbath, perhaps a "sabbatical" of sorts as well? R & R to rest and reflect? They are so healing and healthy for body, mind and spirit. Now is the time, before we R.I.P.

John Hardman-Zimmerman is Pastor at the United Methodist Church in Brandon

Come join us for an Ice Cream Social at the Salisbury Meeting House

On Tuesday the Fourth of July from 2:00-4:00 p.m., Salisbury will celebrate Independence Day with its forty-eighth annual ice-cream social on the lawn and under the tents at the Salisbury Meetinghouse

(853 Maple St.). Come visit with your neighbors and enjoy ice cream by the cone or the dish with a wide range of toppings and accompanying choice of home-baked pie. The proceeds will be dedicated to

preparing the meetinghouse for enhanced community use. Rain or shine, the ice cream's fine at the meetinghouse in Salisbury Village.

Leicester News Brief

If you live in Leicester, time to check the Junk Ordinance

The Leicester Selectboard has contracted with the Addison County Sheriff's Department for traffic control and enforcement of the local junk ordinance. The Sheriff's Department will be running rolling patrols throughout Town providing traffic enforcement. The Sheriff's Department will also be

enforcing the Junk Ordinance. To avoid penalties and fines, residents and landowners are encouraged to review and comply with the Junk Ordinance. The Junk Ordinance can be found on our website, leicestervt.org under 'Ordinances & Regulations'.

Letter to Brandon

(Continued from Page 4)

Lastly, the FY24 tax rate is yet to be set, but a historical survey of Brandon tax rates since FY16 published at this page of the Town website <https://www.townofbrandon.com/departments/assessor/> (scroll down) reveals that over the past seven fiscal years, the tax rate has varied, some years up and some years down, but has been kept essentially flat. Over

that length of time, the residential tax rate has landed at less than 1% higher than it started (\$2.3205 / \$2.2986 = 1.00952). This was facilitated by careful management and a climate of controlled and stable inflation in the wider economy, and is now suddenly buffeted by a sustained and generationally high rate of inflation with resultant pressure on labor/wages and fuel costs which are two large compo-

nents of the Town's outlays.

I am happy to explore this topic in-depth with any Brandon taxpayer including the selectboard. If you have any questions or concerns, or would find additional information helpful, please reach out. Thank you for your consideration.

*Very respectfully,
Seth Hopkins, town manager
Town of Brandon, Vermont
(802) 247-3635 x210*

Letter to the Editor

The honor of a nation hinges on a Swiss Roll eating contest

As part of the Brandon Independence Day celebration, the seventh-annual world championship Swiss Roll eating competition will be held behind the Brandon Inn at noon on Saturday, July 1. All are welcome to attend and/or participate in the contest. As always, there will be no cash prizes awarded to the victor, though the honor and prestige will last a lifetime.

We anticipate a great deal of international interest in the competition this year. Those who watched King Charles's coronation in May no doubt will recall his prolonged lamentation that it has been far too long since a Brit (or member of the Commonwealth) has won the competition. As he then stated, "though this is a great day for the United Kingdom, let us not forget that the Swiss Roll Eating Contest Trophy remains across the pond in the lands of our former colony. I

beseech my countrymen and women to return the Trophy to its rightful place of honor here at Westminster Abbey." A rumor has circulated within the competitive Swiss Roll eating community that King Charles has offered a knighthood to whoever brings the Trophy back to the U.K.

Will members of the Royal Family participate in or otherwise attend the competition? Will our local talent be able to fend off the anticipated onslaught of foreign competition? Who will be this year's champion? Answers to those compelling questions will be revealed behind the Brandon Inn at noon on Saturday, July 1. We hope to see you there!

*Thank You,
Jim Leary
Chairperson
Brandon Swiss Roll Eating
Contest Committee*



Point CounterPoint 2023 Summer Faculty Concert Series

Concert times are 7:30pm. Admission is free;

Each concert differs in repertoire, instrumentation, and faculty performers.

Friday, June 30th –

Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St, Salisbury

Friday, July 14th –

Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St, Salisbury

Friday, July 28th –

Middlebury Town Hall Theater, Constance Holden Memorial Concert

Friday, August 11th –

Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St, Salisbury

Thursday, August 24th –

Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St, Salisbury

Friday, September 1st –

Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Crt. Middlebury

Friday, September 29th –

PCP Alumni Celebration Concert - Salisbury Congregational Church



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REENACTORS FROM FAR and wide gather in Hubbardton to commemorate the fateful Battle of Hubbardton. Though the American side lost, they managed to inflict such damage on the British troops that the redcoats chose to retreat to what is now Whitehall, NY.

Photos by Steven Jupiter

The largest Revolutionary War living history weekend in Northern New England is at Hubbardton Battlefield

HUBBARDTON, Vt. — The sights and sounds of the American Revolution will come alive at the Hubbardton Battlefield Revolutionary War weekend in Hubbardton, VT, on July 8 and 9, 2023. This full-scale living history weekend at the Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site commemorates the Revolutionary War battle fought on July 7, 1777. Hours for the event are Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 7:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The public and media are welcome.

British and German troops ran into stubborn American resistance in Hubbardton on July 7, 1777. After hours of intense fighting, Crown forces would win the day, but this contest would ultimately contribute to turning the tide for the Patriot cause. To commemorate this iconic battle, scores of reenactors from around the northeast will set up camps to present this colorful history pageant, the largest Revolutionary War living history weekend in northern New England.

The weekend will offer a chance for visitors to experience a bygone era with hands-on-history activities for all ages and interests. Visitors

will be able to walk through the colonial encampment; interact with reenactors illustrating 1777; and observe tactical and artillery demonstrations and camp life. Special activities are offered for children, sutlers—or civilian merchants—provide a colonial shopping experience, and presentations by historians and reenactors will be given throughout the weekend.

Special to this year's events, the Division for Historic Preservation and the Vermont State Society Daughters of the American Revolution are dedicating the 250th Patriot marker commemorating our Revolutionary War Patriots. The event commences at 10:30 a.m. The marker honors those who fought to achieve American independence as part of the 250th anniversary of the United States. Hubbardton Battlefield is honored to be chosen as one of two sites in Vermont for the America 250th Patriot Markers.

For further Hubbardton Battlefield Revolutionary War weekend information and event listings, visit our website and Facebook page at Vermont State Historic Sites.



THE REENACTMENT COMPRISES not only military maneuvers but also camp life, as reenactors spend the weekend living as soldiers did during the Revolution.

Brandon Energy Committee

Help us expand our reach throughout the town



The Brandon Energy Committee was established by the Brandon Selectboard in 2016. It currently consists of seven members and about a dozen volunteers. The committee's mission is to support the town of Brandon, its residents, businesses, nonprofits, and municipal entities, in achieving two energy goals established by the State of Vermont:

1. Meeting 90% of energy needs from renewable resources by 2050

2. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by 75% by 2050

These target dates seem to be a long way off. However, there is a lot to do to reach these goals.

Our efforts to date have been perhaps modest but encouraging. Importantly, we have learned a few things over the past few years as a result of our efforts:

Foremost is that working together is what makes our efforts most meaningful and fulfilling. We start with the maxim the "we is smarter than me" and this plays out in all we do together.

We have learned that every bit of effort counts. A volunteer assisting on a big project for a small amount of their time boosts our spirits and makes a contribution.

A third thing is that we need a big team, a whole community to join forces to make the headway these goals require.

Now we seek to expand our reach to encourage broader participation throughout Brandon. We are proposing the formation of the Brandon Energy Community.

We are asking everyone to join us in this effort as we learn and take actions. You can easily be a member of this community by signing up for our email newsletter and by doing one or all of the following:

1. Choosing to reduce GHG emissions by walking, riding a bike, buying an electric or hybrid car, or simply traveling

less.

2. By learning about GHG emissions and renewable energy and what you can do about these from our upcoming energy library that we will announce later this summer.

3. By helping the Brandon Energy Committee with some of their upcoming events listed below.

4. By sharing your suggestions with us for energy saving or GHG saving projects you would support in town.

5. By installing heat pumps or solar panels at your home.

6. By contacting us at brandon.energy.community@gmail.com to express your interest, to offer your suggestions, or ask your questions.

Upcoming events to partici-

pate in or assist with:

- Walk or ride a bike with the Brandon Energy Committee parade entry at the Independence Day Parade on July 1st in town.

