

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

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\$1

Brandon Selectboard sets new speed record

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—In an amazing display of brevity, the Brandon Selectboard convened, conducted its business, and adjourned in record time on Monday evening. Attendees had barely enough time to remove their coats before they were putting them

back on. Brandon Town Manager Seth Hopkins presented some additions to his written report, which is reprinted in full in this issue.

According to Mr. Hopkins the state of Vermont did Brandon “a special favor” by returning to North Street in Forest Dale to paint stripes on the newly repaved road surface.

Mr. Hopkins also fielded a question from a town resi-

dent regarding adjustments to the traffic lights on Route 7 in downtown, which often cause major backups through town during rush hour. Mr. Hopkins said that he had met with a representative of the signal company to discuss the problem and had provided the company

with photographs of the traffic jams, but the lights can be adjusted only be qualified engineers to ensure that they operate in sync.

Deputy Town Manager Bill Moore presented a brief Community Development report as well. He noted that the Rec Department’s winter programming is open for registration on the department’s website. He also

(See Brandon SB, Page 5)

The Rec Department’s winter programming is open for registration on the department’s website.



Scouts Salute to Veterans in Brandon

SCOUT TROOPS FROM around Vermont came to honor veterans on Saturday, November 9 in a parade down Park Street that culminated in a ceremony at the gazebo in Central Park. See more photos on pages 12 – 14.

Photos by Steven Jupiter

Get to know your new State Representatives

Alicia Malay (Rutland-8: Pittsford-Proctor)

BY STEVEN JUPITER

Though Republican Alicia Malay will be entering her first term representing Rutland-8 (Pittsford-Proctor) in January, she has been active in her home base of Pittsford for years.

Originally from Connecticut, Malay made the move to Vermont in 2001 and to Pittsford specifi-

cally in 2007.

“I’d always liked Pittsford,” she said in a recent conversation at the Maclure Library. “I’d drive through the town and had my eye on a particular house. When I was ready to buy, it was still available. It worked out perfectly. Pittsford has been home for me, more so than where I grew up.”

She started a house-cleaning business that gave her the flexibility to care for her young children and pursue a degree in criminal justice. She now has 3 sons: Liam, 21; Declan, 18; and Brogan, 13. She spent a lot of time at the Maclure Library with her kids and eventually joined the board of trustees there, beginning the tra-

jectory of public service that led to her election as State Rep last week.

“After I joined the library board, I started getting more involved in the community,” she said. “I started going to town meetings. I was interested in how the town worked.”

After a while, people in town

began suggesting she run for Selectboard herself.

“Someone said I’d be good at it, so I ran,” she laughed.

Her first campaign for Selectboard wasn’t easy. The vote on Town Meeting Day, with three candidates, ended in a two-way tie between Malay and Susan

(See Alicia Malay, Page 19)

Get to know your new State Representatives

Todd Nielsen (Rutland-9: Brandon)

BY STEVEN JUPITER

Todd Nielsen surprised many with a successful write-in campaign in the August Republican primary in Brandon, winning over 90 votes to secure a slot on the November ballot against 3-term incumbent Democrat Stephanie Jerome.

“I was praying for 25

[votes],” said Nielsen in a conversation at his home in Brandon. “I was totally amazed. Nobody knew me. It was really just word of mouth.”

But by November, it had become clear that Nielsen had tapped into a groundswell of frustration with the status quo in a year when property taxes

saw double-digit percent increases and both the Otter Valley school budget and the Brandon town budget were rejected twice by voters.

“I knocked on a lot of doors,” said Nielsen. “75% of the people I spoke to were upset about taxes. They couldn’t understand where the money was go-

ing. Some people didn’t even mind paying, they just wanted to know where it was going. You can’t throw money away.”

On November 5, Brandon chose Nielsen as its next State Representative, 1,258 votes to Jerome’s 1,056. Nielsen was among two dozen or so Republicans who picked up seats

from Democrats in this election cycle, breaking the supermajority the Democrats have held in Vermont for the last two years.

(See Todd Nielsen, Page 7)



Third in a series on Brandon's historic buildings Bird Cage Mansion moved over Seminary Hill

BY JAMES PECK

"The design and ornamentation of this elaborate house is highly individual and ranks among the most unusual examples of High Victorian eclectic architecture in the state."

That's how the so-called "Bird Cage" house was described in 1976, when the Brandon Village Historic District was officially added to the National Historic Register (NHR).

The description went on: "The use of contrasting textures is derived from the Queen Anne while the curved, boldly-formed shapes of the overall conception make the house a late example of the High Victorian Mansard period. Known locally as the "Bird Cage" because of its elaborate decoration, the house has a projecting front tower, with entrances on each side, square main block with concave Mansard roof, and long rear ell."

This beautiful mansion was originally located at 39 Conant Square but, believe it or not, it was moved over Seminary Hill in 1982 to its current location at 224 Wheeler Road.

Built in the French Second Empire style in 1892-3 by a mason named Roscoe Sanders, the house was first owned by a well-off dentist named Oscar Morehouse who lived there and used one side as his dental office. Dr. Morehouse specialized in artificial teeth. He sold the Bird Cage in 1900 for only \$2,600.

Over the next 78 years, the house was owned by ten different families, the longest for 18 years and the average for seven. None of them were very rich, with occupations ranging from carpenter to harness maker to handyman to engineer. Three owners bought it just to flip it for a profit. Some used it

and the unusual layout of the rooms. It was bit out of place in Conant Square, in the midst of statelier mansions built by the Conants. The closest thing to it was the tower at 28 Conant Square across the street in the same Mansard style (see previous article on the Thayer Mansion in the September 25th Re-

Breeders. Burt Cook raised Rock Cross chickens in the barn out back and he and Mabel celebrated both their 50th and 60th wedding anniversaries in the Bird Cage.

In 1970, Donald and Audrey Grout bought the property and moved their family of four children in. Don Grout was an

house is a cultural trust."

They set about completing a \$50,000 restoration of the house with advice from the state Historic Preservation Division and using local contractors, such as talented woodworker Paul Ashley, who restored the gingerbread lattice and much of the inside, even building a birdhouse replica of the house. The original stained-glass windows were reinstalled and the house repainted.

In 1982, they bought a 40-acre lot off Wheeler Road and decided to move the Bird Cage and its carriage house there due to damage to the foundation from heavy truck traffic at Conant Square.

Mary Ellen outlined how the move was accomplished: "There were permits to get, permissions needed to cross private properties, and endless coordination between power, phone, and cable companies and house movers. Preparing a foundation at the new site took about three months. Actually, digging out the old foundation, putting the antique house on a trestle, and getting the trestle on wheels took another half a month."

"The actual move was accomplished in the course of a few hours when house mover Emile Desautels of Salisbury, Vt., and his crew rolled the 10-room slate-roofed frame house down the road to its new locale. The crew also brought along the couple's matching carriage barn, to be added on as living space at the new location."

The move took place 42 years ago on a crisp fall day on October 27, 1982. From the Rutland Herald: "Elementary school children and hundreds of area citizens turned out to watch the long-awaited event. The moving of the 'Bird Cage' had been the talk of the town for many days."

"On reaching the intersection near the town office, the house and barn were towed up Seminary Hill Road and on to a prepared site off the Wheeler Road."

According to Tom and Carolyn Whittaker, local realtors who graciously provided the accompanying photos of the move, as the house started up Seminary Hill by the Town Hall, it started to slide back, but a backhoe was hitched onto the truck to get it up that steepest part. When they reached the field at the top of the hill off Highland Avenue, they needed—*(See Bird Cage Mansion, Page 19)*



THE BIRD CAGE mansion en route through Conant Square. The Brandon Baptist Church is visible in the background. It would take several hours to move the mansion and its carriage house from its original location on Conant Square to its new home on a hill overlooking Wheeler Road.

as a boarding house.

Why it was sold so often was likely due to its eccentric look

porter). The Bird Cage builder, Roscoe Sanders, likely copied that tower and then elaborated on the style.

The longest owners in that 78-year period were Burt and Mabel Cook, he the handyman and she the boarding house operator at the Bird Cage. They bought it for \$4,200 in 1945 and lived there until 1963.

Unfortunately, the Grouts ran into financial problems and the bank took the house in 1978. The bank then sold it in 1979 for a mere \$13,000 to Mary Ellen Corbett and Lewis Little, two successful newspaper journalists who had been married five years. Both had been nominated for Pulitzers, Corbett three times for her writing and Little once for his discovery and promotion of award-winning cartoons including "Garfield."

Renovation and Moving the Bird Cage

Corbett and Little fell in love with the house. Mary Ellen said, "Houses mean a great deal to us. Ownership of an old



THE BIRD CAGE in its "new" location. The color scheme highlights the house's unique architecture and ornamentation. The current owners, Michael and Jirina Obolensky, have managed the house as a B&B for several years but it appears to be dormant at the moment.



Roger, Eric Idle, shrubbery and shrubbers make gardening fun

BY LYN DESMARAIS

Monty Python and the Holy Grail's spirited romp through Arthurian legend revived many medieval themes including sending 'heroes' on quests. Well, just as today, they clearly needed stuff for their teenagers to do, and this was their solution. Today, we probably wouldn't go putting on body

armor in quest of shrubbery, well maybe we should. Some roses' thorns are vicious.

Enjoy:

Arthur and his knights are in a dark and dangerous forest they must pass through while seeking the Grail, when they are accosted by a group of knights, who will not let them pass.

"HEAD KNIGHT: We shall say 'ni' again to you if you do not appease us.

ARTHUR: Well, what is it you want?

HEAD KNIGHT: We want... a shrubbery!

[dramatic chord]

ARTHUR: A what?

HEAD KNIGHT: Ni! Ni!

ARTHUR and PARTY: Oh, ow!

ARTHUR: Please, please! No more! We shall find a shrubbery.

HEAD KNIGHT: You must return here with a shrubbery or else you will never pass through this wood alive!

ARTHUR: O Knights of Ni, you are just and fair, and we will return with a shrubbery.

HEAD KNIGHT: One that looks nice.

ARTHUR: Of course.

HEAD KNIGHT: And not too expensive.

ARTHUR: Yes.

So off they go, find an old woman who has a shrubbery, but she refuses to give it to them. They start saying Ni at her and she's covering her ears, begging them to stop, when a man on a horse appears.

ROGER: Are you saying 'Ni' to that old woman?

ARTHUR: Um, yes.

ROGER: Oh, what sad times are these when passing ruffians can say 'Ni' at will to old ladies. There is a pestilence upon this land, nothing is sacred. Even those who arrange and design shrubberies are under

considerable economic stress at this period in history.

ARTHUR: Did you say 'shrubberies'?

ROGER: Yes, shrubberies are my trade -- I am a shrubber. My name is Roger the Shrubby. I arrange, design, and sell shrubberies.

So, they buy a shrubbery and head back to the forest.

ARTHUR: Oh, Knights of Ni, we have brought you your shrubbery. May we go now?

HEAD KNIGHT: It is a good shrubbery. I like the laurels particularly. But there is one small problem.

ARTHUR: What is that?

HEAD KNIGHT: We are now... no longer the Knights Who Say Ni.

RANDOM: Ni!

HEAD KNIGHT: Shh shh. We are now the Knights Who Say Ecky-ekky-ekky- ekky-pikang-zoom-boing-mumble-mumble.

RANDOM: Ni!

HEAD KNIGHT: Therefore, we must give you a test.

ARTHUR: What is this test, O Knights of-- Knights Who 'Til Recently Said Ni?

HEAD KNIGHT: Firstly, you must find... another shrubbery! [dramatic chord]

(See Gardening corner, Page 26)



Spotlight On Business

SIXPENCE STUDIOS



BRANDON CHAMBER
of Commerce

Brandon.org for more info



Joanna

Sixpence Studios is a mother/daughter team of wedding photographers serving Brandon and all of Vermont. The company was started in 2008, and moved to Vermont in early 2019. Influenced by a background in photojournalism, the team strive to not only produce beautiful photographs

for weddings, but to also create images which capture true emotion and candid moments for their couples.

