

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

A community supported newspaper

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Wednesday, December 4, 2024

\$1



'Tis the Season!

BRANDON TOWN HALL was all lit up for the holidays on Sunday, after a concert of Christmas carols by the Brandon Festival Singers on the front steps. Chilly temps didn't keep people away! See page 19 for more photos.

Photos by Steven Jupiter



Welcome to Bankers Alley!

THE DOWNTOWN BRANDON Alliance opened Bankers Alley on Park Street in Brandon on Saturday as part of its Park 2 Park initiative. See page 8 for more details and photos!



From Adams to EmRose: vacation site in Brandon gets a big makeover

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—For the better part of the past year, everyone driving down Route 7 south of Brandon Village has wondered about the transformation of the old Adams cabin resort—most recently known as the Autumn Mountain Winery & Cabins. The compound's 20 cabins

have undergone a marked metamorphosis from quaintly rustic to elegantly modern. And everyone has been curious to know what's going on down there.

The suspense is over: new owners Chris and Nirvanie Jablonski have finally announced the opening of EmRose Luxury Cabins, the lat-

est incarnation of a resort that locals of a certain age remember as The Adams.

"As a child, it was my dream to own something like this," said Chris, who grew up in New York City but whose family is originally from Poland. He couldn't believe
(See EmRose, Page 21)

Brandon SB & Budget Committee continue debate over Brandon PD

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—The Brandon Selectboard and the Brandon Budget Committee convened on Monday evening to continue their discussion regarding the Brandon Police Department (BPD).

As in the previous session two weeks ago, no consensus was reached among the Board or the Committee as to the degree of police presence desired or the level of funding needed.

Last spring's budget failures still loom large over the process, with the Selectboard especially concerned about creating a budget that will appeal to voters. BPD's budget in particular was the source of some conflict, as the Selectboard eliminated then restored the department's

K-9 program and canceled the purchase of two new police cruisers. The department's budget was originally set at \$900K and then reduced to \$856,400 by the time the town's overall budget passed on the third attempt.

The Selectboard subsequently received pointed criticism from residents and from members of the Budget Committee, who felt that residents' opinions were not heeded in the budget process.

Those criticisms seemed to weigh on Selectboard members on
(See Brandon SB, Page 18)



Names lost in Vermont, Part 38: Liberty, Lamorder, and Forsha

BY MICHAEL F. DWYER

Returning to previous strolls through St. Mary's Cemetery in Brandon brings me to three photos of gravestones whose stories needed to be retrieved. In all three instances, the subjects' first and last names had changed from records of their baptisms or marriages in Québec.

We begin with Zeb Liberty. His solitary grave lies at the edge of the cemetery and, unusual among cemetery markers, inscribes his place of birth as St. Hyacinthe, Canada. In Brandon's 1860s census, the household he shared with his wife, Mary, was located between Oliver Disorda and Levi Bashaw—another indicator of close family networks. Mary Liberty was born as Philomène Bachand, sister of Levi Bashaw. She and Zeb had two children, both of whom died in infancy. Mary's funeral in 1898 was held from their home on Maple Street. Her pallbearers included Charles Bashaw and four members of the Shambo family. I assumed that Zeb's original name was Eusèbe Laliberté, and knowing his birthplace, I expected an easy retrieval of his baptism record, but no matching Lalibertés were born in St. Hyacinthe in that timeframe. The informant on Zeb's death certificate in 1913 did not know his parents; fortunately, when Zeb married



ELIZABETH (LAMORDER) PAGE with her second husband Lorenzo Ingram. Photo from Ancestry.com

a second time to widow Elizabeth Selman in 1905, he disclosed the names of his parents as Josant Liberty and Charlotte Side.

The new clue presented here was that Zeb's mother must have been Charlotte Coté, her name often literally translated as Side in Vermont. Finding her marriage at St. Hyacinthe on February 4, 1822 opened a new pathway to variations of Laliberté. Charlotte married Hyacinthe Roireau dit Laliberté. With that, I discovered Zeb Liberty's baptism as Eusèbe Roireau on August 15, 1830. His remote ancestor from France was Gaspard Roireau dit Laliberté, who married Marguerite Hébert before 1695 in Québec.

Zeb's second marriage to Elizabeth Selman was short-lived because he lived alone at the time of the 1910 census, and his newspaper death notice stated, "His wife died many years ago." So, who erected a gravestone to a man who had no surviving children? I suspect that Zeb's Bachand/Bashaw brothers-in-law respected him enough to let posterity know that yet another man from St.-Hyacinthe would not be forgotten.

Alexander and Phebe Lamorder's gravestones bear the cross of Calvary, a popular Catholic motif of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The 1850 census finds this couple and ten children in Shoreham. Lamorder was a variation of a

dit name of Normandin. Alexis Normandin married Phebe Benoit at St. Cesaire, Rouville, Québec, on October 12, 1830. Their first four children were baptized there before the family's move to Vermont around 1837. Thirteen children in all would be born to the couple over a span of thirty-three years! Most of them did not maintain an allegiance to the Catholic Church.

