

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

A community supported newspaper

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Thursday, July 13, 2023

\$1



## MYTHIC & QUOTIDIAN

Fran Bull and Peter Wallis show their surreal side at the Chaffee in Rutland.

PG. 8

## IN MEMORY OF OFFICER JESSICA EBBIGHAUSEN

Lost too early. Words from Brandon Police Chief David Kachajian.

PG. 6



## SUMMER FUN

'Little Phantoms Summer Camp' enjoys its first wet-n-wild summer in Proctor.

PG 20

## ARPA AND SEWER RATES

Brandon Selectboard continues its debates on ARPA and sewer rates.

PG 2



## Relentless rainfall devastates Vermont

### The Brandon/Pittsford area left largely intact

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—With an intensity not seen since Tropical Storm Irene in 2011, rainfall lashed Vermont for two days earlier this week, swelling rivers and streams beyond their natural capacities and sending water into the main streets of major towns and villages. Both President Biden and Governor Scott declared a state of emergency to release the funds and services that will be needed for recovery. FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell was scheduled to visit the state on Wednesday to assess conditions and needs. While the Brandon/Pittsford area was generally spared the worst of the damage, with flooding mostly limited to outlying roads, it will take months to restore much of

*(See Flood, Page 3)*



## Echoes of Irene

THE NESHOBE RIVER rages under the bridge in downtown Brandon on Monday afternoon. Brandon was spared the worst but much of the state suffered.

Photo by Steven Jupiter



DAVE HAMMOND DISCUSSES his replica Davenport motors.

Photo by Steven Jupiter

## Davenport Electric Fest jolts Brandon in its 2<sup>nd</sup> year

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—The second-annual Davenport Electric Fest entertained and informed visitors on Saturday, July 8. More than 400 people came to the

campus of Otter Valley Union High School to talk with makers of electric vehicles, see replicas of some of the earliest known electric motors,

*(See Davenport, Page 14)*

## Goshen Town Clerk is latest in many changes in town

BY GEORGE FJELD

GOSHEN—In the latest of a series of major changes in local government in Goshen, Martin Fjeld has been appointed town clerk by the Selectboard. Board chair Bill Mathis was impressed by Fjeld's energy and enthusiasm for the job, as well as his position to not take sides in the current political changes in Goshen. Mathis stated, "He's not caught up in the nonsense going on." Fjeld's nomination was presented by resident Timmy Moffi. Fjeld is ready to take on this challenge. He has no prior experience but is excited to learn. He stated, "I will

use all the state and local resources, of which there are many." He recently invited Brandon Town Clerk Sue Gage to Goshen to help him get a feel for the job from a veteran. Gage helped Fjeld link to different organizations important to his new work as town clerk.

Former governor F. Ray Keyser, Jr. once said "Vermont politics are local people getting elected and doing a job for a time and then letting someone else take over."

Former town clerk Rosemary McKinnon resigned/retired part-

*(See Selectboard, Page 7)*

# Brandon Selectboard debates ARPA and sewer rates

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—At its regular meeting on Monday evening, the Brandon Selectboard continued a discussion it's had for several months now over the optimal use of the town's remaining ARPA funds and how best to bill residents for sewer services.

Board Chair Tracy Wyman began the meeting with a moment of silence to honor Officer Jessica Ebbighausen of the Rutland City Police Department, who had passed away in a car accident while responding to a call.

The first order of business was under the auspices of the Board of Sewer Commissioners: whether to waive interest on late sewer payments. The bills for the 2nd and 3rd quarters were issued on a compressed schedule this year and a number of residents expressed dismay at having to make the payments so close together or be subject to interest.

A discussion ensued as to whether it would be best to waive interest for the current bill only or for all sewer bills until the end of the year. Ultimately it was decided to waive interest on the current bill, which means that the next time interest will be

applied to a late account will be September 15, pending approval from the Prudential Board that oversees the Water Department. The town has authority only over the wastewater system, though water and sewer are billed together.

The last two bills were issued in close sequence because the 2nd quarter bill had been delayed. According to Town Manager Seth Hopkins, there is often a period of several weeks between the time meters are read and bills are issued. During this time, "mis-

reads" of meters are investigated and often result in "estimated readings" when actual readings are unable to be used. "Estimated readings happen in every district," said Mr. Hopkins. The discussion turned from interest to rates, continuing a debate that has taken place over the last several months. Currently, the town uses a hybrid usage/flat-fee system, where each account is charged a base fee for service and then a per-unit rate for actual usage. The bulk of each bill, however, is made up of the base fee with usage charges accounting for a relatively small portion. The base fee allows the town and Water District to rely on predictable revenues, whereas a purely usage-based system would not be reliable and could potentially leave the town and Water District unable to meet their own fixed financial obligations.

Board member Tim Guiles expressed frustration with flat-fee systems, however, since they disincentivize conservation.

Other options discussed include "capacity" systems, which

charge for potential use rather than actual consumption. For example, a house with four bedrooms would be charged a higher fee than a house with only one bedroom, regardless of how many people actually live in either house or how much water is actually used. The Board also discussed charging a higher rate per unit for accounts that consume water above a certain threshold. Ultimately no action was taken on rates. The Board of Sewer Commissioners adjourned and the Selectboard then convened.

Town Manager Seth Hopkins stated that as of Monday evening, the town had experienced no major flooding or closures (though this would change by the time this issue of The Reporter went to press—please see the article on the storm on page 1). The town manager's report is available in full in the Selectboard packet for 7/10/23 on the town website. Highlights included: The bus shelter and bike rack were installed at the Conant Square Park & Ride. The grant for this project expired in October 2022. A 9-month extension

from the expiration date would still require that the project be completed very soon. Though originally projected to cost \$185,000, with a 50% town match of \$92,500, actual costs so far are \$80,000 and the town's 50% match is likely to be close to \$50,000. All that remains to be done in the project is some paving and painting. Mr. Hopkins was confident the work would be completed within the extension period.

VHB consultants will undertake a scoping survey for the Historic Preservation Commission, to help determine priorities for preservation. The town's match for this grant is \$5,000.

The Arnold District Road will be either fully or partially closed during workdays Monday through Thursday from July 10 to July 27. The closure is needed to prepare for paving. Access to Park Village will remain unimpeded. The northern edge of Central Park, across from the Brandon Inn, will be designated No Parking from the easternmost crosswalk westward to the fire hydrant. There isn't enough room for cars to maneuver in that nar-

row. (See Selectboard, Page 5)

*The Arnold District Road will be either fully or partially closed during workdays Monday through Thursday from July 10 to July 27. The closure is needed to prepare for paving.*

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# Flood

(Continued from Page 1)

the state.

In Brandon, the Neshobe River, which wreaked such havoc during Irene in 2011, managed to remain within its banks. The overflow culvert in downtown, installed in the aftermath of that devastating storm, performed its job and handled the excess capacity with relative ease. Though the water cascading over both sets of falls in downtown Brandon seemed overwhelming at times, none of the surrounding buildings or homes was ever in serious jeopardy and the overlooks in Green and Kennedy Parks were popular places for photographs.

In Brandon, Town Manager Seth Hopkins and Deputy Town Manager Bill Moore spent most of Monday traversing the town, keeping an eye on water levels not only in downtown, which suffered so heavily during Irene, but also in all of the spots with a known propensity to flood, like Newton Road in Forestdale and Route 73 near the Sudbury line. Mr. Hopkins relayed in an email that Brandon's wastewater treatment facility processed three times the normal daily flow (2,000,000 vs. 700,000 gallons) through the town's sewer system.

Though there was minimal flooding in Brandon during the rainstorm on Monday, by Tuesday afternoon Otter Creek began spilling over its banks as water from harder-hit areas upstream made its way north. By Wednesday morning, Union Street, Pearl Street, and Champlain Street (Route 73) all had inundation that necessitated closure. Long Swamp and Short Swamp Roads were also impassable. Conversely, Mr. Hopkins also reported on Wednesday morning

that the overflow channel on the Neshobe in downtown Brandon was no longer needed to handle excess water.

In Pittsford, Town Manager David Atherton monitored water levels on Otter Creek and Furnace Brook throughout the day. On Monday night, the Pittsford Fire Department reported that Elm Street and Gorham Bridge Road had become impassable. Parts of Route 3 and West Proctor Road were also underwater. By Tuesday morning, all four of the town's covered bridges were either partially submerged or close to it as Otter Creek and its tributaries continued to swell. Parts of West Creek Road were closed because of flooding as well.

Even with some roadways rendered unusable, the Brandon/Pittsford area emerged relatively unscathed from the storm. Towns farther south, such as Ludlow and Weston, suffered much greater damage. Ludlow's downtown was flooded by Monday afternoon, and it was reported that Weston was completely cut off at one point. Many roads through the Route 100 corridor between Rochester and Ludlow were closed or impassable. Fortunately, no deaths had been reported in Vermont as of press time.

But the greatest casualties of the Flood of 2023 are likely to be Montpelier and Barre, both of which saw torrents of water flow through their streets. Though water levels had been reported to recede on Tuesday, the threat of additional flooding loomed as officials debated the necessity of releasing water from the Wrightsville Dam, three miles upstream from Montpelier on the Winooski River. With only 3 feet of additional capacity left in the reservoir, it seemed likely



**TOP: THE NESHOBE River in Brandon. BOTTOM RIGHT: view of flooded lands in Proctor. BOTTOM LEFT: Gorham Bridge inundated by Otter Creek as seen from Pittsford.**

Photos by Steven Jupiter, Alicia Malay, and Dale Christie

that some water would need to be released into the river to avoid uncontrolled spillover and even worse damage. By Wednesday morning, it appeared that the dam would hold.

Unlike Irene, which had been tracked as a hurricane before downgrading to a tropical storm over land, this storm seemed to come out of nowhere, catching the state by surprise. It had already been a fairly wet summer and a few more days of rain didn't feel unusual, however un-

welcome they may have been. The intensity and duration of the downpour, though, exceeded most expectations. The first emergency flash-flood warning was issued to cellphones at 3:03 a.m. on Monday morning. For many people, that warning was the first inkling that this storm might be more than a simple shower. Two more warnings were issued on Monday, one at 7:26 a.m. and one at 11:50 p.m.