OVUUSD awarded \$114,000 grant to launch exploratory welding program, expand career exploration offerings

The Otter Valley Unified Union School District (OVUUSD) is excited to announce a \$114,000 grant funded entirely by the Vermont Department of Labor (VDOL) to enhance hands-on student career exploration opportunities, with an introductory welding course. This initiative is one step in early exposure that will help students explore options in our local workforce, increase student engagement through hands-on learning opportunities, and make connections to further educational opportunities both at the secondary and post-secondary levels.

This grant builds on the momentum of the AWS (American Welding Society) Light a Spark Grant, which OVUUSD received in 2022. That initial grant laid the foundation for bringing welding education to Otter Valley, and this new funding will take this work to the next level – allowing students to gain even more practical, hands-on experience. This continued support enables us to provide students with the tools and knowledge they need to make informed decisions about their pathways to graduation, opening doors to further training with our secondary partner, Stafford Technical Center.

Nationally, the U.S. is projected to face a shortage of 360,000 skilled welding professionals by 2027. Vermont employers are already feeling the pressure, as businesses struggle to fill positions in critical industries. Otter Valley is committed to being part of the solution to address the needs of our local community, the state,

and the nation.

A recent survey of Otter Valley students, grades 7-12, revealed strong interest in welding education at Otter Valley, with 70 out of 104 respondents expressing a desire for a short-format welding course. This overwhelming demand highlights the need for innovative educational programs that offer career exploration and technical training for Vermont's next generation of workers.

The grant will enable Otter Valley Schools to build a fully equipped 5-6 booth welding shop, offering students a 50+ hour introductory course in welding. The course, designed for 9th and 10th graders, will cover fundamental welding techniques, equipment usage, blueprint reading, and welding symbol identification. Students will also complete a hands-on project to demonstrate their new skills. This course is designed to prepare students for further training at regional CTE centers like Stafford Technical Center, where they can continue preparing for their post-secondary lives.

The introductory welding program is targeted to be operational by the fall of 2025 – giving students practical skills and a pathway to CTE programs and beyond. This program has the long-term goal of offering micro-credentials to our students' portfolios. OVUUSD will collaborate with the Stafford Technical Center to ensure the curriculum meets industry standards. By equipping students with valuable technical skills, the program aims to

(See OVUUSD award, Page 5)



We're related through my mother's side

THIS IS A Florida Chuck-will's-widow, the bigger cousin to our whip-poor-will. I was fortunate to flush the bird and have it perch.

Photo by Sue Wetmore

Community Forums 5 years of Lighting Up Rutland County

Rutland—As the cold temperatures settle in and we shift from fall to winter activities, local nonprofit organization Social Tinkering is preparing to kick off their 5th year of Light Up Rutland County. Get ready to help each other brighten the dark days of winter across the region! This event provides an opportunity for decorators

to show off their creativity, businesses to donate fun prizes for encouragement and to connect folks to local products, and community members to go light peeping under the stars with a friend and some warm hot cocoa.

This year the team at Social Tinkering is working hard to spread the word to every nook and valley throughout the region to get those bright lights on their 2024 Lights Map. Program Director, Jackie Proulx says, "This event invites Rutland County residents to come together, be creative, and spark some joy."

Decorator registration begins November 4th and ends November 24th at midnight. This

year Household Decorators can compete for prizes for Best DIY, Best Cozy Winter Glow, Most Whimsical, and Judges' Choice categories. Households who do not wish to compete for prizes can still add their decorations to the 2024 Lights Map for \$5. Businesses and organizations across the region are encouraged to compete

"This event invites Rutland County residents to come together, be creative, and spark some joy."

—Jackie Proulx

for Brightest, Most Creative, and Most Interactive. So far, prizes include activities like a class at Kaleidoscope Art Supply and a massage from Holistic Happiness! Social

Tinkering is currently looking for more event sponsors, donations for decoration category prizes, and voter drawing giveaways.

Schools have their very own category which gives students, teachers, and staff a chance to light up their hallways with fun decorations that represent their community's vision of celebrating the winter season. Schools can compete for Community's Choice and Judge's Choice. Schools and non-public-facing businesses/organizations are

encouraged to send Social Tinkering videos, slideshows, and photos of their displays to be posted to the website for viewing and voting.

All decorators are invited to share their online videos and photos at #lightuprutlandcounty. Voting begins December 1st and runs through January 4th. Winners will be announced the 2nd week of January.

While the competition and prizes are a popular part of this annual event, the goal is to

work together as a community to reduce social isolation and loneliness in a fun and beautiful way. According to Director, Jeanette Langston, "It is just so cool every year to watch how it all comes together, as people get involved in all the different ways, and how that coming together creates some really beautiful memories for years to come. Each year we hear from folks how the event has impacted them and their friends and families in positive ways."

Langston started Light Up Rutland County the winter of 2020 amidst pandemic anxiety, political turmoil, and the nationwide rising awareness around racism and discrimination. She wanted the event to remind people that while we

(See Light Up Rutland, Page 5)

The REPORTER

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A community supported newspaper

The Reporter is a 501c3 nonprofit, community-supported newspaper managed by a volunteer Board of Directors. Current board members are Steven Jupiter, president; Dr. George Fjeld, treasurer; Barbara Ebling, secretary; Mitchell Pearl; Shelly Williams.

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Letters to the Editor

A letter to my neighbors in Brandon

After the culmination of this incredibly divisive election season, I know that tensions in our community have been high, to say the least. As I sit here, I have been reflecting on my first few days in Brandon, where what I saw was a community that worked together, that genuinely cared about each other - even with disagreements - but the change that I have seen of late has been weighing heavily on my heart.

I firstly will say that I believe that you are good people. I do not think that you intentionally hurt people. I do not think that

that you came to the decision to vote for this person because you wanted to hurt your friends and neighbors. I would never try to guess or infer what reasons you had to vote the way that you did, nor would I judge you for those reasons.

This is the crux of the issue for me, and why I honestly didn't intend in any way to single you - or anyone - out in my outcry of devastation. This

person, who is now the President-elect, in my estimation, is the embodiment of the worst of us. I don't say this lightly, and

I don't say this with "Trump derangement syndrome."

I hear the incendiary language that he uses to describe so many people in my

community that I love. I hear the way that he talks about the LGBTQ+ (especially trans) (See To my neighbors, Page 6)

I know that we can agree that we don't want this division in our country, but especially in Brandon.

I'd like to apologize for my online behavior last week

Last week, on Facebook from my own private account outside of work hours, I called a person a name and demeaned his character.

This caused his feelings to be hurt, and also probably some embarrassment.

There is no excuse for my actions as a human being. I don't condone people calling each other names and making fun of them- but then I did it.

So, I made a public apology on Facebook, and asked to meet him and shake hands, and maybe play some cornhole. He declined.

I will not post his name, as I don't want to bring further undue publicity to him. Feelings do matter, and I hurt his feelings. And I'm sorry.

*Colleen Wright
Sudbury*

OV Football championship shirts should have included all team members

I am writing to express my deep concern and disappointment regarding the championship shirts that were sold to commemorate the recent Division III Football Championship playoffs on Saturday 11/9/2024. As a supporter of Otter Valley Football, I was alarmed to discover that the shirts feature an incomplete representation of the team, omitting several key players who were in-

tegral to the team's success.

As you know, team sports are a collective effort, and every player, regardless of position, deserves to be recognized for their contributions to the team's achievements. The omission of these athletes not only does a disservice to them personally but also sends the wrong message about the value of teamwork and the importance of each individual's role in

achieving success. This oversight feels particularly troubling given the high regard we all hold for the student athletes who give their time, energy, and dedication to their school and community.

I urge the Vermont Principals' Association to address this issue by correcting the design of the championship shirts and ensuring that all members of the Otter Valley Football team are represented

appropriately and issuing an apology to the team and supporters that purchased the shirts. The corrected shirts should be offered at no charge to replace shirts that were purchased at the event. The success of this team was a result of the hard work of every individual, and they all deserve to be celebrated equally.

I hope that this issue will be resolved swiftly and that future

representations of state championship competition teams will be more mindful of the entire group of athletes who contributed to their exceptional season.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

*Erin Pockett
Proud Parent*

OVUUSD award

(Continued from Page 4)

place students on a path toward successful secondary training with our partners at the Stafford Technical Center.

We would also like to thank the team at the Vermont Department of Labor for helping to make this grant possible.

This grant will not only help us build a state-of-the-art welding facility but will also re-engage students who are eager to find new ways to learn. We're looking forward to creating opportunities that will prepare students for Vermont's workforce.

Light Up Rutland

(Continued from Page 4)

are all human and struggling, there are ways we can still help each other feel like someone cares. Now in her 5th year of planning, she still feels that "with the longer winter nights, anxiety-inducing politics, and the tendency many of us have to hibernate for months, this event helps us connect with each other in simple and meaningful ways. Light Up Rutland County is a way to literally and figuratively work together to brighten each other's dark days and feel less alone."

Join the festivities! Register your decorations, sponsor the event, donate a prize, go light

peeping, enjoy the online entries, and vote for your favorites! Go to www.socialtinkering.org/lightuprutlandcounty for all the details and to join the fun!

Social Tinkering's mission is to reduce and heal loneliness and social isolation by intentionally growing meaningful connections and compassionate belonging. You can learn more about their work at www.socialtinkering.org and on Facebook, Instagram, and Front Porch Forum @socialtinkering. To donate and for more information, contact their team at 802-342-5811 or info@socialtinkering.org.

Letters to the editor

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

Letters will only be accepted from residents of the eight towns we cover (Brandon, Pittsford, Proctor, West Rutland, Goshen, Sudbury, Leicester and Whiting) or letters that pertain to issues or people in our coverage area. We will also consider letters from former residents if the subject matter is pertinent.

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

Send your Letters to the Editor by Fridays before 5 p.m. news@brandonreporter.com

Brandon SB

(Continued from Page 1)

noted that Brandon Rec is partnering with Pittsford Rec to offer in-season basketball clinics for kids K-6. And there are still 18 seats available on the bus to see the Celtics play on December 19.

During the public comment segment of the meeting, an attendee who had worked at the polling station on November 5 stated that she had been very happy with the enormous turnout among Brandon voters, which Board Chair Doug Bailey said was the largest in town history. Mr. Bailey also said that it was appropriate to be making these com-

ments on Veterans Day, as veterans were responsible for protecting our freedom to vote.

The Board also unanimously approved a warrant in the amount of \$217,341.03 to cover the town's obligations and expenses.

The Board recessed for executive session to discuss personnel matters, remarking on the speed with which it had zipped through the sparse agenda.

The Board and the Budget Committee will hold a public workshop next Monday, November 18 at 7 p.m. in the Selectboard meeting room at the Brandon Town Hall.



SUBMIT YOUR BIRTH, ANNIVERSARY, OR WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

news@brandonreporter.com

To my neighbors

(Continued from Page 5)

community, and immigrants, and the things that he has promised this country that I believe are antithetical to who I have been taught from an early age that we are.

When I hear the type of derogatory and hateful rhetoric that he uses, I become afraid. I have seen already signs that say “your body, our choice” and texts to black Americans informing them that they are required to return to the plantation. This type of domestic terrorism may not be directly instructed by him, but it certainly isn’t condemned.

I don’t think that you voted for him to hurt me, but if you listened to what he says daily, and still voted for him, then my hurt, and the way that he talks about other humans, was not part of your calculation.

My friends, you know that this man is not Republican. I know so many good, decent, honest, trustworthy, compassionate, kind, loving, Republicans - like you. We can agree to disagree on the dispassionate division of the pile of money that has to go to different causes/areas of concern, and agree that truth, honesty, and integrity are the bulwarks of this country and humanity writ large. Trump ran as a Republican, and has successfully coopted the Republican Party, but he is not a Republican.

As I have been called “libtard” on many occasions by Brandon neighbors, you might be surprised that I also voted for Phil Scott. I did not vote for the Democratic candidate for governor, because even though I disagree with Scott on some points, he has done a commendable job through the pandemic and in the recovery afterwards, but even he drew the line at supporting someone

like this.

