

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

A community supported newspaper

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Wednesday, August 28, 2024

\$1



NAMES LOST

Genealogist Michael F. Dwyer explores the history of the Doaner, Loya, and Baldwin families.

PG. 2

OPEN FARM DAY

Pittsford's Willis Towne Farm welcomed visitors over the weekend to watch demonstrations of sheep herding and shearing.

PG. 3

MOLD PROBLEM

Mold found in the 7th grade wing at OVUM/HS will force students and staff to make the best of an unfortunate situation.

PGS. 4



RARE CAT

An endangered Canada lynx was spotted in Rutland County for the first time in Vermont since 2018.

PG. 4

WINTER MARKET

The Winter Farmers Market will return to Rutland this November.

PG. 5



PG. 10



Pittsford SB talks gravel, conduct, and helmets

BY STEVEN JUPITER

PITTSFORD—The Pittsford Selectboard convened for its regular meeting on Wednesday, August 21. At the beginning of the meeting, board member Mark Winslow requested revisions to the minutes from the board's August 7 meeting to reflect more accurately the discussion that the board had had regarding allegations by a resident of improper

(See Pittsford SB, Page 7)

Brandon SB discusses budget and dog park

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—The Brandon SB convened for its regular meeting on Monday evening.

BUDGET COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The sole item of new business on the agenda was the appointment of 5 civilians to the Budget Committee for Fiscal

(See Brandon SB, Page 20)



BRYCEN GANDIN (ABOVE) crosses the finish line for the 5k. On the left is Colton Beede as he wins the Fun Run.

It was a joyful Chittenden Day

BY GEORGE FJELD

CHITTENDEN—On a gorgeous Vermont summer day, about 200 people gathered in front of the Barstow School for a fun-filled event of food and games. There was ample opportunity to

greet and catch up with friends and neighbors. The day started with the Barstow Bolt Fun Run, sponsored by the Barstow PTO. Colton Beede won the Fun Run with a time of 7:53 and Brycen Gandin won the 5K with a time

of 25:06. The Chittenden Volunteer Fire Department sold burgers and hotdogs at their BBQ all afternoon. The Chittenden Public Library gave away ice cream at their table amongst all the vendors.

Naylor & Breen golf tourney raises awareness of rare disease with local significance

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—Almost everyone in the Brandon area has been touched in one way or another by Naylor & Breen, the construction company founded by Rob Naylor and Peter Breen in 1978. Over the years, the two men have provided employment for hundreds of tradespeople in the area, supervised the construction of many homes and buildings, and donated significant amounts of time, energy, and money to local causes. The company's impact is felt all over the region.



But now the generosity is being reciprocated. Rob Naylor has Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP), an extremely rare neurodegenerative disease for which there is no treatment and no cure. On Friday, August 23, 124 golfers descended upon the Neshobe Golf Club in Brandon to raise money and awareness for PSP at the Naylor & Breen Golf Tourney.

CHRIS AND ROB Naylor (left and center) with their daughter, Lexi (right), at their home on Lake Dunmore. Rob is living with PSP, a rare neurodegenerative disease.

Names lost in Vermont, Part 31: Doaner, Loya, and Baldwin

BY MICHAEL F. DWYER

Previous brushes with the Daunais surname [Marguerite Daunais was the mother of Augustin Gingras aka Austin Shaugraw, Lost Names in Vermont, Part 10] made me wonder if the surname Doaner evolved from

Daunais. Having taught two generations of Doaners at Otter Valley, I needed to work my way backwards in their ancestry to prove or disprove my hunch.

Allan R. Doaner (1948–2016) owned Doaner’s TV Center in Brandon. His father Harry Wil-

liam Doaner, Sr. (1909–1984) married on April 30, 1932 Laura Jane Ploof at the parsonage of the Pittsford Congregational Church. We see variations of the name with Harry’s grandfather, Frank Doney, age 28, as listed in the 1880 census of Shoreham, Vermont, where several branches of his family had settled. It gets even trickier with trying to find Frank as a child in the 1860 census. One had to have cast a wide net to have discovered Francis, age 9, in the 1860 census of Chazy, New York. His father was recorded as Costar Donie, age 50 [sic], born in New York. The garbled family name did not fare much better in the 1850 census when the father’s name was written as Comska Donah, age 30, born in Canada. At least “Comska’s” age was correct in this instance. He proved to be Constant Daunais, son of Constant Daunais and Marie-Josepte Gibeault, born in L’Acadie, Québec, on October 2, 1820. His ancestor, Antoine Duanay, from Lucon, Vendée, France, arrived in Québec by 1661. At Boucherville, he married Marie-Anne Richard on August 24, 1669. All the vari-

ous branches of Doaner/Doners, etc. descend from this couple.

Like many other Québec migrants we have studied in this series, Constant Daunais, moved first to Chazy, New York in the 1840s, where he married Clara Janot Lachapelle. They had at least ten children, their births unrecorded. After many moves, Constant spent his last days with daughter Belle Oakes in Orwell, where he died on December 10, 1908. A brief death notice in the Middlebury Register exaggerated his age by a decade: “Mr. Doner of Shoreham died at his daughter’s, Mrs. Oakes, in Orwell, last Friday, from a fall. He was 98 years and eleven months old.”

Other branches of the Daunais



MARGARET BALDWIN, WIFE of Eli Donah.

family also settled in our area. Thomas Donar, brother of Marguerite Daunais [Gingras, above] lived in Peru, New York, before his children moved to Vermont. As recorded in the 1860 census, Thomas’s son Simon, 16, is labeled as “born idiotic” — harsh terminology by our standards today to describe a deaf-mute child. Another son, Andrew Doaner, made his way to Vermont

(See Names lost, Page 8)

1850 United States Federal Census for Comska Donah

NAME	AGE	SEX	COLOR	INDUSTRY	PROPERTY
Comska Donah	30	M	W		
Marie-Josepte Gibeault	28	F	B		
Francis	9	M	B		
Other family members					

1860 United States Federal Census for Costar Donie

NAME	AGE	SEX	COLOR	INDUSTRY	PROPERTY
Costar Donie	50	M	B	Day Laborer	
Other family members					

TOP: 1850 CENSUS. Comska Donah. More garbled names; Bottom: 1860 census. Costar Donie [Constant Daunais] is the ancestor of the Brandon Doaners.

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2024 EVENTS AT THE BRANDON TOWN HALL

Saturday, Sept. 21, 7:00 pm.
Silent Movie... "Speedy" (1928)

Harold Lloyd’s final silent feature with a tribute to NYC, baseball, and the idea that nice guys can indeed finish first. Highlighted by an exciting race to the finish and an extended cameo from none other than Babe Ruth!

Sponsored by Dick & Debbie Kirby, Dorothy Leysath & Edward Loedding, John & Lynn Wilson, American Legion Post 55, Brandon, Donald & Dolores Furnari, Sarah & Louis Pattis.

Sunday, Sept. 22, 12:30–1:45 pm, and 2:00 pm.
No Strings Marionettes... "Nick of Time".

Finger puppet workshop
Show starts at 2:00 pm. The No Strings Marionette Company invite you to make a finger puppet at their workshop before the actual show. Nick of Time is a time travel adventure complete with dinosaurs from the past and mutants from the future.

Sponsored by Bill & Amanda Berry, Sam & Sharon Glaser, Sally Wood, Fyles Bros.

Inc., Tracy Holden & Kirk Thomas, Sarah & Louis Pattis, Vermont Country Store, Brandon Artist Guild.

Sunday, Sept. 29, 7:00 pm.
Snake Mountain Bluegrass

Snake Mountain’s “toe-tapping tunes combine the best of modern and traditional bluegrass” (Seven Days) with harmonies and songs that vary in tempo from hard driving breakdowns to softer, folk-type arrangements.

Sponsored by Neil Silins & Claire Astone.

Friday, Oct. 4, 7:30 pm.
The Mamajamas

Returning for their 3rd year, this co-ed a Capella group from Middlebury College brings exciting original arrangements, stretching their harmonic vocabulary, all the while surpassing the value of true camaraderie and good old-fashioned fun.

Sponsored by Sally Wood, Tracy Holden & Kirk Thomas, Kathy & Bob Clark, Sally Wood, Lisa & Mickey Peluso



Saturday, Oct. 5, 7:30 pm.
Blues Without Borders

Expect to hear covers of blues rock tunes, a few classics, and many new songs from today’s hottest acts plus some original music.

Sponsored by Bill & Amanda Berry, Chris & Rob Naylor.

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FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Coral Ward-Torelli, Zach Walsh, Katie Davis, Pam Reed, Sam Latreille, Alisa Breau, Diane Randall, Laurie Hemple, Mandy Wheeler, Alia Dick. Not Pictured: Hailey Watters, Carolyn Bruce.

Photo by Max Burman

RNESU honors local faculty and staff members' contribution to the school system

Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union announced its celebration of contribution honorees. According to Max Burman, RNESU Coordinator of Communications, "these are the staff members who have made outstanding contributions and have demonstrated an ongoing commitment to excellence. RNESU is dedicated to the development of character, competence, creativity and community and we have a faculty and staff that embody these qualities on a daily basis. Although it is never easy to celebrate only a few individuals, this year's recipients are extremely deserving of the recognition. It is our distinct honor and privilege to call them colleagues and members of the RNESU professional community serving our schools, its students, and families."

The 2023-2024 school year honorees include:

DISTINGUISHED LICENSED PROFESSIONALS:

- Coral Ward-Torelli – Barstow Memorial School
- Carolyn Bruce – Lothrop School
- Alia Dick – Neshobe School
- Sam Latreille – Otter Creek Academy
- Hailey Watters – Otter Valley Union Middle and High School

School Alisa Breau – RNESU OUTSTANDING SUPPORT STAFF:

- Zach Walsh – Barstow Memorial School
- Laurie Hemple – Lothrop School
- Mandy Wheeler – Neshobe School
- Diane Randall – Otter Creek Academy
- Katie Davis – Otter Valley Union Middle and High School
- Pam Reed – RNESU

In addition to the above honors, Alia Dick and Hailey Watters, are RNESU's nominees for the 2024 UVM Teacher of the Year award.

Fun filled Open Farm Day at Willis Towne Farm

BY GEORGE FJELD

PITTSFORD—Liz Willis and Josh Towne welcomed friends, neighbors, and everyone else to their farm for a 10th-anniversary celebration last Saturday. This beautiful farm on Fire Hill Road in Pittsford is home to 52 sheep, 2 Border Collies, 2 Golden Retrievers, and their owner/caretakers. The Border Collies demonstrated herding sheep under Josh's direction and Liz sheared a sheep with both an old crank shearer and a modern electric one.



Liz Willis was working in the

bank in Pittsford 10+ years ago when John "Jack" O'Keefe approached her and said he wanted to sell her his farm. She snapped up the offer and has turned down his repeated offers over the years to get her money back. They're not planning on leaving anytime soon!

There was food from the Pittsford First Response truck and a number of local vendors selling veggies, plants, and crafts.

Spotlight On Business POINT COUNTERPOINT



Located on Lake Dunmore since 1963, Point CounterPoint is a chamber music camp.



In the past seventeen years, Point CounterPoint has grown to boast a thriving, internationally recognized new music program for college students, New Music On The Point, and 5 different

school-aged summer sessions for string and piano students, by audition only. It is also the home of an Adult Amateur Chamber Workshop, and an adult 4-hands piano seminar at the end of every summer.

Fall plants are here!

Mums 3 for \$24 • Asters 3 for \$28 • Hanging baskets, containers and \$1 annuals • Many house plants to select from.

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Local corn & veggies from Grabowski's farm in W. Rutland

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Tim and Mary Shields, owners

Eyeing a crowded market, Vermont cannabis sellers wonder what's next

BY THEO WELLS-SPACKMAN/VT DIGGER

The Vermont Legislative Joint Fiscal Office projected in 2022 that cannabis would likely become a roughly \$86 million industry by June 2024. As the fiscal year closed in June, according to Cannabis Control Board Chair James Pepper, the retail market had already reached \$128 million.