By Tuesday morning, the skies had cleared and one had

little sense from the weather that the previous day had been so vicious. Even with blue skies, though, the danger had not passed. Water was still coming down off the mountains and waterways might continue to rise, especially as excess volume works its way downstream. There is more rain in the forecast over the coming week. With the soil already saturated, Vermont is likely to see additional flooding and subsidence of weakened ground.



BRANDON REPORTER

Editorial

Gradually, then suddenly

The sight of Montpelier underwater is just heartbreaking. On a human level, the capital is no more important than any other town in Vermont, but symbolically there was something particularly agonizing about seeing our statehouse perched above a sea of muddy water. Of course, the water will eventually recede and the town will appear as it did before the storm. But we will know how vulnerable it is—how vulnerable we are. The idea of Vermont as a climate haven is looking somewhat less certain this morning.

When Irene devastated our state in 2011, it was seen as a generational event, a 1-in-100 storm that we'd tell our grandkids about as they stared in wide-eyed wonder. Now it's clear that these events can happen at any time, without any warning. We went to bed on Sunday thinking the rain was annoying. We woke up on Monday with emergency alerts on our phones, wondering what was happening and how bad it would get. Only 12 years after Irene, we lived through another "generational event" and chances are we won't have to wait even that long for the next one.

At this point, there really shouldn't be any debate over the reality of climate change. The debate should be focused solely on what to do about it.

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But we're still mired in a political tar pit, unable to execute even the merest mitigations without endless recriminations from those who'd have us believe that it's normal for Vermont to flood at the same time as Canadian forest fires are filling our skies with smoke at the same time as the southern U.S.

is experiencing insane heat and the ocean off the coast of Florida is almost 90 degrees. Every new year now seems to claim the record for hottest year ever. Is it a natural cycle? Maybe to some extent, but if it's exacerbated at all by our own activities, it seems prudent to take a step back and ask what we can do to slow this roll.

In "The Sun Also Rises" by Ernest Hemingway, one character asks another how he went bankrupt. The answer: "Two ways. Gradually, then suddenly." This exchange has always struck me as profoundly insightful. So much in life follows that pattern: gradually, then suddenly. We don't notice gradual changes until they snowball into what seems to be a sudden collapse. A wealthy man makes a series of small misjudgments, chipping away at his wealth until there's "suddenly" none left. Seemingly sturdy bridges that "suddenly" collapse turn out to have been gradually deteriorating for years. An ecosystem is gradu-

*(See Suddenly, Page 4)*



Just passin' through...

THIS IS A Black-throated green warbler that was migrating through Brandon.

Photo by Sue Wetmore

Community Forums

VT Fish & Wildlife Teen Conservation Weekend

CASTLETON, Vt. — The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department will once again be offering Teen Conservation Weekend to be held at the Edward F. Kehoe Conservation Camp in Castleton on August 18-20.

"We are pleased to announce a fun and exciting opportunity for teens ages 15-17. Teen Conservation Weekend allows us to provide teens with an exciting weekend of quality environmental education," says Hannah Phelps, Camp Coordinator. "Campers will arrive Friday evening and immediately begin participating in Let's Go

Fishing and Hunter Education programing before backpacking out to a remote pond for an evening of camping and fishing."

The weekend is open to ages 15-17 and is the perfect way for teens to unplug and engage with peers outdoors before heading back to the classroom. The weekend is capped at 20 participants, but there is still space for new registrants. Arrival time is 5:45 p.m. Friday, August 18 with departure time 4 p.m. on Sunday afternoon.

All participants will be expected to only bring gear they

can carry themselves as they will participate in a backpacking trip to a remote campsite on Saturday evening.

The cost for the weekend is \$125, which includes all meals. Sponsorships are available to cover the cost.

To register for the weekend, please email a completed application found at <https://vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/conservation-education/teen-conservation-weekend> to [Hannah.Phelps@vermont.gov](mailto:Hannah.Phelps@vermont.gov). Any questions can be directed to Hannah Phelps at 802-249-4199.

Suddenly

*(Continued from Page 4)*  
ally compromised in survivable ways until "suddenly" we can no longer survive.

Is that alarmist? Surely there will be people who think so. As long as there's food in the supermarket and running water in our plumbing, we choose

to kick the can down the road, thinking there's still plenty of time to make changes. Or we even deny any need to change anything at all. But both of these positions are clearly untenable. But how do we mandate change? Is it even possible in this political moment

to mandate anything and expect compliance? Think about how hard it was to get people to simply wear masks during the pandemic. And even if we make changes in Vermont, beyond those we've already implemented, are we just salving ourselves if those changes aren't adopted everywhere else?

— Steven Jupiter

The REPORTER

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

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# Selectboard

(Continued from Page 2)

row space when other cars are parked there.

No funding source had been identified for the Park & Ride match when the grant was applied for. Mr. Hopkins stated that the funding sources available are general fund, ARPA, or 1% local option tax. Board member Brian Coolidge expressed frustration that all of these sources are being drawn upon extensively. Mr. Hopkins replied that the town "extended itself to do a lot of great things" but agreed that funding sources should be identified when matching grants are sought.

Mr. Hopkins also stated that the \$70,000 budget shortfall that he had predicted for the last fiscal year in his letter to the community in last week's issue of The Reporter would likely be closer to \$3,000 after all adjustments are made. It marks the first time in several years that the town will exceed its budget for the year. The shortfall was due to increased expenses for heating fuel, vehicle fuel, electricity, winter sand, and chloride (to keep down dust on dirt

roads).

Board chair Tracy Wyman brought up during public comment that the state of Vermont is offering grants to install charging stations for electric cars with only a 5% match for municipalities. It was agreed to investigate this further. Bernie Carr of the Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce offered the partnership of the Chamber if the town chose to pursue this grant.

The Board then turned its attention to a discussion of how to allocate the remaining \$559,000 in ARPA funds. The consensus on the Board was that it made sense at this point to "think strategically" rather than use the funds as budgetary band-aids. The money must be allocated to specific projects by the end of 2024 and spent by the end of 2026.

Ideas for the funds included a new salt shed, new sidewalks, a public swimming pool, roof repair for the Town Hall. It was agreed that the Board should solicit ideas from the public. Brandon residents are invited to submit ideas to Mr. Hopkins via email (shopkins@townofbran-

don.com) or via written notes, which can be submitted in the payment boxes in front of the Town Offices and at Neshobe School. No deadline was given for submission, but the Board stated it will begin evaluating ideas at its next meeting.

Ralph Ethier was appointed as an alternate to the Development Review Board for a term ending on June 30, 2026.

The Board also approved to increase the town property tax rate from 0.9566 in 2023 to 0.9567 in 2024, a numeric increase of 0.0001, representing a percent increase of 0.01%. Total tax rates will increase from 2.3301 in 2023 to 2.3897 in 2024, a numeric increase of 0.0596, representing a percent increase of 2.560%. The worksheet breaking down the rates is available in the Selectboard packet for 7/10/23 on the town website.

For its last bit of business for the evening, the Board approved two warrants: one in the amount of \$177,410.50 and one in the amount of \$89,179.83. The breakdown of expenses for these warrants is in the Selectboard packet.

Bernie Carr wrapped up the meeting with a celebration of the successful Chamber auction that was held in the Town Hall. He stated he hoped the auction would be held there every year going forward. Over 250 bidders participated this year.

*The consensus on the Board was that it made sense at this point to "think strategically" rather than use the funds as budgetary band-aids.*

## Community Forums

# Nifty Thrifty to sponsor Winky in next year's Rubber Ducky Race

Nifty Thrifty has been very impressed with Winky's racing career. Last July, bad luck held him back from a certain win in the 2022 Rubber Ducky Race on the Neshobe River. This year, Winky did not win, but he showed remarkable pluck and stamina. We at Nifty Thrifty feel that with the right training and guidance, Winky could not only be a winner, but break some Rubber Ducky Racing records as well.

Because of our conviction and confidence in Winky, Nifty Thrifty (Brandon's favorite thrift shop since 1975) would

like to sponsor Winky as he trains and prepares for the 2024 Rubber Ducky Race season. Our bid is \$500, a tour of our facility, and a publicity photo shoot with our CEO, CFO, CIO and EIEIO.

We realize that with his strong showing and great potential at such a young age, there will surely be others who want to snap up an exclusive sponsorship of Winky, so we are prepared to mediate a compromise if other sponsors emerge.

**Laura Peterson**  
**Nifty Thrifty**  
**Brandon**

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## Tuesdays Summer Concert Series

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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.

## July 18 — Michele Fay Band

Michele Fay Band features original and Americana music that brings forth a comfortable groove of folk, swing, and bluegrass-influenced songs.

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# Obituaries

We would like to invite you to the family camp for a Celebration of Life for Ronald J. Germond SR, who passed away in October of 2022.



All family and friends are welcome to come visit and share some great memories.

Sunday, July 16th 2023  
4pm - 6pm  
2098 Burr Pond Road,  
Sudbury, VT

Thank You,  
The Germond Family

## Jeffrey T. Smith, 79, Leicester

LEICESTER — Jeffrey T. Smith, 79, of Leicester Vt., died Sunday May 7, 2023, at the Rutland Regional Medical Center.

He was born in Westfield, Mass., on Nov. 15, 1943, the son of Wendell and Marian (Pomeroy) Smith. He attended Washburn University and then Washburn Law School to obtain his law degree.

Jeffrey married Linda Miller on June 3, 1966. He practiced law in Brandon and



JEFFREY T. SMITH

Middlebury, Vt., for more than 40 years, until his retirement.

He enjoyed the last 20+ years living on Lake Dunmore in Leicester, Vt. Jeffrey enjoyed fly fishing (fishing), hunting, skiing and golf.

He is survived by his sons Justin and wife Eileen of Leicester and Brenton and wife Brenda of California.

A celebration of life will be held Thursday, July 20, from 5-8 p.m., at the Brandon Inn in Brandon. ♦

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## Condolences from Chief Kachajian

On Friday, July 7, 2023, we witnessed the tragic loss of a young police officer in a motor vehicle crash in the City of Rutland. It is never easy losing one of our own, even if they work for another law enforcement agency. Law enforcement, no matter what agency you work for, is an extended family and when one of our family members is lost, we all feel the pain from it. I did not personally know Jessica Ebbighausen, but the loss is no less painful when we lose a brother or sister in our profession. The Brandon Police Department would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to Officer Ebbighausen's family, friends, and her law enforcement family at the Rutland City Police Department. May she rest in peace.