- Attend the Davenport Feast at Otter Valley Union High School on July 8th from noon to 5PM and learn about Thomas Davenport's invention of the electric motor and much more.

- Attend (or assist for free

entry) Solar Fest on July 15th and 16th to learn, enjoy great music and meet lots of interesting folks.

- Assist with our bike-rack painting party on August 12th at Estabrook Park to be followed by a pot-luck picnic open to anyone interested in the Brandon Energy Community.

Now we seek to expand our reach to encourage broader participation throughout Brandon. We are proposing the formation of the Brandon Energy Community.

We encourage you to take action now! Contact us at brandon.energy.community@gmail.com to join this effort, get information, have your questions answered, or suggestions

considered.

Jim Emerson, Clare and Mike Schick of the Brandon Energy Community

READ ALL ABOUT IT

SUBMIT YOUR BIRTH, ANNIVERSARY, OR WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

news@brandonreporter.com

Golf Course

Join us for our annual Member-Member Tournament July 8th & 9th!

Men's, Women's & Junior divisions will be flighted by handicap!

\$120 per team (carts not included)

Entry fee includes lunch on Saturday and hors d'oeuvres Sunday

\$10 skins all weekend!

Closest to Pin all par 3's

Saturday
2-person Best Ball
2-Person Scramble

Sunday
2-person Scramble
2-person Mod Alternate Shot

Sign up online today or by calling the pro shop!
(802) 247-3611

LONG IRON RESTAURANT
Open daily Monday-Sunday
The restaurant offers both indoor and outdoor seating options, with stunning views of the golf course and surrounding mountains. The indoor seating area features large windows that allow guests to take in the beautiful scenery while they dine.

The golf course is OPEN!
Tee times available from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Log on to neshobe.com or call 802-247-3611 to make a tee time.

<https://neshobe.com> • (802) 247-3611

INDEPENDENT DIGITAL marketing

DIGITAL DOESN'T HAVE TO BE HARD

Here at the *Addy Indy* we have always seen it as our job to help connect your business with its clients.

As times change and technology evolves, pairing digital services with your print advertising campaigns is the best way to quickly & efficiently connect with the community.

Independent Digital Marketing can help you better reach our region with:

ONLINE ADVERTISING

DIGITAL DIRECTORY MANAGEMENT

WEB DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT

CONTACT US TODAY TO GET STARTED!

802-388-4944
digital@addisonindependent.com
addisonindependent.com/independent-digital-marketing

BRANDON'S Independence Day Celebration July 1, 2023

Fun, events, activities & action all day!

BUY DUCKS on Brandon Inn lawn from 9 am–12:30 pm
BUY 50/50 RAFFLE TICKETS all day from 9 am–6 pm at:
Silent Auction, Parade Info Booth & with Roaming Ticket Sellers!
Winner will be drawn at 6:30 pm at the Street Dance

9 am–4 pm: **Silent Auction**, Congregational Church's Fellowship Hall across from Central Park (closed during parade)

9 am–3 pm: **Free train rides**; start at Brandon Inn (not during parade)

10:00 am: **Parade starts on Park St.**, through downtown, ends at Conant Square

11 am–1 pm: **Runnin' Wild Jazz Band led by Gene Childers**, Central Park Gazebo

11 am–3 pm: **Free family games, face painting, trampoline +++**

Behind Brandon Inn **PLUS Spider Bounce Ride & Mechanical Bull (fee)**

12 noon: **Little Debbie Swiss Roll Eating Contest** behind Brandon Inn

12 noon–7 pm: **Beer Garden in Green Park**, across from Red Clover Ale

1 pm: **Duck Race over Neshobe Falls** – they go in behind Brandon Inn and good viewing is at Kennedy Park

3–5 pm: **Aaron Audet Band** at Green Park

6:30–Dusk: **Street Dance with Jam Man Entertainment** in front of Bar Harbor Bank

DUSK: **Fireworks** - Downtown Brandon – Visible from within a mile of downtown

**PARK AT AMERICAN LEGION -
RTE. 7 SOUTH,
SHORT WALK OR SHUTTLE BUS:
8:30 AM–3 PM**

★ **HAPPY** ★

4th of July
(on the 1st)

INDEPENDENCE DAY



Parade participants

(Continued from Page 3) have a float but we're going to look gorgeous."

Ms. Cocktail will be joined by Rita Cocktail, Mama Dukes, Mikey Flexx, Shenita Mocktail

(a youth performer), and Lucky Linda (Anita/Tonya's real-life wife, Linda Otto). Leading them off will be Emma Jean Hoops, a hula-hoop performer who is seen at events all around the area.

"We're part of the community," said Ms. Cocktail. "You're safe in our space to be who you want to be. You're loved."

.....

TIM SHORT AND THE 1ST VERMONT CAVALRY

Vermont isn't necessarily the first state that comes to mind when we think of the Civil War, since most of the actual fighting took place much farther south. But Vermont sent a large percentage of its available population off to fight for the Union

and the little state suffered heavy losses in major conflicts, such as the Battle of the Wilderness and Cedar Creek, both in Virginia. In fact, the Battle of Cedar Creek was considered so important in Vermont history that it was commemorated

in a massive oil painting in the Statehouse in Montpelier.

It's with that history in mind that Tim Short and his cohort formed the 1st Vermont Cavalry reenactment group. And they will be marching, on horseback, in the parade on July 1.

"I've been doing this for 30 years," said Short, who runs a surveying company and lives in Orwell. "I was always interested in history and collecting antique firearms. I visited Gettysburg as a kid and it made a lasting impression on me."

The members of the group train their horses to perform intricate drills and to tolerate the sound of firearms. They also try to present as authentic a visual image as possible. Some members even carry original carbines (a type of musket) and sabers, and ride McClellan saddles, which were standard issue in the Civil War.

"My saddle has an original tree," said Short, referring to the leather-covered wooden frame that sits on the horse's back.

Some reenactors take on the personas of known Civil War soldiers, Short said, but there's



no requirement that a participant pretend to be anyone specific.

The group tries to practice once a month and often participates in reenactment events. A favorite event is the Cedar Creek reenactment in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, which takes place late in the year.

The real 1st Vermont Cavalry itself was involved in or present at 76 engagements during the Civil War, from the unit's formation in 1861 until the end of the war in 1865. It fought at Gettysburg and Appomattox. It lost a total of 392 soldiers to injury and/or disease.

But the reenactment group is currently looking for new members, to restore its numbers after losing several soldiers and horses during the COVID years. Some people simply drifted away during the pandemic, and two participants' horses died. The group is actively seeking recruits.

"You don't need to be a his-

tory buff," said Short. "You just have to like to ride horses and shoot guns."

It helps, however, to have your own horse.

Short added, "We take baby steps with new horses. We try to bring them along from an equestrian standpoint. We take care of them and get them used to the drills."

This year's contingent will include Mr. Short on horse Slim, Jim Billado on Cinnamon, Jon Aberth on Hazel, Laura Hamilton on Ziggy, Dave Short on Alec, and Robin Severy on Binx.

Anyone interested in getting involved in the group can contact Mr. Short at ssi@sover.net or (802) 349-8412.

You can also follow them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/1stVTCavalry>.

Whether you enjoy history or horses or both, keep an eye out for the group during the parade on July 1.

SOLARFEST

ENERGY EDUCATION THROUGH THE ARTS

JULY 15-16 • STEINBERG RD • BRANDON

LIVE MUSIC

WORKSHOPS

LOCAL FOOD

EXHIBITS

CAMPING

FAMILY FUN

+ MORE!

FEATURING OVER 20 MUSICAL ACTS!

Dar Williams

**Etana &
The Raw-Soul Rebels**

HuDost

**Ray Vega
Band**

JIM GILMOUR BAND, MAPLE RUN BAND, MOOSE JR., CAM GILMOUR TRIO, TOM PEARO + MORE

SPECIAL GUESTS:
The Falcon Ridge Festival "Most Wanted" Preview Tour

INFO & TICKETS: solarfest.org

Inside, Instead!!

GREAT BRANDON AUCTION

35th

Friday, June 30th ~ Saturday, July 8th

In the Brandon Town Hall in
Brandon's beautiful new downtown!

OPEN HOURS

Fri June 30: 2-7 pm; | Sat July 1: 8 am-9 pm
(this is Brandon's 4th of July Festivities Day!);
Sun July 2: 11 am-5 pm; | Mon July 3: 11 am-7 pm;
Tues July 4: 11 am-5 pm;
Wed thru Fri July 5-7: 11 am-7 pm;
Sat July 8: 8 am-2pm (Auction Closes)
Sun July 10: 10 am-2 pm for item pickup only.

IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND A GREAT AUCTION THIS SUMMER, MAKE IT THIS ONE.
Come to Brandon for the Annual Great Brandon Auction INSIDE, INSTEAD!

Our indoor location will be staffed by volunteers for 8 days, and items will be set up for silent auction bidding and eBay Buy It Now format so you can walk out the door with your treasure!

The Auction offers antiques, collectibles, new merchandise, surprises, and treasures from attics and barns. Also lots of gift certificates to dozens of local businesses including restaurants, brew pubs, massages, services, and much more!

Other donations include new New England Woodcraft dressers, 100 gallons of fuel oil, tools, art, dining room sets, dressers, beds, chairs, trunks, beautiful dishes, and eclectic items galore! Original art by some of Brandon's most famous artists: Warren Kimble, Medana Gabbard, Robin Kent, Dolores Furnari, Liza Myers, Judith Reilly, Edward Loedding, and many more. And our usual selection of great donations!

802-247-6401 info@brandon.org
Go to www.brandon.org for more info and pictures.

OUR
CREATIVE
KIDS

ARTIST: Alia Malay

GRADE: 8

SCHOOL: Otter Valley Union
Middle School

TITLE: Organic and geometric
drawing of a deer.

TEACHER: Dasha Kalisz



Calendar of events

June

Mondays

Brandon Rec offers Aikido classes

Come to Brandon Town Hall for Youth classes at 5 p.m., and adult classes at 6 p.m. Beginners and spectators welcome. There will be no class on July 3 or July 10. Summer Session starts July 17. Registration is through Brandon Rec.

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@rcpc.org with your child's name, age, and contact information for your family.

Friends Zone

The Friends Zone will be initially open 3 hours per week at the Brandon United Methodist Church on Tuesdays from 12-3 p.m. at 1 Franklin Street, Brandon. Socialize with old friends, make new ones. Sip some soup while you sip a drink. Be puzzled for a bit, sorting out a puzzle, or hold an Ace in the hole until the right moment to play it. If so inclined, you can bring to the table a struggle of your own to work on or your thoughts on developing the Friends Zone or improving our lives. The door is open. Our minds are open. Our hearts are open. All are welcome in.

For more information contact pastors Reverend John Hardman-Zimmerman (hzm@hotmail.com or (802) 282-7532) or Vicki Disorda (vqueenoftheearth@gmail.com or (802) 345-4125).

Pins & Needles Craft Club at the Brandon Free



Public Library

Drop in from 5:30–7:00 p.m., and bring your projects to work on.

Wednesdays

Drop-In Tech Help at the Brandon Free Public Library

Drop in from 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. with your tech issues—not sure how to set up email on your phone or how to rent an audiobook? We can help.

Ping Pong

The Green Mountain

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

The club has begun playing 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, visit our club's website at www.gmttc.com.

Yoga 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 Conscious, 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.

The 35th Chamber Annual Great Brandon Auction—Inside Instead!!

In the Brandon TOWN HALL in Brandon's beautiful new downtown!

OPEN HOURS:

Fri 6/30; 2-7pm;

Sat 7/1; 8am-9pm;

Sun 7/2; 11-5;

Mon 7/3; 11-7;

Tues 7/4; 11-5;

Wed 7/5 thru Fri 7/7; 11-7;

Sat 7/8; 8am-2pm (Auction Closes);

Sun 7/9: 10am-2pm for item pickup only.

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

Rutland County Audubon Annual Meeting – July 19



Join us for our annual meeting at the Proctor Library at 6 p.m. The annual meeting and installation of officers will follow a potluck supper. Dessert, beverages and utensils provided. All are welcome!

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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

Henry Sheldon Museum presents "Home Sewing Machines 1900 to Present, A Technician's Perspective," June 29

From 1–2 p.m. David E. Atkinson will present "Home Sewing Machines 1900 to Present, A Technician's Perspective," focusing on the evolution of sewing machines, their common components and construction, repair, and DIY tips for maintenance. After a career as a software engineer at IBM, Mr. Atkinson spent eight years as proprietor of Dr. Dave's Sewing Machine Hospital in Jericho, a repair service for home sewing machines.



This presentation includes several programs from the current exhibit: Variety Sew: A Sampler of Textile Tools and Techniques; Stellar Stitching: A Century of Vermont Sewing. Presentation is free with museum admission and free for Museum members.

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 cancellations, follow on Facebook and get on email list. \$15/class

Meditation Group at the Brandon Free Public Library

From 12:30–1:30 p.m. join neighbors for quiet meditation led by Kerrie Quinn.

Goings on around

Thursdays

Storytime at the Brandon Free Public Library
Join Ariana at 11:00 a.m. for a story and a craft. Age 7 and under recommended. Stay for a cup of coffee!

Ukulele Group

Free at the Chaffee Arts Center from 12–1 p.m., for adults & 12+. This is not a class but a group enjoying playing the ukulele together, Must pre-register, There are a limited amount of in-house instruments to reserve.

Attendees will be led through specific sheet music by musician Steven Wilson. All levels are welcome.

Open Mic at Red Clover in Brandon

Join us starting at 6 p.m. for a rousing good time!

Fridays

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

From 11a.m.–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.

Maclure Library Knitting Circle

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

Corn Hole at the Godnick Adult Center

By request, we will have drop-in cornhole in the Rec Hall on Fridays from 2–4 p.m.

Play with whoever shows up each time or just practice your cornhole skills!

Sundays

Brandon Town Hall Painting with Crystal

Crystal Ketcham leads an all ages painting event! Yes, you CAN paint! More info, contact Crystal at ceastman88@gmail.com

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

Thursday 29th

Fair Haven Concerts in the Park

Second in the summer series, we welcome back Beatles Tribute Band, Studio Two

Now in their eleventh year performing, Studio Two is a headlining Beatles tribute band, featuring Berklee College of Music Alum who focus on the most exciting, energetic period of The Beatles -- the early years (1962 - 1966).

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Friday 30th

VT Morgan Heritage Days

All are welcome to attend the 40th anniversary of the Vermont Morgan Heritage Days show! The show is open to amateurs, professionals and all breeds of horses.

If you enjoy competing, watching the sport or being involved by helping out at the horse shows, come join us at our events.

Whether you own horses or not, bring your family and friends down to Heritage Days to learn more about horseback riding and Vermont's state animal, the Morgan horse!

Heritage Days will feature walking, trotting and galloping races, carriage driving, dressage, and many more adult and youth classes.

Jun 30 at 9:00am–Jul 2 at 7:00pm

Tunbridge Fairgrounds
1 Fairground Ln
Tunbridge



Gordon Clark and his Vermont Comedy All-Stars return for a night of stand-up comedy at Next Stage Arts!

Featured performers will include several contest-winning and touring comedians most often seen in the Burlington area.

Gordon Clark is the producer and host of the Next Stage comedy shows, and the Director of Vermont Comedy All Stars,

a non-profit dedicated to promoting the comic arts in Vermont. He also produces and hosts two monthly shows, the "Second Wednesday" Comedy Jam at the iconic Nectar's Lounge in Burlington, and the Third Thursday Stand Up Specials at Bent Nails Bistro in Montpelier.

From 7:30–9:30pm at the Next Stage Arts Project
\$12.00–\$15.00

July



July 1st

Make & Take Kids Class

Saturday July 1st
10:30–11:30 am
Weekly Fun Activity featuring arts and crafts.
MUST PRE REGISTER

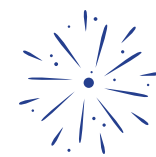
July 4th

Celebrate President Coolidge's birthday in his hometown with birthday cake, an Old Time Band, a cookie competition, and the Coolidge Cup Debate program. The General Public is invited to Plymouth Notch, VT for a birthday party to celebrate the 247th Birthday of the United States and the 151st birthday of President Calvin Coolidge. Start the day with a reading of the Declaration of Independence followed by a cookie competition, wreath laying ceremony, birthday cake for Coolidge, an appearance by the President, wagon rides, music from an Old Time Band, and the Championship round of the Coolidge Cup debate program.

New to this year's July 4th festivities is the Icebox Cookie Baking Competition. Members of the public are invited to bake and bring a dozen cookies using First Lady Grace Coolidge's cookie recipe (find the recipe below) to be tasted and judged by members of the Coolidge family.

