

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

A community supported newspaper

Vol. 28, No. 43

Wednesday, October 25, 2023

\$1



NAMES LOST IN VERMONT

Genealogist Michael Dwyer explores the Shangraw family of Pittsford.

PG. 2

Draft of Goshen	
Anderson, David	20
Bridgman, Orlando	70
Burrows, John	14
Burnett, Arthur	40
Burnett, Charles	45
Burnett, John	48
Burnett, William	18
Clark, George	25
Copeland, Thomas	17
Croft, Wm.	61
Croft, William	26
Croft, John	58
Croft, John	20
Croft, William	15
Croft, William	30
Lockwood, Robert	20
Shangraw, Samuel	14
Shangraw, Thomas	40
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Shangraw, John	48
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Shangraw, William	17
Shangraw, William	61
Shangraw, William	26
Shangraw, William	58
Shangraw, William	20
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Shangraw, William	30

Goshen Historical Society hopes to make a big splash for its little town.

PG. 3



SPORTS UPDATE

OV Senior Game against Mill River.

PG. 14

Lyn Desmarais visits with the folks who keep Brandon beautiful.

PG. 20



AN ARTIST AMONG US

Pittsford Historical Society presentation on local artist Hilda Belcher.

PG. 24



Pittsford Haunted House rises from the dead

BY STEVEN JUPITER

PITTSFORD—After a three-year COVID hiatus, the Pittsford Haunted House opened its fetid doors again on Friday night and wowed the crowd that had come looking for fun and fright.

Barely past 6 pm, the parking lot on Plains Road was already filling up and a long line had formed to buy tickets and hitch a ride through the woods to the



house itself. By the time we made it onto one of the wagons, it was twilight and the woods were teeming with skulls, graves, and other Halloween staples that had been artfully placed along the torch-lit route.

When we got to the house, a 100-year-old abandoned hospital for kids at risk of tuberculosis, a world of ghoulish delights awaited: The Bones Brothers band “performed”

Halloween classics like “Monster Mash,” the “Hocus Pocus” witches welcomed visitors with a pool of blazing water, and the sound of chainsaw-wielding maniacs could be heard in the distance. The line was long—it was opening night—but the entertainment made the time fly, and there were vendors selling burgers, hot dogs, and fried dough. It was enough to keep
(See Haunted House, Page 21)

Brandon SB discusses police assists, EV chargers, and solar

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—The Brandon Selectboard convened for its regular meeting on Monday evening. All Board members were present, as were Town Manager Seth Hopkins and Deputy Town Manager Bill Moore.

After approval of the agenda and previous meeting’s minutes, Mr. Hopkins gave his Town Manager’s report, the full text of which is available on the town’s website in the Selectboard packet for 10/23/23. Highlights from the report include:

The town has received settlement of the wind damage to the roof of the Town Hall. The damage was sustained during the tornado in July. Quotes have been solicited for the repair work.

Tree Warden Neil Silins has worked with Mr. Hopkins and Board members Tracy Wyman and Brian Coolidge on a Tree Shade Preservation Plan that will be presented to the Board at a later date.

Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Wyman, Mr. Coolidge, and Board member Tim Guiles met on 10/18 with Police Union Rep Chris Hoar and Brandon PD Officer Aidan Alnwick to begin negotiations on the new police contract. The next planned session will be on 11/21.

Mr. Moore then presented his Recreation Department report, the
(See Brandon SB, Page 23)



New flagpoles grace the Brandon American Legion

EIGHT BEAUTIFUL NEW flagpoles stand proudly in front of Brandon American Legion Post #55 on Route 7. The poles and flags were donated by Ed Black, Donald Houle, and Neil Silins. They were erected by Tyler Gugliotta’s Construction Tech class from Stafford Technical Center in Rutland. Students who helped received certificates of thanks: Isabella Coombs, Chris Dillon, Austin Euber, Jaylee MacJarrrett, Connor Pelland, and Taylor Ramage. Other assistance came from the Sons of the American Legion, Robert Gearwar, John Welch, Mike Frankiewicz, Aaron Tucker, and June Kelly. Town Manager Seth Hopkins and Deputy Town Manager Bill Moore also attended the dedication on Monday, October 23.

Honorée Fleming celebrated at moving Castleton ceremony

BY STEVEN JUPITER

CASTLETON—When a life ends as abruptly as Honorée Fleming’s, family and friends are left with a gaping, aggressive void where the deceased used to be. It was apparent at her Celebration of Life at Castleton University on Sunday, October 22 that Ms. Fleming had left a massive, excruciating vacuum in the lives of her family and friends,

one which will never be refilled and which they will only gradually learn to live with.

The celebration was held in the auditorium of the Fine Arts building on the school’s campus, and the venue was full: family, friends, colleagues, students, and even total strangers just moved by the circumstances of Ms. Fleming’s passing.

On the stage, sat two small

wooden coffers with Ms. Fleming’s ashes, surrounded by flowers beneath a projected slideshow of images of Ms. Fleming looking quite content in the life she’d built for herself and her family.

Her husband, writer Ron Powers, and her surviving son, Dean, spoke with evident pain and love at this violent loss, the second
(See Honorée Fleming, Page 6)

Names lost in Vermont, Part 10: Shangraw of Pittsford and West Rutland

BY MICHAEL F. DWYER

Gingras to Shangraw—a fairly straightforward attempt at the phonetic pronunciation of a French name, but nonetheless it holds fascinating stories of one extended family’s immigration, identity, and assimilation. At 16, Austin Shangraw [Augustin Gingras] (1826–1912) along with several dozen other French-Canadians, moved to Pittsford, Vermont, filling a population void as Vermont natives left the state in the 1830s and 40s. Town records report that Thomas F. Bogue, Justice of the Peace, officiated the marriage of Austin Zangro and Matilda Billings on November 17, 1846. We know much more about Austin than about the typical immigrant because his family record was included in Abiel Caverly’s History of the Town of Pittsford, published in 1872. Few town histories of this era would have included immigrants. The Pittsford Historical Society has preserved the original questionnaire that Caverly used to gather information for the biographical sketches in the book. [See illustration #1 for Austin].

Two of Austin’s handwritten responses to questions need fuller explanations. Austin claimed

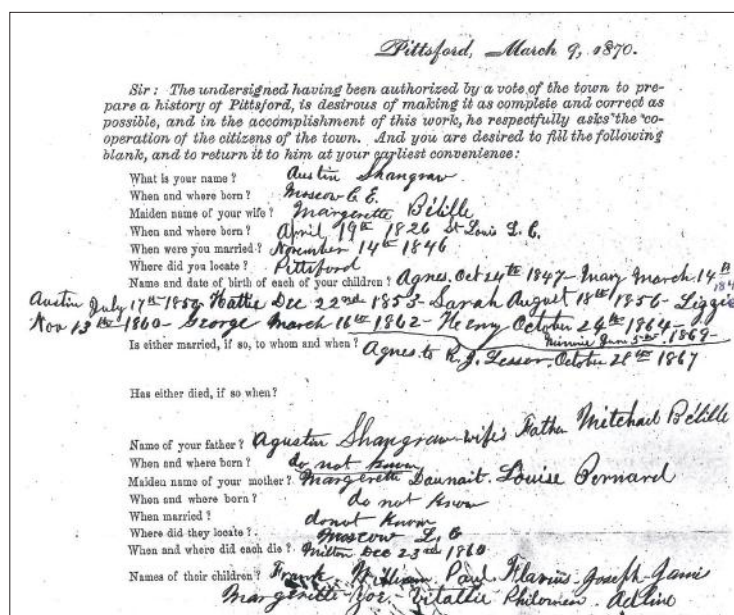


THE WEST FACE of the Shangraw family monument in Pittsford’s Evergreen Cemetery.

Photo by Michael Dwyer.

“Moscow, C[anada] E[ast]” as his birthplace. Here, Moscow is a phonetic rendition of “Maska,” the original indigenous name for what became the town of St. Hyacinthe, Québec. Austin recorded his wife’s name as Marguerite Bélille, not Matilda Billings. Her various name transformations will be the subject of the next installment of Lost Names. Austin and Marguerite had nine children born in Pittsford between 1847 and 1869. Their first four children, Agnes, Mary, Austen, and Hattie were all baptized on 30 July 1853 by a traveling priest from St. Joseph’s Church in Burlington. This action suggests Austin’s non-Catholic marriage had been “rehabilitated,” which then followed with the baptism of the children. Their remaining children did not receive Catholic baptism—in fact, Austin joined the Pittsford Congregational Church in 1857, making him the first French-Canadian to join that church.

For 31 years, Austin leased a 170-acre farm from Ransom Burditt on the west side of the Otter Creek. In 1895, he purchased the property, an upward



ORIGINAL QUESTIONNAIRE FROM Abiel Caverly in 1870 for his history of Pittsford.

step in social mobility. Curiously, all Austin and Marguerite’s children left Pittsford upon reaching adulthood, two of their sons eventually settling in California. Their children’s return visits often made local news snippets in The Rutland Daily Herald. A substantial monument,

“Shangraw/Grimes,” marks the parents’ resting place in Pittsford’s Evergreen Cemetery. Although daughter Lizzie Grimes died in Atlanta, on 1 Dec. 1926, her body was returned to her parents’ lot for burial. [Illustration 2, Shangraw/Grimes stone].

(See Names lost, Page 7)

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2023 EVENTS AT THE BRANDON TOWN HALL

Saturday, November 4: 7:00pm 9th Annual “Brandon Has Talent Show”

Our 9th Annual Talent Show continues to showcase the multi-talented community members from Brandon and the surrounding areas. Tickets...Adults, \$8.00, Seniors & Students...\$5.00, Children 5 & under, FREE.

Sponsored by Hayes Pallets, Ronald, Carolyn & Ricky Hayes.

Friday, November 10: 7:30pm Dissipated 8...Middlebury College’s Male a Capella Group

This Middlebury College’s all Male a Capella group returns for their 7th year! Their signature harmonies, touch of comedy and interaction with the audience make them a Town Hall favorite. Tickets...Adults, \$8.00 Seniors & Students, \$6.00.

Sponsored by Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, Bonnie & Doug Robinson, Kathy & Bob Clark, Hanson-Martin Charitable Fund.

Saturday, Nov. 11: 7:00pm “The Big Parade” (1925)

Silent Movie

We salute Veterans Day with this sweeping saga about U.S. doughboys signing up and shipping off to France in 1917, when they face experiences that will change their lives forever – if they return. One of the biggest box office triumphs of the silent era. This is a Free Will Donation Event.

Sponsored by Donald & Dolores Furnari, American Legion Post 55, Jeanette Devino, Lorrie Byrom, The National Bank of Middlebury.

Saturday, November 18: 2:00pm “Scrooge, A Christmas Carol”

No Strings Marionettes
Finger Puppet Workshop: 1:00 – 1:45

A performance of “Scrooge, A Christmas Carol” by the No Strings Marionette Company invite families and children of all ages to celebrate the season and enter the wonders of a traditional adaptation of this well-loved holiday classic. A special finger puppet workshop will be held prior to the perfor-

mance from 1:00-1:45 pm with the show starting at 2:00 pm. Tickets...Adults, \$8.00, Seniors and Students, \$5.00, Children 5 and under FREE.

Sponsored by Lou & Ferne Faivre, Dick & Lucy Rouse, Ronald, Carolyn & Ricky Hayes, Hayes Pallets, Dell & Sally Cook, Sally Wood, Ken & Phyllis Torrey, Gourmet Provence, Lorrie Byrom, Hanson-Martin Charitable Fund.

Sunday, November 26: 3:30pm Memory Tree Lighting

Start the holiday season off with this meaningful tradition of remembrance. Catch the magic of the season at 3:30 pm with carol singing and the Brandon Festival singers. At 4:00 pm, the Memory Tree will be lit for the season to help brighten our darkest days.

Wednesday, December 6 & Friday, December 8: 4:00 – 8:00pm Town Wide Moonlight Madness Event

This well attended event has some changes this year be-

cause we are hosting the Brandon Library downstairs and will have limited space for vendors. We have decided to hold two nights during the week long town Moonlight Madness event. We will have some different vendors for each night with 3 vendors downstairs and 12 upstairs for a total of 30 vendors over the two nights. FOTH will be selling soups, chili and hot chocolate at the upstairs concession area on both nights. We will be using the downstairs handicap door as the only entrance with stairs or a lift available to get to the upstairs hall.