**Chief David Kachajian  
Brandon Police Department**

## Lost Too Early

THE REPORTER WOULD like to extend its condolences to the family and friends of Officer Jessica Ebbighausen of the Rutland Police Department. Officer Ebbighausen was at the very beginning of what certainly would have been a life of public service. To see the outpouring of grief from her colleagues in Rutland and the surrounding communities was extremely moving. We hope her loved ones found comfort in it as well.



## Obituary Guidelines

The Reporter will publish paid obituaries and free notices of passing. Paid obituaries cost 25 cents per word and will be published, as submitted, on the date of the family's choosing. For those who do not wish to purchase an obituary, the Reporter offers a free notice of passing up to 100 words, subject to editing by our news department. Photos (optional) with either paid obituaries or free notices cost \$10 per photo. Obituaries may be emailed to news@brandonreporter.com. Submissions must be received by 11 a.m. on Monday for publication in the Wednesday paper.

# Goshen

(Continued from Page 1)

way through a multi-year term, citing difficulty working with the new Selectboard, who she states are "corrupt." McKinnon objected to the Selectboard providing refreshments at the town meeting last March instead of the usual pot luck. "They were just buying votes." She also said, "They just push their power. They're not entitled to get into the clerk's business. I'm sick of fighting with them."

There have been a number of conflicts between the former clerk and the Selectboard. McKinnon took offense when the board moved the ballot box from the south to the north end of the town hall. Chairman Bill Mathis stated that the move was to make the box more accessible to handicapped voters. In the new location, a handicapped individual can vote without getting out of their car. McKinnon thought the Selectboard overstepped its authority, as ballot boxes are the purview of the Board of Civil Authority, a group composed of the Selectboard and justices of the peace and supervised by the town clerk.

Video surveillance of the town office has been another point of conflict. A surveillance system was installed by Dave McKinnon, husband of the clerk. The monitoring was not made available when requested by the Selectboard. The only person able to monitor or review the tapes was Mr. McKinnon. According to Selectboard member Thomasina Magoon, there was no accountability in this arrangement. The system has been replaced and monitoring is now available to the Selectboard and a policy is being written for its use.

Clerk McKinnon took umbrage over the changes to the IT infrastructure supervised by Selectboard member Thomasina Magoon. She complained about delays in emails going out about six months after the changes had been made. Magoon stated that the problem was with the UVM list-serve and Ms. McKinnon was asking the Selectboard to fix it instead of going to UVM for help.

McKinnon said the Selectboard "left me alone largely. They talked about me at meetings but not to me." After resigning she says "I offered to help the new clerk. I left the office in good shape. Everything was done."

Magoon said the Selectboard was able to recover 2 GB of the town clerk's emails and contacts which had been deleted. They were able to get passwords and

other sign-ons for the new clerk. A new IT administrator has been chosen and is working with Fjeld to set things up. Magoon doesn't want to be negative. "We have so many wonderful positive initiatives going on in Goshen, I just want to move forward," she said.

In other changes, Vicki Whiting has returned as the town treasurer after Suzanne George's resignation. George was the prior assistant treasurer and was elected in March of 2022. Whiting was the prior treasurer who decided not to run for reelection last March. She has returned because "The town needs me. I don't have any comment on the other changes."

Goshen has undergone a series of major changes since Dave McKinnon chose not to run for reelection in 2022. Former Selectboard member Thomasina Magoon was elected. Magoon started her tenure by asking for more accountability from town positions such as road foreman, town clerk, and trash pickup. Following this, but not necessarily because of it, there was turnover of the Selectboard after the resignation of the other Selectboard members as well as Jim Hayes,

road foreman, and the town clerk. This resulted in a near-complete change in the town government in a little under 2 years.

Ultimately, there is a clear change in Goshen politics centered around the roads, trash pickup, and the look of the town buildings. After Hayes's resignation, 3 dumpster loads of trash was removed from the town garage by temporary employee Will Mathis. He also removed more than fifty 55-gallon drums. Townspeople have asked for improvements in Town Hill, a road used by nearly all residents, as it goes from Route 73 to the town hall and garage. The former Selectboard proposed a \$600,000+ line item to replace the road which would have resulted in a huge tax increase. This was soundly defeated at town meeting in 2021. Townspeople say there have been good changes to the roads in the last few months and trash pick-up has been going well. Shari Brown from Blueberry Hill Inn says the recent Addison Independent article was very one-sided and didn't represent the majority of Goshen residents. Rick Toman said "The new board is the new board, they will do what they think is best for Goshen. People in Goshen are pretty happy with the changes. It looks much nicer."



MARTIN FJELD HAS become Town Clerk in Goshen after a period of conflict between the previous clerk and new members of the Goshen Selectboard. Photo by George Fjeld



## 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, 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 Cir, Middlebury

**Friday, September 29th** -

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ART REVIEW:

# Mythic and Quotidian: Fran Bull & Peter Wallis share surreal visions of life at the Chaffee

BY STEVEN JUPITER

RUTLAND—You awaken from a dream and try to make sense of the fragmentary images still swirling in your head. Glimpses of people, place, things slip in and out of your mind’s eye as you struggle to piece everything together before it all recedes back into your subconscious, like toys thrown back into a toybox you can only access when you’re sleeping. Such is the effect of the artwork on display in “Mythic and Quotidian” by Fran Bull and Peter Wallis at the Chaffee Art Center in Rutland.

Bull has been living and working in Brandon for years and the material in this show was selected from a larger exhibit she had at the Compass Center in Brandon last year. That exhibit was titled

“We’re All at a Party Called Life on Earth!” and the signage from that show is displayed with the pieces Bull chose for the Chaffee. There are paintings in the exhibit, but the focus is resolutely on the sculpture: clown-like figures painted in garish colors with exaggerated limbs and ghoulish smiles, all exuding the doomed joy of guests waltzing to their deaths on a sinking ship. There is no soundtrack to the show, but one could easily imagine a circus calliope spewing a deliriously upbeat melody to drown out the agony these figures clearly live in.

And that seems to be Bull’s absurdist point: that life on Earth can sometimes be a grotesque party where we paint our faces and force our laughter in order



TOP: PETER WALLIS describes his methods to visitors. MIDDLE: Works by Wallis. BOTTOM: Works by Fran Bull.

Photos by Steven Jupiter.

to hide the pain that often comes with being human—the struggle to find joy in the struggle to survive. The bright colors and determined smiles mask a desperation to find meaning. The busts in this show were inspired, Bull says, by Greek and Roman statuary, perhaps as an evocation of ancient vanity: these humans once existed but exist no more...

Bull has been an artistic nomad throughout her career, moving from one style and/or subject to another to satisfy her restless curiosity. She started out, decades ago, as a photorealist, producing exquisitely convincing paintings and prints. Now, after a lifetime as an artist—and human—her work is looser, more expressive, and more interested in peeling back surfaces than in depicting them.

Peter Wallis is several decades Bull’s junior, yet his work holds its own next to hers. Originally from Pittsford, Wallis now lives in the San Francisco area and has come home with shows at the Chaffee and at Northern Daughters in Vergennes. The work on display at the Chaffee, mostly small-scale surrealistic vignettes of seemingly random figures—a cast of thousands engaged in some coded choreography—reads like wordless graphic novels telling stories we’re invited to translate for ourselves.

“I like the viewer to create the story,” said Wallis at the show.

And the above reference to choreography has a literal element to it: Wallis enlisted artist Jonathan Capone to digitize one of Wallis’s works and hook it up to a sensor so that someone moving in front of the piece actually ends up animating it. It’s just another way for Wallis to entice viewers to interact with his work.



FRAN BULL



Wallis created these works as one-off lithographs, which he then overpaints in gouache (opaque watercolor). This technique lends them a somewhat vintage feel, like illustrations in antique children’s books. The components of these scenarios are quite varied but a few elements appear in several: industrial settings, dancers, soldiers, skeletons, and, in sync with Bull’s work in the adjacent room, clowns. What it all means depends on the specific connections the viewer makes among these figures and locales.

Wallis also recruited several colleagues and local friends to create shadowboxes out of cigar boxes, each one divided into compartments filled with assorted objects that are simultaneously discrete and connected. Like

Wallis’s 2-D pieces, the boxes are meant to tell stories that the artists might create but the viewer is free to interpret differently.

“Childhood,” said Mike Wilson of Goshen, when asked what he intended to convey through his box.

Those who like to be challenged by art, who enjoy the interpretive process, will appreciate this show. Even those who prefer more traditional approaches will still find a lot to admire in the technical prowess. There’s a sophistication of both concept and execution that’s absolutely worth investigating here, and an opportunity for the viewer to integrate their own imagination into the work.

“Mythic and Quotidian” runs through August 18 at the Chaffee Art Center in Rutland City.



# Red Cross opens second disaster shelter in Rutland

## Shelter to serve area residents affected by widespread severe flooding

RUTLAND, Vt., JULY 11, 2023 — The American Red Cross opens a second regional disaster shelter in Rutland at Rutland High School (22 Stratton Rd.). The shelter opened today at 9:30 a.m. This shelter will be managed by the Red Cross — and pets are welcome. The Red Cross continues to work closely with local and state emergency management and government officials to navigate disaster relief efforts following widespread severe flooding throughout the state.

The Red Cross shelter at the Barre City Auditorium (16 Auditorium Hill, Barre) remains open. It saw an overnight population of 176 and has risen throughout the morning to more than 200 people. The Red Cross is partnering with the Vermont Disaster Animal Response Team (VDART) to welcome and manage pets at that shelter. The Barre shelter opened yesterday at 3 p.m.

Significant rainfall over the last 24 hours, along with saturated ground and full rivers and lakes, has caused serious and potentially life-threatening flooding in several parts of Vermont. Right now, more than 7,000 people are without power and dozens of roads remain closed throughout the state.