Visitors to the President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site can explore the new exhibit, "Coolidge's Contemporaries: The Ascension of Early 20th Century World Leaders." This special exhibit compares President Coolidge's unorthodox but humble oath of office to the ascension ceremonies of other influential leaders from across the globe. For more information on the State Historic Sites and events visit their website.

To enter the baking contest please send an email of interest to the site administrator at rejoice.scherry@vermont.gov.



BRANDON 2023 LIVE AT KENNEDY PARK

July 8

Will Reed folk alternative

July 15 (Rain date)

Kevin Kareckas singer/songwriter

July 22

Ellie & Co. Fiddle-infused folk

August 12

Tom Van Sant folk rock

August 26

Melissa Moorehouse singer/songwriter

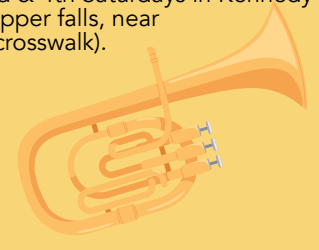
September 9

Doug Ross w/ Wade Davis rock covers & originals

September 23

Silas McPrior acoustic rock

All shows will be 11a.m.–1p.m. on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays in Kennedy Park (upper falls, near the crosswalk).



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN BRANDON, SUMMER 2023!!!

July 1 Parade Day!

Train in front of the Brandon Inn begins at 9am Silent Auction, Congregational Church 9-4pm
PARADE BEGINS AT 10AM!
Starts at the top of Park Street and ends up at Brandon Lumber Party Behind the Inn begins at 11am-3
Gene Childers and Runnin Wild in the Gazebo 11am-1 Beer Garden in Green Park 12-7
Ducks Over the Falls 1pm
Aaron Audet Band 3-5pm
Green Park
Street Dance 6pm
Fireworks at Dusk!
Enjoy our beautiful town!

July 27-30 Brandon Carnival!

July 27 Gate Opens at 5, PAC Wrestling 7pm
July 28 Gate Opens at 5, Rock and Roll Art Show 5pm, Brandon Idol Singers 7pm

July 29 Gate Opens at noon, Afternoon of Crowns, Aaron Audet at 7pm

July 30 Gate Opens at noon, Beyond the Barn Petting Zoo, Circus Camp Demo

Aug 5th Townwide Yard Sale!

Aug 19th Brandon Car Show!
Aug 20th Slide Out of Summer! More to come! Follow us on FB!



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Pizza by the Pond is more than dinner, it's the best of Vermont summer!

BY GEORGE FJELD

GOSHEN-Summer is here and with it a unique opportunity to enjoy delicious pizza and live music in the great outdoors. A more idyllic setting would be difficult to imagine, with the pond, setting sun, and glorious blueberry bushes surrounding the venue. Occurring on random Thursdays and Fridays throughout the summer and fall, Blueberry Hill Inn is hosting an all-you-can-eat gourmet pizza buffet and an excellent local music combination up on the side of Romance Mountain in Goshen. This week's entertainment featured Brisson Boss & Pelletier, a popular Addison county-based trio of veteran musicians who belted out a smorgasbord of originals, Adele tunes, and old dancing favorites to keep the crowd entertained.

New staff Nate and Allison Price delivered a wide and unending variety of handmade vegetarian and meated pizzas with a focus on seasonal and local foods. This past week's offering included classic cheese and pepperoni. They also offered a VT chorizo and pickled onion, VT chevre (Goshen's Ice House Farm) with mushrooms and caramelized onions, and a pie with peppers, olives and fresh VT mozzarella, sprinkled with fresh chive flowers.

The Prices moved here from Kentucky, where they owned a small restaurant with a music club downstairs. They're

in their element here making pizzas and listening to music. Nate, chef and butcher, has planned a new menu each month for the bistro dinners. Alison is responsible for the breads and pastries including the pizza dough. According to Innkeeper Shari Brown, future offerings may include roasted zucchini or potatoes, fresh tomatoes, peaches and dates, garlic, and kale to name a few. The Inn will also host brunches that will include wood-fired bagels and have a DJ to provide music.

Brown has engaged the new staff to increase the offerings as the inn emerges after the Covid shutdown. She's designed this to support local farms and musicians, paying both a reasonable remuneration. "I love to bring the community back together and support the local economy." This was readily apparent when 50+

attendees enjoyed unending pizza treats and great music.

New to Blueberry Hill is Field Camp at Blueberry Hill. This is an off-the-grid experience! The sites are limited but all feature the great views and

mountain air. An unusual offering is the popular Bed in the Shed. This is literally a bed in the shed at the Inn. Not in the Inn!!! You can book through Hip Camp. They offer hot/cold outdoor showers too.

Don't miss out, check it out! Our summers are beautiful but short and this is one of those experiences that you will remember on a cold February day.



PATRONS DANCE OFF the calories after a fabulous meal of wood-fired pizza at Blueberry Hill in Goshen. Nate and Allison Price may be new to the Inn but they've already made an impression with their inventive favor combinations, like chorizo & pickled onions or peppers, olives, & chive blossoms.

Photo by George Fjeld

Restaurant guide

Café Provence
From Provence to You
De la Provence à Vous

Wednesday – Saturday: 11:30 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Want a reservation? Please book through the website <https://cafeprovencet.com> or call (802) 247-9997

11 Center Street, Brandon, VT

Franklin's
FOOD, FRIENDS & FUN

Full Menu 7 days a week
Eat In or Take Out
Available for Parties

Prime Rib Every Friday & Saturday from 4–9 p.m.

25 North Street, Proctor 🍷 802-459-3320

MAE'S PLACE

Simply AHH-MAE-ZING
Your hometown diner

Thank you for your continued business

Open daily from 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
for breakfast & lunch ESTABLISHED IN 2014

10 Park St. Brandon, VT
802.465.8010

Ad design included in pricing
Call 802 236-4662, or email george@brandonreporter.com for more information

Marble Museum

(Continued from Page 1) once one of the biggest producers of fine marble in the world. The company's marble and finishing work can be seen in numerous buildings and monuments in New York and Washington, D.C., including the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Museum celebrates the history of the company and the town that it built. Proctor was carved out of Pittsford and West Rutland in the late 1800s specifically to be a "company town" where workers could live and raise families in an almost self-sufficient bubble. There were schools, stores, a hospital, even a church with Tiffany stained-glass windows. The company was sold in the 1970s and eventually dissolved in the 1990s. There's a lot of history in Proctor to commemorate.

"I brought the community back into the Carpenter Museum and that's what I'd like to do in Proctor," said Ms. Wickes. "There's a really rich history and a story to be told."

Wickes also stated that her

plans include closer relationships with other local museums, expanded volunteer opportunities and recruitment, and increased focus on the history of the immigrant workers that drove the company's success.

"Local history museums are important. They can really become the soul of a community and have a place in people's day-to-day lives. They don't have to be a place you visit once a year."

—Molly Wickes

"There are still a good number of people in Proctor whose families worked for the Vermont Marble Company," said Wickes. "I want to reposition the Museum as a community museum and not solely a company museum."

"She's very excited to be coming back to Vermont," said Kevin Thornton, vice-president of the Museum's board. "Turning around the Carpenter Museum was a career highlight for her and she's eager for the opportunity that reopening the Marble Museum presents. She understands the challenges that face small museums, so we're glad to get her."

The Museum has a large collection of artifacts relating to the company, its executives, and its workers. Wickes's experi-


ence managing the collection at the Carpenter Museum will be invaluable in organizing and sharing the collection in Proctor, especially since the Museum's building was recently sold and the new owners will be using the bulk of the space for hemp processing, requiring the Museum

to downsize from 40,000 square feet to roughly 10,000.

Though the Museum board says it's not being rushed by the new owners, the sooner the transition is settled, the sooner the Museum can resume its normal operations and focus on programming to draw in the com-

munity.

"Local history museums are important," Wickes said. "They can really become the soul of a community and have a place in people's day-to-day lives. They don't have to be a place you visit once a year."



BISTRO DINNERS

AT

BLUEBERRY HILL

Open to the Public, All Ages

Menu changes monthly, featuring all local farm products and fresh baked goods.


Find details about our Bistro Dinners, Sunday Brunches, Pizza by the Pond and more events on our online calendar:

www.blueberryhillinn.com/eventscalendar



MOLLY WICKES



Celebrating Innovation & Sustainability!