But I know that we don’t believe like him, my friends. Your kids are amazing, and they are kind, and respectful. They play with my kids at Neshobe and are friends to all. You would never allow them to act the way that he acts, because you are good parents, and good people. That is why this situation is so profoundly sad to me.

What I had hoped was for the good people of this country to finally say “enough” and let the hate return to being the underbelly of society. What happened was that significantly more than half of this country said that type of language was mainstream and that this is the guy that we want to represent us, our values, morals, and ethics. This is the guy who we want our children to look up to and model their life and their behavior after. This is who we want to occupy the most powerful solo position in the world, and who we think has the temperament to treat the office with the solemn respect it deserves.

But buddy, we have seen this movie before, and have the receipts and the t-shirt. We know how this is going to go, it’s not conjecture.

I did not agree with Kamala Harris on 100% of things, for sure, but when she spoke with respect, compassion, and understanding, it was such a stark contrast with Trump, and offered such a polar opposite and binary choice. Again, I absolutely voted for her, but I more voted against Trump.

The thing that many people don’t realize is that while many on the right call it “TDS,” it’s actually a very real, very deep, visceral fear of the things that he says and promises. Many of the right have been minimizing that pain and that fear from communities that are directly

BONNIE LOU JOHNSON, 84, BRANDON



Bonnie Lou Johnson, age 84, passed peacefully on November 4, 2024, with her son Tim by her side at Oak Hill Hospital in Spring Hill, FL.

Funeral arrangements are pending at the Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home in Brandon.

A complete obituary will appear at a later date.



BONNIE LOU JOHNSON

in the crosshairs of that language for years.

We have warned the country of the pain that this person and his movement has caused, and have shown examples even in our community (OV is no longer a safe place for LGBTQ students due to repeated hate crimes in the name of Trump - whether he instigated or directed it or not)

What has happened is that the two countries that America is just solidified its division because one side has gotten to the point of excising foreseeable toxicity from their lives. Unfortunately, this movement has, for many of us, demonstrated that the hateful, offensive, denigrating, language that has been used towards us for years, is not an aberration, but is the majority of the country, and that is a profoundly painful realization.

Is this really what and who we are?

The pain and fear are real. Full stop. What it very truly feels like to many of us is that the promise of the country that we loved, the rule of law, the premise that no one is above that law, and all - truly all - are created equal, and all the other promises that were made to us, have been a fallacy.

Now it’s no longer our work. It is now up to the Republicans who care, who are good and decent, kind and compassionate, and actually practice

what they preach to put those words into reality, and ensure that ALL of this country is protected and defended from the worst of his impulses, and hold him to a standard that requires everyone around him to treat all Americans with respect and dignity.

Finally, my friends, I just want to be clear that anything that I have said over the last few days was not directed toward you, because again, I don’t believe you think about your fellow community members and neighbors like he does. While I don’t understand the personal and unending devotion to this particular individual, to call out the cult-like following is not anti-American.

There are many in our American community that are hurting tremendously, and sometimes that pain manifests as lashing out, and having emotional reactions to very real trauma.

I know that we can agree that we don’t want this division in our country, but especially in Brandon. When we can get back to simple understanding that we are all supposed to protect all of us, then we can get to unity, but I think that this mandate from the country has truly rocked a great many of us, and it’s going to take a while to recover, as for many of us, that trust of neighbor has been seriously damaged.

As for the question about the future of our friendship, I’ll an-

swer clearly and honestly: I am not interested in losing a many-years-long friendship over what I believe is a misguided decision.

I will never say that it is ok, because that decision has and will dramatically impact many that I know and love, but that doesn’t mean that the damage done to our relationship is irreversible, or that the impact can’t be mitigated.

If you work to further the policy goals that you voted for him for, and simultaneously help us provide protection and safety to all those in our community writ large regardless of any identifying marker, then of course the argument goes back to politics - boring, staid, old politics - and wouldn’t that be delightful?


Thanks so much again for hearing me, my friends, and I hope that this more robust explanation might be able to provide clarity for so much that is happening in this country, without the anger and accusatory language that generally accompanies this type of discussion.

I am sending you and your family all my absolute best and returning the hope for the return to calm and peace for everyone in the community and beyond.

*Josh Collier
Brandon*

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Hours
Thu - Sat 10-5



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Jim & Liz McRae

Sharpen your mind with our puzzles.

See page 25

Todd Nielsen

(Continued from Page 1)

“I was excited. This is my second life,” said Nielsen, who has never held elective office before, having spent much of his career as a carpenter and security guard. His home in Brandon, where he moved 14 years ago from New York, is testament to his carpentry skills: he restored the 1880s house he shares with his wife, Aida, a registered nurse, and is currently putting up an outbuilding to store large equipment. He even raised pigs until a hernia put an end to that. He is, as he admits, a complete newbie to the world of politics and legislating.

But he felt compelled to run for office after the local Republican group sought a candidate to run against Jerome, who was seen as vulnerable in a purple district in a year when resentments toward incumbents were high.

“People were telling me they couldn’t afford to live here anymore,” he said. “I met people who said they loved Brandon but it was too expensive now so they were moving to places

like Tennessee.”

Even though the write-in campaign was a surprise success, the campaign for the November election was not always smooth sailing, with letters to this paper and posts on Front Porch Forum often criticizing Nielsen for his stated goal of “voting no on all new taxes,” which some Brandon residents found simplistic and unrealistic. He was also criticized for his inexperience and lack of polish, especially in comparison to Ms. Jerome, who had been in office for 6 years and had once worked for NASA. The criticisms reached

a peak after an admittedly shaky performance at a Candidates Forum sponsored by



TODD NIELSEN

the Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce in October.

“I was kind of scared to go there,” he said. “But a friend told me to ‘man up and do it.’ I thought I was treated fairly by the Chamber. Some of the people who wrote about me after I thought were friends. But I’ve got to get over it. When you do something for the first time, it can get to you. But it will bounce off me now. I will continue to do what I think is right.”

Nielsen will begin his House orientation in November, with the legislative session officially beginning in January. New House members are matched with experienced mentors who will help them acclimate. In addition, members of the Rutland County delegation and Rutland County Republican Party have reached out to ease Nielsen into the legislative swing of things.

“I’m surrounding myself with people who can help me,” he said.

As for his legislative priorities, he hopes to join committees on homelessness, drug abuse, and housing. He’d also like to help expand cell-phone

coverage to underserved areas like Forest Dale. He also noted that he will stand up for Vermont’s laws, even if he doesn’t personally agree with them, as he made clear at the Candidates Forum when he said he stood by Vermont’s abortion laws.

“I am honored to be in this position. I don’t want to promise more than I can deliver. I don’t want to make empty promises.”

Nielsen also stated that he encountered a fair amount of hostility toward the Republican Party while he was campaigning, even once being yelled at in a local store. But he wants to assure his new constituents that he intends to represent everyone.

“I don’t vote the party line,” he said. “I vote the Brandon & Forest Dale line. I’ve traveled all over the world. Brandon is the best place I’ve ever lived. It breaks my heart when I hear people are leaving.”

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VETERANS DAY IN PITTSFORD



PITTSFORD MARKED VETERANS Day with a ceremony at the Pittsford Town Offices on Monday. Clockwise from top left: Scout Pack 110 led the Pledge of Allegiance, the Lothrop School Chorus sang patriotic songs, Lt. Junior Grade Jennifer Cyr Tinsman gave the keynote address, Father Maurice Moreau of St. Alphonsus offered both the invocation and the benediction, a large crowd assembled for the ceremony, Miley Lape sang the National Anthem, and Calvin Ladd played Taps. The ceremony was led by Assistant to the Town Manager Ann Reed (in blue). Photos by Steven Jupiter

VETERANS DAY IN BRANDON



Photos
by Carol
Fjeld



BY CAROL FJELD

BRANDON—At a solemn ceremony on the morning of November 11th, members of American Legion Post #55 of Brandon gathered to honor and commemorate our veterans of foreign wars. Blanche Welch, Chaplain, began the proceedings with a prayer for those who served.

June Kelly spoke of the beginnings of this hallowed day. She noted that this day has been celebrated for seventy years as a day of “remembrance for those who have placed their love of God and country, their devotion to liberty and freedom, above even life itself.”

The honor guard was ably conducted by local veterans Robert Gearwar, Kenneth Bannister, Dick Howland, Aaron Tucker, Richard Ross, Robert Kilpeck. Taps was played by Mike

Frankowitz.

Brandon lost several distinguished veterans over the past year. Those remembered were Lou Conter, a veteran of World War II and sole survivor of the attack on the USS Arizona; Roger Donlon, a veteran of Vietnam and Medal of Honor recipient; Burt Reynolds, who joined the Marines at age 17 and served in the South Pacific in World War II; Robert Dean, who served in the US Marine Corps and US Air Force; John Welch, who joined the US Army following graduation from high school in 1963; David Patterson, who served in the US Air Force; Calvin Griffin, who served in the US army, and Keith Young. We thank these and all veterans for their service to our country and community.

STUDENT: Jae Martin

GRADE: 8

SCHOOL: Otter Valley Union Middle School

TITLE: "Free Your Mind"

MEDIUM: Micro Pens, Crayons & Markers

TEACHER: Tiffany St. Michaud

OUR CREATIVE KIDS



STATEMENT FROM MS. MICHAUD:
During a class project titled "Garden Prints" students were asked to create a garden scene with warm and cool colors. Their subjects were to be created using water proof mediums (crayons & micro pens), and their background using water soluble materials. We created a tie dye effect with the water soluble markers in the background.

Our Creative Kids Poetry Corner

Where I'm From

by Piper

I am from running in fields,
from leaf piles and frog burying
I am from the beautiful sights of
Vermont.

I am from the rolling hills,
the friends, family, and happiness.

I'm from hard work and softball,
from hunting and hot sauce.
I'm from the diencephalon
and the cortex,
from imagination and books.
I'm from the beautiful sights of
Vermont.

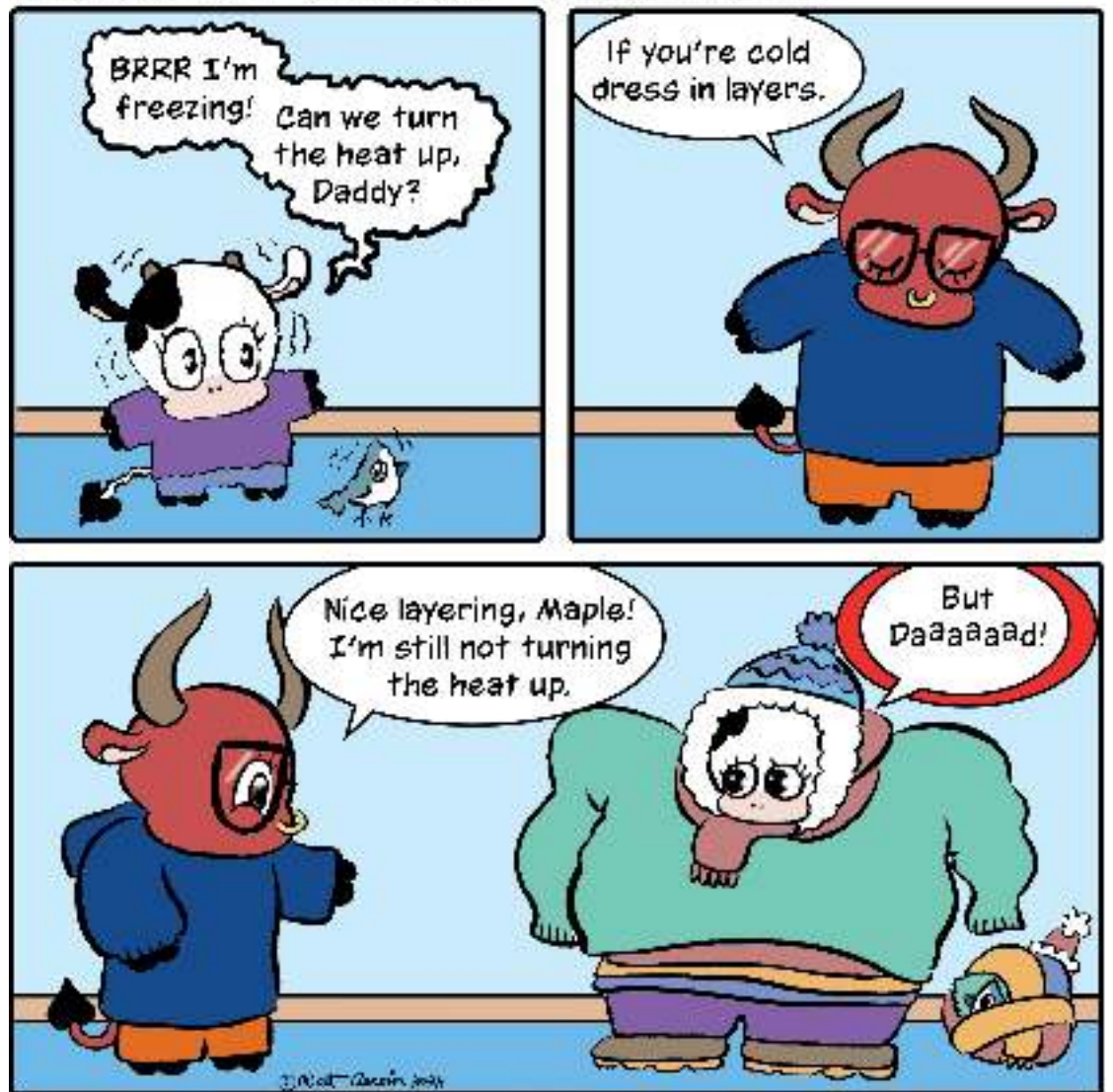
I'm from tricky toy trucks and funny
frog eggs,
from school and home,
people and animals,
toys and nature,
small towns and camping.