Individuals evacuating to a Red Cross shelter should bring essential items for each member of their family, including:

- Prescription and emergency medications
- Foods that meet special dietary requirements
- Extra clothing, pillows, blankets, hygiene supplies and other comfort items
- Chargers for any electronic devices
- Books, games and other forms of entertainment

For help or for additional information, dial 2-1-1.

The Red Cross wants to remind Vermonters: "Turn around, don't drown." Never walk, swim, or drive through floodwater. Just 6 inches of fast-moving floodwater can knock you over — and 12 inches can carry your vehicle away.

- If you evacuated, wait for

officials to say it is safe before going home.

- Avoid fallen power lines, poles, and wires. They can electrocute you.
- Watch out for falling trees and other debris.
- Use flashlights or battery-powered lanterns, rather than candles, to reduce fire risk.
- Many injuries happen during cleanup. Wear protective equipment, like boots, long pants, work gloves, eyewear, and an N95 respirator to protect your lungs. Follow the advice of local public health officials.

This significant flooding event is impacting Red Cross blood collection efforts as well. One of Vermont's largest blood drives, the Mini Gift of Life Marathon in memory of Peter Giancola, is scheduled for today. The collection site at Noel's at the Franklin Event Center will go on as scheduled, but the drive at the Elk's Lodge has been cancelled. The Red Cross has notified donors whose appointments have been impacted by this change and are working diligently to get these appointments rescheduled at a later date. It is estimated that this flooding event will result in approximately 500 pints of lifesaving blood going uncollected and about a dozen drive cancellations. This storm comes at



**American Red Cross**

a time when the Red Cross is sending blood donations to hospitals faster than they are coming in. The Red Cross is asking donors who live in unaffected areas to schedule and keep your upcoming appointments to help prevent a summer blood shortage.

By scheduling and keeping appointments in July, donors can help provide for those in immediate need of lifesaving care. To schedule an appointment to donate, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

All Red Cross assistance is provided free of charge and made possible by the generosity of the public. To donate to Red Cross Disaster Relief and help people affected by disasters big and small, visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS. To become a Red Cross volunteer visit [www.redcross.org/volunteer](http://www.redcross.org/volunteer).



ACROSS THE STREET hosted the Brandon Area Chamber Mixer for July in its expanded space in the Smith Block on Center Street. Chamber Director Bernie Carr and host Janet Mondlak address the guests.

Photo by Beate Ankaer-Jenson

## Golf Course

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Welcome Before & After Work or School!

# OUR CREATIVE KIDS

**ARTIST:** AYDEN LAROCQUE

**GRADE:** 8

**SCHOOL:** OTTER VALLEY UNION  
JUNIOR HIGH

**TITLE:** ORGANIC AND  
GEOMETRIC DRAWING  
OF A HORSE

**TEACHER:** DASHA KALISZ



***Sharpen your mind  
with our puzzles.***

See page 17

# Our Creative Kids Poetry Corner

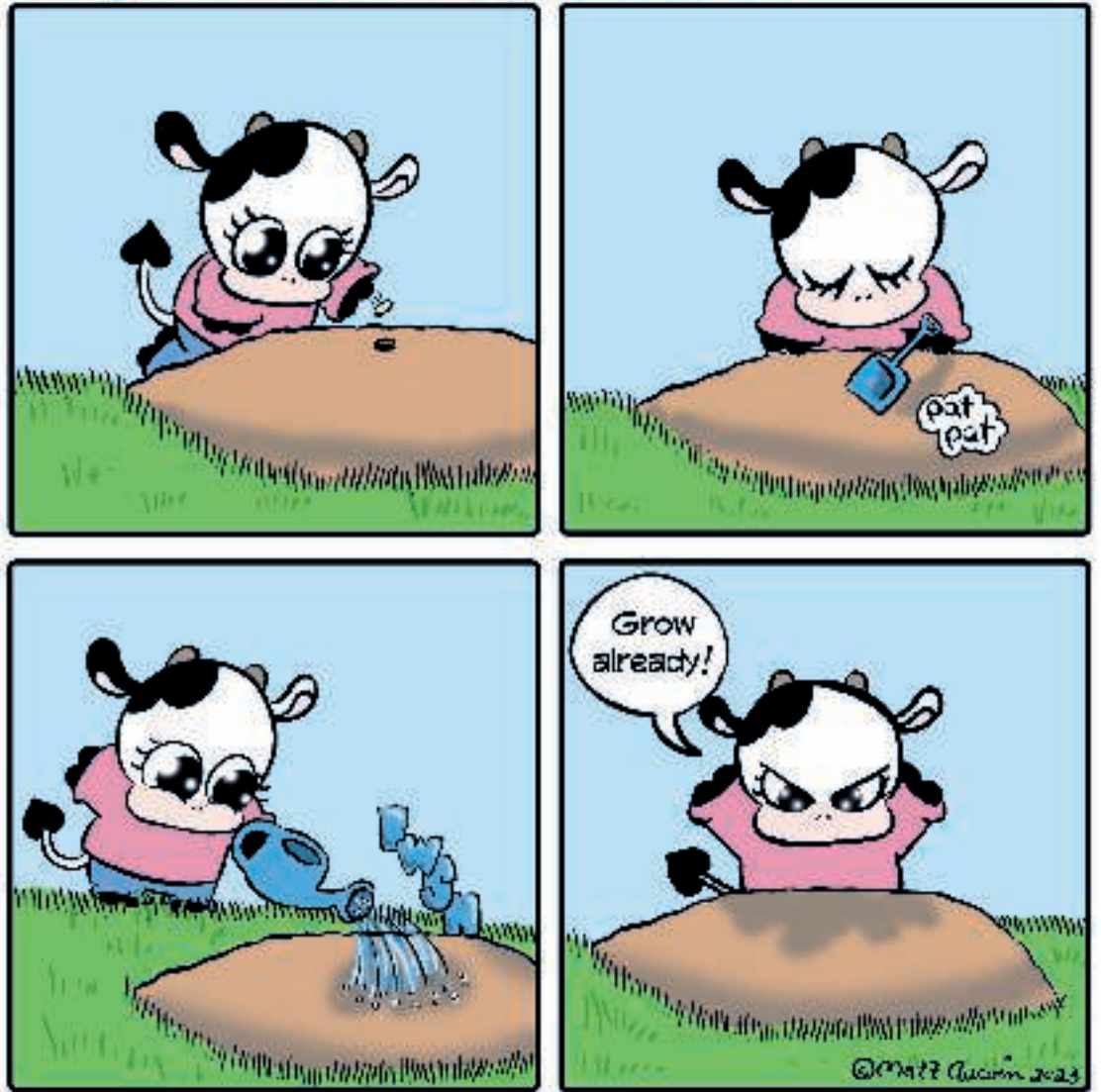
## Brandon

By Izaiah

Bookstore with great books.  
Really good ice cream at BHOP (Brandon House of Pizza).  
Amazing food.  
No it won't get boring.  
Don't leave yet you haven't seen it all.  
Over there is a cool shop with wind spinners.  
Never have I ever seen a more beautiful place.

*Submitted from Ms. Mol's  
4th grade class at  
Otter Creek Academy*

### Maple the Cow by Matt Aucoin



## Congrats to Officer Alnwich and K-9 partner Guinness

On Friday, June 30, 2023, Officer Aidan Alnwich and his K-9 partner Guinness graduated from the Orange County Sheriff's Department K-9 Training Academy in the State of New York after going through 4 months of intensive training in tracking, evidence recovery, agility, obedience, and patrol work. K-9 Guinness is now fully certified in both narcotics detection and patrol work. K-9 Guinness was presented with his badge at the graduation by Chief Kachajian. Everyone at the Brandon Police Department is very proud of our K-9 Team and the hard work, dedication, and sacrifice that they made being away from home so that they could attend the training school. Our team will not only be an asset for our police department but also for our town and the community we serve. Please help us with expressing our "Congratulations" to our K-9 handler and his partner.

Respectfully,  
Chief David Kachajian



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# Calendar of events

## July 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. Visit [www.aikidovermont.org](http://www.aikidovermont.org) for more information, including fees.

## Tuesdays

### Maclure Library Story Time Playgroup

Looking for a fun, educational playgroup for your 2-5 year old? Look no further! From 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. join Miss Allie, a certified teacher, for a weekly FREE literacy-based playgroup. Light snacks will be provided, along with stories, crafts, songs, games, and more. To register, please email [allie.griffiths@rcpcc.org](mailto:allie.griffiths@rcpcc.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 ([hzfm@hotmail.com](mailto:hzfm@hotmail.com) or 802-282-7532) or Vicki Disorda ([vqueenoftheearth@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## Meet the Artist Night at the Brandon Artists Guild

Muffy Kashkin Grollier, combines her skills as a fine art painter with the fiber art of needle felting. Grollier's painterly process brings to life the animal kingdom using dyed wool as her medium producing a 3-D effect.

Please join us on Friday, July 21, between 7-8:30pm, light refreshments will be served.

The gallery is open Monday - Saturday 10am- 5pm, and Sunday 10am - 4pm, located at 7 Center Street, Brandon, VT 05733. For more info call (802) 247-4956 or visit [brandonartistsguild.org](http://brandonartistsguild.org).



## 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](http://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 Conscientious, Spiritual, Gentle Physical Yoga Practice. We meet on Mondays via zoom. Contact for Zoom link. (There is also a Monday Zoom only class)

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

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

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

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

## Magical Mischief Unfolds at Rotary Park

Come Alive Outside and Partners for Prevention are celebrating fantasy, fairytales and folklore during their Magical Mischief festival at Rotary Park on July 29 from 10 to 1pm. This free event connects people to the magic of nature with games, activities and a costume parade in the green space of Rotary Park.

Come Alive Outside, Partners for Prevention and friends have created a day of hands-on activities that will stoke creativity and fire up imaginations. Festival-goers can adopt an Ent or test their skills by tackling Merlin's bootcamp, and create affirmation charms. Build a fairy house, make a wand or create a blessed charm during this celebration of outdoor magic. They can also listen to magical stories told by mythical creatures and soak a mermaid or a mortal in the dunk tank. Humans of all ages can also dust off their fairy wings for the costume parade at noon, with winners receiving bragging rights, plus a little token of their victory.