Goshen Historical Society has big hopes for the small town

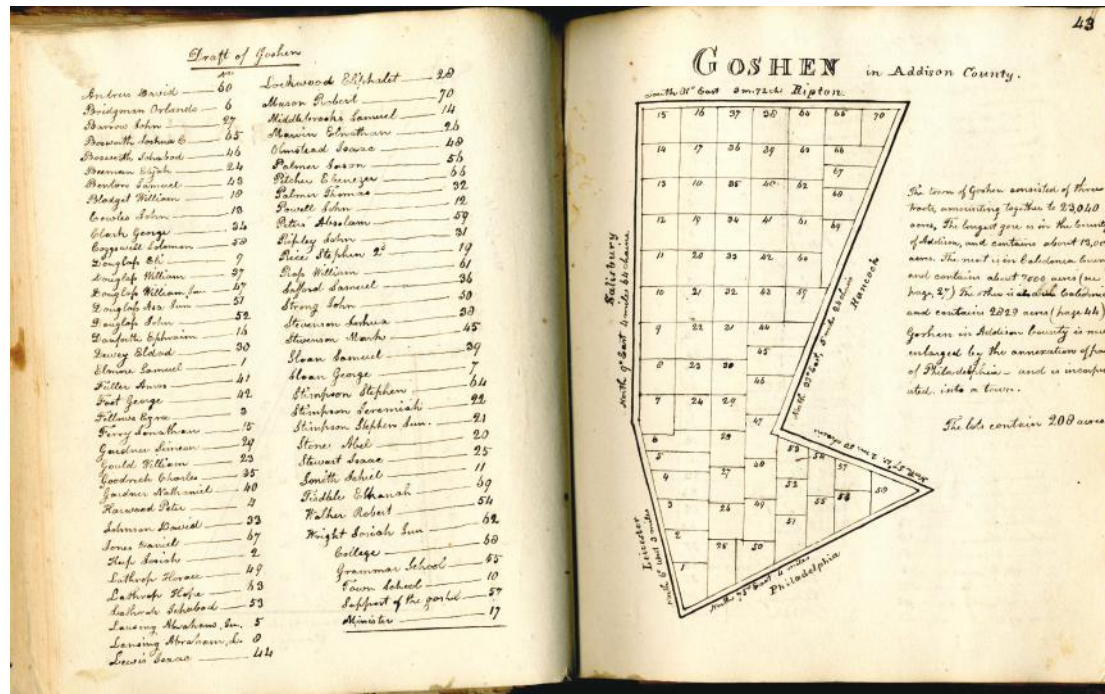
BY STEVEN JUPITER

GOSHEN—One of the smallest towns in the entire state of Vermont—with a population of less than 200—Goshen nevertheless has big aspirations for its new Historical Society.

Pressed up on the slopes of

around it to maintain its resolutely rural feel. There are few businesses in town—the most notable being the Blueberry Hill Inn and Camp Thorpe—and no stores to speak of. But for folks like Madine Reed (née Brown), who was born there

eteries are my relatives,” Reed said on a recent morning. Reed isn’t just interested in the history of the place; in many ways, she is the history of it. She’s spent her whole life in the town and her family’s roots there go back to before the Civil War.



THE GOSHEN HISTORICAL Society seeks to celebrate the rich history of this tiny town. Madine Reed, the Society’s current President, grew up in the town and can trace her ancestry back to Goshen’s early days. Above is a diagram of the early apportionments of the town by landowner. Note “Philadelphia” on Goshen’s southern border. This town no longer exists.

the Green Mountains, Goshen has remained remote enough from any of the larger towns

in 1948, Goshen has a history worth preserving. “Half the people in the cem-

“I’ve always thought that we should have [a historical society],” she said. Reed began bat-

Correction

CORRECTION—Last week’s article on the Otter Valley Aquarium Society erroneously gave the group’s monthly meeting as the first

Tuesday of the month. It is, in fact, the second Tuesday of the month. Apologies for the error.

ting the idea around seriously at least a dozen years ago, but it didn’t really get off the ground until a discussion at Town Meeting in 2021 led to formal organization of the Society in spring of 2022. It is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit with the stated mission “to research, document, preserve, and reveal the rich history of Goshen and its people.” Ms. Reed is the Society’s current President.

And though neighbors in larger towns may often see Goshen simply as a nice place to hike or a place to pass through on the way to somewhere else, it has a more complex history than might be apparent at first

glance.

Isolated by its location, Goshen was founded a bit later than many of the surrounding towns, with the final boundaries of what is now Goshen set in place only in the 1840s. The earliest settlers were farmers, though the physical remove and tough soil made it rough going. Merino sheep, prized for their wool, were one of the primary sources of income. Logging was also a crucial industry—there were half a dozen sawmills scattered throughout the village. It was hard but a community was built and

Ms. Reed’s family were (See Goshen Historical Society, Page 9)

Spotlight On Business DUBOIS & KING INC.



BRANDON AREA CHAMBER of Commerce



As a local engineering office with the backing of a 150-person Vermont-owned firm, our Brandon office location is convenient for our Addison and Rutland County staff. We are able to assist Vermont Towns and landowners with engineering projects that make a big difference, from the Brandon overflow culvert that protects the

Brandon Overflow Culvert

downtown from flooding to much-needed water and wastewater improvements for manufactured housing communities around the state.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

BONES BROTHERS

40TH ANNUAL
Pittsford Fire Dept.

HAUNTED HOUSE

OCTOBER 27-28

Tickets sold from 6-9 pm
Admission includes Wagon Ride

\$10 for Adults—over 12 years old
\$5 for Children—6 to 12 years old
(Too scary for children under 6)

426 Plains Rd.
Pittsford

For more information contact Tom Hooker (802) 236-0048 or (802) 483-2281

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BRANDON REPORTER

Guest Editorial

What is the purpose of the Police Log?

BY STEVEN JUPITER

I had a conversation this week with someone who's recently moved to the area and begun reading The Reporter. It's always useful to get feedback from readers, and it can be especially illuminating to get the perspective of a newcomer who isn't wedded to any particular way of doing things.

When she learned of my involvement with the paper, she asked why we run the Police Log. We ended up having a collegial debate about its purpose, and it seemed an interesting conversation to share with the broader readership.

First, I must acknowledge that the Police Log that we publish covers only the town of Brandon. But it's certainly a discussion that any of our readers can join, as the relevant issues may be of interest to the wider community.

We get the Log directly from the Brandon Police Department (BPD) every week. It comes to us in raw form, almost as a spreadsheet, and we convert it to a format we can print. Our policy has been to convey all the information that BPD provides, which includes the streets on which incidents occur (but usually not street addresses) and names of individuals who have been arrested. If no arrest occurs, no names appear. And the names of juveniles never appear in the Log, not even in the material we receive from BPD.

The discussion I had with our new neighbor revolved around the practice of including the names of those arrested. Sometimes, she pointed out, people

end up arrested simply because they had a bad day and the arrest doesn't reflect who they generally are. Is it fair to announce this lapse to the entire community? It seemed, she felt, a bit like gossip.

It's absolutely a reasonable concern. Sometimes people get into heated arguments that escalate to the point where someone calls the police because things became physical or because personal property was damaged. Sometimes in these situations someone does end up getting arrested. If this happens in Brandon, the arrest appears in the Log and therefore in The Reporter, name included, and the entire community becomes aware.

I'm not insensitive to this argument. I completely understand that one bad day shouldn't tarnish someone's reputation in town. It may also be true that some people will hesitate to call the police in threatening situations if they fear the publicity a potential arrest might trigger, especially in domestic conflicts. But even given these valid concerns, I think the Police Log serves an important purpose, one that would be diminished if the names of those arrested were omitted.

Primary among these purposes is transparency. Our law enforcement agencies must be transparent. BPD keeps a log of its daily activities so that the Brandon community is made aware of what it does, what it deals with, and who among us is affected by their decision to arrest. The authority to arrest is discretionary. The police make that determination. (See *Purpose of the Log*, Page 5)



The better to eat you with my dear!

THIS GREEN HERON uses a variety of lures dropped onto the water to entice fish closer.

Photo by Sue Wetmore

Community Forums

Batman sculpture to be unveiled in Rutland

A marble sculpture inspired by DC's Batman and DC comic book creators will be unveiled along the Rutland Halloween Parade route on October 25.

Italian sculptor Alessandro Lombardo has completed work on the larger-than-life sculpture designed by Chinese artist Jian-nan Wu, using a 12-ton block of marble donated by Vermont Quarries.

The sculpture features The Caped Crusader and Rutland Halloween Parade organizer

Tom Fagan, whose connections with comic book artists helped make the parade famous across the country. Comic book creators attended the parade and huge parties that followed in the early '70s, and incorporated Fagan and the City of Rutland into numerous story lines in more than two dozen comic books.

The public is invited to celebrate the unveiling of the sculpture that features Fagan dressed as Batman, who stands face to face with the DC Super Hero

on West Street, just west of Cottage Street on November 25th at noon.

Organizers are finally excited to have Batman along the parade route as the sculpture was expected to be completed in time for the 2022 Halloween parade, but cold weather and the pandemic slowed the carving.

"We can't wait to unveil the result of Alessandro and Jian-nan's efforts," organizers said. "It is a powerful, fun piece of art" (See *Batman Sculpture*, Page 5)

The Brandon • Pittsford • Proctor • West Rutland • Lake Dunmore • Leicester • Whiting • Sudbury • Goshen
REPORTER
A community supported newspaper

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

Current board members are Steven Jupiter, president; Dr. George Fjeld, treasurer; Barbara Ebling, secretary.
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The Reporter assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements but will reprint that part of an advertisement in which the typographical error occurred. Advertisers please notify the management immediately of any errors which may occur. SJ

Vermont's regular deer season starts Saturday, Nov. 11

MONTPELIER, Vt. -- Hunters are gearing up for the start of Vermont's traditionally popular 16-day regular deer season that begins Saturday, November 11 and ends Sunday, November 26.

A hunter may take one legal buck during this season if they did not

already take one during the archery deer season. The definition of a legal buck depends on the Wildlife Management Unit (WMU). A map of the WMUs is on pages 22 and 23 of the 2023 VERMONT HUNTING & TRAPPING GUIDE available from license agents statewide.

In WMUs C, D1, D2, E1, E2, G, I, L, M, P, and Q a legal buck is any deer with at least one antler three inches or more in length.

In WMUs A, B, F1, F2, H, J1, J2, K, N, and O a legal buck is any deer with at least one antler with (See *Deer season*, Page 5)

Batman sculpture

(Continued from Page 4)
with deep connections to the parade's history, and Batman's role in it."

Batman first appeared in Detective Comics #27 on March 30, 1939, and has stood as a symbol of determination, courage, and justice to generations of fans for over 80 years. He has influenced every area of modern entertainment, appearing in countless DC comic books, Saturday morning cartoons, multiple television series, video games, theme parks and experiences, toys, collectibles, and apparel and lifestyle products, as well as blockbuster animated and live-action films. Batman continues to be one of the most popular DC Super Heroes ever created.

The piece has been funded by lead donors Captain Credit Union and Heritage Family Credit Union and Green Mountain Power, Asplundh Tree

Expert Company, Davey Tree Expert Company, Downtown Rutland Partnership, Four Seasons Sotheby's International Realty, PEGTV, Channels 1075, 1085 & 1095, Rob and Colleen Mitchell, Russ and Renee Marsan, Rutland Blooms, Sara and Greg McClallen, Steve and Jane Costello, and TPW Management.

The Rutland Sculpture Trail was started in 2017 by the Carving Studio and Sculpture Center, Green Mountain Power, MKF Properties, and Vermont Quarries to create art and interest in downtown, generate community pride, and highlight local and regional history. The Batman sculpture will join 10 pieces already carved and installed in downtown Rutland, with several others in various stages of planning and development.

Deer season

(Continued from Page 4)
two or more antler points one inch in length or longer.

"The greatest numbers of deer continue to be in western regions of the state and other valley areas," said Vermont Fish and Wildlife's deer biologist Nick Fortin. "The Green Mountains and Northeast Kingdom offer more of a big woods experience with fewer, but often larger, deer."

Vermont hunting licenses include a buck tag for this season and a late season bear tag (for Nov. 11-19), cost \$28 for residents and \$102 for nonresidents. Hunters under 18 years of age get a break at \$8 for residents and \$25 for nonresidents. Licenses are available on Fish and Wildlife's website and from license agents statewide.

"I am urging all hunters to wear a fluorescent orange hat and vest to help maintain Vermont's very good hunting season safety record," said

Vermont Fish and Wildlife Commissioner Christopher Herrick.

A 2023 Deer Season Hunting Guide can be downloaded from the department's website at www.vtfishandwildlife.com. The guide includes a map of the Wildlife Management Units (WMUs), season dates, regulations, and other helpful information.

Hunters are required to report deer in person at a big game reporting station during the regular season. Online reporting will not be available. This requirement allows biologists to collect important information from as many deer as possible.

Hunters who get a deer on November 11 or 12 can help Vermont's deer management program by reporting their deer at one of the biological check stations

listed below that will be staffed from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., unless the store closes earlier:

- Lost Nation Guns & Ammo – Swanton
- West Enosburg Country Store – Enosburg Falls
- Wright's Sport Shop – Derby
- Bob's Quick Stop – Irasburg
- Lead & Tackle – Lyndonville
- R&L Archery – Barre
- Village Grocery & Deli – Waitsfield
- Rack N Reel – New Haven
- Keith's Country Store – Pittsford
- Singleton's Store – Proctorsville
- Buck Stop Mini Mart – Bennington
- Guilford Country Store – Guilford
- Hunters who do not go to a biological reporting station are asked to provide a tooth from their deer. Obtain a tooth envelope from your regular reporting agent. Remove one of the middle incisor teeth, being careful to include the root. Place the tooth in the envelope and give it to the reporting agent. Each tooth will be cross sectioned to accurately determine the deer's age, and the results will be posted on the Fish and Wildlife website next spring.

Purpose of the Log

(Continued from Page 4)
tion based on whether they believe a law has been broken. In some cases, the decision is clear cut. In others, it's a judgment call that needs to be justified.