The Civil War impacted the family in significant ways. Their son Jeremiah, age 18, enlisted in Company C, Seventh Vermont Regiment on December 5, 1861. He died of disease on October 19, 1862, in New Orleans. His parents applied for a pension, citing that they relied on the income that Jeremiah contributed to their support. While the documentation makes for fascinating reading, they were not awarded a pension. Alexander and Phebe also appear in another Civil War pension file. Their eldest daughter Elizabeth married Nelson Page in 1852. They had three children. Laura, George, and Nettie Page. Like his brother-in-law, Jeremiah Lamorder, Union soldier Nelson Page died of typhoid in Louisiana on November 13, 1862. Widow Ellen was soon awarded a pension for her children. In 1869, however, when Elizabeth married Lorenzo Ingraham, her parents petitioned successfully for the guardianship of their Page grandchildren. Alexander and Phebe Lamorder were a variation of a



PHEBE AND ALEX graves.

1860 Federal Census - Brandon, Vermont

NAME	AGE	SEX	IND	VAL	WIFE	CHILDREN	OTHER
James	40	M					
Mary	35	F					
Elizabeth	20	F					
George	15	M					
John	10	M					
William	5	M					
Charles	3	M					
Thomas	2	M					
Edward	1	M					

1850 Federal Census - Shoreham, Vermont

NAME	AGE	SEX	IND	VAL	WIFE	CHILDREN	OTHER
James	40	M					
Mary	35	F					
Elizabeth	20	F					
George	15	M					
John	10	M					
William	5	M					
Charles	3	M					
Thomas	2	M					
Edward	1	M					

ABOVE: FORSHA FAMILY in Brandon 1860 census with highly garbled names! Below: "Lamonde" family in Shoreham, 1850.

Teens find purpose and camaraderie in the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—It's not always easy to find a path after high school. For others, the way forward isn't quite so clear.

"I didn't know what I was going to do after graduation," said nineteen-year-old Isaac Kennedy-Mitchell at his parents' house in Brandon last week. A 2024 OV grad, he was home after a three-month stint with the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization established in that gives young people an opportunity to work on outdoor projects across the state, helping to maintain Vermont's parks, trails, waterways, and forests.

"My grandfather told me about Green Mountain Conservation Camp [a similar program within Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife]. I thought it looked really interesting, but the program began before graduation," continued Isaac. "So, I looked around and found VYCC. I like working with my hands and I care a lot about the environment. VYCC makes a positive difference."

The program operates for three seasons—it doesn't run in winter—and Isaac joined for the fall season, which ran from September 3 through November 3. The summer program is open to youth aged 15+ and the spring and fall programs are open to youth aged 18+.

Isaac said the application process was straightforward.

"They asked if you mind camping and working in different conditions," he said. The work is outdoors and during the week, the crews sleep in tents on the work sites. On weekends, the crewmembers can go home or sleep in tents at the main campus in Richmond (where there are indoor bathroom and kitchen facilities).

"We worked in Maidstone and Waterbury and slept in tents," said Isaac, who thrived in the rough conditions. "When it got down to 20 degrees at night, I was a happy camper."

The programs begin with training at VYCC's main campus in Richmond, after which workers break into 6-member crews that focus on different tasks. Some crews concentrate on carpentry, others on trail maintenance, and yet others on logging.

Isaac was a member of the carpentry crew. His girlfriend, eighteen-year-old Sophiya Chase, whom he met during the program, worked on both the carpentry and trail crews. Neither had any experience before

the program.

Sophiya, who hails from Tampa, Florida, learned about the program through a YouTube video.

"It seemed like a nice opportunity to travel and make a difference on the environment," she said. "I'd never been to

have to pay rent, they can put away most of what they make. Plus, VYCC will reimburse up to \$1,500 in post-program education and training expenses for those who make it through the full season.

Isaac said he's thinking of using his bonus to pursue a

"Game of Logging" certification, which would show that he's been trained in logging techniques and safety. There are programs similar to VYCC around the country and Isaac said he'd like to head out west, perhaps to Montana.

"I always knew I'd work with my hands. I couldn't do a desk job," he said.

In addition to the technical and practical skills they learn, the program also provides a crash course in interpersonal relations, as the crews have to work together harmoniously to finish their assigned tasks. Fortunately, both Isaac and Sophiya

said their crews got along very well. And Sophiya's crew set aside time every week for the airing and settling of grievances.

"We had community meetings to resolve conflicts," said Sophiya. "I've definitely grown as a person, broadened my perspective. It was good to work with people who were also interested in the outdoors. I didn't really have that in Florida."

They both also advised that anyone interested in joining the program should research what it entails.

(See VYCC, Page 11)



SOPHIYA CHASE AND Isaac Kennedy-Mitchell spent the last 3 months working outdoors for the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps. The experience has inspired Isaac, who grew up in Brandon, to pursue a career working with his hands.

Vermont. I love it. The program made me want to stay here longer."