On the ground, some vendors feel crowded. Since the first three legal recreational cannabis retailers opened on October 1, 2022, the number of dispensaries statewide has grown to 77, according to the control board. As the flow of money grows, officials are weighing how to guide the industry toward a sustainable, equitable future.

Part of the reason for the quicker-than-anticipated growth is that, in reality, the industry isn't new, said Pepper. There was, he explained, "a vibrant market pre-legalization," the scale of which was difficult to accurately measure.

License requests for legal cultivation and retail have poured in. "People actually do want to participate above-board," said Pepper, to be able to deposit profits, pay mortgages, and take advantage of the new economy.

Among them is Meredith Mann, owner of Magic Mann in Essex, who found her way into the broader industry through a CBD bakery and café. She was initially stymied by a provision of state law that allows towns to decide whether to allow cannabis retail within their limits.

As municipalities across the state have put the issue to a vote, not every town has been sanguine. In Castleton, where the introduction of dispensaries has narrowly failed to pass on several town meeting days, selectboard chair Richard Combs recalled concerns that shops would open "too close to the university," with some opposing the industry entirely.

Essex did not initially move toward lifting the ban on cannabis retail within its limits, Mann said, but when it came up for a vote, she considered it an opportunity not to be wasted. "We took it upon ourselves to petition the town and get it put onto the Town Meeting Day ballot," she said. "We really campaigned."

On Town Meeting Day in 2022, the item passed. Since opening as a recreational dispensary later that year, business has been good, Mann said.

Magic Mann was also recently approved for cultivation and manufacturing licenses in addition to retail. The first plants, Mann said, just came in on Wednesday. This kind of "seed to sale product," she added, is exactly what she's been building toward.

She's in the process of applying for a license to sell medical grade cannabis. Following concern about the health of the medical cannabis industry, a law passed earlier this year now allows recreational dispensaries to acquire a medical license. Mann's cultivation facility, she

Being in a business which is federally illegal has real fiscal challenges

(See Cannabis sellers, Page 7)



No wand, but still magical

THIS MERLIN IS a small falcon that preys on birds for its meals.

Photo by Sue Wetmore

Community Forums Otter Valley Middle/High School is still undergoing mold remediation

Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union is informing the community about a mold issue discovered in the 7th grade (East) wing of the Otter Valley Middle/High School. The problem was first identified in mid-July when mold was found on the floors of the 7th-grade wing and shortly thereafter in the boiler room below.

In response, we closed some of the classrooms immediately and

then later, upon discovery of mold in other classrooms in the wing, shut down the whole 7th-grade wing to staff and students for normal use. Maintenance began running high-powered dehumidifiers and cleaning the area to attempt to remove the sources of mold. However, environmental testing done in early August revealed unacceptably high levels of mold in the wing with a recommendation

of full remediation. An inspection by a local remediation company indicated that the project was larger in difficulty and manpower than anticipated, and the project was referred to a larger firm with more resources. That firm is completing a review of the project today and will provide an update of an expected timeline soon thereafter. At this time, we have no ev-

(See OV mold, Page 6)

Rare native wild cat spotted in Rutland Co.

MONTPELIER—A rare native wild cat—the Canada lynx—has been confirmed in Vermont for the first time since 2018 from video recorded on August 17 in Rutland County, according to the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department.

"Canada lynx are endangered

in Vermont and threatened nationally," said Brehan Furfey, wildlife biologist and furbearer project leader with the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. "That makes any verifiable lynx sighting in our state important. This newest sighting is especially exciting because

the cat was spotted in Rutland County, far south of most confirmed lynx reports in Vermont."

Vermont is on the southernmost edge of the Canada lynx's range. Most confirmed sightings are from the Northeast Kingdom, which

(See Rare wild cat, Page 8)

The REPORTER

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Letters to the Editor

Why I support Stephanie Jerome

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Stephanie Jerome in the upcoming 2024 Vermont House of Representatives election. As a resident of Brandon and a concerned citizen, I believe that Representative Jerome embodies the qualities and vision necessary to lead our community towards a brighter future.

Representative Jerome brings a

wealth of experience and a proven track record of public service and leadership in achieving bipartisan legislation. Her commitment to education, healthcare, and economic growth resonates deeply with the values and needs of our community.

What sets Representative Jerome apart is her unwavering dedication to social justice, environmental sustainability, and economic equality.

She has consistently demonstrated a willingness to listen to constituents and advocate for policies that benefit all citizens, not just a select few.

Thank you for considering my endorsement. I am confident that with Stephanie Jerome in office, we can work towards a future that reflects our shared values and aspirations.

Sincerely, Nicholas Curcio

I'm proud of the ways we've come together

As another New England summer winds down and the school year is about to start, I think about all the good things that we have here in Brandon. Our town has overcome floods, major construction, and the COVID years and is continuing to move in a positive direction. Our business community is doing well and receives support from the Chamber of Commerce as well as the Downtown Business Alliance. Regular activities in our parks, which often have live music, and merchant sales increase the foot

traffic that makes Brandon a destination for travelers.

So why do I bring this up now? Because it has not always been this way in Brandon. I have listened to comments that say we are "trying to be another Woodstock."

I believe that a healthy town needs a strong business community and that is very difficult in this Amazon shopping world we live in today. Most towns have empty storefronts and a failing economy.

Is Brandon perfect? No. But we are doing a good job working to-

gether to keep moving forward. We can always do better. Take a good look at where we are now and compare it to where we were 10 years ago. I believe we have a much stronger community now and hope we can all find a way to keep it going. Let's focus on what we all have in common and not issues that divide us.

*Doug Bailey
Brandon*

**Mr. Bailey is the Chair of the
Brandon Selectboard*

Thanks to you, all the BAG pigs found forever homes

The Brandon Artists Guild members wish to express their sincere appreciation and gratitude to the citizens of our beautiful town, along with families, friends, and visitors who made up the 160 bidders who ensured that every pig found a new home!

A special thanks to the nearly 80 artists who donated their time and talents to making the "Art of the Pig" 3-day Silent Auction (August 16-18) at the Brandon Town Hall a huge success.

The Auction was a signature event in celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Artists Guild coming into existence. As always, a portion of our fundraiser proceeds will go to local art students for art supplies.

It wouldn't have been such a special event without the support of the following businesses allowing the Artists Guild to display the individually decorated piglets in their store windows.

It was fun to see the many folks walking around town each day going from business to business looking into the windows. The Brandon Artists Guild is proud to be a member of this business community.

Bar Harbor Bank & Trust; Blooming Bungalow; Brandon Artists Guild; Brandon Free Public Library; Brandon House of Pizza; The Brandon Bookstore; Brandon Town Offices; Blue Moon Clothing and Gifts; Cafe Provence; Carr's Gifts; Delilah's Hair Salon; DuBois & King Inc.; Mae's Place; Morningside Bakery; National Bank of Middlebury; Neshobe Falls Insurance Agency; Ripton Mountain Distillery; River Pub & Grill; The Brandon Inn; and Uptown Salon.

*Althea Bilodeau Lamb
President,
Brandon Artist Guild*

Community Forums continued Winter Farmers Market returns to Farmers Hall following remediation

Rutland,—August 2024 – The Vermont Farmers Market is excited to announce its return to Farmers Hall at the Vermont Farmers Food Center at 251 West St in Rutland, beginning November 2nd. The Winter Farmers Market will run every Saturday from 10 AM to 2 PM through April, providing a vibrant space for local vendors and the community.

Additionally, their holiday craft shows will also be held at the VFFC, on the second Sundays of November and December.

This move follows a thorough environmental remediation process to address indoor air contamination concerns in Farmers Hall. The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has confirmed that correc-

tive actions, including the installation of a vapor barrier, sealing
(See Winter Market, Page 6)

Rutland Regional Medical Center hosts online Dia- betes Prevention Program

RUTLAND—The Community Health Improvement Team at Rutland Regional Medical Center is hosting a free online Diabetes Prevention program beginning Saturday, September 5, from 9am to 10am, and continuing Saturdays through August 2, 2025.

Attendees learn how to decrease their risk of developing diabetes through healthy eating, getting more physical activity, managing stress, and creating action plans that work for them. The year-long program consists of 16 weekly core sessions, plus monthly maintenance sessions to help hard-wire healthy

behaviors and to provide encouragement toward success. The online Self-Management workshop for Diabetes Prevention will be facilitated by Kristen Hixon who is well known expert on diabetes prevention, care, and management.

"Many people find out that they are at risk for diabetes from their healthcare provider, and they are the lucky ones," said Joann Lemay, Self-Management Regional Coordinator at Rutland Regional Medical Center. "About 9 in 10 people with prediabetes don't know that they have it so knowing one's risk
(See Diabetes Prevention, Page 6)

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Obituaries

Charles F. Nassau III, 90, Proctor

Charles F. Nassau III, 90, of Proctor, Vermont, died peacefully with his family by his side on August 18, 2024 at Porter Medical Center in Middlebury, VT. Born on March 16, 1934 in Plainfield, NJ, to Charles F. Nassau, Jr. and Helen (née Hudson), Charlie grew up in Morrisville and Rutland, Vermont. He loved his family above all else and after a marriage of 64 years, he leaves behind his wife, Margaret (née Pockett), his son and his wife, Charles W. and Zoe Nassau, two grandsons, Kenneth and Travis, a daughter, Patricia A. Nassau, 35 nieces and nephews over three generations, more than 15 cousins from the Nassau, Hudson, van Roekens and Pockett families, and friends too many to count. He is predeceased by his parents, his brother, Robert H. Nassau II, and his brothers-in-law, Robert, Kenneth, and Francis Pockett.

Enlisting in the Army at 18, he fought in the Korean War, returning to attend Paul Smith's College. Charlie was an astute businessman and for more than 30 years he successfully owned and managed the Travelodge motel in Natick, MA. He was a twice-elected past President of the Massachusetts Hotel and Motel Association ("AHMA"),



CHARLES F. NASSAU III

and one of the first to become a Certified Hotel Administrator ("CHA") - the highest certification from the American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute. Charlie was President of both the Natick Lions Club and Natick Rotary Club and was also a lifetime member of the American Legion. Following in his grandfather's and father's footsteps, he became both a Mason and Shriner, and was a past-Master of Meridien Lodge #32, Natick, MA. In his retirement, he was an active member of St. Paul's Lodge #25, Brandon, VT.

Charlie rode his first bike in the Army, and it became a lifelong

passion. In 1959, he became a member of Knight Hawks M.C., Honolulu Territory. He was also a member of BMW MOA, Legion Riders, Riders of Kawasaki, and a founding member of Houlagan's M.C., VT and BMW MOV. Over the course of his lifetime, he rode more than 700,000 miles across all 50 states, and Canada and Mexico. Most of them with Peggy behind him and then beside him, earning him the handle "Sidecar" in later years. It's a love he passed on to his son and grandsons, sharing many rides together. We know he's back on a bike and would be saying to all of us "Until we meet again, keep the wind at your back and the rubber side down."

A Funeral Mass will be held at St. Peter's Church, Rutland, VT, on Saturday, August 31st at 10 a.m., followed by a motorcycle escort to Riverside Cemetery, Proctor, VT. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to Warfighter Made (Veterans Helping Adaptive Veterans), c/o Chariot Mototrikes via Paypal (include Warfighter Made on donation), or Shriners Hospital for Children @ <https://donate.lovetotherescue.org>. A Celebration of Life will follow at Franklin's Restaurant and Bar, Proctor, VT.

Winter Market

(Continued from Page 5)
cracks, and grouting the interior of the concrete masonry unit walls, have significantly reduced the concentrations of trichloroethylene (TCE) in the building. Recent indoor air sampling conducted in June 2024 showed TCE levels ranging from 0.48 to 0.94 µg/m³, well below the removal management level for short-term exposure.

Work is ongoing to install a sub-slab depressurization system (SSDS) in the northern portion of the building to further reduce TCE levels. The indoor air will be retested after the SSDS installation, and quarterly indoor air

sampling will be conducted over the next year to ensure the effectiveness of the remediation.