But in order to know whether that authority is being wielded wisely and lawfully, we need to know when and why and against whom it's being wielded.

Now, the police are going to record the names of those they arrest regardless of whether we print them. Of course. And those records are public records that any citizen has the right to access. The question is simply, "Why publish those names in the local paper?"

The answer, at least from my perspective, is simply that the police should not be able to arrest anyone without the community's knowledge, even if it's after the fact. Most people are not going to seek out that information on their own, despite their legal right to it. Releasing the names of those arrested lets the community know who has been the target of police action and why.

The Reporter certainly has the ability to decide whether to withhold information from the Police Log, but I have generally chosen not to exercise that power. As a policy, I believe it is better to provide more rather than less information.

However, there was a situation where I believed that the inclusion of a certain piece of information about someone who had

been arrested was irrelevant to the alleged crime and that publication of it would serve only to needlessly aggravate what already seemed an incendiary situation. The name of the individual who was arrested appeared in the Log but another piece of information the police provided about that person was withheld, though it would be available to anyone who sought out the raw police records.

That wasn't an easy decision, but I still believe it was the correct one, because the purpose of the Log is neither to rile nor to shame. It's to inform the public and to ensure that law enforcement knows that its decisions are being observed by the community it serves. The piece of withheld information did not shed light either on the alleged crime or on BPD's own actions.

I also want to emphasize that none of this is a critique of BPD. Chief Kachajian and BPD have been forthcoming and professional in all of my interactions with them. These arguments would apply to any police department we received information from.

Judging from the general feedback we get from the community, the Police Log is a popular and appreciated feature. That said, not everyone will see the Log the same way. We understand and respect those other perspectives, but for the time being we do believe that our current practice is the appropriate one.

Letters to the editor

Letters Policy: *The Reporter* will only print letters to the editor that are signed with the author's full name, address and a phone number so the author may be reached for verification or questions. Only name and town will be printed.

Letters will only be accepted from residents of the eight towns we cover (Brandon, Pittsford, Proctor, West Rutland, Goshen, Sudbury, Leicester and Whiting) or letters that pertain

to issues or people in our coverage area. We will also consider letters from former residents if the subject matter is pertinent.

The editor reserves the right to approve or reject any letter to the editor. Any letter considered slanderous or libelous will not be printed. Letters written locally endorsing candidates for office will be accepted without charge.

Send your Letters to the Editor by Fridays before 5 p.m. Brandon Reporter, 58 Maple St., Middlebury, VT 05753. Or email to news@brandonreporter.com

Friends of QV Music

SPAGHETTI

Dinner

Brandon Inn
20 Park Street

\$10 Adults
\$5 Kids
Cash @ Door
Raffle tickets
available .

Wednesday,
November 1st
Two Seatings
available: 5:30 & 7pm
6:30 pm performance
by Cast of Spongebob
the Musical and High
School Jazz Band

Obituaries

Laura Anne Falquero, 63, Brandon

BRANDON—It is with broken hearts that we share the news of the passing of Laura Anne "Laurie" (Falcone) Falquero on October 16, 2023 at Rutland Regional Medical Center (RRMC) after a brief illness, with loved ones at her side. Laura was 63 years of age. She was born in New Haven, CT on April 8th, 1960, to Alphonse and June (Earley) Falcone. Laura graduated from Amity Regional High School and then went on to earn her Nursing Degree. She began her nursing career at St. Raphael's Hospital in New Haven, working in the Cardiac Unit. She met her future husband, John Falquero, in 1988, and they were married on September 26th, 1993. Their beloved daughter, Emma Lynn was born on August 19, 2002. Emma was the light of their lives, and they had many special times together. In the fall of 2011, the family relocated to Brandon, VT to live next door to Laura's sister and her family. Laura began work at RRMC as a nurse in the Psychiatric Unit, where she truly enjoyed caring for the patients. She was an avid reader, a huge hockey fan, and



LAURA ANNE FALQUERO

enjoyed trips to the ocean, most especially Watch Hill in Rhode Island and Rye Beach, NH. She also enjoyed spending time with her many family members and loved her animals, Izzy, Snowball, Tommy, and Monkey. Laura is survived by her daughter, Emma, and her partner, Taylor; by 2 brothers, Mark Falcone and Dean (Shellye) Falcone; by her sister Sandy (David) Martin; and by extended family members

Deborah (Scott) Holman, Jeanne (Suzi) Samuel, Betsy (Mike) Joseph, Kathy (Brian) Lynch, Sandra (Frank) Destadio, Shelley (Chris) Shields, Cynthia (Tom) Stankus and Lori McCord. She leaves behind many special nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and a special uncle, John Earley. She was predeceased by her parents, her stepmother, Doris Falcone, her stepfather, George Bathgate, and her husband, John Falquero. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 4th at 1:00pm, at Grace Congregational Church in Rutland VT. Burial will be held at a later date in Bingo Cemetery in Rochester, VT.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Rutland County Humane Society, 765 Stevens Road, Pittsford VT 05763.

Laura was a kind, loving, and gentle soul and will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her. Rest in peace dear Laura, you will live in our hearts forever. We love you.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home in Brandon.

Honorée Fleming

(Continued from Page 1)
to strike their family: in 2005, Honorée and Ron lost their older son, Kevin, to suicide as a result of schizophrenia, a tragedy often alluded to in recent accounts of Ms. Fleming's life but which was made explicit at Sunday's event.

"Indomitable" was used more than once to describe Ms. Fleming, in reference not only to her ability to carry on after Kevin's death, but also to her determination not to let her academic career be derailed after she was refused tenure at Middlebury College. She was a scientist, having gotten a PhD in biophysics from the elite University of Chicago in the 1970s, a time when STEM was even harder for women to break into than it is today. She left Middlebury for Trinity College in Burlington (now defunct) and then became Dean of Faculty at Castleton. She became a mentor to young women trying to make careers for themselves in academia. She became a role model for young academics in general, taking new faculty under her wing, nurturing them to coax out their fullest potential.

Ron Sherwin, Associate Professor of Music at UMass/Dartmouth, was once on the faculty at Castleton and recalled Ms. Fleming as a mentor who "changed [his] life." Mr. Sherwin then sang "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" by Thomas Dorsey, accompanied on piano by Sarah McQuarrie.

Joe Mark, who hired Ms. Fleming at Castleton when he was Academic Dean, spoke with emotion as he remembered her as "the smartest person I've ever

known" and as an exemplar of "decency, kindness, and compassion."

"If you wanted truth, you asked Honorée," he added.

Gail Freedman, a family friend who is producing the film version of Mr. Powers's book "No One Cares about Crazy People," called Ms. Fleming "one of the world's true gifts to humanity" and lamented the "gentle haunting her love left behind."

But the strongest, most affecting remarks came, naturally from her husband and son, who clearly drew enormous strength from her and must now navigate life without her.

"Mom may be the first agnostic saint," joked her son, Dean. "She was more Christian in deeds than many who profess faith."

"Every current in our household passed through Honorée," said Ron Powers. "She made me happy on a scale I never knew existed. I hope I made her happy."

Mr. Powers ended his remarks with "Fallen Majesty," a poem by William Butler Yeats, in a nod to Ms. Fleming's Irish roots:

*Although crowds gathered
once if she but showed her face,
And even old men's eyes grew
dim, this hand alone,*

*Like some last last courtier at
a gypsy camping-place*

*Babbling of fallen majesty, records
what's gone.*

*These lineaments, a heart that
laughter has made sweet,*

*These, these remain, but I record
what's gone. A crowd*

*Will gather, and not know it
walks the very street*

*Whereon a thing once walked
that seemed a burning cloud.*

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.

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(802) 483-2811 Christopher Book/Director

For five generations the Barnard family has assisted families in Pittsford, Proctor, Chittenden and the surrounding area getting through one of life's most difficult times.

Also operating the Birch Grove Crematory

Names lost

(Continued from Page 2)

My research on the Shangraw family assumed a wider context through a serendipitous conversation. In May 2022, following my presentation, "Adventures in DNA," at the Shrewsbury Community Meeting House, I asked longtime acquaintance Julianne Sharrow for a drink of water. She asked, "Do you think DNA results can really knock down [ancestral] brick walls?"

"Yes," I said and added, "Who are you looking for?"

"William Shangraw." Of course, I remembered "William" as Austin's brother. He and his wife are also buried in Evergreen Cemetery. [See illustration #3, west face of William Shangraw monument]. Julianne later wrote, "It took my breath away."

liam's parents, Augustin Gingras and Marie Daunais, married in Contrecoeur, Québec, in 1823. With frequent moves, they had twelve children over a span of twenty years. Their youngest child, Guillaume Gingras (1848–1912), born in Pittsford, baptized in Canada, went by the name of James Shangraw! How does this explain Julianne's ancestor, William Shangraw? He was baptized as Joseph Magloire Gingras. In moving to Vermont, he left behind his French name, went by "Bill," and like brother Austin, he joined the Congregational Church. [See photo #4].

Six Gingras brothers all left Canada for Vermont. Three of them stayed here: Austin, William, and James Shangraw. Frank Gingras (1827–1881) died

over time, distance, and epic shared history:

BROTHERS MEET AFTER 35 YEARS.

Two very remarkable meetings occurred yesterday on the grounds of Camp Lawton, as the ground of the reunion now being held at this place is called. Paul Shangrah, company D, Fourteenth Vermont infantry, who lives on a farm two miles north of Portis, met, for the first time since the winter of 1865–66, his brother, Joe Shangrah, company C, Tenth Vermont infantry. Paul Shangrah, the elder brother, left home the winter after they were mustered out of service and in 1873 came and settled on his farm near Portis and has lived there ever since.

His younger brother, after roaming around in Canada for a time, finally settled in Potawatomi country, Iowa, and has been farming there for the past twenty-two years. The brothers had lost track of each other and did not know where each other were until about two years ago. A few days ago, the Iowa brother determined to make his Kansas brother a visit and came on without letting him know he was coming.



PAUL AND JOE Shangrah, brothers who both served in Vermont regiments during the Civil War, were reunited in Kansas after 35 years apart. Photos provided

Julanne had searched in vain for a Québec baptismal record, circa 1833, for a Guillaume Gingras who corresponded to William Shangraw of Pittsford and West Rutland.

One needs more than individual pieces of this puzzle to interpret name changes within this family. Austin and Wil-

in Fall River, Massachusetts. Basile went by the name of Paul Shangrah (1837–1904) and died in Osborne County, Kansas. The longest-lived of the group, Joe Gingras (1845–1927), died in Logan, Colorado. This newspaper story from Topeka (Kansas) Daily Capital, 21 Sept. 1900, at-tests how family ties persisted

End of year Clearance!

Heartfelt gratitude for a great season and shopping local with us
Last day Oct. 31, Halloween

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- Pumpkins & Fall decor
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\$23,995



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Reporter advice columnist

I'm tired of my friend using my house as a free storage unit

Dear Joyce, I have a friend I've known for over 20 years who recently downsized (we're in our 60s) and asked if he could store

some things at my house, since he has no room at the apartment he just moved into. And it's not small stuff: an antique car, a motorcycle, a snowblower. None

of it is in great shape, either. It's taking up a lot of room and it's already been three years. I asked him many times to find somewhere else, maybe even to rent a storage locker. But he keeps giving me all kinds of excuses for why he can't move it. I don't want to ruin the friendship, but this is really starting to make me angry. How should I handle it?

-Frustrated Friend

Dear Frustrated Friend,

Are you serious? For three years? It's amazing to me that you see him as a friend when what this guy is doing is not out of friendship but out of a need to have a place to store his junk. He's taking advantage of your generosity. I have another name for him, and it is not friend.

I get that you've asked him to get his stuff numerous times and that he hasn't done it. Why would he? He knows whatever deadline you've set means nothing.

The problem here is you've given this guy control over this situation and he knows it. I believe the expression is "with friends like this who needs enemies?"

Come on, girl. Pull up your big-girl pants and let this guy know once and

for all the deal is off. Set a date for him to get his crap taken away or you will have it removed. Period!

The last thing, and this is most important...be sure you mean it or don't bother to say it. You and he have been down this road before so be sure to have everything set up to follow through and then boom, make it happen. He's had enough warnings and now has no one to blame but himself.

You can do this, Joyce

"Joyce" is a local social worker (Masters of Social Work) and counselor with decades of experience helping people sort through personal problems. Her responses are *advice only* and neither she nor The Reporter takes responsibility for any outcomes of the situations described in the letters received.

Anyone with a question/problem for Joyce should send an email to news@brandonreporter.com with "Dear Joyce" in the subject line. We do not guarantee that all submissions will be used. Anonymous submissions are fine, though we will reject anything obscene, violent, or disrespectful toward any community. We will also edit for length, clarity, punctuation, and spelling.

Discover Cheaper, Cleaner, Smarter Ways to Heat & Cool Your Home

Registration Online by November 4th www.solarfest.org/brandon

Questions? brandonenergycommittee@gmail.com 802.747.8906

When: Wednesday November 8th from 5:30 to 7:00pm

Where: Brandon Town Hall

Cost: FREE for residents, plus a free meal promptly at 5:30!

Why come?

Explore ways to make solar and/or heat pumps work for you home, plus discover what others have done to save energy and \$\$\$.