DAVENPORT ELECTRIC FEST

Saturday July 8th, from 12-5 PM

at Otter Valley High School in Brandon

Thomas Davenport, the visionary, Vermont-born, Brandon-based inventor behind the electric motor.

With pioneering vendors:

- Beta Technologies, innovators in sustainable aviation and check out their flight simulator
- Green Mountain Power, a leading carbon-free electric utility
- Subaru's new electric vehicle
- Woods CRW's electric bucket loader. And more!

See how electric motors are transforming transportation and powering a greener world, and incentives and programs to help you save carbon and costs by electrifying your own life!

Free and family-friendly! Food, face painting and more that will inspire and entertain!

Learn more at www.davenportelectricfest.com



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



Michael Dwyer recognized Otter Valley Science teacher, Margery Salmon, circa 1985.



Pamela Ketcham recognizes the #2 field hockey player as Krystal Wheeler. She was a fantastic player!!



Sanford Rouse of Brandon recognizes this photo of John Quelch who used to live in Leicester.

Ethan Dick also recognizes John Quelch.

Kurt Kimble recognizes John Quelch from this photo from the 80s. Kurt thinks it was a Tom or a Jake. John Quelch still lives near Leicester Junction.

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

Or call us at 247-8080

Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

1. Excited movements
8. Soap opera actress Patsy
13. Unknowing
14. Dangerous mosquitos
15. Exaggerated and sensationalized
19. Military policeman
20. Touch softly
21. Wrap
22. A story of one's life
23. Midway between east and southeast
24. Toward the mouth or oral region
25. A list of dishes available at a restaurant
26. Changes the meaning of
30. Semitic Sun god
31. Sneaker parts
32. Capital of Zimbabwe
33. Breezed through
34. Partner to pedi
35. Becomes less intense
38. Bottoms
39. Tested
40. Vistas
44. Take care of
45. Traditional rhythmic pattern
46. S. African political party
47. Cologne
48. Men
49. The Science Guy
50. Gospel author (abbr.)
51. Act of signing up
55. Human feet
57. A very short time
58. Streetcars
59. Cuplike cavities

CLUES DOWN

1. A type of pool
2. Malaise
3. Seasoned
4. A pair
5. Young male
6. Make a mistake
7. Experienced
8. It often accompanies injury
9. Old world, new
10. Commercial
11. Course of lectures
12. Promote
16. Female horses
17. Greek mythological figure
18. Small amount
22. Orthodox church altar
25. Actress Tomei
27. Excited
28. Looked directly at
29. Popular cold desserts
30. More reasonable
32. Disk above the head of a saint
34. Devoted to the extreme
35. Make an effort
36. It's in the surf
37. Member of aboriginal people of Japan
38. Discounts
40. Cliff in Hawaii
41. Extremely wild person
42. All persons
43. Aromas
45. Popular kids' game
48. A difficult situation
51. Popular Georgia rockers
52. It's in all living cells
53. Unspoken language
54. 'Talk to you' abbreviation
56. Influential lawyer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	
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58								59					

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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.

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

Level: Intermediate

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

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

Rockets' Red Glare – July 4th Tips from the Rutland County Humane Society

With the 4th of July comes picnics, parades and fireworks. The 5th of July usually brings more stray animals than usual to the shelter. The noise and flash of fireworks scare even pets that are used to being outside. Since fireworks are becoming more common the best advice we have is to keep your pet indoors. For many pets, the most natural reaction to a scare is to run. If, despite your best efforts, your dog or cat gets free and runs, you want to have a good ID on the pet. Microchips work best because collars and tags can get pulled off. Make sure you have informed the microchip company of any changes to your contact information. Call the Rutland County Humane Society (RCHS) at 483.6700 to let us know your pet is missing. Please be assured, even if your pet is brought in after hours by law enforcement, they are in a safe, comfortable place until you can retrieve them. Even if we don't answer the phone, we are staffed 7 days a week. Wishing you and your pets a safe Fourth of July.

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

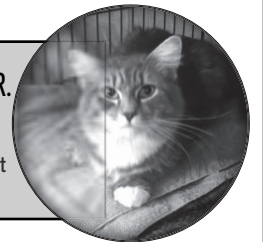


MEET CRINKLE - 1-YEAR-OLD. NEUTERED MALE. MIXED BREED.

Are you looking for a fun and family-friendly pup? Crinkle may be the dog for you! He spent some time in foster where we were able to learn more about him. He is good with both dogs and he adores kids. He doesn't enjoy cats but is a busy boy who would love an active family. Once he goes for a fun walk, he will happily snuggle on the couch with you. Crinkle is a happy-go-lucky boy who loves everyone he meets.

MEET MONTANA - 1-YEAR-OLD. SPAYED FEMALE. DOMESTIC LONG HAIR. GREY TIGER.

Montana is a beauty just like her namesake! She came to us at the end of May as a stray and is eagerly awaiting her forever home. She loves people and attention, as well as curling up in a sunny corner to bask in the sun. Montana doesn't do well with other cats so she's looking to be the only cat in the home.



RUTLAND COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

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OFF THE SHELF

NEW BOOKS AND NEWS




Adult Fiction

The Whispers by Ashley Audrain

Four families' lives are changed when the unthinkable happens. On Harlow Street, well-to-do neighborhood couples and their children gather for a catered barbecue as the summer winds down; drinks continue late into the night. Everything is fabulous until the picture-perfect hostess explodes in fury because her son disobeys her. Everyone at the party hears her exquisite veneer crack, loud and clear. Before long, that same young boy falls from his bedside window in the middle of the night. And then his mother can only sit by her son's hospital bed, where she refuses to speak to anyone as his life hangs in the balance. Back home, their friends and neighbors are left in shock, each confronting their own role in the events that led up to what happened that terrible night. The story spins out over the course of one week, in the alternating voices of the women in each family that attended, as they are forced to face the secrets within the walls of their own homes and the uncomfortable truths that connect them all to one another.

Farrell Covington and the Limits of Style by Paul Rudnick

Devastatingly handsome and insanely rich, Farrell Covington is capable of anything and impos-

sible to resist. As the son of one of the country's most powerful and deeply conservative families, the world could be his. But when he falls for Nate Reminger, an aspiring writer from a nice Jewish family in Piscataway, New Jersey, the results are passionate and catastrophic. Together, the two embark on a romance that spans half a century. They are inseparable—except for the years when they are apart. Moving from Yale to New York City, Los Angeles, and eventually all over the world, Farrell and Nate experience the tremendous upheaval and social change of the last fifty years. From the freedom of gay life in 1970s Manhattan, to the AIDS epidemic, and the profound strides of the LGBTQ+ movement, this novel shows how the world changes around us while we're busy doing other things.

The House of Lincoln by Nancy Horan

Showing intelligence beyond society's expectations, fourteen-year-old asylum-seeker Ana Ferreira lands a job in the Lincoln household assisting Mary Lincoln with their boys and with the hostess duties borne by the wife of a rising political star. Ana bears witness to the evolution of Lincoln's views on equality and the Union and observes in full complexity the psyche and pain of his bold, polarizing wife, Mary. Along with her African American friend Cal, Ana encounters the presence of the

Underground Railroad in town and experiences personally how slavery is tearing apart her adopted country. Culminating in an eyewitness account of the little-known Springfield race riot of 1908, *The House of Lincoln* is a journey through the historic changes that reshaped America and that continue to reverberate today.

The Memory of Animals by Claire Fuller

In the face of a pandemic, an unprepared world scrambles to escape a mysterious disease that causes sensory damage, nerve loss, and, in most cases, death. Neffy, a disgraced and desperately indebted 27-year-old marine biologist, registers for an experimental vaccine trial in London, humanity's last hope for a cure. Though isolated from the chaos outside, she and the other volunteers—Rachel, Leon, Yahiko, and Piper—cannot hide from the mistakes that led them there. As London descends into chaos, Neffy befriends Leon, who before the pandemic had been working on a controversial technology that allows users to revisit their memories. As she withdraws into projections of her past the lines between past, present, and future begin to blur. Neffy is left with questions: Whom can she trust? Why can't she forgive herself? How should she live, if she survives?