"We are excited to be back in Farmers Hall for the Winter Farmers Market," said Paul Horton, President of the Vermont Farmers Market. "The successful remediation efforts have made it possible for us to continue providing this vital space for our vendors and patrons."

The Rutland Summer Market is currently running in Depot Park every Saturday from 9am-2pm through the end of October.

For more information, please visit VTFarmersMarket.org.

Diabetes Prevention

(Continued from Page 5)
is good and provides a chance to take steps to help prevent diabetes."

Taking steps to prevent diabetes is important especially since about 1 in 3 people with prediabetes will progress into diabetes within five years.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have created this evidenced-based Diabetes Prevention Program that has been proven to help people reduce or delay their risk for Type 2 Diabetes. Participants in the Diabetes Prevention Program will learn how to lower their risk of developing type 2 diabetes by more than half by making small lifestyle changes. Data show that participants of the program

were more likely to reduce their weight by 5%.

Participants in the Diabetes Prevention Workshop will learn a lot about proper nutrition, ways to develop support systems, and how to identify triggers that lead to unhealthy behaviors or choices.

To see your risk for prediabetes, take a prediabetes risk quiz here: <https://www.myhealthyvt.org/prediabetes-risk-quiz/>

Visit MyHealthyVT.org for more information, sign up at this link: https://www.myhealthyvt.org/workshop_dates/online-diabetes-prevention-11/, or call Joanne Lemay, Self-Management Regional Coordinator at 802.747.3768.

OV mold

(Continued from Page 4)
idence of mold anywhere besides the 7th grade wing and the boiler room below.

Due to ongoing remediation, the 7th grade (East) wing will remain closed at the start of the school year. To accommodate

this, 7th-grade students and those in the middle school learning center will attend classes in other spaces within the main high school wings.

Despite these changes, our bell schedules will remain unaffected. We are currently updating student schedules to reflect the new classroom assignments and will distribute hard copies of these schedules during our Welcome Night on August 26, from 3:00

PM to 5:30 PM. Additionally, our dedicated 7th-grade team will spend the first day of school, August 28, guiding students through the new locations and helping them navigate their schedules.

We will plan to reopen the 7th-grade wing and to return to normal operations as soon as it is safe to do so. Although this is not the ideal way to begin the school year, our team is committed to supporting our 7th-grade students

and teachers during this time. Our goal is to ensure that students are able to learn -- and staff are able to teach -- in a safe and healthy environment. We will continue to provide updates on the remediation process as they become available. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation during this time.

For any inquiries, please contact Max Burman, Coordinator of Communications and Outreach.

REAL ESTATE AUCTION
2-Unit Duplex and Commercial Garage in Proctor, VT

LIVE AUCTION: TUESDAY, SEPT. 24 @ 11AM
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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

Cannabis sellers

(Continued from Page 4)
said, helps qualify her for this provision.

The more self-reliant Vermont's market becomes, the better, Pepper said.

The control board chair explained that when it comes to seeds and immature plants, "a lot of people are sourcing... from out of state." This makes products more difficult to regulate, and unnecessarily out-sources Vermont's cannabis genetics, he added.

Rep. Michael McCarthy, D-St. Albans, agrees. He was

involved with passing a law that created a new license type for growers to sell immature plants to other vendors, which took effect July 1. "We really want this to be a Vermont-size craft cannabis industry," he said.

One question that's beginning to do the rounds in legislative circles, he added, is "have we given licenses to too many growers?" The cultivation market, he said, is in real danger of overcrowding. Currently, there are 395 active cultivation licenses, per the Cannabis Control Board website.

Pepper said the retail industry often seems more cramped due to dispensaries' concentration in densely populated areas that permit their presence.

For business owners, it's an increasing problem.

"We're in downtown Burlington," said Kelsy Raap, director of education at Green State dispensary and its affiliated businesses. "Talk about saturation!"

Raap said she supports a free market but predicted that there will soon be casualties as a result of the rising competition.

Pepper said even with a re-

cent closure, roughly a dozen cannabis retailers are based in Burlington alone. In South Burlington, there are none, the municipality not having opted into allowing them.

As growth continues, legislators are beginning to eye a possible peak in the industry. In a presentation to the House Ways and Means Committee last January, state fiscal analyst Ted Barnett spoke to lawmakers about the possibility of a "leveling off" in the market.

The state is also focused on promoting inclusion in the

growing industry, according to McCarthy.

The Cannabis Control Board's social equity project, attached to its \$1.5 million business development fund, seeks to provide grants and loans to businesses run by members of marginalized communities.

Marlena Tucker-Fishman and Noah Fishman, co-owners of Zenbarn Farms dispensary in Waterbury, were social equity applicants in the first year of the program. The program covered their initial license fees, but they (See Cannabis sellers, Page 23)

Pittsford SB

(Continued from Page 1)
conduct on the part of Pittsford Town Manager David Atherton.

At the August 7 meeting, the owner of a business on Route 7 in Pittsford village alleged that Mr. Atherton had used abusive language toward him when he asked that Mr. Atherton find a way to prevent silt and gravel from collecting in the parking lot of his business after heavy rains. The business owner claimed that the debris had not collected in his lot before the town redid the sidewalks last fall.

The business owner and Mr. Atherton had already discussed the situation several times, with Mr. Atherton directing the town highway department to clean up the debris twice. The business owner had been pressing Mr. Atherton to find a permanent solution, as opposed to periodic clean-ups. Mr. Atherton stated that it seemed that the debris was coming from neighboring private properties and not from any town property. Therefore, he said, the solution should be handled among the neighbors.

The business owner alleged that during a confrontation at

the Pittsford Town Office, Mr. Atherton used unacceptable language and threatened him. Mr. Atherton replied that the business owner had become aggressive and insulting toward him. Assistant Town Manager Ann Reed, who witnessed the interaction, supported Mr. Atherton's version of events.

"I probably shouldn't have called him what I called him," said Atherton, "but after the conversation got a little heated up, it seemed like the appropriate thing to say. And I can tell you it's the first time I've said that as town manager. People need to know where the line is between work-related and personal."

The board suggested that the business owner speak with his neighbors about the runoff. Board Chair Alicia Malay also said that the allegations about Mr. Atherton's conduct would be addressed in executive session.

It was agreed at the August 21 meeting that the August 7 minutes would be revised and resubmitted for approval at the next board meeting.

The board also discussed complaints from residents regarding

the bridge construction at the intersection of Route 7, Route 3, and Oxbow Road. The town has received complaints that the construction machinery blocks the view of traffic on Route 7, making entering the road from side streets dangerous. The town has also received complaints that the VTrans crew was working past official work hours. The board clarified that the crew is permitted to work from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., though it had been erroneously stated at one point that the crew had to stop by 5 p.m.

The board approved the purchase of 20 helmets for the Fire Department, with half of the \$8,970 cost coming from the Fire Department's town budget and half from the Hose Company.

The board approved a warrant for \$78,263.17 to cover the town's obligations and expenses. This included \$3,475.35 for repair to a police vehicle that was damaged when the operating officer backed into a telephone pole on Route 7 after a traffic stop. Insurance has reimbursed the town for all but \$1,000 of that amount.

Pittsford Town Manager's report Week of August 21st

- We have been awarded the FY25 Better Roads Category A Grant-Road Erosion Inventory Program. We are eligible for \$14,000.00 to reassess out road erosion inventory.

- The highway department has been busy with continuous roadside mowing, road grading due to the strong rain events within the last two weeks and repairing sections of pavement with hot mix, mostly where there were recent waterline repairs.

- The highway department will start crack sealing on our asphalt roads this week. We are completing this "in-house" again this year.

- The Plains Road sewer replacement project has been rescheduled to start the first week of September.

- Chad and I met with R.A. Filskov to discuss the culvert replacement on Whipple Hollow Road. They will start the

project once they have taken delivery of the culvert. They are hoping to have this project completed before the start of the school year.

- Bridge # 108 construction update for the week of August 19th:

- Complete installation of the final "piles" of support or excavation.

- Begin forming the sub-footing for the northern abutment.

- There has been some concern by a couple residents that the contractor is working beyond the allowable hours. I have confirmed with the contractor by reviewing their contract with Vtrans, that they are allowed to work from 7 am to 7 pm. during normal work days.

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EOE



Rare wildcat

(Continued from Page 4)

the Northeast Kingdom, which supports the best climate, habitat and food sources for lynx in the state.

“Lynx are specially adapted to hunt snowshoe hares,” said Furfey. “Both species need young forest habitats and reliable snowpack to thrive. In Vermont the best combination of climate, habitat and enough hares to support lynx is in the Northeast Kingdom, and even that is on the low end compared



that in mind, Furfey suspects this lynx was a male moving through the region looking to establish its own territory, a behavior called “dispersing.” Dispersing lynx can move quickly over long distances and it is entirely possible that this individual is no longer in Vermont.

“Although this lynx appears to be on the thinner side, its calm behavior around passing cars as reported by observers is not unusual for a dispersing individual,” said Furfey. “This lynx was probably

just focused on finding food in an area where hares are not abundant and on avoiding competition with bobcats and fishers while passing through southern Vermont.”

Since 2016 the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department has received

over 160 reports of lynx, but only seven of these were confirmed. The most recent credible report was from Jericho in 2018.

“If you think you’re looking at a lynx the most helpful thing you can do is take a photo or video and send it to the Fish and Wildlife Department,” said Furfey. “The large majority of photographs our biologists receive are bobcats, but that doesn’t exclude the possibility that a Canada lynx will show up one day.”

to areas of New Hampshire and Maine where lynx are more common.”

Rutland county, where this lynx was seen walking along a road edge and caught on video by several members of the public, is not suitable habitat for large numbers of snowshoe hare or, by extension, lynx.

However, like much of Vermont, Rutland County sports plenty of well-connected wild landscapes that allow wildlife to move between different habitats. With

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ABOVE: DONES BASE [Andrew Doner monument] in Lake View Cemetery, Shoreham. Below: Eli Donah stone, St. Genevieve cemetery. He was born Hilaire Donais. Rosa Austin stone, with wrong death date, and son Archie Austin, Lake View Cemetery.

Names lost

(Continued from Page 2)

and died in Brandon in 1920. Andrew’s gravestone in Lake View Cemetery in Shoreham has the surname Doner inscribed on its space. Descendants have repositioned to upright the fallen stone. Near Andrew’s stone is one for his daughter, Rosa Austin, with a date of death as 1900. The date is incorrect as she died of pneumonia on March 22, 1902. A few months later, her husband Herman Austin married as his second wife Rosa’s distant cousin, Clara Doner, granddaughter of Constant Daunais/Doner.

Buried with his mother Rosa is Private Archie Austin, who died at Camp Greene in Charlotte, North Carolina on January 31, 1918. In boot camp, he contracted measles which developed into pneumonia. His death notice in the Middlebury Register stated he had enlisted the previous October with his cousin, George Loya of Orwell. That brings us to another changed name. George’s grandfather, Thomas Loya, born in Canada, had married Lucie Doner, sister of Andrew. Some published guides on changed French-Canadian names aver that Loya was Loyer, but how do we know for sure that is correct in this family? Thomas Loya’s youngest daughter, Helen settled in Rutland. Her marriage license to Francis Lepine states her last name as Loya. The priest at Sacred Heart of Mary Church [later Immaculate Heart of Mary], however, recorded her last name as Laurier in the parish register. I have often wondered how this corrective conversation went. Did the priest say to the bride “Loya is not your real name”?

Interesting to note are other name changes of spouses of the Daunais/Doaner family. The 1831 birthdate on dates on the gravestone of Eli Donah of Shoreham is off by two years. Hilaire Donais was baptized at L’Acadie, Québec, on December 10, 1829. He married Marguerite Beaudoin, but in Vermont records her last name was recorded as Margaret Baldwin. Beaudoin to Baldwin stretches back a millennium because William the Conqueror’s father-in-law was Baldwin, Count of Flanders—Beaudoin in French.

After every episode of Lost Names, I still see a dense forest of surnames that need to be restored to their true roots.



PSP tourney

(Continued from Page 1)

lor & Breen Open golf tournament.