Hear advice from contractors, lenders & others for your home and connect with reputable vendors who can install your systems

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Goshen Historical Society

(Continued from Page 3)
 among the earliest to arrive in town and when she was a child in the 1940s and 50s, children still attended one-room schoolhouses, with only 15 or so kids. “All the children knew each other,” she recalled. “We spent all day together at school.” But when Otter Valley opened in 1961, the Goshen kids found themselves lost among the children from Brandon and Pittsford, losing that connection with each other that the intimacy of a one-room school provided.

Since then, Ms. Reed has noticed less familiarity among the residents of Goshen. What had been a close-knit farming community became by the mid-1900s a summer colony. Even today, new arrivals often come seeking out privacy and solitude rather than community.

But Ms. Reed hopes to rebuild a sense of Goshen as a community through the formation of the Historical Society. There are currently 20 or so members. Among the founding members were Thomasina Magoon, Galina Chernaya (current VP), Marci Hayes (current Secretary), and Barbara & Ken Brown (Barbara is the current Treasurer).

The group has already been quite active. An exhibit on Goshen in the Civil War was very well received last year, as was an exhibit this past spring on Goshen in WWII at the Brandon American Legion. That exhibit brought participants from surrounding towns and even had the Otter Valley Jazz Band playing music from the WWII era.

An Open House is planned for Saturday, November 11

from 2 pm to 4 pm at the Goshen Town Hall. The Society is working on raising funds through the sale of calendars and T-shirts with the Society’s logo (which is the Civil War monument commemorating Goshen’s soldiers that stands in front of Town Hall).

Anyone with an interest in Goshen history is welcome to attend the Open House. You can also visit the organization’s Facebook page or website--goshenhistoricalsociety.org--to find out more about the Society’s activities and membership. The Society is espe-

cially eager to hear from people with old photographs of the town or other materials relating to its history.

SPOOKSVILLE!
 Brandon's Biggest Trunk or Treat!
 Friday Oct. 27th
 5-6:30pm
 Estabrook Park,
 Brandon

Neshobe Golf Course
 Est. 1958

LONG IRON RESTAURANT
 Open daily
 Monday-Sunday
 Wednesday the 18th, Wing Night -plus regular menu
 Thursday the 19th, Burger/Beer-plus
 Friday the 20th, Friday Night Dinner

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

.....

BLOWOUT SALE
 As we near the end of another fantastic golf season, we’re excited to announce a special treat for all of you – our Blowout Sale at the Pro Shop!
From now through the end of the season, we’re offering a fantastic 15% discount on all items remaining in our Pro Shop. It’s the perfect opportunity to snag those golf essentials, upgrade your gear, or find that perfect gift for the golf enthusiast in your life.
 Don’t delay, swing by the Pro Shop today and enjoy this fantastic deal before the season comes to a close.

The golf course is OPEN!
 Tee times available from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
<https://neshobe.com> • (802) 247-3611

First-Time Homebuyer Seminar

Preparing to buy your first home?
 Join us for a light dinner and learn more about the process of buying a home, what you need to do to prepare, and the programs available for first-time home buyers.

DATE: November 7, 2023
TIME: 5:30pm - 7:00pm
LOCATION: Brandon Office
 6 Park Street
 Brandon, VT 05733
COST: FREE
DEADLINE: RSVP by November 1

LEARN MORE & RSVP

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OUR CREATIVE KIDS

STUDENT: Emmy Rogers

GRADE: 5

HOMETOWN: Brandon, VT

SCHOOL: Neshobe

TITLE: Untitled

MEDIUM: Paint and marker on paper

TEACHER: John Brodowski



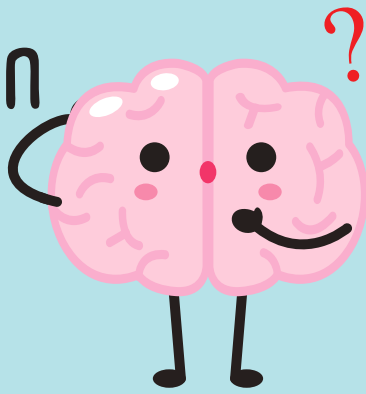
STATEMENT FROM EMMY:

I like to paint sunsets so I thought it would be a great idea to paint a sunset with a ton of colors and I like to paint trees so I made some of them on the bottom. My friend was looking at pictures of hot air balloons and that inspired me to add hot air balloons to my painting.

STATEMENT FROM MR. B:

Artists share ideas and inspire each other all the time. It can be nice to work alone but it is also important to work with others sometimes. Emmy is great at doing both. During art class she is focused and hardworking but will always stop and take the time to check in with friends to either get or give inspiration. We are lucky to have her at Neshobe!

Brandon Brain Buster



If 100 people want to buy tickets for a plane that has exactly 99 seats, how many different groups of those people could fill the plane? (Assume every seat is sold and no one buys more than one ticket.)

- A) 100
- B) 99
- C) 98
- D) 75
- E) 50

Answer on pg.21

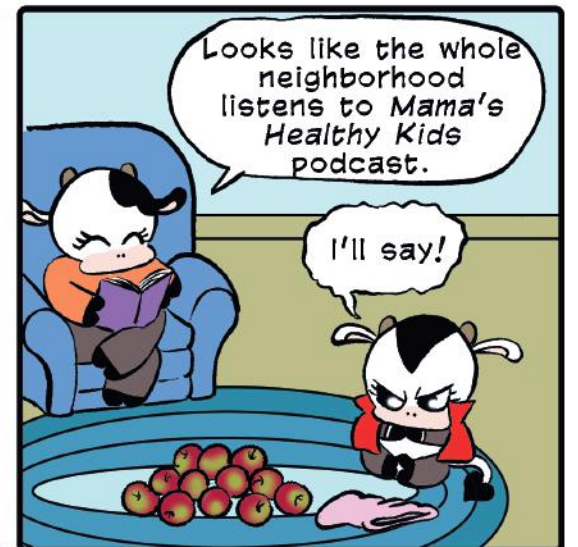
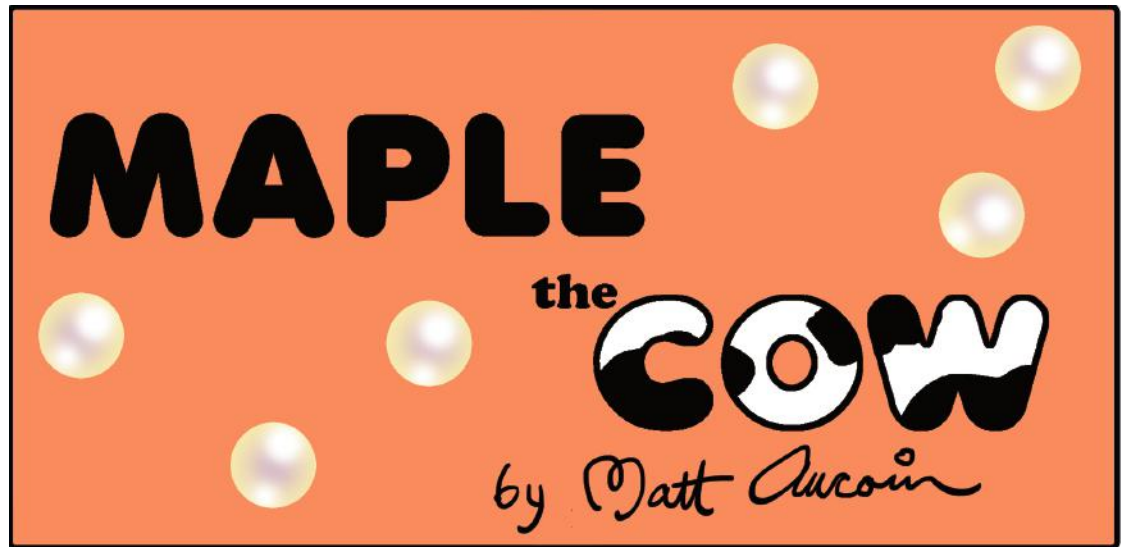
Brandon's tradition of warm lights on fresh evergreen Memory trees continues

Brandon's Memory Tree will be lit on Sunday, November 26th. Bulbs in memory of loved ones cost \$1.00 each and help keep the tree lit all season -- brightening our darkest days. At the Tree

Lighting Festivities on the steps of the town hall, starting at 3:30pm, you can join Brandon's Festival Singers, led by Gene Childers, as we usher in the season. Following the singing, a prayer will be offered and the Memory Tree will be lit for the season at 4pm.

Purchase of bulbs in memory of loved ones can be made by sending \$1 per name to: BACC (Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce), PO Box 267, Brandon VT 05733 or drop off at Carr's Gifts.

For more information, contact the Chamber at 8022476401 or info@brandon.org



Calendar of events

October

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 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 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 or (802) 282-7532) or Vicki Disorda (vqueenoftheearth@gmail.com or (802) 345-4125).

Pins & Needles Craft Club at the Brandon Free Public Library

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

Wednesdays

Ping Pong

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

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

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

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



For further information about the Green Mountain Table Tennis Club, visit our club's website at www.gmttc.com.

Yoga Prana Shakti Zoom & Studio Chair Yoga, Gentle, Wednesdays

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Maclure Library Knitting Circle

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

Corn Hole at the Godnick Adult Center

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

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

Sundays

Brandon Town Hall Painting with Crystal

Crystal Ketcham leads an all ages painting event!

Yes, you CAN paint! More info, contact Crystal at ceastman88@gmail.com

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

Wednesday 25th

Gmail Basics, free computer class



Oct. 28th Day at the Precision

Join us for a STEM+M (Science Mathematics + Music) for the whole family!

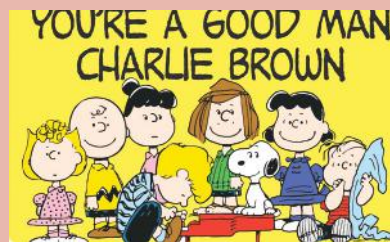
Saturday, October 28th, the American Precision

Curious creators all ages will have a essential manufacturing like patterns, produced through hands-on, including:

- > Robot Trick-or-treat
- > CNC Machine
- > Vacuum Form
- > 3-D Printer
- > Spooky Shapes (not fungi)

VTSU Castleton Theatre Arts Presents 'You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown'

Happiness is great musical theatre! With charm, wit, and heart, *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* explores life through the eyes of Charlie Brown and his friends in the Peanuts gang. This revue of songs and vignettes, based on the beloved Charles Schulz comic strip, is the ideal first show for those who would like to do a musical. Musical numbers include "My Blanket and Me," "The Kite," "The Baseball Game," "Little Known Facts," "Supper Time," and "Happiness." Guaranteed to please audiences of all ages!



Performances are Thursday, November 2nd, Friday November 3rd, and Saturday November 4th at 7:00 PM and Sunday, November 5th at 2:00 PM in Casella Theater in the VTSU Castleton Fine Arts Center.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students, seniors, and VTSU alumni. Tickets can be reserved by calling the Casella Box Office at 802-468-1119.

The Box Office will open one hour before all shows. All tickets are General Admission.

Join us at the Brandon Free Public Library (Town Hall downstairs) from 4–5:30 pm.

Please call 247-8230 to register.

Thursday 26th

Viewing of Anxious Nation Documentary
The documentary is offered in a joint effort with the Wellness Center of the University and Poultney Rotary and serves as the initial viewing over a 5 year period to campus

and community groups.

Anxious Nation explores and captures the many faces and facets of anxiety. This feature-length documentary deeply looks into the anxiety and the mental health crisis in America especially its impact on young people (ages 10-26) and families. The film looks at the various ways anxiety shows up the nurture/nature debate situations in homes and society that are significantly adding to the problem the mental health crisis on

college campuses and the impact of anxiety in lower socioeconomic communities especially the Brown and Black communities. We discuss stigma loneliness isolation disconnection the alarming rise in suicide the dangers of social media incorrect diagnoses and the horrific mental health ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic.

From 7:00–9:15 pm at the Jeffords Center, 233 South Street, Castleton

Queen City Ghostwalk Darkness Falls Tour
Our Darkness Falls tour was created by historian and author Thea Lewis (Haunted Burlington, Haunted Inns and Ghostly Getaways of Vermont, and more). This perennial favorite, chosen one of New England's best haunted walks by both Yankee Magazine and AAA, features some of Burlington's most infamous

characters and intriguing haunts; theater ghosts, smugglers, serial killers, and more. Generally suitable for individuals ten and up. Some sensitive subject matter. Parental discretion advised. All ticket sales are final, no refunds, no exchanges. Need more information? See our FAQ page at queencityghostwalk.com.

From 7:00–8:15 pm at Courthouse Plaza, 199 Main Street, Democracy Sculpture, Burlington
\$25.00

Kripalu Yoga

Thursday Yoga, Group Class: October 5 to November 16 from 3:00-4:00 PM. Space is limited. Registration is required, sign up at PetrasWellnessStudio.com.