It's a real zoo out there—animal complaints keep the BPD busy

June 19

• Brandon Police Department (BPD) conducted traffic stop for a local speed-limit violation on Franklin Street. Upon further investigation, the operator, Jacob M. Morelli (40) of East Freetown, MA was placed under arrest on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol. He was subsequently charged with DUI-1st Offense. Morelli was issued a citation to appear in the Rutland Superior Court-Criminal Division on July 3, 2023 at 12:30 for arraignment.

• Officers assisted with bringing a dog back to its owner on Goldspink Avenue after it was found running loose by an officer on patrol.

• Officers conducted a directed traffic enforcement patrol on West Seminary Street. No violations observed.

• Vehicle stop for speeding on Franklin Street. Ticket issued.

• Vehicle stop for speeding on Franklin Street. Ticket issued.

• Vehicle stop at intersection of Franklin Street and Nicker-son Road. Warning issued.

• Foot patrol conducted on Center Street.

June 20

• BPD assisted the Brandon Animal Control Officer with a complaint of a possible abandoned cat at a residence on Deer Run Road. The investigating officer determined that the cat as being taken care of after speaking with the homeowner. While at the residence, the officer was able to determine that the homeowner had an outstanding arrest warrant for Failure to Appear, at which point she was taken

Brandon Police Report

into custody. Teresa Dorr (37) of Brandon was placed under arrest and transported back to the Brandon Police Station for processing. She was later released on a citation to appear in Rutland Superior Court-Criminal Division on June 21, 2023 at 12:30 p.m.

• Directed traffic enforcement patrol in the area of Seminary Park on West Seminary Street due to ongoing complaints. No violations observed.

• BPD conducted sex-offender registry checks throughout multiple residences in Brandon.

• Officers responded to Neshobe Elementary School for a burglary-alarm activation. It was later determined to be a false alarm caused by an unsecured door.

• Vehicle stop for speeding on Franklin Street. Ticket issued.

June 21

• Foot patrol conducted on Center Street.

• Report of a truck blocking traffic on Conant Square while dropping off construction supplies. Truck was gone when officers arrived.

• Vandalism of truck reported for insurance purposes. Time and place of vandalism not able to be determined.

• Fingerprints taken for nursing license.

• Officers responded to a two-car crash on Franklin Street at

(See Police report, Page 19)

THE GREAT LIBRARY RENOVATION

Get tickets for summer events!



PIZZA BY THE POND

Sunday, July 9th 5:30 - 8:00pm

At Blueberry Hill Inn, Goshen (Rain date July 10th)

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Scan code for tickets or go to brandonpubliclibrary.org/library-events/



Stop by our 4th of July booth on Saturday in the park!

These events are brought to you by the Brandon Library Community Volunteers and all proceeds will benefit The Great Library Renovation.



Open Tues. & Wed. 10am-7pm, Thurs. & Fri. 10am-6pm, Saturday 10am-4pm

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YOGA at the River Bend

July 20th at 6pm (Rain date July 21st)

45 minute outdoor yoga practice on the lawn behind the Brandon Inn, led by Judit from Brandon Yoga Center. Beginners are welcome! A slow and steady class to awaken and warm your body. Bring your yoga mat or a big towel. A few mats can be supplied. Tickets: \$20

Tuesdays Summer Concert Series

JUNE 20 - AUG. 15, 2023

TUESDAYS @ 6PM

NO CONCERT JULY 4

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across from Kamuda's



Concerts are outside on the Village Farm grounds, weather permitting. In the event of rain, concert is canceled. Check PittsfordVillageFarm.org. This event is free and open to the public. Donations appreciated.

June 27 — Pluckett

Folk duo Willy Clemetson & Silas Hamilton bring a potpourri of songs, new & old. Described as "impossible not to dance to. Your feet will lead the way."

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Police report

(Continued from Page 18)
 on Stanton Road for a report of a suicidal male. The responding officer made contact with the man, who was armed with a sharp spike and threatening self-harm. The officer attempted to de-escalate the situation for an hour. The man refused to go to the hospital and was subsequently taken into temporary custody for his own safety. The man was transported to Rutland Hospital for a voluntary psychiatric evaluation. The Vermont State Police-Rutland and Brandon Area Rescue assisted at the scene.

- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for following too closely. Warning issued.

- Report of a motorcycle driving dangerously on Route 7 in Salisbury, heading south into Brandon. Vehicle was not located by BPD.

- Speed enforcement conducted on Wheeler Road for increased speeding activity in the area. No violations observed.

- Traffic stop on Wheeler Road for failure to stop at stop sign. Warning issued.

- Officers conducted directed patrol on Park Street. Traffic stop was made. The driver was issued 2 warnings and a ticket for use of a cell phone while driving.

June 23

- BPD responded with Brandon Rescue to a residence on Furnace Road to assist with a man possibly suffering a heart attack.

- Report of a missing wallet left behind at Jiffy Mart on Grove Street. It was later determined that the wallet had been stolen from another customer at the store. Investigation ongoing.

- Report of a two-car collision in the parking lot of Walgreens. Case still under investigation.

- Officers conducted a directed patrol at the intersection of Franklin Street and Park Street. No violations observed.

- Report of fireworks in the vicinity of Forest Dale Road that were scaring the complainant's horses. Officers unable to detect or locate any fireworks.

- Officers responded to help a family deal with a loose dog that was being aggressive towards the family's own dog on a walk in the area of Pearl Street/Conant Sq. The dog's owner was contacted and the dog was returned.

June 24

- Business check at Jiffy Mart.
- Business check at Hannaford Supermarket.

- Vehicle vandalized on Mulcahy Drive. Two tires were slashed. Incident currently under investigation.

- Vehicle stopped for a moving violation on Franklin Street. Warning issued.

- Vehicle stopped for speeding on Grove Street. Ticked issued.

- BPD responded to the Brandon Inn on Park Street for a report of

a man refusing to leave the premises.

- BPD and Brandon Rescue responded to report of a man dealing with mental-health issues on High Pond Road. The man was voluntarily transported to the hospital.

- BPD conducted a directed patrol at the intersection of Park and Franklin Streets. One driver was stopped for a traffic light violation. Verbal warning issued.

- BPD assisted Vermont State Police at a domestic disturbance on Fern Lake Road in Leicester.

June 25

- BPD responded to a domestic disturbance in the area of Mount Pleasant Drive in Brandon.

- Single-vehicle crash at the intersection of Franklin Street and Wood Lane. The vehicle struck a deer that had wandered onto the roadway.

- Officers observed a car parked on the shoulder of Town Farm Road, at the intersection with Newton Road. It was determined that the owner of the vehicle was fishing.

- BPD responded to a residence on Long Swamp Road to conduct a welfare check on a juvenile and her father. Both parties were found to be doing well.

- Larceny from the Jiffy Mart on Grove Street. Investigation underway.

- Speed enforcement on Grove Street. No violations observed.



Great Brandon Auction

Support Brandon by finding treasures!

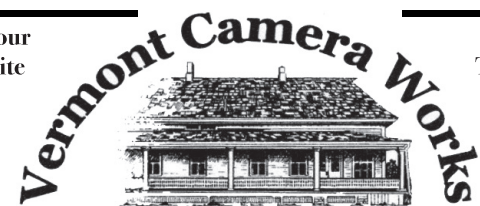
Staffed by volunteers for 8 days, all items will be set up for silent auction bidding and Ebay Buy It Now format so you can walk out the door with your treasure!

Antiques, collectibles, new merchandise, lots of gift certificates to local businesses incl. restaurants, brew pubs, massages, services and more! N. E. Woodcraft dressers, tools, 100 gals fuel oil, dressers, beds, china and eclectic items galore! Original art by some of Brandon's most famous artists!

The Auction raises funds for Chamber member support and development projects in the Town of Brandon.



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WEEKLY HOROSCOPE

ganized, try not to get too overwhelmed by the scope of the task at hand. Tackle one thing at a time and keep making progress.

LEO July 23-Aug. 23
Leo, situations may seem like they are a matter of life or death this week, but there's a good chance you're just being overly dramatic. Try to go with the flow.

ARIES March 21-April 20
Aries, things may not progress the way you want them to unless you become a little more persistent. Figure out how to walk the line to achieve your goals.

TAURUS April 21-May 21
Taurus, many things are going right with your life. But now it's time to get a handle on your love life. You may have to put in some extra effort, especially this week.

GEMINI May 22-June 21
Gemini, keep things on the lighter side when conversing with coworkers this week. Now is not the time to delve into controversial discussions in the workplace.