I am from the people
who sacrificed themselves
for my freedom.
I am from Vermont.

*5th grade class at
Otter Creek Academy*



MAPLE the COWTM by Matt Aucoin



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2024 MEMORY TREE BULBS

Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce

Donations are now being accepted for
Memory Tree bulbs in memory of loved ones.
The cost of the bulbs is \$1.00 each.

• In memory of:	Number of bulbs
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
Write additional names of a separate sheet	Total _____
Your name: _____	
Phone: _____	

Names with cash or check (to BACC) may also be dropped off at Carr's Gifts. Deadline is Saturday, Nov. 30, 2024. Tree lighting and singing on Sunday, Dec 1, 2024 at 3:30 pm in front of town hall.

SCOUTS SALUTE TO VETERANS



SCOUTS FROM ALL over Vermont came to Brandon on Saturday, November 9 to honor veterans. They paraded up Park Street to the gazebo in Central Park, where several speakers talked about the meaning of the day, including Brandon Town Manager Seth Hopkins, whose comments are printed on page 13.



Photos by
Steven Jupiter



Scouts Salute to Veterans Parade in Brandon

BY SETH HOPKINS

Scouts, good morning!

As the town manager, I'm delighted to welcome you to Brandon. You have honored our community by bringing your Scouts Salute to Veterans tradition to our town this morning.

We're all here to thank our veterans and to observe Veterans Day. What sets Veterans Day apart? I would like to spend a few minutes thinking with you about that by taking a brisk walk through the calendar of our national days.

In January, we celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. We do that to honor the memory and work of our iconic African-American civil rights leader and his dream for the America that can be.

We have Washington's Birthday or Presidents Day in February to recognize the tiny number of Americans who have ascended to the highest public office in our country.

In May we observe Memorial Day. On that day, we salute the heroic dead of our wars. July, by contrast, brings us the celebratory marching bands and fireworks of Independence Day. Scouts, I call upon you to remember that Memorial Day and Independence Day should not be marked in the same manner.

Our country enjoys three very special days this November. Earlier this week, we had Election Day, which really ought to be a holiday. Of all the people who have ever lived on Earth, we Americans represent the vanishingly small sliver of humanity that has had the ability to exercise our natural right of choosing who will govern us. Our ancestors would not have dared to dream this amount of power and agency would ever reside in the great mass of common people like us.

Later this month, we will gather with family and friends for Thanksgiving, a truly great American holiday in which we thank God for all the bounty and blessings of our life in this land.

And in between Election Day and Thanksgiving ... Veterans Day. Unlike those holidays earlier in the calendar, on this day we have the opportunity to thank and celebrate and appreciate those who are still with us. Women and men who have put their lives on hold, and put their lives at risk, as they put on the uniform of one of our Armed Forces and devoted the prime years of their youth to defend our country and our Constitution. Without them making that decision, without them choosing that self-sacrifice ... no Election Day. Maybe even no Thanksgiving. America's veterans, from the World War II generation now in their 90s to those who are younger than some of your parents, have earned our respect and deserve our appreciation, today and always. Scouts, you know this. You showed up for them today, just like they stepped up for you and me and America then.

G.K. Chesterton said, "the true soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him." Our veterans loved us and loved America first. Veterans Day is our chance and America's chance to return that love to them.

Scouts, I hope you enjoy your day in Brandon, and I commend you and your families for giving your time to honor our veterans today.



In memory of those who perished in World War II

BY GENE CHILDERS

The last two weeks of August and the first two weeks of September 2024 marked the 80th Anniversary of the liberation of the southern coast of France in WWII. Operation Dragoon was the Allied Forces' code name for the massive assault on the Mediterranean coastline of Southern France following D-Day. The First Special Service Force (FSSF) liberated many of the cities and towns in the area of Provence called the Alps-Maritime Region. This includes the coastline from the Hyeres Islands near Toulon to Menton on the Italian border.

By the time of the invasion of Southern France, The First Special Service Force had gained legendary status in Italy on Monte La Difensa, at Anzio and in the liberation of Rome. The FSSF was conceived of and trained as an elite, top-secret, commando unit composed of American and Canadian volunteers. The idea for a special operations unit of this sort was initiated in 1942 by Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Lord Louis Mountbatten. However, British resources were stretched thin conducting the war in Europe so Project Plough, as it was known, was given over to President Franklin Roosevelt, General Dwight Eisenhower, and General George Marshall to pursue.

In due course, the project was delegated to then-Colonel Robert T. Frederick to assess the viability of creating such a fighting unit. He initially advised against the plan but was outranked, overruled, and put in charge. Colonel Frederick's military brilliance was apparent. He designed every aspect of the training, uniform, insignia, weaponry, and remote training location. He recruited and selected from American and Canadian volunteers and turned them into what was to become an amazing, unique fighting force. He earned the respect and admiration of his men by always leading from the front. By the end of the war, he had played a major role in bringing the war to an end, received 8 Purple Hearts, and had risen in rank to general.

The FSSF tactics and success on the battlefield were such that they were given the name "The Black Devils" by the Germans because of their blackened faces during deadly nighttime raids behind enemy lines. Today, they are also known as the "Devil's Brigade" from the title of the 1968 Hollywood movie about this unique unit. My father, Espy Eugene Childers, was a member of the First Special Service Force and was killed in action in Italy.

The First Special Service Force Association was formed by the Force vets in 1947 and eventually a monument was erected in Helena, Montana to honor their fallen comrades. Fort William Henry Harrison in Helena is where most of their training occurred. My wife, Jean, and I are members of the association and regularly attend reunions, which are held alternately in the United

Force Association to be guests at their celebrations. There were about 32 association members who took part, including the "Black Devils Pipe and Drum Band". We were supplied 4 vans and two interpreters and a very full schedule of events. We were there for 16 days with 14 days devoted to events that always included a parade, a memorial, and a celebration. We did an av-

everywhere with American and Canadian flags as well as the red arrowhead insignia of the FSSF. Not only are there plaques and memorial markers honoring the Force in the towns and cities, but also high in the surrounding mountains where Force men were killed. These are 3,500 to 4,000-foot mountains that are reached only by gut-churning, cliff-hanging switchbacks. Our drivers were magnificent! How-

brief remarks, usually given by a mayor, always expressed deep gratitude to America, Canada, and the First Special Service Force for their sacrifice and for saving France from a terrible fate. Jean and I were very moved by the genuine expressions of gratitude for what the Americans had done in WWII to save France. We had private conversations where things were said that were straight from the heart.



THE AUTHOR TRAVELED to France this past summer to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the southern coast of France by American and Canadian troops during World War II. Pictured here is a vintage American jeep that was on display during the events attended by the author.

States and Canada. This year's reunion was in Regina, Saskatchewan. Last year, the reunion was held in Colchester, Vermont, because part of the Force story was played out at Fort Ethan Allen in Colchester. At each reunion, both countries are represented by active-duty special operations soldiers and various military and governmental dignitaries. Both countries consider the First Special Service Force to be the founding fathers of today's special operations units. The FSSF has received many honors from four nations, including the Congressional Gold Medal in 2013.

The communities in France liberated by the FSSF in cooperation with Le Souvenir Francais, the French association overseeing war memorials and war memory, invited members of the First Special Service

Force to be guests at their celebrations. There were about 32 association members who took part, including the "Black Devils Pipe and Drum Band". We were supplied 4 vans and two interpreters and a very full schedule of events. We were there for 16 days with 14 days devoted to events that always included a parade, a memorial, and a celebration. We did an av-

In all locations, there was a military presence with flag bearers, fire fighters, rescue squad personnel and in some places, military or civic bands. The towns and cities were festooned



THE AUTHOR, EUGENE Childers of Brandon, stands next to one of the memorial sites he visited while in France last summer. Mr. Childers' father, Espy Eugene Childers, was killed in action in Italy during the war.

ever, the vehicles took a beating. Some of the most touching ceremonies were on very desolate, lonely mountain tops.

No matter how difficult the climb or how remote the location, each ceremony had a similar format including pipers, reenactors with vehicles, flag bearers and mayors. The singing of the American, Canadian and French national anthems was consistently emotional for all of us. All assembled sang each other's anthem usually with accompaniment but sometimes a cappella. We loved how the French sang their anthem with great pride. Beautiful wreaths were always laid and plaques exchanged between the FSSF association and the host community. There were bugle calls, salutes, the playing of taps and the Last Post with every event ending with the pipers playing "Amazing Grace". The

Old, young, civic, or military everyone seemed to have the deepest gratitude for the sacrifices made 80-plus years ago. It was profound and made us proud.

There were most always fun celebrations for all of the parade participants following the memorials. They were mainly receptions, dinners, and sometimes dancing, depending on the time of day. A few were open to the public. We heard great performances of 1940s music by a big band, a Dixieland band, a jazz singer and her band, and one of the best one-man bands that we have ever heard. We were in a medieval castle with the Marquis and his wife who own it showing us around, in forts built to ward off 16th-century pirates, town halls and parks, ancient churches, an active military installation, and wonderful old town squares.

(See WWII fallen, Page 31)

Calendar of events

November

Mondays

Brandon Rec offers Aikido classes

Aikido with Brandon Rec -- Aikido classes for Youth (4:30) and Adults (5:30) at Brandon's Town Hall main floor. Beginners and Spectators always welcome! For more information, visit www.AikidoVermont.org

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

Need a safe space to socialize? Come join us at the Friends Zone. Open Tuesdays 12-3 pm at the Brandon United Methodist Church, 1 Franklin Street, Brandon. Meet with old friends and make new ones. Play cards, cribbage, or Yahtzee. Put a puzzle together or bring your arts, crafts, and hobbies to work on. Snacks and beverages provided. All are welcome to attend.

For more information contact pastor Vicki Disorda (vqueenoftheearth@gmail.com) or (802) 345-4125).

Pokémon Club at the Brandon Free Public Library

3-5 pm. Ages 7+.

Magic the Gathering at the Brandon Free Public Library

5-7pm

Pins & Needles Craft Club at the Brandon Free Public Library

Drop in from 5:30-7:00 pm, and bring your projects to work on.

Wednesdays

Ping Pong

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

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

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

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

Free Drop-In Tech Support at the Brandon Free Public Library

4:30-6 pm

Cash/Food Drive @ St Thomas Church, Rt 7 Brandon
Saturday- November 16th (11-2 pm)

Food that is most needed for the community:
 * Canned pasta ravioli, spaghetti o's
 * Canned fruit & vegetables
 * Crackers
 * Tuna

Cash is used by the Food Shelf to purchase gift cards that can be used for perishable items such as meat, dairy, and produce.
 Please plan to drop by on Saturday. donations of food or cash (or check made out to Brandon Food Shelf) will be met with cheer from our volunteers on the curb.