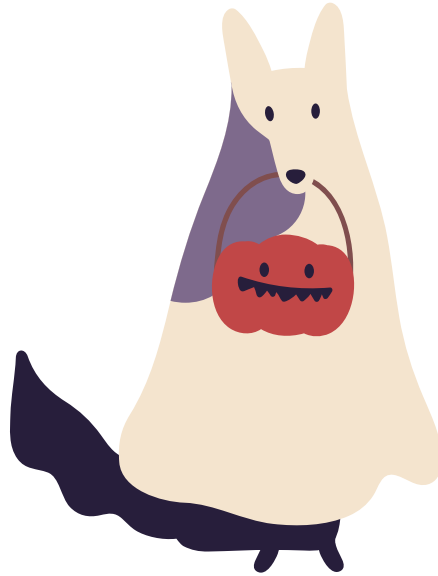
Kripalu Yoga is a gentle yoga practice with a compassionate approach. It places an emphasis on meditation, physical healing, and spiritual transformation that overflows from the yoga mat into daily life. Kripalu is gentle Yoga that emphasizes moving at your own pace, self-acceptance, and adaptability. It's ideal for beginners and is accepting and adaptable to everyone, no matter your age, ability, size, or other circumstances. Yoga increases strength and flexibility, and improves circulation, breathing, and digestion. Because of the deep relaxation, there is reduced muscle tension and risk of injury. The classes usually begin with pranayama exercises and gentle stretches followed by asana practice and ending with final relaxation.

Petra's Wellness Studio
1 Scale Avenue, Rutland.

Friday 27th

Of Conscious Mind - Spellwords - EP Release Party w/ The Knife Kickers, No Fun Haus at The Underground - Listening Room

Advance: \$15 (+fees)* // Day of show: \$20 (+fees)*



*ticket price includes a CD of the EP

Doors: 7:00 // Show: 7:30

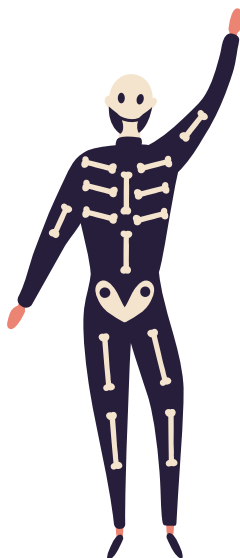
Costume Contest with KILLER PRIZES
BYOB

Of Conscious Mind: An indie rock band from the Upper Valley VT/NH, OCM features groove-tinged rhythms with powerful vocals reminiscent of Natalie Merchant and Grace Slick. OCM's first release was a self-titled demo in 2021, recorded live here The Underground Recording Studio in Randolph, VT; later

followed by a Bandcamp-only release of a single titled "Dirty Grindy" in June of 2023, also recorded at the Underground.

It seemed only fitting that our new release, "Spellwords," a 5-song EP including a remastered version of "Dirty Grindy" is currently in production at The Underground, and set to be released AT THIS EVENT! Your reasonably-priced thanks-for-supporting-your-local-band ticket includes a compact-disc copy of the EP, with cover artwork by Windsor VT-based artist, Grace Newbold. WOOT.

The Knife Kickers: A Connecticut rock band
No Fun Haus: No Fun Haus (Burlington, VT) is an Indie Rock band that treads in folk-rock & alt-country. Inspired by acts such as Big Thief, Pinegrove, Peach Pit, Low Cut Connie, Alex G, Car Seat Headrest, The Backseat Lovers & others, they bring an energetic live performance to the stage while blending soulful melodies, twangy guitar riffs, mid-western existentialism, raw vocal performances and jam-influenced



drum grooves.

The band's debut self-titled album will be released on October 13th, 2023, followed by a week-long tour of the Northeastern United States & Canada.

The Underground - Listening Room,
24 Pleasant Street, Randolph.

Saturday 28th

Spooky Organ Concert, Rutland

Spooky Organ music to get you in the spirit for the famous Rutland Halloween Parade. This is a free event to come and go as you please.

Before the Halloween parade on October 28, step into Trinity Church to hear some ghostly, ghoulishly haunted pipe organ music! This free mini-concert will set the mood for a spooky fun parade. The music begins at 5:45 pm and will last for about a half hour. Then stick around on the front steps and lawn to watch the parade go by. Trinity Church and all its spirits, bats, and crows welcomes you!

85 West Street, Rutland.



Spooky STEM at the American Museum!

A FREE Halloween-themed event featuring Science, Technology, Engineering, Manufacturing) and Maker Event on October 28 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM @ Precision Museum in Windsor, VT. For Halloween enthusiasts of all ages, this event offers a frightfully fun time learning about engineering principles and processes through programming, and repeatability through making creepy, crafty STEM activities, including: -Treating Metal En-GRAVE-ing Monster Mask Making 3D Printing Casting with Silicon Molds

COCOON Brings True Stories to the Stage November 3 11th Annual Event Inspired by "The Moth"

Middlebury, VT—The Mahaney Arts Center will host the live performance event Cocoon, inspired by the popular storytelling phenomenon The Moth, on Friday, November 3 at Robison Hall (live and streaming) Six hand-picked storytellers will share a diverse range of stories around the theme of "Playing the Long Game." The audience is invited to a reception with the storytellers after the show.

This year's storytellers will include: Middlebury students Youness Cheboubi '24, Beckett Pintair '24.5, and Hannah Alberti '26; and Middlebury faculty and staff members Karl Lindholm, Mark Saltveit, and Raghad Sayyed. Middlebury Moth-Up producers Harper Nichols '24.5 and Joseph Wilson '24 will host, with Mahaney Center Technical Director Mark Christensen providing the musical interludes. This 11th annual community-wide event is co-organized by Middlebury Moth-Up students Kristen Morgenstern '24, Ewan Inglis '24, Rach Peck '25, as

well as Nichols and Wilson, in partnership with Mahaney Center Director Liza Sacheli.

Since 2013, Cocoon has brought students, professors, alumni, and members of the greater Vermont community together to tell stories on a given theme. The event has two rules: one, all stories must be true; two, no notes allowed. This event is presented with real-time captioning, and is appropriate for mature audiences.

Performance Details

Cocoon will take place at the Mahaney Arts Center's Robison Hall on Friday, November 3, 2023 at 8:00 PM. Tickets are \$15 for the general public; \$12 for Middlebury College ID card holders; \$8 for youth; and \$5 for Middlebury College students. This event will



also be streamed; streaming tickets are \$15, or \$5 for Middlebury College students. Both live and streaming versions will offer live captioning. The Mahaney Arts Center (MAC) is located on the campus of Middlebury College, at 72 Porter Field Road, just off Route 30 south/S. Main Street. Free parking is available curbside on Rt. 30 or in the MAC parking lot, in rows marked faculty/staff/visitors. For tickets or further information, call (802) 443-MIDD (6433) or go to <http://go.middlebury.edu/arts>.

Sports

OV keeps Mill River to one touchdown in rainy Senior Game loss



DESPITE THE DREARY weather, OV Football celebrated the teams seniors in a 0-1 game against Mill River. The departing seniors are Mason Bushee #2, Chase Cram #20, Gavin Disorda #1, Noah Drew #10, Luciano Falco #63, Derek Li #50, and Cody Mulcahy #28.

Photos by Virginia Carroccia

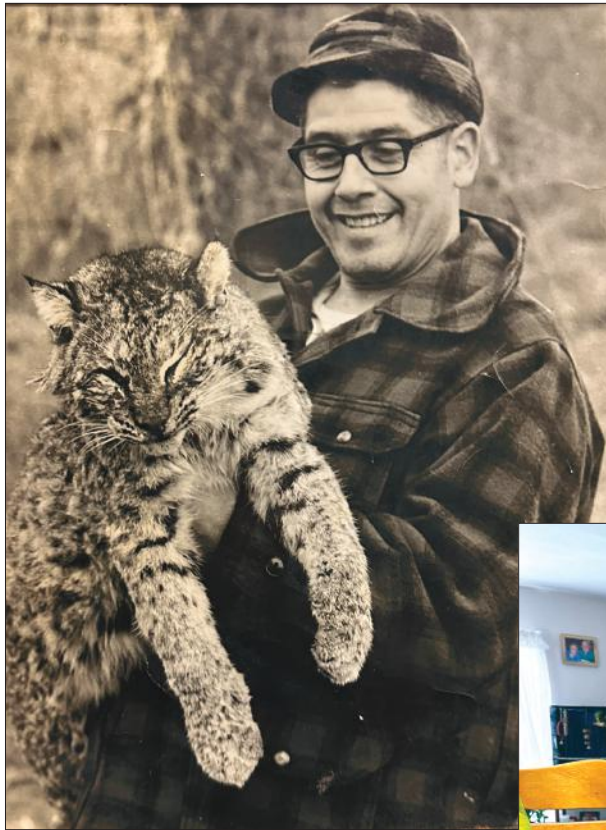
REAL ESTATE



Classic colonial style home in the center of the vibrant town of Brandon. Center hall entrance, double living room, fireplace with ornate hearth, roomy kitchen with center island and walk-in pantry, and a formal dining room. There are four full sized bedrooms - one on the first floor. Freshly painted outside, a newer roof; a very well maintained property. Ready for you to move in and enjoy and a great location for a home business! The large carriage barn still has the original horse stalls and spacious loft. \$370,000



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It's been a wonderful life



95-YEAR-OLD BRANDON RESIDENT Sanford Rouse contacted The Reporter to share this photo of him with a bobcat he hunted circa 1965, after reading about bobcats in our last issue. "It was a crisp morning," Rouse recalled. "I saw something crouching down near a log." Mr. Rouse is a native of Shoreham and has written two books about his childhood.

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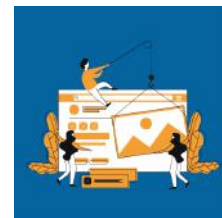
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Stark Brothers Auctions Construction tools and Materials:

We will be auctioning off tools, construction materials, a trailer, truck tool boxes and so much more!

Auction
Friday November 3rd at 9am
2510 Grove Street Brandon VT

Everything must go!





Mim's Photos

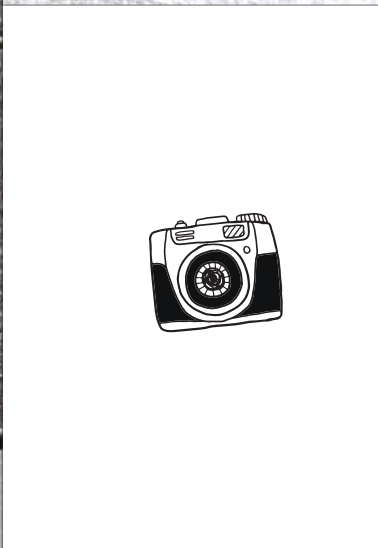
Can you identify any of the people in these vintage photos from Mim Welton's Dateline Brandon newspaper archives? Let us know!



Recognized



Lisa Bradley of Brandon identified herself and her baby daughter, Megan. Lisa says the photo is from 33 years ago. Megan still lives in Brandon.



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



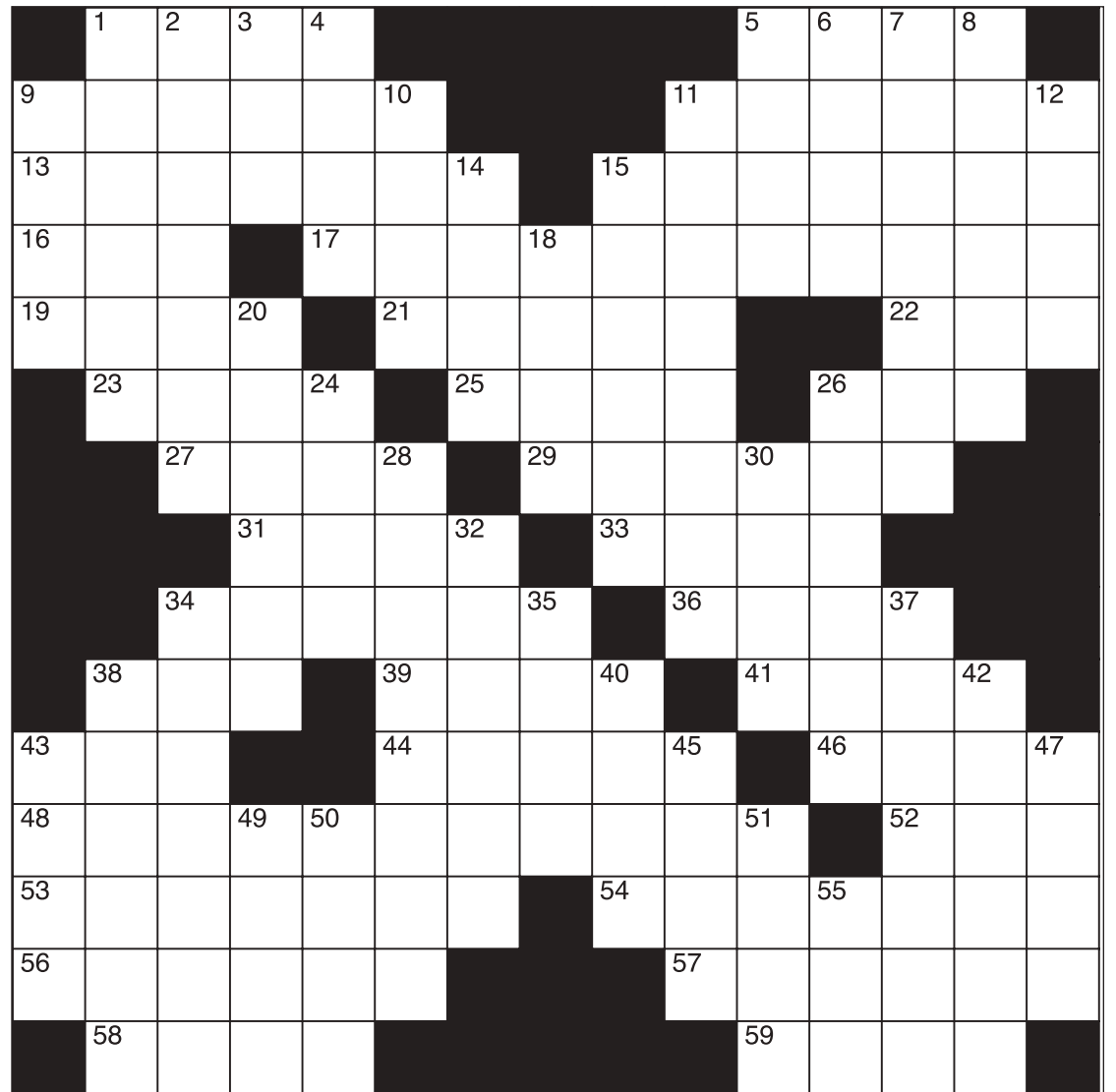
Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