The annual event, now in its 8th year, has always raised money for charity. The Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice of the Southwest Region has been a favorite recipient, for example, because the organization was so helpful in caring for Rob Naylor's father. But this year, the designated charity is hitting even closer to home.

PSP is a bit of a medical mystery. Its causes are still unclear—it is suspected that accumulations of certain proteins in the brain may play a role—and it often goes undiagnosed because many of its symptoms mimic those of more common conditions, such as Parkinson's. As PSP progresses, those afflicted lose the ability to direct their own muscles.

"The first thing we noticed was Rob was having trouble with his handwriting," said Chris Naylor, Rob's wife, at the Naylor's home on Lake Dunmore. "Then he started having difficulty walking. He'd pause and not be able to get started again. We'd shine a laser pointer on the ground to give him something to focus on to get him moving. Then his speech got softer."

Chris now does all the talking for the two of them. Rob's mind is still sharp, but he's no longer able to speak.

A golf game with his doctor in 2019 forced the issue: the doctor could see something was clearly wrong in the way Rob maneuvered around the course. Appointments with specialists followed, as did an incorrect diagnosis of Parkinson's Disease. After two years on Parkinson's medication, with no apparent benefit whatsoever, the Naylor's began to sense that Parkinson's might not be the culprit after all.

At Mass General in Boston, during the pandemic, they finally received the correct diagnosis: Rob had PSP.

"The doctor said to us, 'I wish I had better news.' We came home in absolute silence," said Chris. "I didn't want to do any research. I didn't want to know. It was disbelief and anger."

With no treatments and no cure for the disease, all families can do is try to make life comfortable for the affected. Rob now uses a wheelchair and a tube to assist with eating. The Naylor's installed an elevator at their home. They're still traveling—they went to Alaska last year and their son, Rick, took Rob to a bachelor party in Nashville—but they know the window for that kind of activity is diminishing.

The Naylor's daughter, Lexi, now 35, reacted a bit differently to the diagnosis than Chris; she chose to learn all she could about PSP.

Her research led her to an organization called CurePSP, a New York-based nonprofit whose mission is to raise both awareness and money. They became the intended beneficiary of this year's Naylor & Breen golf tournament.

Lexi is going a step further: she's running the New York City Marathon on Sunday, November 3, as one of 5 runners chosen to represent CurePSP in the race. She's already raised over \$15K from sponsors.

"I'm doing it to honor my Dad," she said. "I don't think the money will help him, but it will support research and care."

It's not her first marathon—she ran one 5 years ago and thought she'd never do it again—but the cause was just too compelling.

And she won't be alone. Neil MacKenzie, whose father, Chet, was diagnosed with PSP almost at the same time as

Rob Naylor, will also be running the NYC Marathon for CurePSP. What makes this all the more remarkable is that Chet and his wife, Donna, live in Pittsford and he and Rob coached their sons together in Little League. Given the extreme rarity of the disease, the odds of two people in the same community being diagnosed with PSP at the same time are extraordinarily low.

"My father was initially diagnosed with Parkinson's," said Neil in a phone conversation. "We'd never even heard of PSP. Three years ago, he was hiking, hunting,



TOP: NAYLOR & Breen co-owner Tanner Romano addresses the golfers at the N&B Open at Neshobe Golf Club. The tournament raised money for PSP and attracted a lot of sponsors and players because Rob Naylor has been living with the disease for several years.

and fishing. Now he's in a wheelchair."

"I didn't know Lexi was going to run in the marathon," he continued.

"It was just a coincidence that we both applied to run for CurePSP. I'm doing it to raise awareness about the condition. CurePSP is a great organization. It goes above and beyond for people with PSP and their families." Neil has raised over \$10K so far.

Anyone who'd like to sponsor Lexi can go to <https://give.curepsp.org/fundraiser/5421452>.

Anyone who'd like to sponsor Neil can go to <https://give.curepsp.org/fundraiser/5558385>.

And if the turnout at the tournament on Friday is any indication, the community is eager to support the Naylor's and MacKenzies as well.

"We had 75 hole sponsors and 11 major sponsors," said Naylor & Breen co-owner Tanner Romano at the tournament. "That kind of support is absolutely because of Rob. He's always done for others, for the community, for his employees. To have such a great response for him is everything."

The major sponsors, who donated thousands, were JP Carrara, G Stone, Abatiello Design Center, Brownell Windows & Doors/Marvin Design, RK Miles Lumber & Hardware, Pratico's Landscaping & Fence, New England Air Systems, McGee Chevrolets, Paquette, Inc, LaValley Building Supply, and, of course, Naylor & Breen. A veritable who's who of the Vermont construction industry.

And most of the 31 teams were made up of folks in the business who've known each other for years. Before the tournament began, they greeted each other with back slaps and hugs.

Bill Jakubowski of Tedesco Masonry in Rutland said it was his fifth time playing this tournament. "I've played a lot with Rob over the years."

Naylor & Breen Human Resource Manager Amanda Locke said, "Rob is the heart and soul of the company. We want to support him in any way we can."

In an email on Monday, Mr. Romano said that the event likely will net \$42K for CurePSP.

And though the tournament is more about charity and camaraderie than competition, it seemed fitting that the winner was the team headed by Pete Breen, Rob's longtime friend and business partner, who retired in 2008.

"They always choose different causes," said Breen. "This one was good to do."

STUDENT: Olivia Simpson

GRADE: 2

SCHOOL: Neshobe

TITLE: Untitled

MEDIUM: Watercolor, ink, oil pastels,
glitter glue, paper

TEACHER: John Brodowski

OUR CREATIVE KIDS



Statement from Olivia:

I got the idea from liking horses and sunsets. I like the bushes that I made. I made the water silver so it looks like it is shining from the sun.

Statement from Mr. B:

Olivia brings some much positivity to art class. She is quiet but always smiling and encouraging her classmates. I have a feeling there are many more wonderful art projects like this one in her future!

New Vermont food labeling rule raises concern among purveyors of homemade food

BY SHAUN ROBINSON/VT-DIGGER

A new Vermont Department of Health rule requires food producers who work out of a home kitchen to put a safety disclaimer onto their products — raising concerns among some purveyors that the state is taking too firm a hand in regulating such small businesses.

The rule applies, in part, to certain small food manufacturers — also known as “cottage” food producers — who bring in less than \$10,000 in annual gross sales, or, if they’re a baker, less than \$6,500 in annual gross sales. Under existing policies, these producers are generally exempt from licensing and inspection by the state’s health department.

Starting this month, though, the department will require these producers to add new text to their product labels that reads: “Made in a home kitchen not inspected by the Vermont Department of Health.” It must be printed in at least 10-point type and a color that contrasts with the background of the product’s label, the new state rule reads.

The “Manufactured Food Rule” also includes other measures aimed at standardizing what information home kitchen producers put on their labels. That includes the name of the product, who made it, its ingredients and any major allergens it contains. Other states have also made recent changes to how they regulate “cottage” kitchens.

Many Vermont home producers already include most, if not all, of those details, said Elisabeth Wirsing, manager of the health department’s food and lodging program.

A sample label that complies with new requirements issued by the Vermont Department of Health, including a kitchen safety disclaimer at the bottom. Photo courtesy of Vermont Department of Health

But she said it can be less clear to consumers whether a product was made in a kitchen that’s been inspected for food safety or not. The new disclaimer, she said, is designed to limit consumers’ uncertainty.

“We know that the public assumes that food sold in stores and elsewhere is regulated and inspected, but these products are not,” Wirsing said. “So the requirement provides some

transparency to the public consumers about not only the ingredients, but where it was produced, so they can make a risk-based choice for their personal circumstances.”

The health department relies on self-reporting to track the number of “cottage” food producers in the state and so cannot say for sure how many such operations there are, according to Wirsing. About 500 producers have self-reported since 2018, she said, when the paperwork was first made available. She added that state officials contacted everybody who had filled out a certification form during the rulemaking process.

For some who sell home-produced foods, though, the disclaimer requirement raises concerns about the state’s role in regulating an industry that’s long had little oversight.

Peter Hopkins of Pownal, who sells homemade condiments including pub cheese and horseradish to support the income from his hops farm, said he worries that customers will be put off by the newly-required text — making them less likely to buy his products.

He said he, and other small producers he knows, take kitchen cleanliness seriously.

“These home kitchens are the same facilities where we make food for our children, for our loved ones, for our neighbors, for our PTAs,” Hopkins said. “Does the health department think that we don’t take the same care in providing food for sale?”

One of the places Hopkins sells his condiments is The Apple Barn & Country Bake Shop in nearby Bennington. Sarah Albright, the store’s owner, said she is also worried that the new “home kitchen” disclaimer could harm small businesses.

Albright estimated that about a quarter of her products are “hyper-local,” including food made in home kitchens, and said it’s a major draw for local customers and tourists.

“I think at best, this type of warning label is going to lead to confusion — and at worst, going to cripple those businesses that make Vermont special,” she said.

Wirsing, of the health department, said state officials have heard concerns that the disclaimer could have an impact on product sales, though she

(See Food labeling, Page 14)

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brandonpubliclibrary.org/events/



The event is brought to you by the Friends of Brandon Free Public Library and all proceeds will benefit library operations.

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Calendar of events

August

Mondays

Brandon Rec offers Aikido classes

Youth Class at 4:30 and Adult Class at 5:30. Beginners and spectators welcome. Classes at Neshobe School Gym until mid-July, then returning to Town Hall. Visit www.AikidoVermont.org for more info.

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

2024 Music at the Riverbend lineup

Aug 21

Extra Stout
Vermont's Premier Irish Band

Aug 28

Red Hot Juba
Soul, swing, rock n roll, blues and country music

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

“Soldiers Atop The Mount” at Mount Independence August 31 and September 1

ORWELL, Vt.—The Revolutionary War experience is brought to life at the annual “Soldiers Atop the Mount” living history weekend on Saturday, August 31 and Sunday, September 1, 2024 at the Mount Independence State Historic Site in Orwell. Meet reenactors and site interpreters who interact with visitors to honor the soldiers who built and garrisoned Mount Independence in 1776 and 1777 and helped lay the foundation of the new United States of America.

The site is open both days from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Arrive in plenty of time to visit all the stations. Most activities are outside. Visitors should dress for the weather, wear walking shoes, and be prepared to walk, including around the Baldwin Trail area which is handicapped accessible with a compacted stone surface and gentle grades. Below are details about some of the weekend's highlights:

SATURDAY

Baldwin Trail Walkabout

10:30 am – 1:30 pm

Saturday's highlight is the popular Baldwin Trail Walkabout featuring experts at stations throughout the trail and the reenactor camp talking to visitors about Revolutionary War subjects specific to those locations.

Topics include Revolutionary medicine, artillery, how the soldiers lived, caring for their clothes, gunsmithing, and food. Before and after the walkabout, reenactors will demonstrate period life, skills, and military activities and present an afternoon woods skirmish, leading visitors to follow the action.

SUNDAY

Declaration of Independence reading

11:00 am

Visit the camps and experience the annual reading of the Declaration of Independence, for which Mount Independence is named. After the Declaration of Independence was signed, a copy was sent north. In late July 1777 soldiers heard it for the first time. Reenactors will march down the hill and the Declaration of Independence will be read to them and visitors, alike.

Learn more about Benedict Arnold

2:00 pm

Site interpreter Paul Andriscin will give a talk on Benedict Arnold who was the first commander of the First Brigade on Mount Independence.

Reenactors will be encamped on-site all-day Saturday and will begin packing up early Sunday afternoon. Guests are welcome to call (802) 948-2000 for full schedule details.

Admission to “Soldiers Atop the Mount” includes visiting the museum and is \$9.00 for adults, \$1.00 for ages 6-14, free for children under 6. The museum shop features an excellent selection of books and other items. Lunch, light snacks, and beverages will also be available for purchase.

Mount Independence is a National Historic Landmark and considered one of the best-preserved Revolutionary War archaeological sites in America. It is located at 497 Mount Independence Road, six miles west of the intersection of Vermont Routes 22A and 73 in Orwell. The site is open daily, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, through October 20.