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

From 10:30-11:30 am 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 and a lifelong personal practice.

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

Free drop-in homework help with Dan for grades K-12!

Wednesdays 3:30-5:00 pm at the Brandon Free Public Library.

Thursdays

Coffee and Cards at the Brandon Free Public Library
2-4 pm. Come play Bridge, Hearts, or other games! Coffee and tea are available.

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.

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 13th

NXT Rockumentary Film Series — Metallica: Some Kind of Monster

A documentary about Metallica's making of their album St. Anger. Bruce Sinofsky & Joe Berlinger, 2h 21m.

If Metallica had a love of the absurd, you could accuse them of staging their sessions with band therapist Phil Towle as an attempt to make their own This Is Spinal Tap. But when Lars Ulrich starts fielding grievances from his longtime bandmates with couples-therapy mirroring — "What

Neshobe Elementary invites you to Community Bingo!

2 @NeshobeElementary

17 Neshobe Circle

Sunday November 17th 2:00

\$5 each board \$20 for 5 boards

Raffle baskets, 50/50, prizes, bake sale, popcorn and more!

PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT Neshobe Elementary

Maclure Library

crafternoon

Wednesdays from 1-3pm

Join us at Maclure Library to share your craft projects & spend the afternoon of art. Share tips & inspiration for new projects with fellow crafters!

840 Arch St
Pittsford, VT

maclurelibrary.org

I hear you saying is..." — it's no longer clear who the joke is on. Filmmakers Joe Berlinger and Bruce Sinofsky were only tapped for a making-of featurette, but when it became clear that one of the world's biggest rock bands was in the midst of a collective existential crisis, they stuck around and captured an indelible record of the live-wire dynamics that make any creative enterprise work, and often doom them to failure. How good is *Some Kind of Monster*? It almost makes you want to listen to St. Anger again. — Rolling Stone.

From 7–9 pm at Next Stage Arts, 15 Kimball Hill, Putney. \$10.

Thursday 14th

Sip N Dip — Chaffee Art Center
Are YOU ready for some fun! Perfect for a date night or just out with friends! Attendees follow along with an instructor and leave with a finished acrylic painting. BYO wine.

Image: owl. Instructor: Sally Hogan. \$35 per person includes all supplies; Min: 5 MUST PRE-REGISTER. 6–8 pm.

Friday 15th

Artists' Reception for "P.O.V. Three Vermont Artists:" Alicia Williams, JR Ewing, and Maxwell Ward
Join us at the VTSU Castleton Bank Gallery for the artists' reception for group exhibition "P.O.V. Three

Vermont Artists" with Alicia Williams, JR Ewing, and Maxwell Ward.

Come mingle with the artists and learn more about their artwork. Maxwell Ward is a deaf, US-based photographer and videographer from Australia. He captures the beauty of weddings, family moments, and stunning scenery, blending his unique perspective with a natural, candid style.

J.R. Ewing is a self-taught artist who engages with just about any style that sparks his creative output. From his landscapes, abstracts, and bovine series, J.R. continues to produce an eclectic selection of work. Originally born in Germany, J.R. has made Rutland his home for the past 20 years.

Alicia Williams is a self-taught Vermont artist who paints in acrylics. Her influences include music, classic horror and cinema, and the Art Deco period. She specializes in portraiture and realism with a unique personal style.

All welcome. Admission is free. From 5:30–7:30 pm at VTSU Castleton Bank Gallery, 104 Merchants Row, Rutland.

Dead Street Dreamers w/ Mr. Doubtfire, Vallyory Falls and Mystery Girl — The Underground - Listening Room

Dead Street Dreamers: Vermont's Dead Street Dreamer formed during the lockdown of 2021, these long time friends wanted to create a band that was a positive addition to their local punk rock scene. Taking influences from legendary underground bands like The Stooges, MC5, Black Flag and Minor Threat, the band set out to write songs about injustice, rebellion, struggling towns, love and heartbreak while making sure the audience had fun as well. When asked about the origin of the band's name, vocalist Nathan Hale said, "We live in heavy times and still keep going. We are in a failing economy trying to survive every day. We are dreamers in a broken nation."

Mr. Doubtfire: "THESE GUYS SOUND REALLY GOOD." . . . as quoted by the Burlington Police. Hailing from Burlington, Mr. Doubtfire brings their brand of energetic pop-punk to

Brandon Area Food Shelf

The Brandon Area Food Shelf is open Tuesdays 12–3 pm, Sundays 12:30–2 pm, to anyone who needs assistance. Walk-ins are welcome.

We are located at Brandon United Methodist Church, 1 Franklin Street, Brandon, VT

For more information, please call Kathy Mathis (802-247-3121) or Pastor Vicki Disorda (802-345-4125).



any location that will have them ensuring a good time for all. Vallyory Falls: Hailing from the western side of Vermont, this pop-punk emo band encapsulates the raw emotion and vibrant energy of their New England surroundings. With their roots firmly planted in the local DIY scene, these four friends have crafted a sound that effortlessly blends the infectious melodies of pop-punk with the introspective, heart-on-sleeve lyricism of emo. Born out in Massachusetts, the band has gone through changes over the years to its current line up. Their lyrics delve into themes of love and loss, resilience, and will resonate with fans who find solace and solidarity in their relatable narratives.

Mystery Girl: Power Pop/Glam. Albany, NY.

Advance: \$14 (+fees) // Day of show: \$17 (+fees).
Doors: 7 pm // Show: 7:30 pm.
BYOB (21+). All Ages.

Palaver Strings: Ready or Not Revisited — Next Stage Arts
"Ready or Not Revisited" celebrates the groundbreaking visions of women, queer, trans, and nonbinary composers from the medieval period to the present day.

This program builds on the concept of Palaver's 2022 album *Ready or Not*, which "blew the tent flap open to embrace new contemporary classical fans" (Midwest Record) and left BBC Music Magazine "wanting more." Repertoire includes wide-ranging selections by Jessie Montgomery, Hildegard von Bingen, inti figgis-vizueta, Tanner Porter, Sato Matsui, Leilehua Lanzilotti, Pétalo Seslar and Lili Boulanger. *Ready or Not Revisited* disrupts our expectations, challenges our narratives, and uplifts a multitude of voices who have always been here, whether the concert hall was ready or not.

From 7:30–9:30 pm at the Next Stage Arts, 15 Kimball Hill, Putney. \$10–25.

Saturday 16th

Colorful Tales: Storytelling and Drawing with Rutland Artist and Author Mary Crowley — Rutland Free Library

Local artist and children's author Mary Crowley will be reading from her book "I love to Visit My Grammy," the story of the simple things Penelope and Grammy do together.

She will also be doing crayon drawings with children. This FREE event is sponsored by the Imagination Library at

with a lot of soul and groove." This dynamic eight-piece band has toured and performed original songs for 25+ years with genre-defying music that is quintessentially New York—vibrant international cultures meets American Roots. Diverse backgrounds in Gypsy jazz, downtown avant guard loft music, blues, soul, country, rock n' roll, and roots is written and performed by musicians whose ages span every decade from their 20s to 70s. Unique instrumentation matches virtuosic trumpet, saxophone, trombone, guitar, tuba, harmonica, drums, banjo, and violin with a fantastical array of folk instruments and guest performers. The extraordinary vocals by lead Wade Schuman are riveting, rousing, and emotive, and his mastery of harmonica is unparalleled. They have toured

Rutland Free Library and will be held in the Library's Children's Room.

From 10:30–11:30. Rutland Free Library Children's Room, 10 Court Street, Rutland.

Hazmat Modine — Next Stage Arts
Hazmat Modine is "a uniquely intercontinental sonic collage encompassing a tremendous range of instrumental, vocal, and conceptual originality—all

Pittsford Village Farm Turkey Trot Fun Run

Saturday, November 16th

Join us at the beautiful Pittsford Village Farm for a Turkey Trot Fun Run to benefit the Pittsford Christmas For Kids.

Rain or shine event!
Prizes awarded for top 3 finishers: a turkey donated by Kamuda's Market; a breakfast basket by the Maple Museum; 2 apple pies made by Unity Wellness Farm in Proctor.



Entry fees: \$15 for pre-registered 5K, \$20 for race day. With the proper fees you may bring your form into Pittsford Auto. You can also pay via Venmo, mail, or drop in the After-Hours Drop Box located on the door of Pittsford Auto Offices.

To register online, go to <https://www.pittsfordvillagefarm.org/events>

from China to Brazil, Mexico, Russia, India, Malaysia, Central Asia, and across Europe. Musical collaborators have included: The Kronos Quartet, Gangbé Brass Band (Benin), Natalie Merchant, Son of Dave, and Tuva's Huun-Huur-Tu and Alash, and Balla Kouyate (Mali). They have written for Japanese television, Wim Wenders' film "Pina," and the Nobel Laureates 75th Anniversary.

From 7:30–9:30 pm at the Next Stage Arts, 15 Kimball Hill, Putney. \$20–25.

Family Game Night at the Brandon Free Public Library

Thursday, 21st, 6–8 pm



Enjoy the classics such as Chess and Parcheesi or modern favorites like Catan, Carcassonne and Wingspan!



Adult Fiction

**Shock Induction
by Chuck Palahniuk**

The best and brightest students at a seemingly reputable high school are disappearing. Every day it seems another overachiever is lost to an apparent suicide. But something far more sinister is lurking beneath the surface. These kids have been under surveillance since birth, monitored and measured by an online service called "Greener Pastures." It's here, in Greener Pastures, that billionaires observe and recruit the next generation of talent. The highest test scores, the best grades, and the most niche extracurriculars just might land these teenagers an enticing offer at auction. A couple billion dollars in exchange for the remainder of your life and intellectual labor sounds like a pretty fair deal—doesn't it?

**The Bog Wife
by Kay Chronister**

Since time immemorial, the Haddesley family has tended the cranberry bog. In exchange, the bog sustains them. The staunch seasons of their lives are governed by a strict covenant that is renewed each generation with the ritual sacrifice of their patriarch, and in return, the bog produces a "bog-wife." Brought to life from vegetation, this woman is meant to carry on the family line. But when the bog fails--or refuses--to honor the bargain, the Haddesleys, a group of discordant siblings still grieving the mother who mysteriously disappeared years earlier, face an unknown future. Middle child Wenna, summoned back to the dilapidated family manor just as her marriage is collapsing, believes the Haddesleys must abandon their patrimony. Her siblings are not so easily persuaded. Eldest daughter Eda, de facto head of the household, seeks to salvage the compact by desecrating it. Younger son Percy retreats into the wilderness in a dangerous bid to summon

his own bog-wife. And as youngest daughter Nora takes desperate measures to keep her warring siblings together, fledgling patriarch Charlie uncovers a disturbing secret that casts doubt over everything the family has ever believed about itself.

**The Murderess
by Laurie Notaro**

It's October 1931. When Winnie Ruth Judd arrives at the Los Angeles train station from Phoenix, her shipping trunks catch the attention of a suspicious porter. By the time they're pried open, revealing the dismembered bodies of two women inside, Ruth has disappeared into the crowd.

The search for, and eventual apprehension of, the Trunk Murderess quickly becomes a headline-making sensation. The one question on everyone's lips: How could a twenty-six-year-old reverend's daughter and doctor's wife—petite, pretty, well educated, and poised—commit such a heinous act on two people she'd called "my dearest friends in the world"? Everyone has their theories and judgments, but no one knows the whole truth. What unfolds in this gripping work of true-crime fiction is a collision of jealousy, drug addiction, insanity, rage, and inescapable choices. At its heart, a condemned and tragic mystery woman whose trial—and its shocking twists—will make history.