This event and activities are free for the public. Food trucks Frickin' Chicken and So- Full Sisters will be serving up signature dishes and beverages for purchase. Participants enjoying the food trucks should bring cash. Families experiencing financial hardship are invited to request Food Truck vouchers from [Arwen@comealiveoutside.com](mailto:Arwen@comealiveoutside.com).

"Building on the success of last year's inaugural wizard-themed wellness event, we are excited to expand the theme to include more fantastical worlds that inspire imagination, creative play, and inclusion" says Sarah Cosgrove one of the planners behind this event.

"I had so much fun last year," says six-year-old Keaton Stine who came to last year's event. "I made a lot of stuff and saw lots of people in funny hats. I want to do it again!"

Magical Mischief will take place in light drizzle or shine. Cancellations due to inclement weather will be posted on Come Alive Outside's social media channels and on their website. Stay up to date on weather and event parking by visiting [comealiveoutside.com/events/](http://comealiveoutside.com/events/)

Sponsors for Magical Mischief include Partners for Prevention, AARP, Red Empress Foundation and Wild Kind Toys. Partners for Magical Mischief include Rutland Free Library, ONE Kids, Wonderfeet Kids' Museum, and New Story Center.



**Meditation Group at the Brandon Free Public Library**  
From 12:30–1:30 p.m. join neighbors for quiet meditation led by Kerrie Quinn.

## 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 11 a.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 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 13th

**Summer Reading at Brandon Free Public Library**

Join us at 11 am for Bubbles Story Time & Craft!

### 8th Annual Barnyard Ball Fundraiser to benefit The Dorset Equine Rescue

Join us for dinner, live music from Joe Bouchard and his band, dancing, and silent auction. All proceeds benefit The Dorset Equine Rescue. Tickets on sale now at [dorsetequinerescue.org/events](http://dorsetequinerescue.org/events)

From 5:15–8:30 pm, tickets \$150

The Dorset Equine Rescue and Honorary Chairs Ramsay Gourd & Richard Slocum cordially invite you to attend the 8th annual Barnyard Ball fundraiser, Thursday, July 13, 2023, at The Old Gray Barn at 1582 Route 30, Rupert, VT (just a 5 minute drive from H.N. Williams Store and less than 15 minutes from the Manchester, VT round-about). The evening will include dinner, live music from Joe Bouchard and his band (Joe was a member of Blue Oyster Cult for 16 years), dancing, silent auction, prizes for the best dressed: Western Style, and door prizes! All proceeds to benefit The Dorset Equine Rescue's mission

to rescue, rehabilitate and re-home abused, neglected, and slaughter-bound horses in need.

**The Next Stage Bandwagon Summer Series presents Ukrainian "ethno-chaos" band DakhaBrakha,**

DakhaBrakha is a world music quartet from Kyiv, Ukraine. Reflecting fundamental elements of sound and soul, Ukrainian "ethno-chaos" band DakhaBrakha creates a world of unexpected new music.

The name DakhaBrakha is original, outstanding and authentic at the same time. It means "give/take" in the old Ukrainian language. Accompanied by Indian, Arabic, African, and Ukrainian traditional instrumentation, the quartet's astonishingly powerful and uncompromising vocal range creates a trans-national sound rooted in Ukrainian culture.

6:00 pm at The Putney Inn, 57 Putney Landing Rd, in Putney, VT. Tickets \$20-25

## Friday 14th

**Audubon bird walk on the Hollow Road in Brandon**

Meet at the Brandon Post Office parking lot at 7am. Car pooling encouraged. All are welcome! For more info: [birding@rutlandcountyaudubon.org](mailto:birding@rutlandcountyaudubon.org).

**Summer Reading at Brandon Free Public Library**

Starting at 11 am, come play board games with friends!

## Friday 14th-Saturday 15th

**Friends of the Rutland Free Library Book Sale**  
10 Court Street, Rutland, VT 802-773-1860

Friday from 10 am - 4 pm, and Saturday from 10 am - 2 pm. Public Always Welcome  
Thousands of organized, gently used books, CDs, DVDs and puzzles for all ages. Always a broad selection of rare and antique books. All purchases by donation only. Limit of two grocery bags per family. No book dealers. Proceeds to support library programs and collections and designated projects. [www.rutlandfree.org](http://www.rutlandfree.org)

## Saturday 15th

**Summer Reading at Brandon Free Public Library**

Percy Jackson's Camp Half-Blood! Begins at 11 am, for ages 7-12, registration is required. Call 802-247-8230.

## Monday 17th-Tuesday 18th

**Mexican Cooking 2-day Camp for Grades 7th to 12th in Pittsford**

Join Nicole Bower from 9 am–Noon at the Cluckin' Café in Pittsford. Focus will be on cooking with the Mexican cuisine. Camp takes place at an actual restaurant and bakery.

Location: Cluckin' Café, Pittsford

Minimum enrollment: 6; Maximum enrollment: 12

\$140 (Chaffee members get a 10% discount)

## BRANDON 2023 LIVE AT KENNEDY PARK

**June 24**

Kevin Kareckas singer/songwriter

**July 8**

Will Reed folk alternative

**July 22**

Ellie & Co. Fiddle-infused folk

**August 12**

Tom Van Sant folk rock

**August 26**

Melissa Moorehouse singer/songwriter

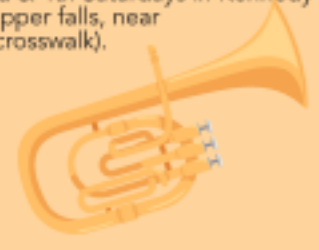
**September 9**

Doug Ross w/ Wade Davis rock covers & originals

**September 23**

Silas McPrior acoustic rock

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



**MUST PRE-REGISTER:** [chaffeeartcenter.square.site](http://chaffeeartcenter.square.site).

## Tuesday 18th

**Summer Reading at Brandon Free Public Library**

Leaf printing at 11 am!

## Wednesday 19th

**Summer Reading at Brandon Free Public Library**

Animal Yoga with Judit starts at 11 am.

## Thursday 20th

**Yoga at the Riverbend**

A 45 minute outdoor yoga practice starts at 6 pm 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. Tickets \$20 to benefit the Brandon Free Public Library renovation project. Visit [brandonpubliclibrary.org/library-events](http://brandonpubliclibrary.org/library-events).

## 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](http://Brandon.org) for more info!**



# Davenport

(Continued from Page 1)  
learn about Thomas Davenport, have some great food, and find out about opportunities to get involved in the push for clean energy in Brandon. The event was sponsored by the town of Brandon in conjunction with the Brandon Energy Committee, the Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Brandon Museum.

The stars of the event this year were Dave Hammond, who returned with his replica motors, and BETA Technologies of Burlington, a manufacturer of electric airplanes that's been getting a great deal of attention over the last few years. Both Hammond and BETA drew great interest with their models and devices, which represented the entire span of the electric motor, from

its inception in the 1830s to the present day.

Mr. Hammond, formerly of the physics department at the University of Vermont, has spent the last several years studying and replicating the motors built by Thomas Davenport, the Brandon blacksmith for whom the event is named. Hammond brought several of these working models on Saturday, including the 1837 version that won Davenport the first U.S. patent for an electric motor, and a much larger, later model that Davenport used to power an electric printing press. He used that press for his own short-lived newspapers dedicated to the pursuit of electric locomotion.

The Brandon Museum set up their new exhibit on Davenport directly across from the table



**POLLY WOOD-HOLLAND, A direct descendant of Thomas Davenport, lays flowers at the inventor's grave at Pine Hill Cemetery.**

Photo by Jennifer Mariano

where Mr. Hammond was enthralled visitors. The exhibit consists of seven large informational panels that tell the story of Davenport's efforts to invent and profit from electric motion. Though he was successful as an inventor, his attempts to monetize his innovations failed. He died essentially penniless in 1851. 172 years later, there's a festival celebrating his accomplishments in the town where he lived and worked.

Setting up shop in front of the high school, BETA Technologies was on hand to talk with the public about their own innovative uses of electric motors: aircraft. Based in Burlington, BETA has gotten a lot of publicity over the

last few years for their work on electric airplanes. Several BETA "team members" were at the festival to explain the company's technology.

"We're excited to be here because of Thomas Davenport," said Willa Clark, who works in public affairs for BETA and is the daughter of Kyle Clark, one of the company's founders. "200 years later, we're here building motor-driven aircraft. My father wanted to show it could be done in Vermont. Vermont is a special place."

BETA brought table-top replicas of the two models that it currently has in development: the CX300 and the ALIA-250. The CX300 is a fixed-wing craft while the ALIA-250 has the

same basic design as the CX300 with the addition of four rotating blades that allow it to take off vertically like a helicopter. The benefit to the vertical lift is an ability to land on rooftops and other tight spots, making the plane ideal for urban spaces and delivery of medical supplies. At the moment, the CX300 has certification only for cargo flights from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The ALIA-250 is still in testing, awaiting its own FAA certification.

Both planes currently have a flying range of about 250 nautical miles (approximately 288 miles on land) on a fully charged set of 5 batteries. BETA realizes that the success of its planes depends on the success of its batteries and chargers. To that end, it's working to install charging stations at airports around the country, chargers which could be used to replenish batteries in cars as well as aircraft.

"Most of the rule book is being written with us," said BETA team member Evan Cahill, acknowledging that BETA is blazing a trail in its field.

When it comes to cost, these craft aren't cheap: they run in the neighborhood of \$4 million each, though a full charge costs roughly \$15, compared to \$750 for a full tank of gas for a Cessna. And, of course, there are the environmental benefits of zero emissions.

BETA team member Jeremy Trilling also brought his "tool bus," a classic yellow school bus (See Aircraft, Page 15)

## Restaurant guide



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**PICTURED FROM LEFT to right: Evan Cahill, Willa Clark, and Nabil Alanbar of BETA Technologies pose with the two models of electric aircraft that the company manufactures.**

Photo by Steven Jupiter

# Aircraft

(Continued from Page 14) tricked out with 3-D printers, laser cutters, and computer design stations, all intended to inspire kids to enter STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics). The bus is even towed to events by a truck that Trilling converted from internal combustion to electric.