Learn more about Mount Independence and Vermont's other historic sites by visiting www.HistoricSites.vermont.gov



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 reap the benefits of increased circulation, balance, flexibility, mobility, strength and more.

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

Lina (Parvati) has 20 plus years of experience teaching

Goings on around town

and a lifelong personal practice.

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

Thursdays

Ukulele Group

Free at the Chaffee Art 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 Art 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.



Brandon Senior Center Game Day

Come join us every Friday at 2:00 p.m. Cards, darts, puzzles, board games, coloring.

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 whomever shows up each time or just practice your cornhole skills!

Saturdays

Bingo at the Brandon Senior Center

First Saturday of each month from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. Bring lunch, and the Center will provide beverages, desserts, and a good time. A great way to pass a Saturday afternoon. Please direct

any questions to Kathy Mathis at 247-3121.

Storytime at the Brandon Free Public Library

Join us every Saturday at 10:30 a.m. for picture book storytime. All ages welcome.

2024 Live at Kennedy Park line-up

August 24

Jim Shaw, Folk, old-time, blues, pop oldies

September 14

Melissa Moorehouse, Singer/Songwriter

September 28

Bird Boombox, Alt. Folk/Rock Trio

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 28th

Creative Jumpstart — The MINT Downtown

Creative Jumpstart is a creative process group. This is a great way to meet other local creatives and stretch and strengthen your creative muscles! We'll explore and respond to fun creative prompts, make

Proctor Town Green, 6 pm



September 4
Chaz Canney

September 28
Fall Festival
Robert Wuagneux

quick art projects, and share and discuss our art and creative process throughout. If you have specific art supplies you enjoy working with, we encourage you to bring your own (this could include: your own sketchbook, favorite pens or markers, etc.) Otherwise, reMake will supply donated bulk paper, card stock, chalk and oil pastels, pens, pencils, and crayons to work with.

Suggested donation is \$5–10 per person.

From 6–7:30 pm at The MINT Downtown, 72 Merchants Row, Rutland.

Wednesday 29th Sunday 1st

“No Exit” Performance — Stone Valley Arts, Poultney SVA is excited to present the inaugural season of One Room Theatrics. They will perform Jean Paul Sartre’s “No Exit” from August 29th through September 1st! Directed by Marisa Valent, performed at Stone Valley Arts in Poultney. No Exit is a play by French existentialist philosopher and author Jean-Paul Sartre that was first performed in Paris in May 1944, just prior to the liberation of the city from German occupation in World War II. Plot: No Exit includes two women and one man locked up together for eternity in one hideous room in Hell. The windows are bricked up, there are no mirrors, the electric lights can never be turned off, and there is no exit. Four Performances:

Thursday, August 29 @ 8 pm

Friday, August 30 @ 8 pm

Saturday, August 31 @ 8 pm

Sunday, September 1 @ 2 pm

Tickets: \$20, available through <https://www.paramountvt.org> or at door. Checks and credit card accepted. All tickets are seated General Admission. Availability will be based on a first come, first serve basis.

For more information visit: <https://oneroomtheatrics.com>

Stone Valley Arts at Fox Hill, 145 East Main Street, Poultney.

Saturday 31st, Saturday 6th

Pond Hill Pro Rodeo

Set in the beautiful central Vermont Mountains is a 2000 acre working ranch, in which on Saturday nights in the summer you can step back into the wild west!

Our rodeo is every Saturday Night July 4 the weekend through Labor Day weekend at 7:30 PM.

Pond Hill Ranch
1683 Pond Hill Ranch Rd.,
Castleton, VT, 05735



New World Festival 2024: Celtic and Quebecois celebration returns to Randolph Sunday, September 1

The New World Festival returns to Randolph’s Chandler Center for the Arts from noon to 11 pm on Sunday, Sept. 1, and it’s a chance to have an authentic Celtic and Quebecois experience right in our own backyard. The festival has been around more than 30 years.

“There are so many Celtic festivals around the world, but one thing that makes ours special is half the programming, if not more, are Quebecois musicians. So that fills a niche, and it’s really beautiful in the way that it uplifts the local heritage,” said producer Danielle Devlin.

“We try to also bring in someone from every heritage from the seven Celtic nations,” she added.

From 12–11 pm at 71 North Main Street, Randolph, VT 05060. Free–\$60.



Food labeling

(Continued from Page 11)

contended that the text is “just factual” and meant “just to provide information.”

A national group of people with jobs like Wirsing’s — the Association of Food and Drug Officials — commissioned a national survey last December which found that about 60% of respondents believed that home-based food businesses in their state were regularly inspected for food safety, even when they were not, she said.

At least a dozen other states require a disclaimer to be placed on home kitchen products stating they are made in a

facility that’s not inspected, using language similar or identical to what is now required in Vermont, Wirsing said.

“(Regulating) ‘cottage’ foods is a conversation in many states — and trying to understand the public’s perceptions of food safety,” she said. “This is a landscape that is changing, almost daily, across the country.”

She added that the health department is currently conducting outreach about the new labeling requirements, and that it would be months, at least, before officials “even consider” enforcing the change.



SUBMIT YOUR BIRTH, ANNIVERSARY, OR WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS
news@brandonreporter.com



Golf Course
EST. 1957

Whalen Open | Sept 13–15
5 person scramble • \$1600 per team includes skins, food, Golf/Cart • 2 carts per team • 2023 Teams are in with application and payment • All other will go on waitlist until application due date • Scores on Friday to flight teams • Gross Skins and gross prizes only • Flight 1 & 2 will play from the Blue tees, all other flights play white tees • Ladies green tees 8 Closest to pin all par 3's, all 3 days.

APPLICATIONS AND MONEY DUE SEPTEMBER 1st (NO EXCEPTIONS)
Register your team online, then pay via check or cash in the pro shop.

REGISTER HERE:
<https://neshobe.com/whalen-open/>

WE ARE HIRING!
Cook
We are currently seeking a skilled and dedicated Cook to join our culinary team at Neshobe Golf Club. The ideal candidate will have a passion for creating delicious and visually appealing dishes while ensuring a high standard of food quality and safety. As a Cook, you will play a crucial role in enhancing the overall dining experience for our members and guests.

Bartender
We're currently searching for a skilled and enthusiastic bartender to join our team. If you have a passion for creating great drinks and providing excellent customer service, we want to hear from you. This is a fantastic opportunity to work in a vibrant and friendly environment. Apply today!

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



AMANDA COMOLLI, RIGHT, hands off a dose of Covid-19 vaccine during a Covid-19 and flu vaccination clinic at the Crossett Brook Middle School in Duxbury on October 28, 2023.

Photo by Glenn Russell/VTDigger

Vermont prepares for new Covid-19 vaccines after FDA approval

BY CHLOE JAD/
VTDIGGER

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced on Thursday that it has approved and authorized administration of a new Covid-19 vaccine formula, and Vermonters will soon be able to access those vaccinations at primary care offices and pharmacies in the state, according to the state Department of Health.

The vaccine is designed to target currently circulating variants more closely and better protect against serious outcomes of the virus, the FDA said in a press release.

As immunity wanes in the general population, prior vaccinations and exposure to the coronavirus are less effective in preventing future infections, according to Peter Marks, director of the FDA’s Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research.

“Vaccination continues to be the cornerstone of COVID-19 prevention,” Marks said in the release. “These updated vaccines meet the agency’s rigorous, scientific standards for safety, effectiveness, and manufacturing quality.”

Vermont’s Covid-19 indicators have been on an upswing this summer, with 17 people

dying from the virus so far this month — the most this year since January’s total of 29 deaths, according to the Department of Health’s weekly surveillance report.

Wastewater facilities in Montpelier, South Burlington and Essex Junction have seen an increase in Covid-19 levels recently as well.

The updated vaccines from Moderna and Pfizer are approved for use in people 12 and older, and other updated versions from the two companies are authorized for emergency use for individuals between 6 months and 11 years of age, according to the FDA release.

Health care providers in Vermont will begin ordering products within the next two weeks, according to Sharon Muellers, senior public health communication officer with the health department.

“Supply for this year is on par with what we received last season and should support the need,” Muellers said via email.

Kinney Drugs, a pharmacy chain in New York and Vermont, said it expects to open appointments for the updated vaccine early next week, and, along with other pharmacies, is authorized to administer the vaccines to individuals 3 years

and older.

“As a Pharmacist, I am pleased that the FDA has approved this updated COVID-19 vaccine,” Kinney Drugs’ president John Marraffa said in a press release Thursday. “Incidents of COVID-19 are already increasing throughout both New York and Vermont, so it is especially good timing with students heading back to school.”

Although the federally funded “Bridge Access Program” — which has provided free Covid vaccines to people without insurance coverage or whose insurance didn’t cover the vaccines — ends this month, Muellers said the health department will offer support for local vaccination efforts this fall.

Mueller also noted that this year’s influenza vaccine is trivalent, meaning it protects against three different strains of the flu, and recommended adults ages 75 and older should get an RSV, or respiratory syncytial virus, vaccine.

Just like seasonal flu vaccines, the FDA said it anticipates annual assessment of the composition of Covid-19 vaccines, unless a “markedly more infectious variant” emerges.



Sharpen your mind with our puzzles.
See page 17

Can you guess the street?

BY LAURA PETERSON

On the anniversary of Tropical Storm Irene in 2011, I have some photos of the September 1938 flood in Brandon. As you can see, the path, damage, and results were almost identical in 2011 as they were in 1938. Records show this was a pattern. In 1869, 1927, 1938, 1947 and 1973, the Neshobe River jumped its banks on its way through Brandon and made a mess. Luckily, after the Tropical Storm Irene fiasco we had a foresighted Selectboard member, Ethan Swift, who lobbied hard for a solution. He predicted this outcome would keep repeat-

ing itself, and soon. And he was right. In 2017, a big dump of rain flooded parts of Brandon, BUT NOT CENTER STREET. By

then Ethan had convinced the town to construct a giant concrete culvert under Route 7 right in the middle of town to handle the river's overflow, and that saved the downtown from flooding. Since then, the Swift Culvert has

saved Brandon's downtown time and time again, most recently in the summer of 2023, when towns like Montpelier,

Barre, and Ludlow experienced major flooding but Brandon did not.



THE FLOOD OF 1938 vs. Irene in 2011.



Your mystery for next week!

REAL ESTATE



This multi-family Brandon village home offers nice options with two spacious rental units. Or convert it back to a one family home for an impressive property indeed! The enclosed front porch has a marble floor and natural wood ceiling making a welcoming space for relaxing and entertaining. Attached garage and adjacent barn. Lots of room for workspace and storage. The back yard offers a nice grassy area and full sun most of the day. Conveniently located within walking distance to all the amenities Brandon has to offer. Comfort & convenience! \$309,000