**Sword Crossed
by Freya Marske**

Mattinesh Jay, dutiful heir to his struggling family business, needs to hire an experienced swordsman to serve as best man for his arranged marriage. Sword-challenge at the ceremony could destroy all hope of restoring his family's wealth, something that Matti has been trying - and failing - to do for the past ten years. What he can afford, unfortunately, is part-time con artist and full-time charming menace Luca Piere. Luca, for his part, is trying to reinvent himself in a new city. All he wants to do is make some

DID YOU KNOW?

We have a presentation coming up on Wednesday, November 20th at 6 pm about Vermont's First Forest Cemetery. We'll have a short documentary, Q & A session, and snacks.

easy money and try to forget the crime he committed in his hometown. He didn't plan on being blackmailed into giving sword lessons to a chronically responsible - and inconveniently handsome - wool merchant like Matti. However, neither Matti's business troubles nor Luca himself are quite what they seem. As the days count down to Matti's wedding, the two of them become entangled in the intrigue and sabotage that have brought Matti's house to the brink of ruin. And when Luca's secrets threaten to drive a blade through their growing alliance, both Matti and Luca will have to answer the question: how many lies are you prepared to strip away, when the truth could mean losing everything you want?

**Brandon Town
Manager's report**

I have sought suggestions from the public for review by the traffic ordinance working group.

The initial site visit for the town clock mechanism has been advanced and may be this month.

Pike Industries was in Brandon and has completed the milling and paving of North Street (south end), the patch on River Street, and the resurfacing of Union Street (south of Otter Creek). The Town Crew has been rebuilding shoulders following the Union Street resurfacing. I have met a number of Brandon residents (sidewalk, Chamber mixer, etc.) who complimented the work. Vermont Roadworks will do the "add-on" West Seminary sidewalk improvements as their first job in the spring due to other projects keeping them busy as the season winds down.

The town office staff done extensive work with the fire district and clerk's office and been able to correct unit billing inconsistencies for 19 additional properties connected to Town wastewater. This is important to ensure equitable sharing of the cost of operating the system among all users.

I worked with staff on the FY26 budget project, including extensively with the chief regarding options for police scheduling and funding levels. I had many meetings with town officers, staff, townspeople, and responded to a number of requests for information from various parties. Staff performance evaluations / reviews are underway.

*Respectfully,
Seth Hopkins*

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT	
FY25 Budget Operating Expenses	40% thru funds /38% thru year
FY25 Police Budget Operating Expenses	45% thru funds /38% thru year
Unrestricted / Unassigned Fund Balance	\$566,633
1% (Local Option) Tax Fund Available / Undesignated (\$100,000 board-reserved paving over \$15,000 per board action 12 Aug 2024 not included at right)	\$250,220
Known Grant Matches Not Yet Designated	UNION STREET
Delinquent property taxes (prior years)	\$581,741 (was \$507,730)
Delinquent wastewater (prior years (over 120 days))	\$221,049 (was \$200,670)
Tax Sale Status — I have requested a letter under the Town attorney's letterhead — pending	70 accounts at attorney for letters

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE



that this week every bit of your attention will be focused his or her way.

LEO July 23-Aug. 23

Leo, money could be burning a hole in your pocket, so you might want to go on a spending spree. Keep in mind that there are a few big-ticket purchases waiting in the wings.

VIRGO Aug. 24-Sept. 22

You don't always have to be decisive, Virgo. Sometimes you can kick back and let someone else make decisions for a change. This is a great way to rest and recharge.

LIBRA Sept. 23-Oct. 23

A few jobs need to get done, Libra. But afterwards you should have plenty of time for some social interaction, whether that be attending a party or simply enjoying a night out.

SCORPIO Oct. 24-Nov. 22

Scorpio, think about the things you want instead of what other people want. It's alright to be a little selfish once in a while and put yourself first for a change.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 23-Dec. 21

Sagittarius, you could have fun this week and so may all the other people around you simply for being in your presence. This situation will continue in the days ahead.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 20

Capricorn, the next challenge on your list could be a big one. But if there is anyone who can handle the pressure, it is you. Don't be afraid to call on friends if you need them.

AQUARIUS Jan. 21-Feb. 18

Aquarius, go out into the world and try a few new things. Your social energy and curiosity might peak this week, and you'll need new experiences to feel satisfied.

PISCES Feb. 19-March 20

Your finances might need an overhaul, Pisces. This could mean taking a new job or expanding what you're doing to earn more. Start putting out feelers to gain information.



FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

- Nov. 15 Shailene Woodley, actor (25)
- Nov. 16 José Saramago, writer and Nobelaureate (d)
- Nov. 17 Lorne Michaels, creator of Saturday Night Live (80)
- Nov. 18 Louis Daguerre, creator of the daguerrotype (d)
- Nov. 19 Jodie Foster, actor (62)
- Nov. 20 Nadine Gordimer, writer and activist (d)
- Nov. 21 Ronny Chieng, comedian (39)

Alicia Malay

(Continued from Page 1) Markowski. Malay ultimately prevailed in a runoff. At the time, she was seen as ushering in a younger generation in Pittsford governance.

Today she is the chair of the board, managing a group that otherwise consists of older men.

“It takes a certain kind of person to get a committee to move in a certain direction,” said current Rut-8 State Rep. Butch Shaw, who announced both his retirement and his endorsement of Malay as his successor at a Pittsford Selectboard meeting last spring.

“I was really happy she decided to run,” he continued. “She is not beholden to anybody. She knows the job is representing her constituents.”

Indeed, Malay sees her position in Montpelier as an extension of her work on the Pittsford Selectboard, where she says she has focused on providing quality services to residents at the lowest possible cost.

“Getting behind the scenes on the Selectboard definitely made me more fiscally conservative,” said the self-described moderate. “There are lots of good ideas, but the question is what can you do without raising taxes. You have to

stay within your budget.”

Though Malay ran unopposed in her own election, she says she

personally think we pay for way too much administration in Vermont.”

In addition to reforming school financing, Malay says she would like to work on regulatory reform.

“We’ve got to make Vermont more affordable. That means growing the tax base and attracting new business. Part of that is cutting back on regulation. Daycare is a good example of how Vermont overregulates. There used to be people running small daycares in Pittsford but then the state got involved and overburdened them with regulations.”

Her priorities for Pittsford apply equally to Proctor, the other half of the Rutland-8 district that was formed after the 2020 census. Pittsford had previously

been coupled with Brandon in a two-rep district.

“Pittsford and Proctor are in many ways a better fit than Pittsford and Brandon,” said Malay, noting that Pittsford and Proctor were both smaller towns without the kind of traditional downtown business district that

understands the frustration that fueled the rash of Democratic losses throughout Vermont in this cycle.

“I’d really like to see education financing not be based on property values,” she said. “It’s not sustainable to fund everything that way. We have to control costs. I



ALICIA MALAY

Bird Cage Mansion

(Continued from Page 2) ed to dump gravel under the wheels several times when they got stuck in the mud.

The Bird Cage made it to its new home in about two hours and was put on its new foundation, as was the carriage house. Corbett and Little would own

it for the next 12 years before again letting the bank take it.

This time it was sold along with the now 39 acres in 1994 to Michael and Jirina Obolensky, whose ancestors were apparently Russian royalty. It was the Obolenskys who turned it into a B&B and they ran it for

some 28 years as such up until a couple years ago. They still own it today.

Sadly, the beautiful Bird Cage now sits idle and untended as the Obolenskys decide what to do with the property. Efforts to determine their intentions were unsuccessful by this writer.



ABOVE: THE MANSION as it turned the corner to begin the climb up Seminary Hill. Right: The mansion in its original location on Conant Square.



Brandon has.

But she acknowledges that she is still getting to know her constituents in Proctor and learning about their needs. Malay encourages all of her constituents to reach out with any questions or concerns.

She also agreed with the common criticism that Montpelier is dominated by lawmakers from the Burlington area who often pass bills that have little benefit to the rest of Vermont.

“I think the Democrats lost their supermajority because they spent the last two years focused on global issues like climate change to the detriment of Vermont issues,” she said, with frustration directed especially at marquis bills like the Affordable Heat Act and the Clean Energy Standard.

“Vermont’s too small to have any effect on climate.”

While she begins her term offi-

cially in January, Malay is already working, trying to learn the ropes in Montpelier from Rep. Shaw.

“It’s like learning a new language,” she laughed. “Butch has been a great mentor. He’s worked with me through every step. He’s been amazing. His advice has been ‘Read everything that comes across your desk. Don’t assume you know everything. Pay attention.’ I hope he’ll continue to help me settle in.”

For his part, Shaw sees Malay as a worthy successor, having watched her grow in her time on the Pittsford Selectboard.

“Our views are aligned on money issues,” he said. “She has the ability to analyze bills from the same perspective as me: how much is it going to cost and who’s going to pay? We don’t always agree on some social issues, but people often don’t.”

Golf Course

NESHOBE
EST. 1857

Plan ahead for next year!

It's that time of year again! Neshobe Golf Club is excited to reintroduce our special offer: Buy a 2025 Membership now and play the remainder of 2024 for FREE!

This incredible deal allows you to enjoy the rest of this year's golfing season at no additional cost while locking in your membership for 2025 at our current 2024 pricing.

New members only—this offer is designed just for you! Plus, every Neshobe membership comes with full Rocky Ridge Golf Club membership privileges at no extra charge.

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to experience two great clubs for the price of one.

For all membership inquiries please visit the Membership Page on our website!

We look forward to welcoming you to the Neshobe family!

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.

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.

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

10th annual Brandon's Got Talent (for sure!)



1.



2.



3.



4., 5., 6.



7.



8.



9.



11.



12.



10.



13.



14.



15.



16.



17.



18.

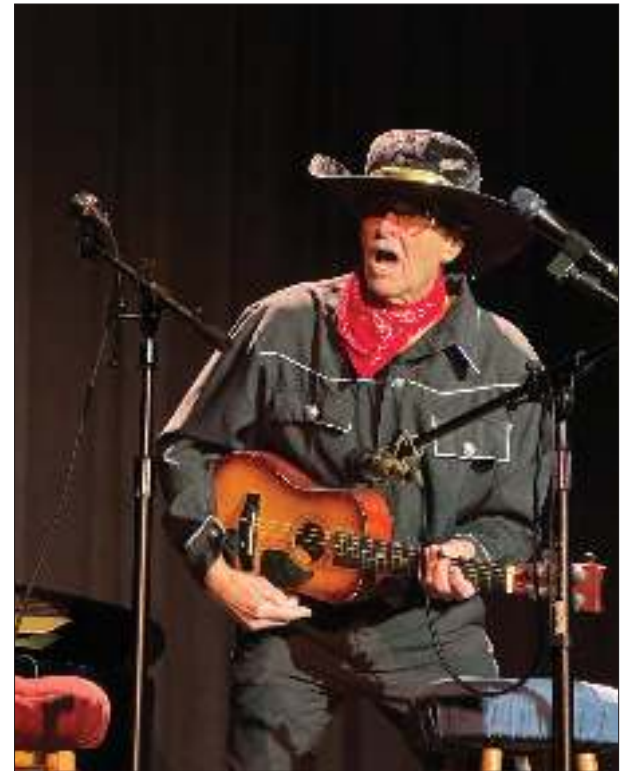
PREVIOUS PAGE: 1. Woody Larraway, Apple Williams, & Cruz Forrest; 2. Eleanor Dike & Blake Pockette; 3. Bethany White; 4. Tim Shields; 5. MacKenzie Howland; 6. Audrey Carter; 7. Jeanette Devino; 8. Emma Jean Page & Hunter Fries; 9. Jess Young Crossman

THIS PAGE: 10. Hilary and Lili Collier; 11. Judy White; 12. Josie Fox; 13. Maija Raymond; 14. Adeline White; 15. James Shorey; 16. Apple Williams; 17. Emma Jean Page; 18. Lynne Jaffe & Mike Markowitz.

*Photos by
Steven Jupiter*

A Master of Disguise lives among us





DENNIS MARDEN DELIGHTED the audience at the 10th annual Brandon's Got Talent Showcase on Saturday, October 10 with his never-ending costume changes, each of which was meant to tie to the theme of the performer he was introducing. Mr. Marden has been heading the Friends of Brandon Town Hall for years but announced that he is stepping down as the organization completes its mission and turns the operation of the building over to the town. We can only hope he continues to grace the stage. He will certainly be missed. Thank you for all you've done for Brandon, Dennis!