1. Male children
5. Robert Wagner series "Hart to ___"
9. Unfolded
11. Digestive disease
13. Wednesday
15. Malignant tumor
16. Conscientious investment strategy (abbr.)
17. Slowed
19. Letter of the Semitic abjads
21. Weights of cars without fuel
22. Former CIA
23. Asian country
25. Instead
26. Ancient Egyptian King
27. Privies
29. Shopping trips
31. Paradoxical anecdote
33. It's on the table
34. Ancient Persia ruler
36. Small American rail
38. File extension
39. Days (Spanish)
41. Everyone has one
43. South American plant
44. About ilium
46. Vanished American hoopster
Bison
48. A type of breakfast
52. Uncooked
53. Examined
54. Christian recluse
56. Strong posts
57. Some are for pasta
58. Skinny
59. School-based organizations

CLUES DOWN

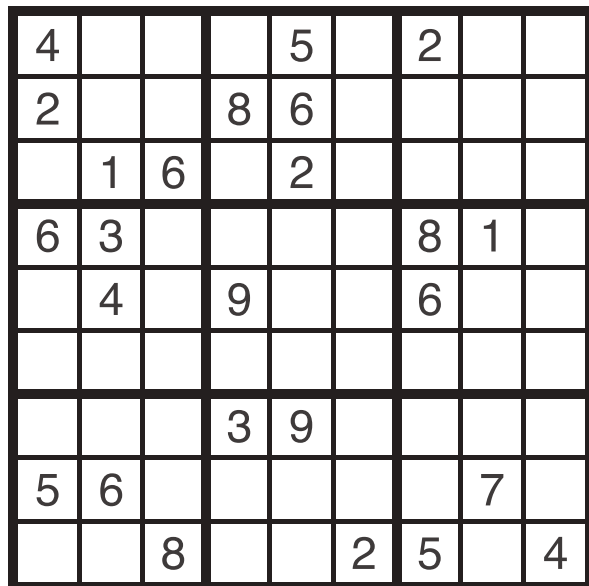
1. Ringlet
2. Type of complex
3. Midway between north and northwest
4. It becomes something bigger
5. German courtesy title
6. Genus of birds
7. Marked by public disorder
8. Least aggressive
9. Russian city
10. Insect repellent
11. Interruptions
12. Scoundrels
14. 1,000 calories
15. What one does overnight
18. Dwarf planet
20. Pipe
24. Black powdery substance
26. Set of four
28. Canned fishes
30. North Carolina college
32. Secured
34. A disgraceful event
35. Physical suffering
37. The home of the free
38. Some are boys
40. Satisfy
42. Makes very happy
43. South American plants
45. Modes of transportation
47. Female sheep
49. Type of torch
50. Piece of merchandise
51. Jump over
55. Wife of Amun



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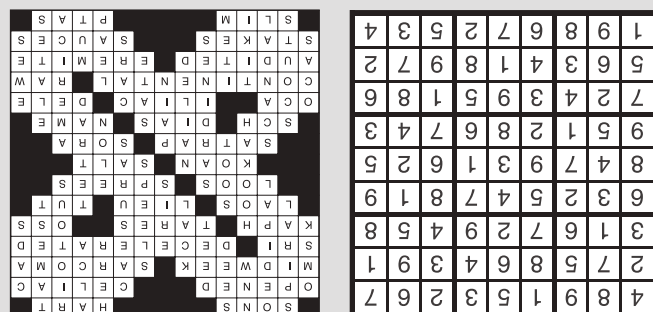
Sudoku

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.



Level: Intermediate

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



Halloween Safety Tips for Pets

Halloween is almost here, so don't let your pet get spooked! Here are a few tips from the Rutland County Humane Society (RCHS) to make sure your pet stays safe and happy this Halloween. Trick-or-treaters showing up at the door may frighten all but the most sociable and easy-going animals. If your pet doesn't do well with surprises and commotion, keep them in a safe place during these hours. Please keep in mind that chocolate is toxic to dogs and cats and artificial sweeteners, xylitol specifically, are highly toxic so be sure to keep the candy bowl somewhere where they can't sneak a taste (if your dog ingests chocolate, please call your veterinarian for advice). Costumes can be super fun, and some pets love them, but many can get stressed by being dressed up. If you do put a costume on your pet, make sure there aren't items on it that can be chewed or torn off and swallowed. Also, make sure they can walk properly in their costume. Finally, make sure your pet has ID. Trick-or-treaters and parties mean the door will be opening often, giving your pet a chance to make a run for it. If your pet goes missing, call the shelter at 802.483.6700 and we'll do what we can to get you reunited as quickly as possible. Happy Halloween!

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



MEET GENESIS - 7 YEAR OLD. NEUTERED MALE. PIT BULL MIX. Genesis is a goofy fella! He loves toys (squeaky toys are his favorites!) and he can catch them in mid air. He's a high energy dog who will need lots of exercise and playtime to keep him happy. He's a whole body wiggler who loves getting lots of love and attention and hanging out with his favorite people. He'll run to greet you just to say hello! He knows sit and is a smart fella who would love to learn more commands and maybe even some tricks. He was surrendered to RCHS because his owner didn't have enough time to care for him. He has lived with other dogs but if you have a dog at home it will be important that they meet to make sure they get along. He has no known history with children but cannot go to a home with cats. If you'd like to meet this adorable fella stop by the Adoption Center. It's open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 AM - 4 PM.

MEET HENRIETTA - 2 YEARS OLD. SPAYED FEMALE. DOMESTIC SHORT HAIR. BROWN TIGER/WHITE.

Henrietta is a sweet girl who has lots of love to give. She came to us as a stray from Rutland on June 15th. She is a princess but, she does have some special needs that have to do with her allergies. When she arrived, she had an eosinophilic ulcer on her top lip. Essentially, it is just an allergic reaction as she was covered in fleas and in rough shape when she first came here. Her condition makes her more sensitive to bacteria, certain foods, and flea bites. Going forward, she will need to be on a food that does not contain chicken, turkey, or beef. She will need to eat out of metal or ceramic bowls that are routinely washed, and it is very important that her new owners keep up on her flea preventives monthly. Although it sounds like a lot, what else would you expect from a princess? Her personality makes it all worth it! She got adopted but returned a week later because she was not getting along with the dog. Therefore, she should go to a dog free home. If she sounds like the cat for you, please stop by to visit with her!



RUTLAND COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

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OUR ADOPTION CENTER IS OPEN
TUESDAY-SATURDAY FROM
11AM-4PM.
NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED.



OFF THE SHELF

NEW BOOKS AND NEWS



Looking for something strange or spooky to read this weekend? We've got you covered!

The Dead Take the A Train by Richard Kadrey and Cassandra Khaw

Julie Crews is trying to establish herself as a major psychic operative in the NYC magic scene, and she'll work the most gruesome gigs to claw her way to the top. Desperate to break the dead-end grind, Julie summons a guardian angel for a quick career boost. But when her power grab accidentally releases an elder god hellbent on the annihilation of our galaxy, the body count rises rapidly.

Starling House by Alix Harrow

Opal is determined to find a better life for her younger brother, Jasper, one that gets them out of Eden, Kentucky, a town remarkable for only two things: bad luck and E. Starling, the reclusive nineteenth-century author of *The Underland*, who disappeared over a hundred years ago. All she left behind were dark rumors—and her home. Opal has been obsessed with *The Underland*

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since she was a child. When she gets the chance to step inside Starling House—and make some extra cash for her brother's escape fund—she can't resist. But sinister forces are digging deeper into the buried secrets of Starling House.

The Night House by Jo Nesbo

In the wake of his parents' tragic deaths, fourteen-year-old Richard Elauved has been sent to live with his aunt and uncle in the remote town of Ballantyne. Richard quickly earns a reputation as an outcast, and when a classmate named Tom goes missing, everyone suspects the angry new boy. No one believes him when he says the telephone booth out by the edge of the woods sucked Tom into the receiver like something out of a horror

movie. He traces the number that Tom prank-called from the phone booth to an abandoned house in the Mirror Forest. There he catches a glimpse of a terrifying face in the window. And then the voices begin to whisper in his ear...

The Quiet Room by Terry Miles

After nearly winning a mysterious alternate reality game so vast it uses the entire world as its canvas, Emily Connors suddenly finds herself trapped in a dimensional stream where the game does not exist. At all. Except... why do sinister figures show up to stop her every time she goes looking? Meanwhile, architect and theme-park designer Rowan Chess is having the weirdest month of his life, full of odd coincidences and people who appear one moment and vanish the next, with no trace of their existence. The game that is hiding from Emily seems to have found Rowan—with a vengeance. But only when Rowan and Emily meet do things start to get dangerous, for together they uncover a conspiracy far deeper and deadlier than either of them expected.



Brandon residents need to stay vigilant against racial profiling

October 16

- Police served a restraining order on an individual at the Brandon Police Department (BPD)

- Police assisted an elderly driver contacting AAA after she struck a curb, causing 2 tires to deflate.

- Police responded to a 911 hang up on High Pond Road.

- BPD H.E.A.T. Unit conducted directed speed enforcement on Grove Street. No violations observed.

- Vehicle stop on Conant Square for failure to maintain travel lane. Warning issued.

- Vehicle stop on Grove Street for defective equipment. Warning issued.

- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for defective taillight. It was determined that the driver had a suspended Georgia license and no valid license in Vermont. Ticket issued for driving without a valid license.

- Vehicle stop conducted on Franklin Street for defective equipment. Warning issued.

October 17

- BPD responded to report of theft of building materials on Grove Street. Investigation ongoing.

- BPD responded to Mulcahy Drive for a domestic disturbance. No physical altercation had taken place and the complainant was advised how to obtain a relief from abuse order to prevent further incidents.

- Vehicle stop on Grove Street. Warning issued.

- BPD stopped a vehicle on Grove Street in connection with a domestic disturbance on Mulcahy Drive. The operator was alleged to be intoxicated but officers found no evidence of inebriation after a sobriety test. The operator left the scene without further incident.

- Vehicle stop on Grove Street for failure to make way for a law enforcement vehicle. Ticket issued.

- Directed patrol on Forestdale Road. No suspicious activity observed.

October 17

- Vehicle stop on Town Farm Road for failure to maintain travel lane. Warning issued.

- BPD stopped a vehicle on Center Street for excessive speed. Officers detected signs of intoxication. Steven S. Gabaree III, 31, of Hinesburg, VT was arrested and charged with DUI-1st Offense. Gabaree was issued a citation to appear in Rutland County Superior

Brandon Police Report

Court-Criminal Division on 10/30/23 at 10 am for arraignment. He was also issued tickets for speeding, passing on the left, failure to yield at a yellow light, and failure to signal a turn.

October 18

- BPD attempted to serve restraining orders on two transient individuals who were believed to be in Brandon. It was later determined that they were in the town of Bristol and the paperwork was transferred to the police department there.

- BPD responded to a report of domestic disturbance on Mulcahy Drive, but the responding officers were unable to locate the source of the reported yelling.

- BPD received a tip about criminal activity in Rutland County. Local and state law enforcement were advised. Investigation ongoing.

- Vehicle stop on Champlain Street for a stop-sign violation. Warning issued.

- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for defective equipment. Warning issued.

- Vehicle stop on Grove Street for failure to display license plates. Warning issued.

October 19

- Accidental 911 hang-up call from Neshobe School. A student had accidentally called 911 from the nurse's office. No police response was necessary.

- A lost wallet was turned into BPD. The owner was identified and contacted about retrieval.

- BPD responded to Forestdale Road for a report of an elderly woman who had fallen in the roadway. The responding officer recognized the woman from previous incidents and understood she suffered from cognitive issues. She was uninjured. The officer escorted her home and left her in the care of her husband.

- Officers responded to Forestdale Road for a report of an erratic vehicle. The responding officer was unable to locate the car.