CANCER June 22-July 22
Cancer, as you try to become more or-

Knee-jerk responses can have unexpected consequences. Take time to form your opinion.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 20
This week is bound to be pretty intense, Capricorn. But you'll find a way to skirt through it relatively unscathed. Rely on a few friends as sounding boards.

AQUARIUS Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Aquarius, try not to cut off channels of communication with loved ones as you deal with a few difficult issues. Others are willing to step up and help as needed.

PISCES Feb. 19-March 20
Pisces, others will not always see the world the way you do. Interactions this week can be a little stilted or even frustrating.

🐚🐚🐚🐚🐚🐚🐚🐚🐚

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

June 29 – Anne-Sophie Mutter, violinist (60)
June 30 – Lena Horne, actor, singer, dancer (d)
July 1 – Louise Penny, author (65)
July 2 – Alex Morgan, soccer player (34)
July 3 – Franz Kafka, writer (d)
July 4 – Edmonia Lewis, Sculptor (d)
July 5 – Chuck Close, artist (d)

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Across the Street antiques shop expands in Smith Block

BY GEORGE FJELD

BRANDON—Do you love exploring and finding a treasure? Cruising through a place so full of interesting things that time slips by quickly? Searching for a present for the hard-to-buy-for friend or relative? Repurposing objects in interesting ways? Brandon has the place for you!

Janet and Joel Mondlak have expanded their unique shop on Center Street to include all of the old Aubuchon Hardware space. Now, instead of looking for a tool or part to complete your project, you can shop in a store that has something for everyone. Across the Street opened in downtown Brandon in May 2020, on the

heels of the Covid-related retail lockdown being lifted. The store sells eclectic, unusual, funky, and fun older and newer things. Janet and Joel opened the store at the time with the thought of it being a “pop-up” shop before they returned to living and “workamping” in their RV as they traveled the US, as they had been doing since selling their Brandon home in 2016. After several months back in Brandon in 2020, the Mondlaks made the decision to stay in town and to continue operating the antiques and collectibles shop.

The shop is designed to appeal to people of all ages and financial situations, with the tagline “From smalls to furniture; more than a

century’s worth of treasures with prices starting at \$1.” In the world of antiques, there are specialists and generalists. The Mondlaks are generalists and prefer to offer a larger assortment of objects and to not specialize in any one genre. Beginning June 1, Across the Street expanded into the adjoining storefront, more than doubling their floor square footage from 1500 to more than 3000. With the expansion, the Mondlaks are able to offer a wider variety of items,

including more furniture, home décor, larger primitives, and a greater selection of art.

The Mondlaks have invited two other dealers to sell out of the location, and are pleased to offer the whimsical offerings of friends and vintage vendors Jacquie Riesterer and Kelley Elwell. Jacquie and Kelley sell under the business names Topsy Gypsy Vintage and Rustic Weepy Willow, respectively. Joel has been buying and selling antiques in the Brandon

area since the couple moved here in the late 1980s. His once hobby-business has continued to grow over the years. The Brandon store is now the full-time employment for both Janet and Joel in addition to their thriving online business with more than 1300 active listings (check out their ebay store: Vermont Eye Candy). Across the Street is located at 12 Center St. and at this time of the year is open daily from 11 am – 4 pm, closed Tuesdays.



The amazing inventory of antiques and collectibles at Across the Street ranges from \$1 “smalls” to larger pieces of art and furniture Photos by George Fjeld



JANET AND JOEL Mondlak have been in the antiques business for decades. They opened Across the Street in 2020 on Center Street in Brandon after several years of travel in an RV.

Pittsford begins sidewalk project

BY STEVEN JUPITER

PITTSFORD—Anyone driving through Pittsford lately has likely noticed that the deteriorated sidewalks on either side of Route 7 in the heart of the village were removed at the beginning of June. This past Monday, June 26, the town’s highway crew began the process of laying down temporary replacements in anticipation of permanent concrete sidewalks that will be installed as part of the Segment 2 project that will overhaul Route 7 in the town. Segment 2 has seen several delays and is now slated to begin in 2028, according to Pittsford Town Manager David Atherton.

The Pittsford Selectboard used ARPA funds, rather than money from the town’s General Fund, to cover the cost of the temporary sidewalks.

The temporary sidewalks should be completed by the end of the week, said Mr. Atherton.



THE SIDEWALK IN front of the Pittsford Historical Society is prepared for temporary paving in anticipation of the Segment 2 overhaul of Route 7 in Pittsford Village. Photo by Steven Jupiter

A longer-term goal in Pittsford is to create more of a walkable “downtown” from the area of Kamuda’s Market and the Ma-

clure Library to St. Alphonsus Ligouri Catholic Church, near the intersection of Route 7 and Route 3.

BRANDON YARD SALE DAY SATURDAY AUGUST 5, 2023 REGISTRATION FORM

Name and address listing: \$10 OR

Enhanced listing: \$15

\$15 buys you 25 words to describe your yard sale’s “special” items plus your name and address in a boxed ad.

For ALL LISTINGS:

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

For ENHANCED LISTING:

ADD 25 WORDS:

(separate sheet of paper)

MAIL TO: BACC, PO BOX 267,

BRANDON 05733

OR DROP OFF AT CARR’S GIFTS.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION:

July 30, 2023

Go to Brandon.org for more info!



TOWN OF PITTSFORD, VT
Seeking applicants for the full-time position of
Recreation Director and
Economic Development Director

The successful candidate will be able to maintain, develop and implement a program of recreational opportunities for Town residents throughout the year, in concert with a helpful and active Recreation Committee and in collaboration with other entities, such as the Town's Library, Trails Committee, sports leagues, a Seniors Group, etc. There is also some interaction with other towns' recreation programs relating to joint activities. **The Recreation Director also manages the recreation area and its many amenities and supervises a part-time groundskeeper. The Recreation Director will also, with assistance from the Town Manager, act as the Economic Development Officer.** The Economic Development Director is responsible for working with municipal, State, and private entities to identify economic development opportunities with the goal of making the Town of Pittsford a better place to live, work, and do business. This is a small portion of the workload, on an as-needed basis.

The ideal applicant would be friendly, outgoing, and able to administer multiple programs simultaneously. A working knowledge of social media is important, as there is the need to communicate to the public regarding the status of programs/events.

This position offers a competitive package of wages and benefits, including health insurance, paid vacation and a pension plan.

Please submit a letter of interest, together with a resume, and a list of three or more references no later than Friday, June 30 to:

David Atherton
 Pittsford Town Manager
 P.O. Box 10
 Pittsford, VT 05763
 manager@pittsfordvermont.com
 (802) 483-6500 x200



Let the good times roll

SINCE THEIR DAYS at Brandon High School (Class of 1954). Not only have they been friends for 69 years, they're also sisters-in-law! They celebrated their long friendship and sisterhood at a Bertrand family reunion at Branbury State Park on Saturday, June 24. Congratulations, ladies!

Photo provided.



Sharpen your mind with our puzzles.
 Crossword & Sudoku on page 17

Classifieds

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SUDBURY: - Share a home w/ an avid reader in her 60s who enjoys volunteering & classical music. \$500/mo. plus sharing companionship & outdoor chores.

Must be cat-friendly! No smoking. Private BA. (802) 863-5625 HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, refs, background check req. EHO.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Cars |
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** No charge for these ads



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Maclure Library receives grant from the Children's Literacy Foundation

PITTSFORD—The Maclure Library is pleased to announce that it has been selected to receive a Rural Library Grant for the 2023-2024 school year from the Children's Literacy Foundation (CLiF), a nonprofit located in Waterbury Center, Vt.

Awarded annually to 12 qualifying public libraries in Vermont and New Hampshire, the Rural Library Grant is designed to help small-town libraries create excitement around literacy, update the collection, increase circulation, and strengthen the library's connection with the community. "We're really looking forward to the collaboration with Lothrop," said Maclure Youth Librarian Sophie Marks. "Our summer CLiF events in the past have been very popular, so I'm excited to be able to reach even more kids during the school year."

Christine Tate, the Lothrop School Librarian, agreed, "This grant will give us an opportunity to put more books into the hands of young readers!"

The grant provides \$2,000

in new children's books for the public library, \$500 in new books for the local elementary school, two storytelling events for children at the local elementary school, two new books for each child in attendance to choose, and funding for mini-grants for special library programming over the course of the year.