*Photos by
Steven Jupiter*





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

Recognized



Terry Ferson recognized this photo of Irene Hallett, which was likely taken at the thrift store in Brandon.



Terry Ferson recognized Joan Wynn (left) in this photo, who graduated from OVUHS in 1966.



Terry Ferson recognized David Waters, second from the left, and he believes, town manager Pam Jones, second from right, in this ribbon cutting ceremony. Mr. Waters grew up in Brandon.



Sue Wetmore and Terry Ferson recognized Ralph Humiston (left) and former town manager Pat Scott (right) in this photo. This picture was taken at the IGA supermarket in Brandon, which Mr. Humiston constructed and owned, and which is now Walgreens Pharmacy.

Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

1. Schoolhouse tool
7. Martens
13. Slags
14. One who scrapes
16. Centiliter
17. White wine
19. Of I
20. Former Syracuse great
Warrick
22. Relating to the ear
23. Sandwich shops
25. Victories
26. White (French)
28. Self-immolation by fire ritual
29. Genus of parrots
30. Unhappy
31. Talk incessantly
33. Type of Squad
34. Unit of perceived loudness
36. Violent seizure of property
38. Agave
40. Sound units
41. Removes from record
43. Partner to Mama
44. Mythological bird
45. Dash
47. Hair product
48. Two-year-old sheep
51. Signs a deal
53. Conifer
55. Autonomous republic in NW
Russia
56. Wife of Muhammed
58. British Air Aces
59. Ears or ear-like appendages
60. Not caps
61. Deep-bodied sea dweller
64. Rural delivery
65. Feeling
67. Study of relations of
organisms to one another
69. Room to argue
70. Question

CLUES DOWN

1. Cream puff
2. Road open
3. Stressed syllable
4. Thailand's former name
5. Cologne
6. Recounted
7. Garment of cloth
8. Airborne (abbr.)
9. Reproduced
10. Emits coherent radiation
11. "Westworld" actor Harris
12. Smallest interval in Western
music
13. Unstressed central vowel
15. Lives in
18. When you expect to get
somewhere
21. Storage bags
24. One who covers with plastic
26. Cast out
27. Automobile
30. Repaired shoe
32. Belonging to the bottom
layer
35. Possesses
37. Soda
38. Programs
39. In an unexpected way
42. A bag-like structure in a
plant or animal
43. For each
46. Unbelief
47. Seized or impaled
49. Arrive on the scene
50. Especially happy
52. Classic western film
54. Split pulses
55. Frida ___: Painter
57. Start again
59. Employee stock ownership
plan
62. Young women's association
63. Frozen water
66. "The First State"
68. Computers need one

	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12		
13								14						15	
16			17					18						19	
20		21				22				23		24			
25						26				27		28			
29				30						31		32		33	
			34	35						36		37			
38	39									40					
41						42				43					
44				45		46			47				48	49	50
51				52		53		54				55			
56					57		58				59				
60				61		62				63				64	
65		66							67				68		
	69								70						

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.

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

Level: Intermediate

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

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

Dog Fosters Needed

Do you have a little extra room in your heart and home? We're looking for compassionate dog lovers to join our foster family and help some special pups in need! Fostering gives these dogs a cozy, loving environment as they wait for their forever homes, and we'd love to see who might be interested. Why do these dogs need foster care? Many of our dogs are in foster care for various reasons, such as awaiting vet appointments/surgery, taking medications, or needing some time out of the kennel to decompress. RCHS will provide food, supplies, and medical care, so all you need to provide is a nurturing home and some love. Interested in making a difference? Reach out to Carissa at volunteer@rchsvt.org to learn more. Every foster home makes a world of difference!

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



VELMA *BONDED WITH DAPHNE * AVAILABLE FOR FOSTER-TO-ADOPT- 5-YEAR-OLD. SPAYED FEMALE. AMERICAN STAFFORDSHIRE

TERRIER. BLACK/WHITE. Say hello to our lovely lady, Velma! She came in as a stray with her friend, Daphne. The two are inseparable and rely on each other. Velma tends to be spunkier and more outgoing. She loves running around outside and entertains you with her silly antics. She loves her walks but will need to work on her pulling. We have no known history of how they will do with cats or children, but we feel she would do better with older kids due to her energy level. Velma is currently on medication for Lyme, so they are available for foster-to-adopt until November 30th, giving you a great opportunity to get to know these two sweet girls. To meet them, stop by the Adoption Center Tuesday through Saturday 11 am-4 pm.

DAPHNE *BONDED WITH VELMA * AVAILABLE FOR FOSTER-TO-ADOPT - 2-YEAR-OLD. SPAYED FEMALE. AMERICAN

STAFFORDSHIRE TERRIER. WHITE/BLACK. Say hello to our lovely lady, Daphne! She came in as a stray with her friend, Velma. The two are inseparable and rely on each other. Daphne is a little less outgoing than Velma, but still very exuberant. She also loves being outside and does need to work on her leash-walking skills, as she does pull. We have no known history of how they will do with cats or children, but we feel she would do better with older kids. Velma is currently on medication for Lyme, so they are available for foster-to-adopt until November 30th, giving you a great opportunity to get to know these two sweet girls. To meet them, stop by the Adoption Center Tuesday through Saturday 11 am-4 pm.



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.

Gardening corner

(Continued from Page 3)

ARTHUR: Not another shrubbery!

HEAD KNIGHT: Then, when you have found the shrubbery, you must place it here beside this shrubbery, only slightly higher so you get a two-level effect with a little path running down the middle.

RANDOM: A path! A path! Ni!

HEAD KNIGHT: Then, when you have found the shrubbery, you must cut down the mightiest tree in the forest... with... a herring!

Shrubs are wonderful and the two-tiered effect and the path

between can be quite charming. Just remember get ones that look nice and are not too expensive. I encourage people to buy small and let them grow. What works well here? Well laurels obviously, azaleas, rhododendron, boxwood, junipers, hibiscus, hydrangea, lilac, nine-bark, and forsythia, to name some. I've attached a link to Vermont Public's "All Things Gardening" to this article that encourages us to grow rose of sharon (hibiscus). It's a good read/listen. For me, adding shrubs is hard work. There's a lot of digging of hard ground: clay or rock and lots

of sod. I try to prepare the year before by smothering the sod. Then I have a year to plan. I like three-season interest, I like fall color, and I am partial to reds. Here is what is on my list: winterberry- male and female, blueberries, raspberries, native sumac (I just let it grow), shrub willow (most nurseries nearby will have willows, Horsford has 8 varieties), speckled alder (alnus incana subs. Rugosa), and dogwood (and some of these have bright red stems or

leaves).

Is it too late to put in shrubs? Always check with the experts at a nursery but the general rule of thumb is no, it's not too late, even in November in Vermont, if you are ready, have your hole dug, your soil and mulch at the ready and your shrub is deciduous and so already in or going into dormancy. If you are planning on planting evergreen shrubs, no matter how ready you are, wait until spring. Don't buy them now.

They won't thrive. They may not even live. They can't root over the winter, but being evergreen, can't survive without their roots rooting.

Here's the hibiscus link: <https://www.vermontpublic.org/show/all-things-gardening/2024-08-25/rose-of-sharon-hibiscus-shrub-colorful-large-blossoms-late-summer>



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BRANDON REPORTER

Sports

Otter Valley puts up a fight, but loses in Championship game to powerhouse Woodstock

BY GEORGE FJELD

ST. JOHNSBURY—The Otter Valley football team made an unanticipated trip to the Vermont Division 3 championship game but lost 65-14 to a fast and dominating Woodstock team that featured 13 seniors. Woodstock, 9-0 this year, lost in last year's championship game, not scoring at all. This year they set the record for most points in a finals game. They scored on all 7 of their first-half possessions enroute to a 46-0 halftime lead. Unfortunately, Otter Valley did not match their speed and execution.

The game was played on a cold and clear Saturday afternoon on the beautiful artificial field in St. Johnsbury, the middle

game of the 3 championships held there that day. The Otters struggled in the first half but got some offense going in the second half, however, each score was matched by a Woodstock touchdown. Zac Dragon passed to Dominyk Waite for OV's first score and Issac Whitney pounded it in from the one yard line for the second touchdown. Dragon kicked both extra points.

Coach Hill said, "We got beat by an excellent Woodstock team, one of the best I have ever coached against in my 23 year career. I am very proud of our young team to compete for a state championship. The future is bright and I'm already looking forward to next season." The Otters graduate 5 seniors this year.



Photos by George Fjeld



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Can you guess the street?



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BY LAURA PETERSON

Last week's "Can you guess the street?" was rather confusing... even for me.

The old photo of the Italianate house was the photo on which the essay was reporting. This house was taken down to make way for a supermarket in 1961. There was no photo of the present-day Hannaford parking lot where this house used to stand.

The mystery photo for last week was supposed to be the photo at the bottom of the page which has "Grove St" clearly written on it. The present day photo of the same view is the middle photo; the photo of the hardware store and gas station.

This stretch of road had changed quite a bit since 1900.

The object of orientation should be the Stephen A. Douglas monument and the road sign indicating the way to Orwell and Sudbury. But the monument has been moved a couple of times since it was first dedicated in 1913 and is now directly in front of the Steven A. Douglas House and Museum. The area we are looking at in the old photo is looking across Grove Street (Rt 7) at Champlain Farms gas station and convenience store, Ace Hardware store and the building that used to be Dirty Works Laundromat and is now the paint shop associated with Ace Hardware store.

The houses that used to stand there have been moved, demolished, or burned. Since then,

there has been a car dealership, a TV shop, a Texaco station, and a couple of other businesses along that stretch of highway.

I asked Jim Peck, who directed me to the 1961 Brandon History book which, to my mind, was kind of vague about that area. I asked Bill Dick and Phil Marks, who had some recollections, but in order to get this article in before publication, I couldn't go too much farther down this rabbit hole.

Like most of these old photos, there are many more trees along their streets, and almost no trees on the hills behind.

We don't have a mystery photo for next week but will return with another mystery soon!



Fall has officially ended, welcome stick season

THE DAYS ARE shortening, the long nights are ready for us to be cozy.

Reporter photo

Brandon Police Report

November 4

- Conducted a patrol on Park Street.
- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for making an illegal right-hand turn on a red light. Warning issued.
- Received a complaint made toward two students at OVUHS. Upon further investigation, it was determined that the threat was unfounded and/or unsubstantiated. No further action taken.
- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for illegal window tinting. Ticket issued.
- Vehicle stop on Park Street for illegal window tinting and uninspected vehicle. Tickets issued.
- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for speeding. Ticket issued.
- Vehicle stop on Park Street for a window tint violation. Ticket issued.
- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for speeding. Ticket issued.
- Received a request for a welfare check from the Vermont DMV regarding a customer who called them and

made a threat to commit self-harm. Rutland County Mental Health was contacted and indicated that they would address the matter.

- Vehicle stop on Carver Street for failure to stop at a stop sign. Warning issued.
- Took fingerprints for employment.
- Took fingerprints for a school chaperone.
- Located a suspicious vehicle in the parking lot of Fisher Electric on Franklin Street. The vehicle was checked, but there was no one around it.
- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street at McConnell Road for failure to display license plate(s). Warning issued.
- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street at Wood Lane for failure to display license plate(s). Warning issued.
- Responded to a residence on Forest Dale Road for a report of an injured and bleeding deer in the backyard of the home. The officers checked the area, but the deer was not located.
- An off-duty officer located a disabled vehicle on

McConnell Road. On-duty officers responded to the scene to check on the welfare of the operator.