802-236-9112 • Wendy@RoweRealEstate.com
RoweRealEstate.com

Mim's Photos



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

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

Or call us at 247-8080



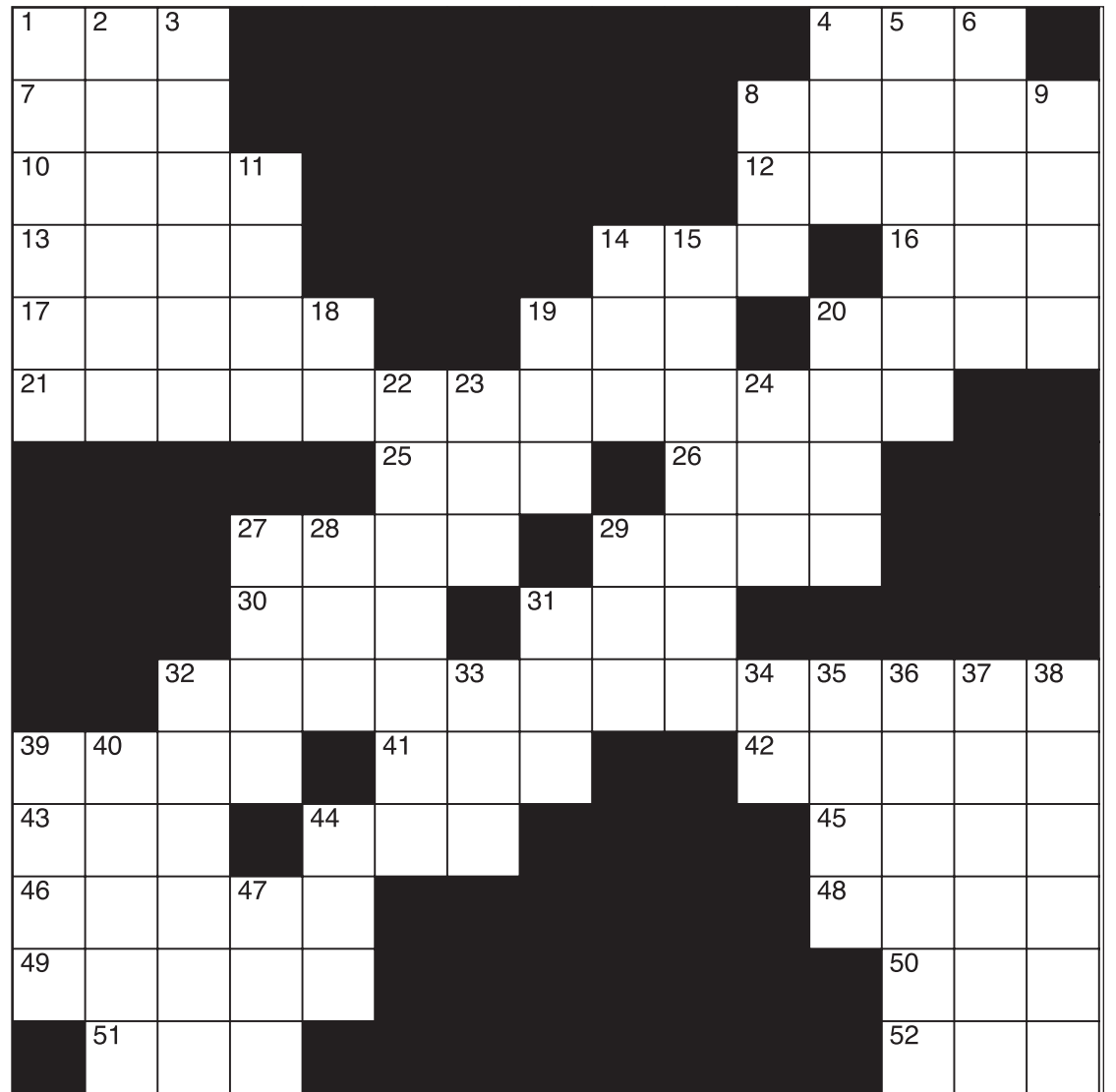
Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

1. Microgram
4. After B
7. Everything
8. An unfortunate development
10. Coat with sticky substance
12. Cylinder of tobacco for smoking
13. Minimum interval take off
14. Yuck!
16. NBA sensation Jeremy
17. Where some rockers work
19. Midway between northeast and east
20. Snake-like fishes
21. Groups of homes
25. Swiss river
26. Useful towel
27. "The Wire" character "Moreland"
29. Oafish creature
30. A major division of geological time
31. Bird-like Chinese dinosaur
32. Sporting events
39. Body part
41. Clerical vestment
42. Shows data
43. Some are "special"
44. Expression of disappointment
45. Students' rights document (abbr.)
46. Vacation locale Costa ___
48. Pop singer
49. Distract outside a city
50. Mark Wahlberg comedy
51. Coniferous tree
52. Midway between south and southeast

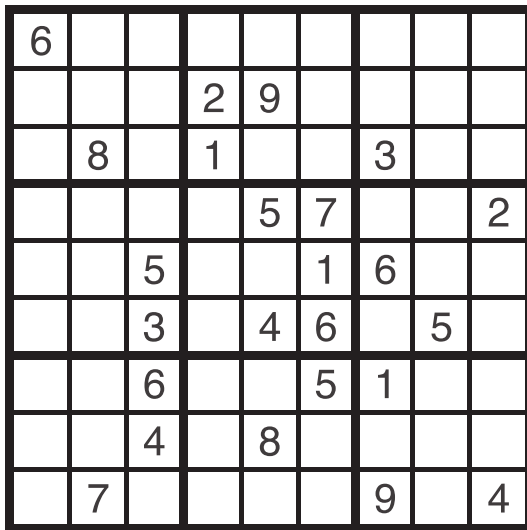
CLUES DOWN

1. Lunatic
2. Actress Danes
3. Buttock muscles
4. The 22nd letter of the Greek alphabet
5. Popular 70s rockers
6. Electronic communication
8. Trigraph
9. Sea eagles
11. Low-pitched, resonant sound
14. Northeastern US university (abbr.)
15. Home of the Bulldogs
18. Exclamation of surprise
19. Make a mistake
20. Advantage
22. Monkeys love them
23. Wood
24. Paddle
27. Past participle of be
28. Tall, rounded vase
29. Device manufacturers
31. Financial institution (abbr.)
32. Paper product
33. A type
34. Atomic #43
35. Red Hot Chili Peppers' drummer
36. Behaviors
37. Decays
38. Walked confidently
39. Voice (Italian)
40. Class of adhesives
44. Bar bill
47. One-time aerospace firm



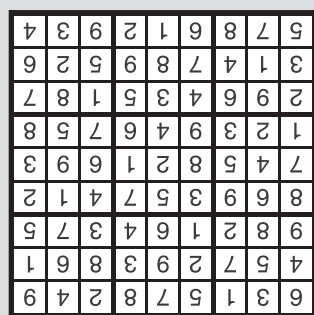
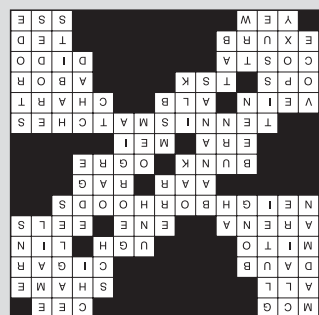
Sudoku

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



Rutland County Humane Society "Duck Derby" – Last Call For Ducks!

There is still time to adopt your little plastic ducks for the Rutland County Humane Society's Duck Derby! The Duck Derby will be at 5:30 pm, on Thursday, September 5th, 2024, at Pittsford Recreation Center. The first 4 ducks to reach the finish line win cash prizes. We'll also have a cash prize for the last duck! You can adopt a single duck for \$3, a Quack-Pack (4 ducks) for \$10, or a 6-Quack (6 ducks) for \$15. Ducks are available for adoption online at rchsvt.org or at the shelter on Stevens Road, Pittsford. All proceeds go towards the care of homeless animals in our community. We have exceeded our goal of 3,465 ducks from last year! Can you help us get to our stretch goal of 4,500?

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



MEET PENELOPE- 9 MONTHS. SPAYED FEMALE. AMERICAN STAFFORDSHIRE TERRIER MIX. BRINDLE. Say hello to our cutesy girl Penelope! She came to us as a stray on 7/20 from the Rutland area. She's a young girl ready to find her perfect home and learn the ways of the dog world! She's quick to learn and will do great in a home with family that take her out and give her a solid routine. She's done well around our other dogs here, though we've no known history on how she will do with cats or children. She's young and pliable enough that given the proper training she should do fine with them in a home.

MEET JOY - 2-YEAR-OLD. SPAYED FEMALE. DOMESTIC SHORT HAIR. BROWN TIGER. If you are looking to add a little sass and spice to your life, Joy is a little of both!! She isn't a fan of being held for long periods of time and can be a bit grumpy if she's had enough of loving from you. Joy does like attention, but it must be on her own terms. Once in a home of her own where she feels relaxed and comfortable, her personality will surely blossom. She arrived at the shelter August 2nd from a busy shelter in North Carolina.



RUTLAND COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY
802-483-6700 • WWW.RCHSVT.ORG
765 STEVENS RD. • PITTSFORD

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



OFF THE SHELF



Just a few more days and we'll be reopening on September 3rd back at 4 Franklin Street. Come see the newly renovated library!

Our second floor is now accessible by a lift. Up there you'll find our new meeting room, our renovated teen space, DVDs, audio books, biographies, and magazines.

Our first floor will have fiction, our new computer and printer area, and our children's room with picture books and junior fiction. You'll also find our Library of Things on dis-

play.

It's not too late to get your tickets for Reading the Green 2024—a golf scramble on September 6th brought to you by the Friends of BFPL, with all proceeds to benefit the library. For more information, visit <https://brandonpubliclibrary.org/events>. Register at 11 am, Shotgun start at 12 pm.

Here are some events coming up starting September 3rd.

Meditation Group! Now on Tuesdays from 10:30-11:30am in our new meeting room. All are welcome to attend.

LIBRARY NEWS:

While we're closed, please keep all checked out BFPL items until we reopen on Sept 3.

Also back on Tuesday: Pokemon, Magic the Gathering, and Pins and Needles, our crafting group. Pokemon is 3 to 5 pm and Magic from 5 to 7. Pins and Needles runs from 5:30 to 7 pm. Bring your latest project and chat with other crafters.

We can't wait to see you!

Brandon Police Report

August 19

- Vehicle stop on Route 7 at the Brandon/Pittsford town line for failure to maintain travel lane. Warning issued.

- Responded to the area of Conant Square for an iPhone crash detection that came into 911. The area was checked, but there were no signs that a crash had taken place.

- Received a walk-in complaint regarding a road rage incident in which a firearm was allegedly used. Incident is under investigation.

- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for plates not assigned to vehicle. It was determined that the plates had just been transferred on the car. No enforcement action taken.

- Received a complaint from a resident on Champlain Street regarding on-line harassment through Instagram and other social media platforms.

- Took fingerprints for school employment.

- Took fingerprints for school employment.

- Conducted a patrol on West Seminary Street.

- Assisted the Brandon Fire Department with a telephone line in the roadway on Marshall Phillips Road.

August 20

- Vehicle stop for no rear plate. Ticket issued.

- Took fingerprints for a school volunteer.

- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for a registration violation and defective equipment. Warning issued.

August 21

- Assisted Probation/Parole in attempting to locate a subject on Frasier Road. Individual was not located.

- Posted a property watch for a residence on High Street.

- Posted a property watch for a business on Forest Dale Road.

- Responded to a minor two-car "fender-bender" on Center Street. The incident was documented for insurance purposes.

- Took fingerprints for school employment.

- Took fingerprints for school employment.

- Responded to a trespass complaint. The vehicle was gone when officers arrived.

August 22

- Executed a search warrant at the Brandon Police Depart-

ment (BPD) on a vehicle suspected of containing illegal drugs. Crack cocaine and a handgun were seized from the vehicle. Investigation ongoing.

- K-9 Unit assisted with an exterior sniff of a vehicle suspected to contain illegal drugs. K9 Guinness alerted on the vehicle.

- Completed a VIN verification at the BPD.

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

- Conducted a patrol on Franklin Street.

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

- Investigated a complaint of custodial interference regarding a child that had been taken out-of-state by the caller's ex-boyfriend.

August 23

- Received a report from a resident on Forest Dale Road that several individuals were throwing rocks at his home. Incident is under investigation.

- Conducted a patrol during the nighttime hours at OVUHS due to the installation of new lighting at the field.

- Assisted in a custody issue on Furnace Road.

- Received a report of a Brandon resident driving under a suspended license.

- Dispatched to the area of 802 Liquor in Conant Square for a report of a suspicious man, wearing a full face mask, looking through car windows. The area was checked, but the man had left prior to the arrival of the responding officer.

- Received a report of a woman having a mental health crisis who was driving around the Brandon area. The woman had taken off in a vehicle and a "Be On Lookout" was aired to check the individual's well-being.

- Obtained a wallet that was found at the Hannaford Supermarket. The owner later came to the BPD and claimed it.

- Conducted a patrol on Franklin Street.

- Opened an investigation into the theft of a vehicle that occurred in the driveway of a residence on Carver Street.

- Conducted a welfare check on a child at a residence on Triangle Court. The child was found not to be at the residence.



Heavy clouds, no rain

THE VERMONT SKIES over southern Addison County have been reminding us that a whole school of painting was born of it.