"We're really looking forward to the collaboration with Lothrop. Our summer CLiF events in the past have been very popular, so I'm excited to be able to reach even more kids during the school year."

—Sophie Marks, Maclure Youth Librarian

help small libraries update and diversify their children's book. Our ultimate goal here at CLiF and through this grant is to inspire kids to love reading and writing."

To be considered for the grant, libraries must be located in towns with a population of 5,000 or less. The Rural Library grant is one of CLiF's longstanding programs, and CLiF has partnered with ap-

proximately 90 percent of libraries in both states that fall into that category.

The 2023-2024 CLiF Rural Library grantees are:

- Alden Balch Memorial Library in Lunenburg, VT
- Allenstown Public Library in Allenstown, NH
- Fairlee Public Library in Fairlee, VT
- Harrisville Public Library in Harrisville, NH
- Lawrence Memorial Library in Bristol, VT
- Maclure Library in Pittsford, VT
- Marc A. Hurzeler M.D. Library in Jefferson, NH
- New Durham Public Library in New Durham, NH
- Olivia Rodham Memorial Library in Nelson, NH
- Patten Library in North Haverhill, NH
- Rochester Public Library in Rochester, VT
- Sheldon Municipal Library in Sheldon, VT

CLiF is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to nurture a love of reading and writing among children up to age 12 at higher risk of growing up with low literacy skills throughout New Hampshire and Vermont. Since 1998, CLiF has supported and inspired over 350,000 young readers and writers through its literacy program grants and has given almost \$10 million in new, high quality children's books. For more information about CLiF, visit www.clifonline.org

REAL ESTATE



Classic colonial style home in the center of the vibrant town of Brandon. Center hall entrance, double living room, fireplace with ornate hearth, roomy kitchen with center island and walk-in pantry, and a formal dining room. There are four full sized bedrooms - one on the first floor. Well maintained property with fresh exterior paint and newer roof. Ready for you to move in. Also a great location for a home business! Carriage barn still has the original horse stalls and spacious loft. \$398,000



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Dunmore & Fern Lake



DUNMORE CONDO (Above): A Sunset Hill condo. Excellent views of Moosalamoo & Dunmore. Delightful camp for Summer liv.: swimming, paddle boarding, fishing, kayaking, boating, biking & hiking. Open liv/din area, remodeled kit. & shower Bath Parlor stove. 2 BRs & screened porch completes 444 sq.ft. of liv. space. The seasonal assoc. includes a great sandy beach and lake side patio and a playground area. \$230,000.



Fern Lake Building Lot (Left): 123.54 feet frontage at North end of Fern Lake. 1.02 Acre wooded lake lot. Mountain views to South. Soil work indicates standard in-ground system is possible. Level lake road access from Route 53. Close to Brandon/Middlebury for shopping, theater, groceries & dining. \$175,000.



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Brandon SB

(Continued from Page 1)

late enough such funds to satisfy the match. The project is slated to begin in 2025, providing almost 24 months in which to accumulate the match.

Board members Brian Coolidge and Tracy Wyman registered their disapproval.

“It’s wishful thinking,” said Mr. Coolidge, noting that there are no guarantees that the fund will be replenished at the same rate going forward.

It was also noted that road resurfacing and paving were removed from the budget in anticipation of such costs being covered by the LOT funds. If the sidewalk project will require the lion’s share of the LOT funds for the next two years, will there be any funds available for routine road maintenance? Historically, the town has budgeted \$100,000 every year for such work, though recent estimates from the Highway Department suggest that \$400,000 might be needed.

The Wastewater and Water Departments will contribute funds to the town’s match as well.

Town resident Brent Buehler asked whether Carver Street was on this year’s paving schedule. Mr. Hopkins responded that only Arnold District Road is scheduled

for repaving in 2023. The town is responsible for 20% of the cost of the project; the rest is covered by a grant.

Former Town Manager David Atherton was present as a private Brandon citizen and pointed out to the Board that the LOT fund was down to \$47,000 and that there will be no budgeted money for paving in the new fiscal year starting on July 1, since it was taken out of the budget for FY23-24.

The Board then moved on to appointments to several town committees. The following appointments were approved:

Development Review Board (3-year terms ending on June 30, 2026)

- Jim Desmarais
- Samantha Stone

Revolving Loan Fund Committee (3-year terms ending on June 30, 2026)

- Wendy Bizzarro
- Catherine Wall

Revolving Loan Committee Fund Alternate (1-year term ending June 30, 2024)

- Judy Bunde

Rutland Regional Transportation Council (1-year term ending June 30, 2024)

- Tracy Wyman

Rutland Regional Transporta-

tion Council Alternate (1-year term ending June 30, 2024)

- Dan Snow

Rutland Regional Planning Commission (1-year term ending June 30, 2024)

- Jack Schneider

There are still vacant seats for alternates on the Development Review Board (2 vacant seats) and the Rutland Regional Planning Commission (1 vacant seat). These vacant seats are for 1-year terms ending on June 30, 2024.

All appointments were approved unanimously.

The roof of the Town Hall has been an ongoing point of discussion at Selectboard meetings for several months and the Board took it up again on Monday at the urging of Board member Heather Nelson, who noted that the roof needed repair when Town Hall reopened after its renovation 12 years ago. Ms. Nelson suggested the use of ARPA funds to cover the cost of this major, “generational” project.

The Board did not feel comfortable moving forward with the discussion until an estimate for the work had been obtained. The last estimate for the project was received in 2015 for \$168,000. Board member Cecil Reniche-Smith suggested that the Board investigate grants, particularly since the Town Hall is an historic building.

Board member Tim Guiles also

suggested that the Board create a structure for the use of the town’s remaining ARPA funds. The Board was open to input from the community to determine the town’s priorities and needs. Such input would be solicited by the Board.

Mr. Atherton suggested that the Board be careful not to earmark all its available money in a year when a large project like the wastewater plant might experience cost overruns.

The Board then unanimously approved the bid for the Arnold District Road paving project that had been submitted by Pike Industries of Wallingford. Pike’s bid came in at \$76.93 per ton of 15% recycled asphalt, for a total cost of \$164,476.34. The competing bid from Wilk Paving of Rutland came in at \$81.47 per ton of 15% recycled asphalt, for a total cost of \$180,465.05. The full bid sheets for both companies are available in the Selectboard packet for June 26 on the town website.

The construction project at the town wastewater plant has been paused for the summer while General Contractor (GC) Naylor & Breen awaits delivery of materials. During this time, the GC will take on projects elsewhere. The project will resume in August.

Because of the shutdown and resulting delay, however, the town must extend the terms of the loans

it took out from Bar Harbor Bank to pay for the work. The Board approved the extension of two loans:

A loan in the amount of \$1,000,000. The interest rate on this loan was increased from 3.15% to 5.80% to reflect current rates. The maturity date of the loan was extended from 6/20/23 to 10/30/23.

A loan in the amount of \$2,780,000. The interest rate on this loan was increased from 4.34% to 5.80%. The maturity date was extended from 6/30/23 to 10/30/23.

Both extensions were approved unanimously. The full terms of the loans and extensions are available in the Selectboard packet for June 26 on the town website.

The Board then approved a blanket authorization for payroll for the fiscal year ending in June 2024. This blanket authorization enables the town to pay its employees promptly without having to wait for approval at Board meetings. The list of salaries and hourly rates is available in the Selectboard packet for June 26 on the town website.

As its final bit of business for the evening, the Board approved a warrant in the amount of \$139,589.92 to cover the town’s obligations and expenses since the previous warrant. The full list of expenditures is available on the town website.

On behalf of the staff at Stone CDJR and G Stone Motors:

A HUGE
“THANK YOU!”
to all who helped make the
STONE 4X4 EXPO such a success!

In addition to this list of supporters, we want to give a shout out to the 4x4 Owners who displayed their vehicles at the show and all of the spectators who showed up despite the weather forecast!

Participants helped raise \$1,500 for VT Children’s Museum!

Addison County Sheriff’s Department
 Brown’s Salvage
 Custom Offsets
 DJ Bill Moore
 DeBisschop Excavating LLC
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 Dundon’s Plumbing and Heating
 Adam Forbes and Stephanie Nixon
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Art Howard
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 The Hangry Hogg
 The Raminator
 Welch’s Engraving
 Winning Image Graphix
 VT AOT
 VT Bale Creations
 Vermont Children’s Museum
 Bruce Zeman and Calvin from 92.1 WTK