November 5

- Assisted two parties exchange property related to a civil dispute.
- Received notification of a false activation of the panic alarm at the Jiffy Mart on Grove Street. No response necessary.
- Responded to a report of two fragmentation grenades located in a residence on Rossiter Street. The grenades were determined to be inert.
- Responded to a report of a bicyclist on an electric bike striking a vehicle on Grove Street and then fleeing the scene. Officers soon identified and located the individual. Per request of the owner of the car, the bicyclist was not criminally charged with unlawful mischief for damaging the complainant's car. The owner was advised about getting civil relief for the damage to her car in small claims court.
- Responded to Garden Lane

for a welfare check requested by a neighbor regarding dogs barking non-stop at a nearby residence. Contact was later made with the homeowner, and it was determined that she was okay.

November 6

- Received a report of at least two suspects driving in an SUV, stealing political campaign signs on Prospect Street. These thefts occurred on the night of November 5. The incident was captured on a surveillance camera, and anyone with additional information is encouraged to come forth.
- Took fingerprints for a volunteer position.
- Received a request for assistance from the Rutland City Police Department in serving a citation to a suspect residing on Conant Square. No contact was made with the suspect.
- Took fingerprints for private adoption.
- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street at Park Street for an uninspected vehicle. Warning issued.
- Vehicle stop on Forest Dale

Road for defective equipment. Warning issued.

- Vehicle stop at the intersection of Pearl Street and Corona Street for Failure to Yield, Failure to Use Turn Signal, and Unregistered Motor Vehicle. Multiple tickets issued.
- Vehicle stop on Grove Street at Champlain Street for a stop sign violation. Warning issued.
- Vehicle stop on Pearl Street for defective equipment. Warning issued.
- Addressed a complaint regarding a trailer parked on private property on Grove Street.

November 7

- K-9 Unit assisted Vermont State Police—Rutland with a suspect that had eluded police in a stolen vehicle.
- Conducted a welfare check upon a child that was reported to be living in sub-standard conditions. Contact was made with the child, who was okay, and a report was posted to DCF for further follow up into the allegations made regarding the child's welfare.

(See Police report, Page 32)

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WWII fallen

(Continued from Page 15)

Just to keep a perspective, each of these sites had been a Nazi stronghold in WWII that the Force had to take. Prior to our arrival, a life-sized bronze statue was dedicated to General Fredrick and, while we were there, Monaco issued a postage stamp in his honor.

We had visited sites where the Force fought in Italy several years earlier, including where my father died. Before going on this trip, I had thoughts and feelings that this part of the war was not my father's. His part in the Force story ended on Hill 720 on Italy's Monte Sammucro on Christmas Day 1943. Then I thought about the Force veterans and their families that we had met, the reunions, the friendships, and the many special memories and I knew we should go to France.

Last year's reunion in Vermont was the first reunion since 1947 to have no First Special Service Force veterans present. Mention was made that there are only 4 known First Special Service Force veterans left. Soon, there will be no one left from that time. It is incumbent on every age and generation to remember and honor the people and events of our shared past. For Jean and myself, our part was to go to France to celebrate Liberation Day 80 years ago.



THE FRENCH TOWNS that hosted the commemorative events festooned their streets with American, Canadian, and French flags in a show of gratitude for and solidarity with the foreign troops that liberated them from the Nazis.

PUBLIC NOTICES

TOWN OF BRANDON, VERMONT Notice to Property Taxpayers – 2nd Qtr. Payment Due

Notice is hereby given that payment for the property taxes assessed upon the grand list of the Town of Brandon for the 2nd quarter of the fiscal year July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 is due Friday, November 15, 2024. Second quarter payments not received by November 15 or postmarked after November 15 will be subject to interest at 1% per month. Please furnish the remittance slip with your payment. Payments may be made at the Town Offices, 49 Center Street or at either of the two drop boxes located in front of the Town Office or at the Neshobe School. Or you may pay by credit card, debit card, echeck, PayPal, or VENMO online.

Thank you.
Susan Gage,
Town Treasurer

NOTICE OF DESTRUCTION OF PERSONNEL RECORDS RUTLAND NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION

Brandon, Chittenden, Goshen, Leicester, Mendon, Pittsford, Sudbury, Whiting (RNESU, Otter Valley & Barstow Unified Union School Districts)

Let this serve as notice that Personnel Records of employees who were employed at Barstow Memorial School, Lothrop Elementary School, Neshobe School, Otter Creek Academy (formally known as Leicester Central, Sudbury Country and Whiting Elementary Schools), or Otter Valley High School in the 1993 and 1994 school years are being destroyed in accordance with Federal, State and Local Guidelines.

Anyone who would like their record should call Kayla Emerson at the RNESU Office at (802)247-5757 prior to December 31, 2024 to make arrangements to pick it up.

Brooke Dahlin
Human Resources Coordinator

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT
RUTLAND, SS

CIVIL DIVISION
DOCKET NO.: 23-CV-04036

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE OF
TREEHOUSE SERIES V TRUST, v. CLAUDIA GAIL REED,
Occupants of: 10 McConnell Road, Brandon, VT

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

In accordance with the Judgment Order and Decree of Foreclosure entered July 22, 2024, in the above captioned action to foreclosure a mortgage given by Claudia Gail Reed and Robert R. Reed, to CitiFinancial, Inc., dated July 12, 2007, and recorded with the with the land records in the Town of Brandon in Book 190, Page 167, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by an assignment from CFNA Receivables (MD), Inc. f/k/a CitiFinancial, Inc., to CitiFinancial Servicing LLC, dated September 21, 2016, and recorded in Book 232, Page 635; by an assignment from CitiFinancial Servicing LLC, to Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, dated September 21, 2016, and recorded in Book 232, Page 636; by an assignment from Community Loan Servicing, LLC f/k/a Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, to US Bank Trust National Association as Trustee of the Igloo Series V Trust, dated July 18, 2022, and recorded in Book 256, Page 258; and by an assignment from US Bank Trust National Association as Trustee of the Igloo Series V Trust to US Bank Trust National Association as Trustee of the Treehouse Series V Trust, dated September 22, 2022, and recorded in Book 256, Page 260, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 A.M. on the 9th day of December 2024, at 10 McConnell Road, in Brandon, Rutland County, VT 05733, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

To wit:

ALL THAT CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND IN TOWN OF BRANDON, RUTLAND COUNTY, STATE OF VT, AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN BOOK 135 PAGE 58 ID# 16-21-36-2, BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS ALL AND THE SAME LANDS AND PREMISES CONVEYED TO THE HEREIN GRANTOR, DIXIE L MAHEU (NOW KNOWN AS DIXIE L DOWNS), BY WARRANTY DEED OF SEELEY A DISORDA, II AND JEAN G DISORDA DATED SEPTEMBER 15, 1986 AND RECORDED IN BOOK 93, PAGE 249 OF THE BRANDON LAND RECORDS. AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS A METES AND BOUNDS PROPERTY.

BEING THE SAME FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY CONVEYED BY DEED FROM DIXIE L (MAHEU) DOWNS and WALLACE A DOWNS HUSBAND AND WIFE TO ROBERT R REED and CLAUDIA GAIL REED HUSBAND AND WIFE TENANCY BY ENTIRETY, DATED 01/28/1999 RECORDED ON 02/05/1999 IN BOOK 135, PAGE 58 IN RUTLAND COUNTY RECORDS, STATE OF VT.

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

Terms of sale: A deposit of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by wire transfer to Demerle & Associates P.C., 10 City Square, 4 th Floor, Boston, MA 02129 within sixty (60) days after the date the Confirmation Order is entered by the Court. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control.

The mortgagor and all junior lienholders are entitled to redeem the mortgaged property at any time prior to the sale by paying the full amount due under the mortgage, including the costs and expenses of the sale.

U.S. Bank Trust National
Association, as Trustee of Treehouse
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Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,
Jennifer Joubert, Esq.
Demerle & Associates P.C.
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HIRING

Wintergreen Residential Care Home in Brandon, Vermont is seeking full time and part time resident aides for all shifts. Experience working with the elderly is preferred but willing to train non-experienced applicants as well. A love for the elderly, a good work ethic, positive attitude, and reliable transportation is required. To find out more information and to submit an application please contact Tara at (802) 779-4098.

Are you interested in a job that helps make the world safer for kids? If so, you will want to know about a part-time position with Safer Society Press in Brandon. We are seeking a proactive person with a strong work ethic to join our team as an Administrative Associate. The position begins at 25 hours per week, but there is an opportunity for the Administrative Associate to take on more responsibility and expanded hours. If this professional position intrigues you, express your interest in an email sent to info@safersociety.org. We'll respond with a link to a full job description.

Police report

(Continued from Page 29)

- Conducted a welfare check on a woman on Railroad Avenue.
- Vehicle stop on Grove Street for failure to use turn signal. Ticket issued.
- Vehicle stop near the intersection of Franklin Street and Park Street for defective equipment. Warning issued.
- Conducted a directed patrol in the area of Franklin Street and McConnell Road.
- Vehicle stop near the intersection of Franklin Street and McConnell Road for failure to display license plate(s). Warning issued.
- Vehicle stop on Pearl Street defective equipment. Warning issued.
- Vehicle stop on Grove Street at Arnold District Road for following too closely. Ticket issued.
- Vehicle stop on Champlain Street for speeding. Ticket issued.

November 8

- Conducted a foot patrol and business checks on Center Street.
- Vehicle stop on Park Street at Ray Drive for defective

equipment (brake light). Warning issued.

- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for defective equipment. Warning issued.
- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street at Country Club Road for driving with an obstructed windshield. Warning issued.
- Received a citizen assist request from a resident on Railroad Avenue for an officer to stand by with her while she picked up some of her belongings. When the officer arrived on scene, the individual was not present, at which point the officer left without any further assistance necessary.

Responded to a report of a citizen dispute on Mulcahy Drive. It was found that no dispute had taken place.

Conducted a patrol on Pearl Street.

Assisted Brandon Area Rescue Squad (BARS) with a medical call on Mulcahy Drive.

Assisted BARS with a report of a man who was unresponsive, but breathing, on Van Cortland Road. The subject was transported to the Rutland Regional Medical Center for treatment.

November 9

Conducted traffic control for the Scout's Salute to Veterans Parade.

Received a missing wallet that was turned into the station.

Conducted a VIN verification on Forest Dale Road.

Responded to an alarm activation at OVUHS. It was later determined that the alarm had been accidentally tripped by a teacher doing some painting in the auditorium.

Vehicle stop on Park Street for driving without taillights. Warning issued.

Conducted speed enforcement on Franklin Street. No traffic stops were conducted as no violations were observed.

Vehicle stop on Center Street for driving without taillights. Warning issued.

Assisted the Rutland City Police in attempting to serve a citation to an individual on High Pond Road. The individual was not located.

Responded to an apartment building on Mulcahy Drive for a report of a domestic dispute/trespassing complaint. The issue was found to be civil in nature and it was determined that no crime had been committed.

Vehicle stop on Conant Square. Warning issued.

Vehicle stop on Franklin Street at High Street for failure to use turn signal. Tickets issued for Unregistered Motor Vehicle and Failure to Use Turn Signal.

Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for uninspected vehicle. Tickets issued for Uninspected Motor Vehicle and Operating Without Liability Insurance.

Conducted a patrol at the intersection of Champlain Street and Conant Square. One operator stopped for a stop sign violation.

Vehicle stop on Center Street for defective equipment. Warning issued.

Vehicle stop on Park Street for defective equipment. Warning issued.

Vehicle stop near the intersection of Champlain Street and Conant Square for failure to stop for a stop sign. Warning issued.

Vehicle stop on Grove Street for an operator believed to have a suspended driver's license. No enforcement action taken as the driver was not the person believed to be suspended.

Vehicle stop on High Street

for misuse of license plate(s). Tickets issued for Misuse of License Plates, Uninspected Motor Vehicle, and Operating Without Liability Insurance.

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

November 10

Responded to the Jiffy Mart on McConnell Road for a report of two suspicious subjects sleeping in a car. While the officer was interviewing the subjects, one of the individuals fled the scene on foot. The officer, who was alone, requested assistance from the Brandon K-9 Unit to track the suspect that fled, who was later apprehended and determined to have multiple warrants for their arrest. A K-9 exterior sniff of the car was performed and canine Guinness alerted to the presence of illegal drugs inside. The car was later seized and a search warrant was granted by the Rutland County Superior Court to search the vehicle. Investigation ongoing.

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