Photo by Sepi Alavi

(See Police report, Page 19)

At Devil's Bowl

Calabrese surges for Charlie LaDuc Memorial Win, Brundige wins limiteds, Messier strikes again for mini stock win

WEST HAVEN, Vt.-- Brian Calabrese won Saturday's 54-lap, \$2,000-to-win Charlie LaDuc Memorial for the Sunoco Sportsman Modifieds, leading the final 20 laps and locking himself in to the 2024 Fabian Earth Moving Vermont 200 in the process. He was joined in victory lane by fellow New Yorker Nick Brundige (limited), Matt Cram (novice), Eric Messier (mini stock) and Eric Leno (enduro).

Troy Audet and Kevin Chaffee led the 33-car field to green on Hulbert Supply Night for the last tune-up before this Sunday's Vermont 200. Chaffee took the lead on the outside lane on a pretty fast racing surface that produced sub-20 second laps for nearly the entire race. The yellow flag was flown plenty in the 54-lap affair, testing Chaffee's resolve early, but driver No. 8 was strong on every restart, maintaining the lead early. From the back, Josh Masterson and Vince Quenneville were on the move early, along with Payton Talbot. On lap 17, Chaffee surrendered the lead to Joey Scarborough, who was lightning-fast on the inside lane.

At the time, Calabrese, who started 6th, was only up to 5th, but with the extra-distance, there was

no rush. Scarborough led with Chaffee 2nd, seemingly content to ride for the middle point of the race. Scarborough's biggest lead was .884 seconds at lap 25. Calabrese was then up to 4th., then slipped by Audet into 3rd a few laps later. On lap 33, he promoted himself to 2nd, fresh off a restart for an incident in turn one involving Tanner Siemons, Dave Camara, Billy Lussier and Michael Wagner-Fitzgerald. A lap later, car No. 21c was out front.

Scarborough hung right with him for the next five laps before Calabrese began to drive away. At the end of lap 54, Calabrese stood taller than anyone, with Scarborough 2nd, Chaffee 3rd, Audet 4th and LaDuc 5th. James Hanson had a great night in 6th with Josh Masterson 7th, Dominic Roselli 8th, Travis

Green 9th and Justin Comes 10th. The O'Reilly Auto Parts Limited Sportsman Feature was won by Nick Brundige of Round Lake, N.Y. Brundige has been a multi-time winner in the limited division at Albany-Saratoga



Speedway in 2024, including more than one occasion where he has passed more than 15 cars in a single feature to reach victory lane. He has also notched sportsman modified starts at Devil's Bowl and Airborne Park in 2024.

Brundige ran the bottom, leading all but the first few laps. He was paced by Adam Lafountain on the top, and Lafountain reeled Brundige in in the closing laps, but ran out of time and settled for 2nd. Gary English was 3rd. Kamden Duffy and Marty Hutchins completed the top-five.

In the Hoosier Racing Tire Novice Sportsman feature, Leicester's Matt Cram earned his second-career feature win. Russ Farr and recent winner Jason Kerr were in the front row, but Cram was fast early from his 3rd starting position and was shown as the leader on only the second circuit. Raelin Dunham followed Cram to the front but wasn't able to make a move for the lead. Cram sped off with the win. Dunham was 2nd with points leader Logan Denis 3rd.

Aiden Benoure was 4th with Josh Bussino 5th.

Twenty-eight Fisher Auto Parts Mini Stocks signed in, with 21 cars transferring to the A-main. Eric Messier, from Hinesburg, again strapped in to the renumbered No. 68 car formerly driven by Ryan Patch and started 20th on the grid in the 15-lap affair. Messier moved up fast, securing a top-10 by lap six. Nine laps later, he snagged the lead from Damian Olden, who led laps 6 through 14, from his 3rd starting spot. Messier went on to win. Olden's masterful run ended with a runner-up finish. Chris Sumner was 3rd with Jarrod Colburn 4th and points leader Brian Blake 5th. The B-feature was won by Cody Dion.

Another 50-lap, "wild and crazy" enduro capped off the night, with notorious enduro star Eric Leno bagging another win, good for \$500. Brent Wilbur was 2nd and Cody Vermilyea was 3rd. Twenty-four cars entered.

Devil's Bowl Speedways' BIGGEST program of the year is BACK, this Saturday and Sunday August 31 and September 1. The 2024 edition of the Fabian Earth Moving Vermont 200! Saturday (See Devil's Bowl, Page 20)

Police report

(Continued from Page 18)

August 24


- Conducted a patrol at OVUHS during nighttime hours due to the installation of new field lights. No activity observed.
- Vehicle stop on Route 7 for failure to maintain travel lane. Warning issued.
- Vehicle stop on Grove Street. Warning issued.
- Vehicle stop near the intersection of Country Club Road and Forest Dale Road. Warning issued.
- Conducted a patrol on Grove Street. One traffic stop was conducted and a warning was issued.
- Conducted traffic enforcement in the area of Syndicate Road. No violations were observed.
- Vehicle stop on Grove Street for defective equipment. Warning issued.

August 25

- Assisted the Brandon Area

Rescue Squad (BARS) with a medical call on Pine Tree Drive.

- Responded with BARS to a suicide attempt in Forest Dale. The subject was transported to the hospital and is expected to make a recovery.
- Assisted a woman at the BPD reporting an ongoing custody issue involving the father of her child.
- Received a request for a citizen assist on Franklin Street regarding picking up personal property.
- Received a request for a citizen assist regarding firearms removal on Fox Road.
- Performed a VIN verification.
- Responded to a residence on Carver Street for a domestic dispute. Case under investigation.
- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for unsafe passing. Warning issued.
- Assisted a motorist by changing their flat tire on Franklin Street.



WEEKLY HOROSCOPE

LEO July 23-Aug. 23
Leo, people have been gravitating in your direction for some time seeking advice. You can open up conversations to other topics that are important to you with such a captive audience.

VIRGO Aug. 24-Sept. 22
Strong emotions could be drummed up this week and may cause you to be distracted more so than usual. Try to get a break so you can make some time sort things out.

LIBRA Sept. 23-Oct. 23
Libra, being honest with yourself is important as you confront a notable challenge. Accept a self-assessment and devise a plan to make the most of this opportunity.

SCORPIO Oct. 24-Nov. 22
You have to develop a strategy before making your next move, Scorpio. Whether it is a business proposal or something with a friend or family member, don't be too hasty.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 23-Dec. 21
Sagittarius, you may notice that people are very sensitive to what you are saying, so you may have to change your approach if you want your message to be well-received.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 20
Something could be brewing but you can't identify what it is just yet, Capricorn. This could lead you to feeling restless and out of sorts. Give it some time and it will work out.

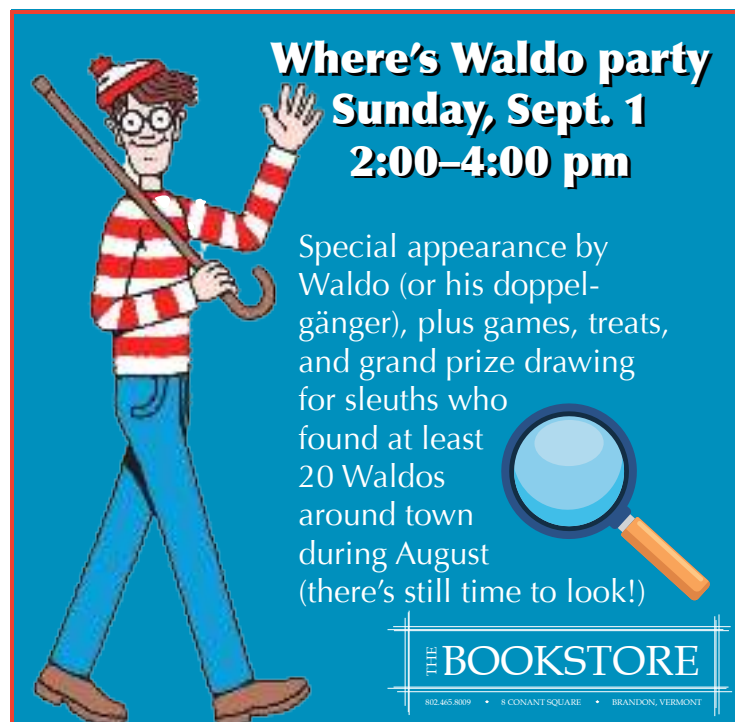
AQUARIUS Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Others' words are meaningful to you right now, Aquarius. Consider these opinions and spend time figuring out how to incorporate this advice.

PISCES Feb. 19-March 20
Pisces, often it can be challenging to take the high road But that's just what you have to do right now. Others will recognize your willingness to set a good example.

♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

Aug. 30 Capability Brown, horticulturist, landscape architect (d)
 Aug. 31 Itzhak Perlman, violinist (79)
 Sept. 1 Lily Tomlin, comedian (85)
 Sept. 2 Keanu Reeves, actor (60)
 Sept. 3 Shaun White, Olympic snowboarder (38)
 Sept. 4 Beyoncé, singer (43)
 Sept. 5 Werner Herzog, filmmaker (82)



Where's Waldo party
Sunday, Sept. 1
2:00–4:00 pm

Special appearance by Waldo (or his doppelgänger), plus games, treats, and grand prize drawing for sleuths who found at least 20 Waldos around town during August (there's still time to look!)

THE BOOKSTORE
 802.465.8009 • 8 CONANT SQUARE • BRANDON, VERMONT

Devil's Bowl

(Continued from Page 19)
 features a full card of racing with the Sunoco Sportsman Modified non-winners' shootout, plus "win and you're in" for the O'Reilly Auto Parts Limited Sportsman. Full programs for mini stocks, crown vics and qualifying for the novice and mini sprint classes, all presented by Brown's Quarried

Slate and Farmstand!
 The night ends with a 30-minute practice for the sportsman modifieds, plus a party in the camping area with music and a delicious chicken barbecue. Grandstand general admission for the whole weekend is just \$25, kids 12 and under are free. Infield tailgating is available for

\$40 for the whole weekend. Pit passes are \$45 (includes barbecue ticket). Camping passes are \$30. All campers must have a valid camping pass displayed on the camper. The dry camping lot opens from 3PM to 7PM Friday night and reopens 9AM Saturday. Camping passes are valid until Monday morning.

Brandon SB

(Continued from Page 1)
 Year 2026 (FY26), which plays an advisory role for the Selectboard during the budget process. The treatment of the committee by the Selectboard was a point of conflict in last year's budget season, when several members of the committee felt that the committee's concerns and recommendations were ignored by the Selectboard. Only the Selectboard determines what is or is not included in the final budget proposal that appears on the ballot at Town Meeting.

The 5 civilian members of the Budget Committee, as appointed by the Selectboard on Monday:

- 1) Jan Coolidge
- 2) Gabe McGuigan
- 3) Karen Rhodes
- 4) Barry Varian
- 5) Patricia Welch

These five will serve on the committee until the adoption of a budget for FY26 is complete. Ms. Coolidge, Mr. Varian, and Ms. Welch were members of last year's advisory committee as well.

Board Chair Doug Bailey stated that the process was beginning several months earlier this year to provide more time for discussion, with the first meeting of the Budget Committee scheduled for Monday, September 16 at 7 p.m. at Brandon Town Hall. Last year, the first meeting of the Budget Committee did not occur until November.

Mr. Bailey also stated that the first two meetings would be dedicated to big-picture, conceptual discussions of the budget without specific dollar amounts attached, in order to determine what the budget's priorities should be. Later meetings would determine what the town could actually afford to do. These meetings are open to the public. Mr. Bailey and board member Heather Nelson encouraged non-committee members to attend and be involved in the process from the start, when their input

would be easier to incorporate. At a meeting of last year's advisory committee that was held on Thursday, August 22 with Brandon Town Manager Seth Hopkins, several members voiced their concern that the process be handled differently this year, with the role of the advisory members defined more clearly in order to avoid the conflicts that plagued last year's efforts.