- Police responded to a home on Forestdale Road for a welfare check. As a result of observations, a report was filed with the Department of Children and (See Police report, Page 19)

LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



THE BFPL GREAT RENOVATION CONTINUES THIS PAST WEEK

with pouring of the elevator room concrete foundation on the south side of the building, construction of a masonry wall at the basement level between the elevator room and the basement interior spaces, installation of lateral (horizontal) braces in the third floor ceiling, reinforcing of roof joists/first floor joists/second floor joists that had been cut out in years past, installation of plywood subfloor in the 1967 addition second floor to provide a solid surface for new carpeting and preparation for construction of interior wall partitions to accommodate the new layout. There have been a few challenges with the condition of the

foundation and brick walls, but everything has been resolved and we will start pouring the foundation for the new addition very soon. Stay tuned!



Police report

(Continued from Page 18)
Families.

- Directed patrol at the intersection of Park and Franklin Streets. No violations observed.
- Vehicle stop on Grove Street for defective equipment. Warning issued.
- BPD responded to the Vermont Liquor Outlet on Conant Square for a report of an unknown individual who had struck a vehicle in the parking lot and fled the scene. The operator was later identified as Sara E. Putnam, 63, of Brandon. Putnam was charged with leaving the scene of an accident and issued a citation to appear in Rutland Superior Court on 12/11/23 at 10 am for arraignment.
- BPD assisted Vermont State Police with a 2-car crash that occurred near the Brandon-Pittsford line.

October 20

- BPD responded to a residence on Champlain Street for a juvenile acting aggressively toward his parents. The juvenile volunteered to go to Rutland Hospital to speak with a counselor.
- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for defective equipment. Warning issued.
- Officers responded to a domestic disturbance on North

Street. No crimes were observed and the parties were separated.

October 21

- BPD responded to McConnell Road for a domestic disturbance. Colby J. Frazier, 31, of Brandon was charged with Domestic Assault and Domestic Assault Committed in Presence of a Child. Frazier was given a citation to appear in Rutland County Superior Court on 10/23/23 at 12:30 pm for arraignment.
- Public assist on Mulcahy Drive regarding a resident's e-mail possibly being hacked. Case generated for documentation.
- BPD located a "be on the lookout" vehicle after it crashed into a parked car. The driver was elderly and had lost visibility when the car's windows fogged up.
- Minor vehicle crash on Center Street when someone trying to park struck another parked car. No injuries reported and the parties exchanged insurance information.
- Vehicle stop on Grove Street for defective equipment. Warning issued.
- Property watch at a business on McConnell Road.

October 22

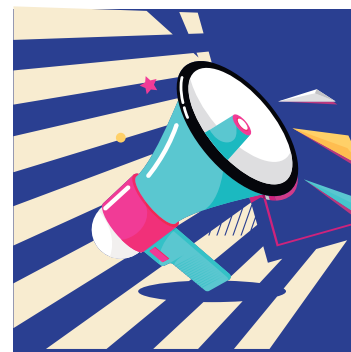
- Traffic enforcement on Cen-

ter Street. Two vehicles were stopped, resulting in 3 tickets issued including for driving with a civilly suspended license, unregistered vehicle, and uninsured vehicle.

- Vehicle stop for cell phone use on Franklin Street. The driver explained that her husband had been in an accident in New Hampshire and she was trying to find information. Warning issued.
- BPD received a tip about a State Police incident in Pittsford. The information was related to Vermont State Police.
- An officer on patrol observed what appeared to be an adult photographing children near Cattails Restaurant on Route 7. Investigation revealed that the photographer was simply photographing fall foliage.
- Vehicle Stop on Grove Street for defective equipment. Warning issued.
- Officers responded to a complaint of a man throwing food from a cooking pan onto his neighbor's lawn. Officers determined no crime had been committed.
- Officers determined that a 911 hang-up call from Jiffy Mart on Grove Street was not an emergency.
- A business owner on Conant Square called BPD to report a woman who was verbally harassing him over the phone

because of his ethnicity, accusing him of supporting terrorist organizations. The woman was contacted and advised to cease the harassment or face criminal charges.

- Vehicle stop on Grove Street for multiple equipment violations and failure to provide proof of insurance. Driver was issued two tickets and the car was towed from the scene. The acquaintance who was called to come pick the driver up turned out to have an outstanding warrant in Addison County for Domestic Assault. Lance Laraway, 45, of Salisbury was issued a citation to appear at Addison County Superior Court on 10/23/23 at 12:30 for arraignment.



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Reporter News Media Corp., Publisher

• Average number of copies each issue during 12 preceding months.

* Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date.

10/25/23

Like all things vintage?

Mim's Photos

are on page 16!



WEEKLY HOROSCOPE



tion and discover if the other party is feeling the same way.

LEO July 23–Aug. 23

Leo, when you are full of self-confidence, others' actions do not bother you much. Those people can be arrogant or even abrasive and you'll be comfortable in your skin.

VIRGO Aug. 24–Sept. 22

Virgo, ambition may be good for the workplace, but you need it in your personal life as well. Figure out some goals on a personal or even romantic level, and get started.

LIBRA Sept. 23–Oct. 23

Be aware of someone who is trying to take advantage of you, Libra. Remind that person that you have strict limits. Never get pushed in a direction you do not want to go.

SCORPIO Oct. 24–Nov. 22

Scorpio, you do not have to change your plans or ambitions to what others want. Stick with your own ideas and goals and you'll be surprised at what you can accomplish.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 23–Dec. 21

A friend might want to sell you on some big idea this week, Sagittarius. It may ultimately prove a sound venture, but you need to do your own research and figure things out for yourself.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22–Jan. 20

Surround yourself with the best friends you can find, Capricorn. These people will have your back when a tricky situation pops up sooner than you might think.

AQUARIUS Jan. 21–Feb. 18

Aquarius, embrace any challenges that arise in the days ahead. You can be successful if you maintain your focus and prevent distractions from blocking your path forward.

PISCES Feb. 19–March 20

Pisces, if everyone seems to be moving at a faster pace than you, you may feel pressured to speed up. Just keep working at a rate that is comfortable for you.



FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

- Oct. 27 Joe Medicine Crow, Native American writer, historian and Crow Nation Chief (d)
- Oct. 28 Anne Perry, author (85)
- Oct. 29 Isao Takahata, co-founder of Studio Ghibli (d)
- Oct. 30 Louis Malle, filmmaker (d)
- Oct. 31 Katsushika Hokusai, printmaker (d)
- Nov. 1 Toni Collette, actor (51)
- Nov. 2 K. D. Lang, singer-songwriter (62)

ARIES March 21–April 20

Aries, beware of misinformation and make an effort to form your own educated opinion. Take everything with a grain of salt and verify the facts.

TAURUS April 21–May 21

If someone is struggling right now, show some support or offer helpful words, Taurus. A small gesture can go a long way, even if you do not think it will have a major impact.

GEMINI May 22–June 21

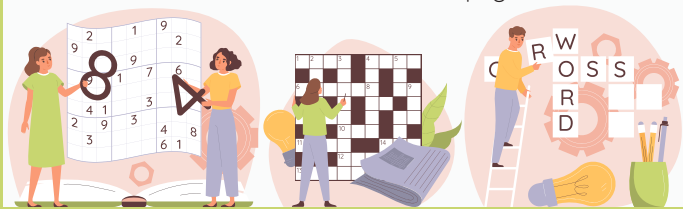
Gemini, if you are feeling out of sorts in a situation or do not know how to proceed, ask someone who has been in this situation before. It never hurts to ask for help.

CANCER June 22–July 22

It is time to balance the energy between yourself and another person that has felt cumbersome, Cancer. Start with a conversa-

Sharpen your mind with our puzzles.

See page 17



Restaurant guide

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Café Provence

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De la Provence à Vous

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The Giant Flowerpots of Brandon

BY LYN DESMARAIS

This is the first in a series about local people who are beautifying Brandon.

The Giant Flowerpots Even before Segment 6 made tremendous changes to the look of downtown Brandon, volunteers were sprucing it up in many ways. A Brandonite put it succinctly: “It’s gone from drab to fab.” Although that may seem a harsh statement, there are many people who remember Brandon in the 1970s and 1980s, and who live here still.

Judy Bunde came the Boston area, where she owned a commercial bakery for twenty years, to own and run The Inn on Park Street in Brandon. She joined the Brandon Chamber of Commerce in 2004 and later the Downtown Brandon Alliance. Judy bought 40 gray plastic pots in 2013 that stand outside businesses all summer.

“I had been wanting to do something to spruce up the sidewalk spaces and encourage people to walk and shop throughout downtown. So, the first 40 pots were filled with annuals. I learned the ‘thrilling, spilling, and filling’ rule and followed it to great effect. I bought plants from Woods, Pine Hill (now Virgil and Constance), and Golden Russet Farm. We buy our soil and fertilizer from Blue Seal. The last few years, I bought plants from Miller Hill Farm. We were able to get 3-foot Christmas trees from Red Sled Farm in Shoreham for 2 years. After 10 years of running it myself and cobbling together volunteers, I asked for help and three people volunteered to take it over: Joan Rowe, Cindy Thomas, and Jean Somerset.”

Cindy and Ed Thomas do a lot of volunteering in Bran-

don, especially with flowers, town gardens, clean-ups, and Christmas lights and decorations. They lived and worked in New Jersey before coming to Vermont. All through the 1990s they, with their daughter, came to Vermont each summer. In 1994, they stayed in Brandon at the Old Mill Inn Bed and Breakfast. That weekend they met Tom and Judy Brown, who became great friends. They ended up buying the Inn and moving here permanently. They got involved in the Chamber and the DBA. “We love Brandon, we like to be involved. We love to work.” From a clean-up outside of Barn Opera to Christmas decorations, they cheerfully always say yes to helping out if they possibly can.

Joan Rowe has been a realtor in town for nearly 40 years and a member of the Chamber for 30+. “You don’t have to have a business to be a member of the Chamber. Individuals can join, please do so! The Chamber does so much for the town. Bernie Carr and others always make the meetings such fun.”

With Judy, Cindy and Jean, she took over the flower-pot project gladly. “We work so well together that it’s just not a chore. Judy still does the fundraising. We get to have all the fun, planting the pots. Carl Phelps and Nan Jenks Jay of Miller Hill Farm order our annuals and care for them until they are ready to be planted. The pots are put only in front of businesses that agree to water. We cannot do the flower pots without our great waterers. Thank you!”

When Judy asked for help it was a perfect match. “I love flowers and I love this town. We love having others help. We’re happy to teach anyone what we

are doing.” The next challenge is autumn plantings. “After you take the annual flowers out at the end of September, we need something more. The first year we tried pumpkins and gourds. It looked great. But it didn’t take off in year two. We need a reliable source of mini pumpkins and gourds. We’re open to ideas.”

Jean Somerset raised her kids in Killington. She was a teacher and principal in both Killington and Rutland. “After my kids finished college, I moved west with my husband, Harold. We kept a Vermont home and moved back permanently to Brandon in 2015. Brandon is so beautiful, and I love to be involved, so like the others I joined the Chamber. I’m also deeply interested in art, so I joined the BAG (Brandon Artists Guild).”

Jean also volunteers at Neshobe School in the Everyone Wins reading program. Jean echoes Joan, Cindy and Judy. She loves the beauty and artistry of flowers. She wants to contribute and help make the downtown beautiful. And she, too, encourages everyone to join something in town: the Chamber, the DBA, the BAG, Everyone Wins, a choir, a church or another group. “It’s the fastest way to meet people. The groups are fun, they do good things for the town, and while doing good things, you can make great friends and immerse yourselves in the community here.”

Everyone in this article thanked many people for their help. Judy especially wants to thank all the people and businesses who donate money for the plants and soil each year. The flowers alone cost \$2,000.

Haunted House

(Continued from Page 1)
the crowd energized.

When our turn came to enter the house itself, we were immediately impressed by the attention to horrific detail everywhere. This was not a Home Depot special. Some real thought and creativity went into the design and execution. Without spoiling the effect for those who plan to go next weekend, I can say kudos to the

whole team on a job well done. No photos of the interior have been included here to preserve the fun.

We were led through the labyrinthine house by an “evil clown” who made sure no one strayed off course. Room after room of truly creative scenes. Some were creepy, some were gory, some were playfully cheesy, but they were all done to a very high standard and the



THE BONES BROTHERS rock out with Halloween classics like “Monster Mash” to entertain the waiting crowds at the Pittsford Haunted House. After a three-year COVID hiatus, the house is back with a vengeance. An excellent experience all around.



THE “HOCUS POCUS” witches at the Pittsford Haunted House.

Photos by Steven Jupiter

screams that echoed through the hallways were the genuine reactions of thrill-seekers taken by surprise. It took about 30 minutes to get through the entire house.

When we re-emerged, the line to get in was still as long as it had been when we were in it. And when we got back down

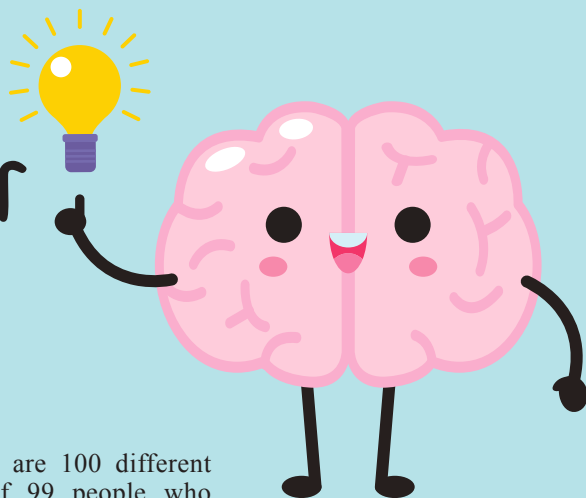
to the parking lot on Plains Road, close to 9:00, there were still about 100 people waiting for their wagon ride up to the house. Folks had come from near and far, some even in costume. At only \$10 per person, it was definitely worth the trip. The proceeds all go to the Pittsford Fire Department.