At 2 p.m., attendees gathered in the school auditorium for a short film on Thomas Davenport from the 1950s. Dr. Kevin Thornton of Brandon, an historian whose extensive research on Davenport formed the basis for the Museum's exhibit, prefaced the showing with remarks about the faithfulness of Davenport's depiction. Also present was Haley Pero, Outreach Director for Sen. Bernie Sanders. Pero read a statement from Senator Sanders expressing regret at not being able to attend

the event as well as praise for Brandon's commitment to green energy.

At the end of the day, a procession was made from Otter Valley to Davenport's resting place at Pine Hill Cemetery just up Route 7 in Brandon. Polly Wood-Holland, a direct descendant of Davenport (through his son Willard), laid a floral arrangement on the grave.

Emily Eckert of Green Mountain Power, one of the organizers of the event, laid flowers on the grave by herself last year.

"He has no idea how impactful he was," said Eckert, referring to Davenport. Indeed, he died suddenly in 1851, never having received the recognition his achievements deserved. But here in Brandon, in 2023, Thomas Davenport is finally getting the respect he is owed.

*"We're excited to be here because of Thomas Davenport... 200 years later, we're here building motor-driven aircraft. My father wanted to show it could be done in Vermont. Vermont is a special place."*

— Willa Clark



ONE OF THE early generations of battery packs (top photo) used by BETA. Above: The Brandon Museum's new Davenport exhibit.

# Twice in a blue moon: Blue Moon Boutique to reopen in Brandon

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—After her daughter Allie closed Blue Moon Boutique in downtown Brandon, Ellen Walter realized that she wasn't yet ready to give up the successful business she began decades ago in Bristol and passed along to Allie just a few years ago.

"I'm too young to retire," laughed Walter while examining newly arrived merchandise for the soon-to-reopen boutique. A number of gauzy blouses were already on the racks, pieces Ellen sought out after a recent trip to Europe. She was inspired by the simplicity of women's clothing in southern France and wanted to bring that easy style back home.

"Allie did a great job with the store," Walter said. "Things were going really well. She

*"Allie did a great job with the store... Things were going really well. She was ready to move on to other things, but I've had a second wind and want to keep it going."*

— Ellen Walter

was ready to move on to other things, but I've had a second wind and want to keep it going."

Walter plans to reopen the boutique in August, though an exact date hasn't yet been set. Nor is Walter certain what the hours will be—much depends on her ability to find employees who can work on the days when Walter cannot.

"I'm reopening under the same name," she said. After so many years in business as Blue Moon, with a large follow-

ing in the area, it made sense to her to keep a name that had become so well known. Walter plans to refresh the interior of her historic building on Center Street but will keep the Blue Moon sign that currently hangs on the exterior.

"With the new ownership at Gourmet Provence, it's an exciting time to be on Center Street," Walter added, referring to Matt and Carrie Lewis, who recently took ownership of the beloved bakery only a few doors away from Blue Moon.

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# Mim's Photos

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

E-mail [ads@brandonreporter.com](mailto:ads@brandonreporter.com) if you can identify someone in these photos.  
Or call us at 247-8080



## Recognized



Tom and Carolyn Whittaker emailed in recognizing the wrestler printed in the July 5, 2023 issue of *The Reporter*. The wrestler is **Dale Moretenson**. He was a member of the 1986 Otter Valley State Championship Team. First and last time a State Champion was a Div 2. Ray Miro was the coach who started the wrestling program from scratch and Vt. Coach of the Year.



Also in the July 5 issue, **Ken Welton** was recognized in this band photo. Ken is Mim's son. This photo is from the 70's.



Kurt Kimball called in to recognize some photos: In the June 28, 2023 issue of *The Reporter*, the man holding the fish is **Rusty Moulton**, who was from the Brandon/Leicester area. Kurt believes the photo is from the late '70s/early '80s.



# Crossword

## CLUES ACROSS

1. Database management system
5. Medical procedures
11. \_\_\_ Clapton, musician
12. Defender
16. Exert oneself
17. Indicates position
18. Prevents river overflow
19. Atrocities
24. Mister
25. Ends
26. Slope or tilt
27. Taxi
28. The very ends
29. Actor Sean
30. Japanese persimmon
31. Sours
33. Beneficiary
34. Baseball official
38. Muddy, boggy ground
39. Not worldly
40. Actress Lathan
43. Soil
44. \_\_\_-Cola
45. Asleep
49. \_\_\_ Angeles
50. Give birth to a child
51. Beach shelter
53. Commercial
54. Taste property
56. Local jurisdictions
58. It cools your home
59. Dismounted from a horse
60. Charge with a crime
63. Close in
64. Spoke
65. Famed garden

4. A way to ski
5. Abba \_\_\_, Israeli politician
6. Saw
7. "Westworld" actor Harris
8. Belonging to me
9. Shoelace tube
10. Takes to court
13. Early multimedia
14. In a way, produces
15. Bowlers
20. Of I
21. Equally
22. Gets some sun
23. A place to stay
27. Town in Galilee
29. Aronofsky film
30. Klingon character, "Star Trek"
31. Equal to 100 square meters
32. Atomic #58
33. Arrived extinct
34. Loosen grip
35. A distinctive odor that is unpleasant
36. Membranes
37. Some is poisonous
38. Partner to Pa
40. Small brown gray rail
41. A salt or ester of acetic acid
42. Sodium
44. Military official (abbr.)
45. Lighted
46. Took off
47. All
48. Ohio city
50. More abject
51. A radio band
52. Controversial tech product (abbr.)
54. Monetary unit
55. Passed with flying colors
57. A way to win a boxing match
61. The Golden State
62. Home of the Longhorns

## CLUES DOWN

1. Draw a scene
2. Its sultan is famous
3. Unlucky accident

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10			
11					12					13	14	15	
16					17			18					
19				20	21			22	23			24	
25						26				27			
28						29				30			
				31	32					33			
34	35	36	37					38					
39						40	41	42					
43					44					45	46	47	48
49				50					51	52			
53			54					55					
56		57					58				59		
60						61	62				63		
				64							65		

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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.

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

Level: Intermediate

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

## Transportation to Cat Spay and Neuter Clinic on July 26th - Rutland County Humane Society Working with VT-CAN

Vermont Companion Animal Neutering (VT-CAN), a low cost spay/neuter clinic located in Middlesex, VT, is a long drive from Rutland County. To help out, RCHS and VT-CAN are working together to make it easier for cat owners. By dropping your cat at the RCHS shelter at 6 am, volunteers will transport your cat to VT-CAN where he or she will be spayed or neutered and given vaccines, and returned to RCHS for pick up between approximately 4:30 pm-5 pm. On July 26th, cats 6 months old or older can be spayed or neutered at a discounted rate. First option is surgery, rabies, distemper, and a dose of Revolution for fleas and earmites applied at the clinic for \$75. Another option is surgery, rabies, distemper, 3 doses of pyrantel dewormer sent home and a dose of Revolution for fleas and earmites applied at the clinic for \$85. If you would like your cat to be microchipped that is an additional \$25. Prior registration is required. Cash only and exact change (no change available) required at time of cat drop off at RCHS. To schedule an appointment, please email VT-CAN at [vtcaninfo@gmail.com](mailto:vtcaninfo@gmail.com). If you do not have email, please call 802-223-0034 and leave a message. For more information visit [www.vt-can.org](http://www.vt-can.org).

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



#### MOWGLI - 2-YEAR-OLD, NEUTERED MALE, MIXED BREED, BLACK/GREY.

This silly pup is looking for his next adventure! He has a bubbly personality and is always up to make new friends. He will need an active family who likes to hike and spend time outside. He is a sweet boy who is excited to meet his new family. If you are interested in meeting him, please stop by Tuesday-Saturday 11 am-4 pm.

#### GHOST - 1-YEAR-OLD, NEUTERED MALE, DOMESTIC SHORT HAIR, WHITE.

You can't help but fall in love with Ghost. He is charming, sweet, and loves to be held. Although he is deaf, he doesn't let that slow him down. He will give you head butts and butterfly kisses instantly. Ghost is a sweet boy who just wants your attention and affection. Ghost is a very busy boy who is playful, silly, and always on the move! He loves playing with cats, but he will need a friend who is also playful. If you are interested in meeting him, please stop by our shelter Tuesday-Saturday 11 am-4 pm.



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# OFF THE SHELF

## NEW BOOKS AND NEWS



The following Large Print books were donated by Brenda Whittaker:

**My Magnolia Summer** by Victoria Benton Frank, donated in memory of "Tish" Holmes Washburn Morris.

In New York City, winter never seems to loosen its hold and for South Carolina transplant Maggie, the balmy beach weather of April back home on Sullivan's Island feels like a distant memory. Until a phone call from her sister, Violet, changes everything. Gran has fallen into a coma after a car accident caused by Maggie's troubled mother, Lily. But once Maggie returns, she finds that her hometown holds even more secrets. The Magic Lantern, the restaurant owned and run by generations of women in her family, is now rudderless. Her sister's life seems to be falling apart. Once Maggie is between the marsh grasses and dunes of South Carolina, she feels herself changing, rediscovering the roots she left behind, and finding a new and different version of herself, one who can see how a minor crash into the back of a very handsome farmer's truck may become fortunate. Or perhaps it's even... fate?

**The Last Sinner** by Lisa Jackson, donated in memory of Ann Livak.

There are killers so savage, so twisted, that they leave a mark not just on their victims, but on everyone who crosses their path. For Detectives Bentz and Montoya, Father John, a fake priest who strangles his victims, is one such monster. Bentz thought he'd ended that horror years ago when he killed Father John deep in the swamp. But now there are chilling signs he may have been wrong. A new victim has surfaced, her ruined body staged in deliberate, unmistakable detail. Either it's a terrifying copycat, or Father John, the detective's own recurring nightmare, has come back to haunt New Orleans. Another death, and another. Bentz is growing convinced that Father John isn't just back. He's circling closer, targeting those Bentz loves most.