DOG PARK FOUNTAINS AND LAND PURCHASE

Continuing a discussion from the previous Selectboard meeting, Deputy Town Manager Bill Moore noted that \$3,492 had been raised from private donations for the water fountain planned for the dog park on Seminary Hill, with more donations expected. As of Tuesday morning, Mr. Moore reported that the entire cost of the water fountain was covered by donations. The cost of pipe and concrete for the installation would run about \$400 and the whole process would take about a day for Brandon's Buildings & Ground crew to complete. The fountain will use an existing water connection in the park.

Board member Brian Coolidge, who had questioned Mr. Moore about the installation costs at the previous meeting, asked about liability insurance for the portion of the dog park not owned by the town. Mr. Moore replied that the town's own liability insurance would cover the entirety of the dog park, especially since anyone suing over an injury at the park would likely go after the party with the deepest pockets.

However, the board agreed in executive session to pursue a sales offer made by Frank "Chip" Briscoe, the owner of the southernmost portion of the dog park. Mr. Briscoe had offered the 3/4-acre parcel to the town for \$25,000. The board voted to seek a Vermont "Building Communities" grant for \$12,500 for the purchase, with the remainder coming

from town funds. According to Town Manager Seth Hopkins, the source of the town funds would be the Town Farm Fund, which the town has held since the sale of the Town Farm in 1947 and which currently holds approximately \$18,000. Mr. Hopkins also stated that private donations for the purchase would be solicited.

The deadline for the Building Communities grant is September 10, with recipients notified in November. If the town is not successful with this grant, it will look for other grant sources, according to Mr. Hopkins.

PUBLIC COMMENT

During the portion of the meeting devoted to public comment, Brandon's State Representative Stephanie Jerome let the community know that she is continuing to work even when the legislature is not in session. She noted that she was currently trying to bring improved cell-phone service to Forest Dale, an area of Brandon with notoriously spotty coverage. She also encouraged anyone with concerns or questions to reach out to her by phone or email.

A resident of Brandon who was born in Germany praised those who participate in town democracy by attending meetings and speaking up. She recounted her mother's horror at the treatment of Jews by the Nazis and her father's fear that speaking up would make them victims as well. "It's your birthright to speak out and be heard," she said to applause from the room.

A longtime resident praised the board for the work it does. She also praised Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Moore for being professional and easy to work with. She said, "this town just gets better and better."

WARRANT

The board unanimously approved a warrant in the amount of \$69,906.05 to cover its expenses and obligations.

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Brandon Town Manager's report

Week of August 10th–22nd

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Town crews have been cleaning out the two-bay garage at Wastewater with the goal of maintaining that as heated storage, and reorganizing equipment and supplies so we can discontinue heating the four-bay garage.

The Town crews also successfully completed the riverbank stabilization efforts in the Neshobe at lower Barlow Avenue and along the grounds of the Wastewater Treatment Facility.

As noted in The Reporter and on Front Porch Forum and elsewhere, the Airstream Rally the last weekend of September will be stationed behind the Brandon Inn rather than along Park Street.

I met with Colleen Wright regarding the Town's partnership with the Toy Project on such events as the Brandon Carnival. We considered a draft Carnival MOU developed by Recreation Director Bill Moore and will work on it some more with the Bill's further participation.

The process of migrating our digital presence is underway. Our Town website may now be accessed at www.brandonvermont.gov. The Town has more than one technology vendor, and the e-addresses are being set up and will be announced when they are active. It is projected that a cost savings on the order of \$1,600 a year will be realized through changes the town management team is making to our technology subscriptions in conjunction with this migration.

I drafted an MOU between the Town and the Friends of Town Hall regarding their proposed donation of an installed flagpole in front of the Town Hall; Friends board action expected 1 September.

FOCUS AREAS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

I prepared and submitted initial applications for two Vermont Emergency Management (VEM) hazard mitigation grants, one for a private home in the Newton Road neighborhood to be bought out, and one for flood plain restoration in the area of Union Street and Pearl Street adjacent to the Otter Creek (this would have the result of decreasing the number of times those

roads require closure due to overtopping of the roadway by floodwaters).

I assisted a local business that has worked with the Town by providing a letter of support for their Building Communities Regional Economic Development Grant application.

I shared VLCT guidance on Houselessness to our police chief for dissemination to the department.

We are working with Rutland Regional Planning Commission to apply for a grant to delineate a Neighborhood Development Area (NDA) basically surrounding our Designated Downtown. The Agency of Commerce & Community Development (ACCD) lists these benefits of NDA designation:

- Qualified "mixed income" projects are exempt from Act 250 regulations
- Act 250 projects not qualifying for the exemption receive a 50% discount on application fees
- Agency of Natural Resources fees for wastewater review are capped at \$50.00 for projects that have received sewer allocation from an approved municipal system
- Exemption from the land gains tax
- Limitation on appeals of conditional use permits for residential development
- Municipalities receive priority consideration for state grants
- Pilot Downtown & Village Center Tax Credits

Currently the only NDA in Rutland County is in the City of Rutland itself. The grant we are pursuing is for planning; the Town would still need to submit its NDA application and have it approved by ACCD. ACCD states: "This designation program increases housing options by reducing the time and cost of state permitting in areas within easy walking distance of commercial centers — whether converting a wing of a house into an apartment or developing an entirely new neighborhood."

Some extensive work was accomplished with a developer preparing to redevelop a long-vacant building into mixed-income (some low-income, some market rate) housing. This project would make 22 apartments available for Brandon families. One state

grant has been secured through the efforts of the developer and Bill Moore our economic development officer; another state grant application is in progress.

I had communication with the State of Vermont regarding the dollar value we charge per gallon of reserved wastewater capacity when issuing permits. This is ahead of a projected update/revision of several public works policies that will be brought to the board for consideration and action.

I suggested to our code officer and DRB chair and clerk a new template for DRB meetings.

I worked with key Town finance staff (Bill, Jackie, Sue) regarding the projected 23% increase in premiums for 2025 health insurance plans approved by the State this month. We have determined the Town is ineligible for Cigna and our options are limited to BlueCross and MVP. Their rates are expected to be available late in September. This increase would be a stressor on the FY26 budget, on the order of \$80,000 (2+%).

I had many meetings with town officers, staff, townspeople, and responded to a number of requests for information from various parties, including Freedom of Information Act. Highway/tree and water/sewer matters were the most frequent topics.

I am preparing this on Thursday due to in-person training in Montpelier on Friday. The Financial Snapshot I customarily include here will be provided to the board as an update on Monday.

FOR AWARENESS OF THE SELECTBOARD

The (online) VLCT grant management training I signed up for was postponed from August 20 to September 24.

Vermont Roadworks (awarded sidewalk contract) met with our Highway Division Chief on Thursday afternoon to identify what other work could be incorporated into the sidewalk paving project given the available funding affirmed by the selectboard at the August 12th meeting.

A Brandon resident interested in public transit is sought as the Town's representative to the Marble Valley Regional Transit District ("The Bus"). Their regular meetings are monthly on the second Tuesday at 9AM. <https://thebus.com/meeting-material/>

Congratulations to Brandon's Barn Opera for hosting on Saturday evening our community's iteration of the "Play Every Town" free concert project of UVM music professor and pianist David Feurzeig. Brandon's Josh Collier and Eve Beglarian were featured artists, and Brandon's Tricia Welch and Russ McColman were key event organizers. Brandon was concert #64 in the series.

Congratulations to Brandon's Recreation Department and the Brandon Museum for hosting a challenging and thoughtful examination of eugenics in Vermont at the Town Hall on Sunday afternoon. The story of Ivor Devino featured many familiar names, and places, and represents an important telling of a compelling story of adversity and human rights in our community.

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT	
No accounting changes have been made for FY24 since last report; FY24 revenues will continue to come in during August; FY24 should settle out for reporting to the board in September.	
FY25 Budget Operating Expenses	16.7% thru funds / 16.7% thru year
Unrestricted / Unassigned Fund Balance	\$435,872
1% (Local Option) Tax Fund Available / Undesignated (\$100,000 board-reserved paving now \$35,000 per board action 12 Aug 2024 not included at right)	\$326,173
Known Grant Matches Not Yet Designated	UNION STREET
Delinquent property taxes (prior years)	\$530,491 (was \$529,721)
Delinquent wastewater (prior years (over 120 days))	\$247,861 (was \$217,339)
Tax Sale Status — WAUSHI due to legislative changes	70 accounts at attorney for letters

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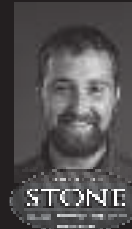
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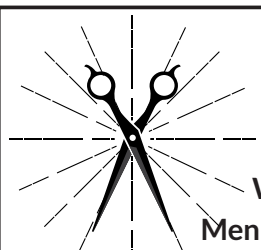
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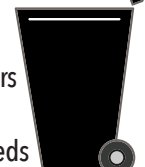
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A detailed job description is available from the Goshen Select Board Chairperson. Salary commensurate with experience.

The position is advertised until filled.

To apply, please e-mail a cover letter, resume, and three references to selectboard@goshenvt.org with Goshen Town Treasurer in the subject line.

The Town of Goshen is an equal opportunity provider and employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, gender, or familial status.

TOWN OF GOSHEN

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: TREE REMOVAL

A large maple tree overlooking the Goshen town office building at 50 Carlisle Hill Road needs to be removed. The scope of work is to safely take the tree down, without damage to the town office building, temporarily remove the fence, reinstall the fence after the project is complete, remove the trunk, limbs, leaves and branches, grind/ remove the stump, and do necessary earth moving to provide a natural terrain aspect.

The tree is suitable for firewood and the value of the firewood may be considered as part of a bid.

Experience in tree work is essential. Insurance is also necessary, and a liability waiver is required. The site can be inspected in daylight. Bids are due no later than September 5, 2024 and may be placed in the town drop box at the town office. Inquiries can be made to D. O'Classen at 247-4205.



Mim's Photos Like all things vintage?
are on page 16!

BRANDON FIRE DEPARTMENT INVITATION TO BID

The Brandon Fire District #1 is seeking bids for grading and paving the back portion of the Brandon Fire Station, located at 61 Franklin St., Brandon, Vermont, 05733.

For more information about the project and bidding process please visit brandonfiredistrict.org.

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Cannabis sellers

(Continued from Page 7)
were cautious about its ability so far to reverse past injustice or provide broad assistance.

"It's good to have," said Fishman, "but these businesses are very complex and difficult."

Zenbarn Farms has one of three vertical integration licenses in Vermont, meaning that it is permitted to take part in every legal cannabis market in the state. With three affiliated business locations and numerous employees, costs are high.

Being in a business which is federally illegal has real fiscal challenges, Fishman noted. He explained that loans from the federal Small Business Administration or Department of Agriculture are inaccessible to cannabis sellers.

"If you took that away from many industries, they would not survive," Fishman said.

Indeed, Pepper explained, no federally chartered bank will go near cannabis money. It's been frustrating, he said: The goal at both a federal and state level is to keep the legal cannabis trade heavily regulated where it exists. With many businesses being pushed into using cash only, that's much harder.

"It's just a little crazy," he said.

Tucker-Fishman said that earlier this year, Zenbarn Farms' payroll provider dropped them with just 30 days notice, having decided that serving dispensaries was just too risky.

All this uncertainty means

that staying afloat can be tough, even when business is good.

"We really need the Legislature to take some action to help open up the industry more," Fishman said. Event licenses, and looser potency caps, which have been debated in the Legislature, could funnel more traffic through the legal market, said

Fishman.

And in general, he said, it will take more serious infusions of money and small-business loans to address problems of inclusivity in the industry.

"We don't have real equity in cannabis yet," Fishman said.

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'Play Every Town' played Brandon to acclaim!



BRANDON WAS THE 64th concert in David Feurzeig's "Play Every Town" series, a project in which Feurzeig (above left), who is a composer and music professor at UVM, will perform in all 252 Vermont towns as a statement about climate change and environmental stewardship. Also performing were BARN Opera's Josh Collier (above center), and Eve Beglarian (above right). Beglarian can be seen filling in Brandon's outlines on the map, indicating that the performance there had been completed. The concert was a mix of classical pieces (Mozart and Scarlatti, for example) and contemporary compositions (a suite of poems set to music by Beglarian).

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