If the crowds on Friday night were any indication, it’s go-

ing to be a great fundraiser for Pittsford FD. And a great way to get in the Halloween spirit for the rest of us.

The Pittsford Haunted House will be open from 6 to 9 on Friday 10/27 and Saturday 10/28, on Plains Road next to the Pittsford Town Office.

Brandon Brain Buster Answered



Answer: A

This question might seem daunting at first, but there’s a straightforward way to think about it that doesn’t involve much math: if the plane can hold only 99 people and 100 want to buy seats, then there will always be 1 person out of the 100 who doesn’t get a seat. Since that person can be any of the 100, there are 100 people who could be the one who is left out. For each of those 100 people, there’s a corresponding group of 99 people who get tickets.

So, there are 100 different groups of 99 people who could fill the plane.

It may be easier to conceptualize this if we reduce the number of people to 5 and call them A, B, C, D, and E. If we had these 5 people and a car that could only seat 4 people, how many different groups could fill the car? Well, any of the people could be the 1 person left out, which would leave the remaining 4 people to get seats in the car:

Left out	Got seats
A	B, C, D, E
B	A, C, D, E
C	A, B, D, E
D	A, B, C, E
E	A, B, C, D

It would be the same pattern if we expanded the group to 100. If there are 100 people who could get left out, there are 100 groups of 99 people who could get seats on the plane.

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Brandon SB

(Continued from Page 1)

full text of which can be found on the town's website in the Selectboard packet for 10/23/23. Mr. Moore thanked the coaches and sponsors for the fall soccer and flag football teams. He also announced open registration for the basketball season that will begin in November.

Mr. Coolidge asked Mr. Moore about the plan to hire paid "commissioners" to oversee the sports programs. Mr. Moore responded that he had a meeting set up with someone to oversee "non-traditional" sports, such as martial arts and dance. Mr. Moore advised the Board that the days of unpaid volunteer supervision are drawing to a close and that paid supervisors are the likely path forward.

"The idea that volunteers will solve our problems is not where we are right now," said Mr. Moore.

PUBLIC COMMENT

During the Public Comment segment of the meeting, Mr. Coolidge conveyed dismay that the Brandon Police Department (BPD) had declined to send a representative to the Neshobe Elementary School to discuss the role of the police department in the community. Instead, Neshobe had reached out to the Burlington PD, which sent a K-9 unit. Mr. Coolidge saw this as "a wasted opportunity" for BPD.

BPD Chief David Kachajian was in attendance and stated that he had no recollection of an invitation from Neshobe School and that he would be happy to reach out to clear up any misunderstandings about what had happened.

Jim Emerson of the Brandon Energy announced a Button-Up event for homeowners on Wednesday, November 8 from 5:30 to 7 pm in the Town Hall. The event is meant to help residents weatherize their homes for greater energy efficiency in winter. Those interested can register online at Solarfest.org.

BUDGET WORKSHOP DATES

Dates were announced for the upcoming series of budget workshops for fiscal year 2025:

Wednesday, November 8 from 7 to 9 pm

Monday, November 20 from 6 to 8 pm

Tuesday, December 5 from 6 to 8 pm

Monday, December 18 from 6 to 8 pm

All budget meetings are open to the public and will be held in the downstairs meeting area of the Town Hall. These meetings will not be available on Zoom.

PRIVATE ROAD NAMED

The Board approved the creation of a private road off Steinberg Road, to be called "Juniper Lane." The new road had been warned as "Jupiter Lane," but the requestor

had asked for a last-minute change to "Juniper."

POTENTIAL POLICE CONTRACT WITH GOSHEN

The Board picked up a discussion it had left off at the previous meeting concerning the potential for a contract for police services between Brandon and Goshen. Currently, Goshen does not have its own department and relies primarily on the Vermont State Police (VSP) for law enforcement services. However, Brandon PD (BPD) is sometimes called to Goshen to assist VSP or to handle emergency calls that VSP cannot respond to quickly.

At a prior meeting, the Board discussed whether it made sense for Brandon to pursue a formal arrangement with Goshen that would compensate Brandon for the services of its police department. The Board invited BPD Chief Kachajian to Monday's meeting to discuss the idea before deciding whether to authorize Town Manager Hopkins to begin talks with Goshen.

Chief Kachajian provided a model contract to the Board and suggested a compensation structure of a \$4200 yearly fee plus \$150 per call (the model contract can be found in the Selectboard packet for 10/23). The arrangement would involve emergency calls only. Any other services, such as traffic enforcement, would be added on costs. Chief Kachajian did not believe that the anticipated volume of calls from Goshen would be a strain on BPD and saw Goshen as "an extension of Forestdale." Over the last year, BPD responded to 4 calls in Goshen, one of which was a serious car accident.

Chief Kachajian emphasized that Brandon would remain the department's priority but also advised the Board that the current state-run dispatch system would be ending in the near future and that it made sense to "regionalize" law-enforcement services to cut costs. The formal contract that the Brandon Fire Department has with Goshen was cited as positive example of such an arrangement.

The Board expressed concern that the proposal would stretch BPD's resources too thin and perhaps jeopardize the safety of Brandon residents, but Chief Kachajian insisted that BPD had the resources to handle the increased call volume, which promoted Mr. Guiles to question whether BPD was in fact over-resourced.

Mr. Wyman asked what would happen if BPD officers were occupied in Goshen and a call came for assistance in Brandon. Chief Kachajian assured the Board that the volume of calls from Goshen was not that large but in any such scenario, assistance from Pittsford

or VSP could be requested in Brandon.

Working out the per-capita costs of BPD for Brandon taxpayers, the Board suggested that the flat-fee-plus-calls structure proposed by the Chief potentially undersold the actual cost to Brandon taxpayers, who pay roughly \$209 per head for police services every year. The proposed fee to Goshen would charge only \$24 per head, though the services the town received would be less than those received by Brandon residents. An equal per-capita cost to Goshen would result in a yearly charge of approximately \$36,000 instead of \$4,200.

Mr. Hopkins advocated in favor of the proposal, noting that Brandon is a subregional hub and should be the leader in emergency services for the area.

Board member Cecil Reniche-Smith noted that as that hub, Brandon should seek to ensure that smaller communities could find ways to be as safe as Brandon residents.

Mr. Guiles opposed the proposal on the grounds that it would "enlarge" BPD.

Ultimately, Mr. Guiles moved that talks with Goshen not be pursued by Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Wyman and Mr. Coolidge joined him in opposition. Ms. Reniche-Smith and Board member Heather Nelson voted in favor of allowing Mr. Hopkins to open discussion with Goshen.

ADOPTION OF MUNICIPAL POLICIES AND CODES

The Board voted to adopt an updated set of policies and codes from the Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP) in order to remain eligible for grants through the program. Currently the Brandon Free Public Library is seeking money through the program, which would not be available if the town did not adopt the VCDP's policies.

DISCUSSION OF TOWN SOLAR PROJECT

The Board approved a plan to assess the Brandon Industrial Park as a potential site for a town-owned solar array. The proposed site is located off of Arnold District Road and has proved difficult to develop because of its rocky terrain.

Mr. Wyman expressed concern that the project for which the ARPA funds had been allocated was supposed to have the backing of both the Fire District and the School District whereas the project as presented seemed to be entirely a town endeavor. Mr. Guiles replied that both the Fire and the School District would be brought in when there was a formal proposal to move ahead on at a particular site.

Mr. Wyman also expressed concern about the future costs of decommissioning old solar panels.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

OTTER VALLEY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

OVUUSD is seeking to fill the following School Board vacant seats:

1 - Brandon Representative

1 - Pittsford Representative

The appointed school board members for these seats must be a resident of the respective town and would serve through to the next election in March 2024.

Interested parties should send a letter identifying the seat they wish to be considered for and outlining why they would be a good addition to the Board to Melinda Piper at mpiper@mesu.org by no later than Thursday, November 2, 2023.

The Board intends to take action at the following OVUU School Board meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2023 at 6:00 PM at the OVUHS Library.

Mr. Guiles, Ms. Reniche-Smith, and Jim Emerson all assured him that the panels were designed to last for decades and even old panels could be resold or recycled, especially as the technology continued to improve.

Mr. Hopkins also stated that borrowing costs for such projects were lower for a municipality than for private borrowers, making the project more profitable for Brandon than for a private company. Even with the borrowing costs outlined in the proposal (which can be found in the Selectboard packet for 10/23), it is projected that accumulated cash flow from the project would range from \$900K to \$1.1 million over the course of 10 to 20 years. The town would need to borrow \$531,089 to realize the project, according to the proposal.

The final vote to move forward with an assessment of the Brandon Industrial Park Site was 3 to 2, with Mr. Wyman and Mr. Coolidge opposed.

MUNICIPAL EV CHARGERS

The Board unanimously decided not to renew the warranty on the town-owned electric-vehicle chargers in the municipal parking lot behind the Dunkin' Donuts on Conant Square. The cost to replace exhausted charger heads would be less than the cost of maintaining the warranty.

The Board also approved an increase in the rates charged to electric-car owners using the EV chargers. The rates went from \$0.17/kWh for electricity and \$0.75 per plug-in hour to \$0.25/kWh and \$1.25 per plug-in hour. The increase was seen as necessary to offset any upcoming replacement and/or maintenance costs while

remaining competitive with surrounding communities that also offer EV chargers.

The surrounding discussion involved the extent to which Brandon needed to remain attractive to electric-car owners looking for a place to charge their vehicles and to what extent the chargers themselves would be an expense to the town. Currently, the chargers brought in enough to break even. The higher rates will allow the town to see a greater profit on them.

ELECTRIC MOTORCYCLE FOR BRANDON PD

The Board voted not to authorize the expenditure of \$18,318 in grant money for an electric motorcycle for the Brandon PD. The money came through the office of Senator Sanders.

Mr. Guiles stated that he did not feel that BPD needed a second electric motorcycle, especially since its current one does not see much use. A discussion ensued between Mr. Guiles and BPD Chief Kachajian as to the value of an electric motorcycle to the department and whether the department was actually committed to renewable energy, a claim that Mr. Guiles disputed.

The voted not to approve the purchase order but will await further information from Senator Sanders's office as to whether the grant money can be applied to something else.

WARRANT

The Board's final piece of public business was the unanimous approval of a warrant to cover expenses in the amount of \$103,170.89.

Pittsford Historical Society illuminates Belcher family history

BY STEPHEN BELCHER

PITTSFORD—The Pittsford Historical Society held its Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 15, in the Fellowship Hall of the Congregational Church in Pittsford. Following the meeting, Steve Belcher offered a presentation on the early career of Hilda Belcher (1881-1963), documented by a large archive of letters and paintings preserved in the family house. The focus was on three early paintings by Hilda that brought her recognition and some success: “The Checkered Dress” (1907), and the letters proved that the face in the painting is that of Georgia O’Keeffe; “Young Girl in Yellow” (1908), that won the Strathmore Prize (\$500) offered by a paper company producing watercolor paper; and “Young Girl in White” (1909), which won the Beal Prize of the NY Water Color Club (the take, combining prize and purchase price of the painting, again totaled \$500).

The presentation included family history: the period 1906-1910 marked six deaths in the family, as well as a marriage and a birth. The first death was that of Hilda’s father in 1906; he died of a heart attack walking from his lodging

in Mt. Holly, Pennsylvania to the brickworks. His widow returned to Pittsford, where she had built a house in 1880 at the time of the marriage. In the following years, Margaret Colburn – who in 1909 married Hilda’s brother Stephen – lost her grandfather, an aunt, and her grandmother. Martha Belcher, Hilda’s mother, lost her sisters. One sister, mentally disturbed, died in White Plains, New York, where she had been placed in care. A pair of letters from Martha’s son—dated Oct. 10 and Oct. 12, 1909—illustrate the changes: the first informs his mother that he has made arrangements to ship the late aunt’s effects to Pittsford. Two days later, he swears his mother to secrecy on news that will become evident in June of 1910: his wife was pregnant. In 1910, Jane Belcher was born; in later life, she became an inspirational force for the Pittsford Historical Society.

The focus was on three early paintings by Hilda that brought her recognition and some success.

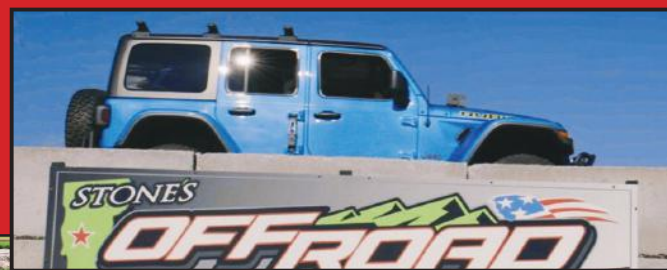
“THE CHECKERED DRESS” by Hilda Belcher. The model for this painting was none other than Georgia O’Keeffe. Hilda Belcher was an accomplished, award-winning painting with Pittsford roots.



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