**New for kids: The Hidden World of Gnomes** by Lauren Soloy (picture book).

An introduction to the hidden folk called gnomes, who live in a happy place they call The Pocket. Gnomes are curious little creatures, and they're very shy. But after reading this book, you will learn to spot the telltale

signs that gnomes are around ... and maybe even meet one! Lauren Soloy has been studying gnomes her whole life, and she has created this book to share her knowledge with you. For example, what jobs do gnomes do? Babysitting robin's eggs, squirrel-tail fluffing, storytelling. Where do they live? In gardens, forests, and any place with plants, birds, and bugs.

**A Rover's Story** by Jasmine Warga (junior fiction). Resilience is a Mars rover determined to live up to his name. Res was built to explore Mars. He was not built to have human emotions. But as he learns new things from the NASA scientists who assemble him, he begins to develop humanlike feelings. Maybe there's a problem with his programming. Human emotions or not, launch day comes, and Res blasts off to Mars, accompanied by a friendly drone helicopter named Fly. But Res quickly discovers that Mars is a dangerous place filled with dust storms and giant cliffs. As he navigates Mars's difficult landscape, Res is tested in ways that go beyond space exploration. As millions of people back on Earth follow his progress, will Res have the determination, courage, and resilience to succeed... and survive?

# Brandon police respond to theft, hostile individual & public safety

## Brandon Police Report

Because of a scheduling conflict, we were unable to provide the Police Log in last week's issue. The following is the log that would have appeared. We will have this week's and next week's log in next week's issue.

### June 26

Resident from Church Street called to report a larceny from an unlocked car from which a bag of work tools was taken. It was also reported that other vehicles had been entered into on the property. Incident is under investigation.

Brandon Police Department (BPD) received a complaint of a larceny from an unlocked vehicle on Maple Street. A wallet was stolen from the center console. Incident under investigation.

BPD received a complaint of a larceny from an unlocked car on Champlain Street. A wallet was stolen from the car.

BPD responded to a verbal domestic disturbance at a residence on River Street. A juvenile was removed from the home and an application for the child for a CHINS petition was submitted to the Rutland County Court. The order was subsequently granted by the court and the child was turned over to the care and custody of the Vermont Department of Children and Families.

Subaru Star Link activation for assistance was received from a motorist in the area of McConnell Road. At the time, the shift officer was tied up due to high call volume and could not respond. Follow-up was later conducted and the officer was advised that the motorist was all set and no longer needed help.

A resident of Carver Street reported that someone rifled through the contents of her unlocked car the previous night. The complainant had video footage that showed someone wearing a grey hoodie, grey sweatpants, and carrying a backpack. The suspect is believed to have been involved in a rash of car-breaks the previous night. Anyone with any information about the larcenies is asked to contact the Brandon Police Department at (802) 247-0222.

A vehicle was reported stolen from Franklin Street. The vehicle was located that evening in Steuben County, Indiana. The driver was identified as James F. O'Neil III (23), of Brandon, VT. O'Neil was taken into custody by Indiana State Police and charged with theft of a motor vehicle and unauthorized entry of a motor

vehicle. O'Neil was lodged at the Steuben County Jail with bail set at \$3,000. Additional charges from the State of Vermont are to follow and an arrest warrant will be sought for the charges he will face in Vermont.

An officer spoke with a complainant reporting that her husband's truck had been hit in the parking lot of Phoenix Feed on Union Street some time over the previous week while he was at work. Incident documented for insurance purposes.

An unlocked vehicle was rummaged through on Barlow Avenue. No valuables noted missing.

Money stolen from an unlocked vehicle on Barlow Avenue. Incident under investigation.

A male attempted to enter two vehicles on Barlow Avenue. Incident under investigation.

Officers conducted directed patrol on West Seminary Street. No violations observed.

BPD responded to report of a single-vehicle car crash with minor injuries on Hacks Sawmill Road near the intersection of High Pond Road. The cause of the crash was later determined to be due to a driver swerving to avoid a deer.

Noise disturbance involving possible gunshots/explosions reported in the vicinity of Deer Run Road and Fox Road. Noise abated before arrival of officers.

An unlocked vehicle was rummaged through on Barlow Avenue. Nothing stolen.

### June 27

An officer on directed patrol in an area affected by recent car burglaries noticed a vehicle with its interior light on but no one inside. Upon inspection, it appeared that the central console had been opened. The officer attempted to contact the homeowner but no one answered the door.

Officers attempted to locate a missing person for the Fair Haven Police Department. The person of interest was not located.

Traffic stop on Franklin Street for speeding. Driver was issued a VCVC.

Traffic stop on High Street for speeding. Driver issued verbal warning.

(See Police Report, Page 19)

## THE GREAT LIBRARY RENOVATION

# Get tickets for summer events!



## 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



Scan code for tickets or go to [brandonpubliclibrary.org/library-events/](https://brandonpubliclibrary.org/library-events/)

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



Thank you to NGC Property Maintenance for use of your truck and trailer for the Brandon 4th of July parade.

## SUMMER Garden Tour

Sunday, August 6th, 10-4

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# Police Report

(Continued from Page 18)

## June 28

Officers conducted directed patrol in the area of Church Street, Carver Street, and Rossiter Street.

Brandon Community Health called BPD to request a welfare check on a patient who resided on West Seminary Street, whom they hadn't heard from since the previous week and were unable to reach. The responding officer found the patient safe and sound at home.

Officers responded to Conway Terrace for a report of suspicious activity. A homeowner believed someone had been in her home. The suspicion was later determined to be unfounded.

Officers conducted directed traffic enforcement on Carver Street. No violations noted.

Officers responded to Walgreens on Union Street for a report of a 911 hang-up call. It was later determined that the call was accidental.

Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for speeding. Driver issued ticket for speeding and a warning for display of license plates.

Property watch at Mallory's Automotive on Forestdale Road.

## June 29

BPD received a call concerning a late-reported minor motor-vehicle crash that occurred next to Blue Moon Clothing on Center Street. Incident documented for insurance purposes.

Officers responded to Franklin Street for a report of a female walking in the roadway causing a traffic hazard. Upon the

officer's arrival, the female was dealing with mental-health issues and refused medical treatment. Officers gave the woman a courtesy ride to her residence.

Officers conducted speed enforcement on Carver Street. Two vehicles were stopped. Both operators were issued tickets.

Traffic stop for a stop-sign violation on Champlain Street/Conant Sq. Verbal warning issued.

Officers responded to a residence on Forestdale Road for a report of a trash can that had been thrown at a glass door, shattering it.

## June 30

Foot patrol in the downtown area.

Vehicle stop for a moving violation of Franklin Street. Warning issued.

Vehicle stopped for speeding on Champlain Street. Warning issued.

Directed patrol on Carver Street.

BPD assisted Middlebury Police Department with an active shooter incident on Seymour Street in Middlebury.

Officers conducted speed enforcement on Carver Street. One vehicle was stopped and issued multiple VCVCs.

Traffic stop on Franklin Street for a headlight violation. Warning issued.

Traffic stop on Grove Street for a defective headlight. Warning issued.

Directed patrol on Franklin and Park Streets. No violations observed.

Officers responded to a do-

mestic disturbance on Carver Street. No evidence of crime observed.

## July 1

Brandon officers, while dealing with an active domestic disturbance at a residence on Carver Street in Brandon, were flagged down by a passing motorist who wanted to report that she had been assaulted by her husband in Proctor earlier and wanted to file a report. The case was forwarded to the Vermont State Police for further investigation.

An officer with BPD, as well as officers with the Middlebury Police Department, assisted the Vermont State Police on Franklin Street near Otter Valley Union High School to place a hostile individual under arrest for suspicion of DUI.

A vehicle was vandalized on North Street.

Foot patrol downtown during Independence Day Parade activities.

Police assisted Brandon Rescue with a male struggling with mental-health issues. The man was transported to the hospital without incident.

Vehicle stop for stop-sign violation on Park Street. Ticket issued.

Foot patrol after parade.

Officers responded to a report of a family fight in progress on Arnold District Road. David Carr (35) was taken into custody

at the scene. Carr was charged with two counts of domestic assault-offense committed in the presence of a child, one count of unlawful restraint-1st degree, and one count of interference with access to emergency services. Carr was lodged at Marble Valley Correctional Facility on \$1,000 bail and his court date was scheduled for 7/03/2023 at 12:30 pm at the Rutland County Superior Court-Criminal Division.

Report of two juveniles that "flashed a gun" on FaceTime earlier in the day and were allegedly walking around the July 4th festivities in downtown Brandon trying to start fights with people in the crowd. Officers checked the area but did not notice any issues.

BPD received a call about blood being found in a residence on Grove Street. Officers later received a call from the complainant stating that the blood had come from someone currently at the hospital.

BPD received a complaint about a stolen umbrella at Foley Taco & Bean. Individuals were not located.

Cellphone found on Lovers Lane during July 4th Parade turned in at BPD.

## July 2

An officer with BPD discovered a vehicle on Park Street that was parked illegally. The vehi-

cle was towed.

BPD assisted in the custody exchange of a juvenile between two parents. There was an assault accusation made between two of the juvenile's grandparents who were on scene, and a criminal investigation was initiated.

Speed enforcement on Carver Street.

BPD received a call about a suspicious vehicle in the area of Deer Run Road. Responding officers were unable to locate the vehicle and its operator.

Traffic stop on Grove Street for speeding. Operator was issued a verbal warning.

A man experiencing mental-health issues contacted BPD looking for assistance. He was directed to the appropriate resources.

BPD responded to a residence on Carver Street with the Brandon Area Rescue Squad to assist with a man experiencing mental-health issues. The male was subsequently transported from the residence to the hospital with no issue.

BPD responded to Union Street for a report of trucks doing "burn outs" in the roadway. The trucks had gone by the time officers arrived on scene.

Officers responded to a verbal dispute at a residence on West Seminary Street. Both parties had separated prior to the arrival of the officers.

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## WEEKLY HOROSCOPE

**LEO:** July 23-Aug. 23  
 Leo, a refreshing sense of energy comes your way, and you start to jump head-first into all of those projects that have been pushed aside. You'll sail through tasks in no time flat.

**VIRGO:** Aug. 24-Sept. 22  
 An interesting travel opportunity comes your way, Virgo. However, at first glance it might not seem like the type of trip you would normally take. Keep an open mind and be surprised.

**LIBRA:** Sept. 23-Oct. 23  
 Treat yourself to something special in the days to come, Libra. Perhaps it is a costly fragrance you've been spying on or a new piece of furniture. You earned the indulgence.

**SCORPIO:** Oct. 24-Nov. 22  
 It's time to take your foot off the gas and slow down to a crawl, Scorpio. A well-deserved break should be on your itinerary; otherwise, you may burn through all of your fuel prematurely.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Nov. 23-Dec. 21  
 Sagittarius, teamwork is the answer right now, especially when your to-do list seems to be growing exponentially. Recruit some close confidantes to help you along the way.

**CAPRICORN:** Dec. 22-Jan. 20  
 Make your career a priority this week, Capricorn. You may be feeling unsettled where you are now. There is no saying where things will go, so exercise caution when making decisions.

**AQUARIUS:** Jan. 21-Feb. 18  
 Aquarius, wanderlust is on your brain. You've been fantasizing about all of the grand adventures you can take. Figure out a way to fund a getaway and get started.

**PISCES:** Feb. 19-March 20  
 Pisces, something profound may have happened to you and you may need to sift through all of your feelings over the next few days. Take all the time you need to process.

II II II II II II II II II

### FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

JULY 13 – Harrison Ford, actor (81)  
 JULY 14 – Jane Lynch, actor (53)  
 JULY 15 – Forest Whitaker, actor (62)  
 JULY 16 – Ginger Rogers, actor, dancer (d)  
 JULY 17 – Wong Kar-wai, film director (65)  
 JULY 18 – Nelson Mandela, activist, politician (d)  
 JULY 19 – Benedict Cumberbatch, actor (47)

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## 'Little Phantoms Summer Camp' enjoys first season in Proctor



The Proctor skating rink is being put to a new use this summer as the site of a summer camp for kids.

"This camp is hands on, messy, fun, and allows kids to be kids," said Megan Cannucci, who runs the rink with her husband, Brian.

The kids play old-school games like Red Rover and dodge ball, explore nature in the woods, play on a slip-n-slide—all the stuff that summer memories are made of.

The camp runs until August 18.



Courtesy photos



# Underdogs Visit Busy Victory Lane at Devil's Bowl Speedway

## Warren, Piper among 13 winners at Mid-Season Championships

WEST HAVEN, Vt. — Brent Warren and Adam Piper led the charge of the underdogs at Devil's Bowl Speedway on Saturday, July 8, splitting a pair of wins in a jam-packed Mid-Season Championship event. The duo was just two of a brim-busting 13 drivers to win during the double-feature format. Of those 13 winners, 11 were in victory lane for the first time in 2023, and seven earned their career-first win within their division at Devil's Bowl.

Salisbury, Vt.'s Warren — a former champion in the intermediate Limited Sportsman class — put together a great drive in the first 25-lap race for the headline Sunoco Sportsman Modified division Piper led the first 10 laps before Josh Masterson took over, and then Warren capitalized on a restart with four laps to go to engage in an entertaining battle with Masterson. The pair raced inches apart in the final four laps, with Warren squeaking out the win by a half-car length, just 0.064-seconds at the finish line.

The victory was Warren's first since his rookie season in 2019. Masterson finished second for his best showing of the year, with Jimmy Ryan third, Brian Whitemore fourth, and former champion Tim LaDuc driving from 21st starting position to finish fifth and earn the \$100 Elmo's Pit Stop Hard Charger Award.

Leicester, Vt., driver Piper was able to complete the drive for his first career Sportsman Modified win in the nightcap. James Hanson held serve for the opening 21 laps, but Piper stalked him most of the way and began to make a bid for the lead

with five laps remaining. Piper nosed ahead to lead lap 22 by about a foot, just before the caution flag waved.

Piper chose the faster outside lane for the restart and was able to drive away for his first victory. Masterson came alive at the restart and passed Hanson to capture his second runner-up finish of the night. Hanson held on for third place ahead of Tanner Siemons and David Boisclair. LaDuc again got the Elmo's Pit Stop Hard Charger bonus, coming from 25th to finish 10th.

The Sprint Cars of New England (SCoNE) tour made its third visit of the season with a single 25-lap feature, and Caleb Lamson stepped into the winner's circle for the first time at Devil's Bowl. Moretown, Vt.'s Lamson ran in second place for much of the event before tracking leader Doug McPhail down in heavy lapped traffic on lap 21. Just after the lead changed hands, McPhail tangled with a lapped car and spun off the track to bring out the yellow flag.

At the restart, Lamson was forced to contend with two of SCoNE's hottest drivers, Chris Donnelly and Matt Tanner, and he was up for the challenge. Lamson beat Tanner by about a car length for his first win on the half-mile. Tanner's streak of five consecutive Devil's Bowl wins came to an end with a runner-up finish, and point leader Donnelly completed the podium. Floyd Billington and Jake Williams rounded out the top five.

The O'Reilly Auto Parts Limited Sportsman division ran twin 20-lap features, and again two drivers scored their first wins of the year. Rookie Camden Duffy, who turned 15 years old in June, led every lap of the caution-free race. The win was Duffy's first in the Limited Sportsman class and his 13th win overall across three divisions at Devil's Bowl since his career started in 2020 at age 12.

On the other hand of the experience spectrum, veteran driver Freddie Little — a four-

time champion of the former Pro Stock division who was dominant in the 1990s and early 2000s — scored his best finish in a Modified car with a runner-up showing. Gary English finished third ahead of Justin Lilly and William Lussier Jr.

Lilly earned his first win of the year in the second feature. The Castleton, Vt., runner battled with Katrina Bean most of the way; Bean led the first eight laps before Lilly took over, and then he had to fend off her charges in the final circuits for the win. Lilly's win was the second of his career. Bean finished second, followed by Alex Layn, Randy Ryan, and Hunter Nutter.

The Hoosier Daddy Racing Novice Sportsman class crowned two first-time Modified winners in its 15-lap feature races. Mini Stock graduate Allen Hewitt of Rutland, Vt., started out front in the first race and stayed there every lap, fending off the field over a pair of quick restarts just before the halfway mark. Hewitt beat Eric Shaw, Donald Williams, Robert Gauthier, and Nick Austin-Neil for his inaugural win.

In the second feature, it was Ripton, Vt.'s Williams scoring his first open-wheel win, but not before a wild finish. Matt Wade led the first 7 laps before Russ Farr got out front, and then Farr and Williams engaged in an exciting battle. Williams nosed ahead at lap 10, only for Farr to regroup the next time by. Entering the final corner, the two made incidental contact and Farr slipped off the racing surface, allowing Williams to scoot by for the win.

The victory was the first in the division for Williams and his first at Devil's Bowl since 2004 in the former Hobby Stock division. Tyler Travis came from 10th starting position to grab the runner-up finish ahead of Wade, Tanner Coon, and Patrick Miner.

The Friend Construction 500cc Mini Sprints pulled off two good 12-lap features, and

(See Devil's Bowl, Page 23)



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# Devil's Bowl

(Continued from Page 21)  
it was "Team Grumpy Old Men" scoring again as 67-year-old Roger LaDuc of Castleton, Vt., notched his first win of the season. On his back bumper at the finish were teenagers Raelin Dunham, Gage Provencher, and Logan Denis, and fellow Grumpy Old Man, John Smith.

The second Mini Sprint race saw Eagle Bridge, N.Y.'s Chris Lennox score the first win of his career in impressive fashion, coming from 12th on the 13-car field, as he beat Denis, Provencher, rookie John Carleton, and Chayton Young for the checkered flag.

A massive field of 33 Mini Stocks took to the track for two 15-lap features, but the first race got off to a bad start. A big pileup at the green flag left several cars damaged and lengthy red flag for cleanup. Upon resuming, the race distance was trimmed to eight laps, and that was just fine for Benson, Vt.'s Griff Mahoney, who drove to his first win of the

year. Damian Olden ran a season-best second ahead of rookie Ryan Patch, T.J. Knight, and Jakobee Alger.

In the full-distance Mini Stock finale, Cornwall, Vt.'s Brian Blake posted his third win of the season after starting 19th on the grid. Chase Allen took his best finish of the year as the runner-up, followed by Mark Mahoney, Craig Kirby, and Clemmy Bell.

The 9th State Cannabis Crown Vic division saw increased participation as its numbers grow during its first year, and very competitive action with several lead changes in both races. A familiar face made it to the winner's circle in the first 15-lapper as Bomoseen, Vt.'s Rob Steele grabbed his third win of the summer in the makeup feature that was rained out on Fair Haven/Poultney Auto Supply Night in June. He beat the son-father tandem of Zach Wood and Brett Wood, followed by Norman Morrill and Chad Merrill.

The roles were reversed in

the second run as Georgia, Vt.'s Zach Wood beat Steele with a last-lap pass for his first win in the new division. Steele was the runner-up over Brett Wood, Morrill, and Jackson Ducharme.

Mike's Fuels of Bridport, Vt., presents the racing action on Saturday, July 15 at 7:00 p.m., as the Mohawk Valley Vintage Dirt Modified Series makes its lone appearance of the season for the annual "Legends Night" program. All weekly divisions will be in action except for the Crown Vics. Special grandstand general admission is just \$5 for adults and free for children aged 12 and under.

Devil's Bowl Speedway is located on Route 22A in West Haven, Vt., four miles north of U.S. Route 4, Exit 2, and just 20 minutes from Rutland, Vt. For more information, visit [www.DevilsBowlSpeedwayVT.com](http://www.DevilsBowlSpeedwayVT.com) or call (802) 265-3112. Devil's Bowl Speedway is on Facebook at [facebook.com/DevilsBowlSpeedway](https://facebook.com/DevilsBowlSpeedway), and on Instagram, Twitter, and Snapchat at @DevilsBowlSpeed; follow the action using the #DevilsBowl hashtag.



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Bidders are invited to meet with the Town Manager to review locations and work.

Bids shall be submitted on the Bid Forms provided with the Information for Bidders in a sealed envelope marked on the outside with the words "FY 24 Paving Bids".

Information for bidders and bid form can be accessed on the Town of Proctor website.

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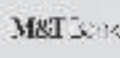
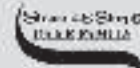
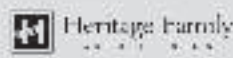
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