Sophiya was certainly not the only out-of-stater in the program. In fact, of the 36 crewmembers overall this fall, only 4 were from Vermont, including Isaac. Some came from as far away as Los Angeles.

VYCC is modeled on the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) that the federal government operated during the Great Depression, providing pay to young men in exchange for their labor conserving the country's natural resources. Like CCC, VYCC doesn't take its participants' labor for granted. The members are paid for their work, around \$860 every two weeks. And since the crews are given weekly stipends for groceries and don't

Spotlight On Business KALEIDOSCOPE ART SUPPLY



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BRANDON WINTER VILLAGE

at Central Park, near the gazebo

Wed Dec. 4 and Fri Dec. 6, 4-8 pm



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NOTICE: HOLIDAY SCHEDULE CHANGE
 Because of the coincidence of both Christmas and New Year's Day with our usual press days this year, we will not be able to publish on our usual schedule. Neither our printing press nor the U.S. Postal Service will be open on our usual printing/mailling days. As a result, our last issue of 2024 will be published on 12/18 and our first issue of 2025 will be published on 1/8. We normally don't publish the last week of December, so this change skips an additional week. We will add a week to all subscriptions to make up for this. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

 THE REPORTER TEAM

Seven sites bring in a record \$512,053 Vermont State Historic Site attendance hits 22 year high

Montpelier, Vt. — 2024 was a banner year at Vermont State Historic Sites. New data released today by the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development's Division for Historic Preservation shows 80,678 people spent \$512,053 at seven Vermont State Historic Sites during the 2024 season. Spending is the result of admission fees (charged at six sites) and sales at six gift shops.

"I'm grateful to all Vermonters and visitors who spent time at our State Historic Sites this year," said Governor Phil Scott. "These sites are a good way to explore our beautiful state and I encourage everyone to visit them and learn more about what makes Vermont such a special place."

The seven Vermont State Historic Sites accepting visitors during 2024 were Bennington Battle Monument, Mount Independence in Orwell, Chimney Point in Addison, Senator Justin Morrill in Strafford, Presi-

dent Calvin Coolidge in Plymouth Notch, President Chester A. Arthur in Fairfield, and Hubbardton Battlefield. Two historic sites have been closed to the public since COVID. The Old Constitution House in Windsor is scheduled to reopen in 2027 in time to celebrate the 250th-anniversary of the Vermont Constitution that was written there. The Eureka Schoolhouse in Springfield could reopen as soon as next year.

"We are thrilled with this year's attendance and sales," says Vermont's Historic Preservation Officer Laura V. Trieschmann. "We have hard-working, dedicated staff who are passionate about sharing Vermont's story with our visitors and that is reflected in the success of the 2024 season."

Vermont State Historic Sites haven't seen more than 80,000 visitors since the 2002 season. The greatest attendance on record was 93,365 in 1998, but back then there were twelve

(See Historic Sites, Page 14)



Just a traveling bird

EARLIER THIS FALL Lincoln's sparrows we're traveling through our area. This one was seen along the Cadwell Trail.

Photo by Sue Wetmore

Advisory:
Rash of Car Break-ins in Brandon

Over the last week, there have been several reports of cars being broken into throughout Brandon, even in people's driveways. Brandon Police Chief David Kachajian has advised residents to remove anything valuable from their cars and to make sure their vehicles are locked overnight.

Community Forums VT F&W has online license gift certificates

MONTPELIER—Finding a gift that will continue to give for a full year is a challenge, but the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department has a solution on their website -- a license gift certificate for hunting and fishing licenses.

"It's a perfect gift for a friend or family member who hunts

or fishes," said Fish and Wildlife's Director of Outreach Alison Thomas. "You can go to our website, fill out the gift certificate and pay for it online, and then print the certificate to present to your recipient."

The license section of Fish and Wildlife's website has a link to the gift certificate. The

person who receives the certificate must go to the website to redeem their certificate and purchase their licenses.

"If you have a friend or relative who hunts or fishes, this is an easy gift-giving solution," said Thomas. "The gift certificate will cover licenses for 2025 or for licenses in future years."

The Reporter
Brandon • Pittsford • Proctor • West Rutland • Lake Dunmore • Leicester • Whiting • Sudbury • Goshen
REPORTER
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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2024 Vermont Maple Conference: Opportunities for all maple producers December hybrid conference offers online and in-person events

LYNDONVILLE—The 2024 Vermont Maple Conference, Dec 9-14, will offer options for both online and in-person learning with informative and

engaging sessions led by maple industry experts and maple producers.

University of Vermont (UVM) Extension and the Vermont Ma-

ple Sugar Makers' Association (VMSMA) will host the hybrid conference, with funding assistance from the Vermont

(See Maple Conference, Page 5)

Leicester News

The Leicester Historical Society is sponsoring Prize Bingo and the Memory Tree will be lit on December 21st.

Join us on Saturday, Dec 14, at 1:00 pm at the Senior Center at the Four Corners. Refreshments served and all are welcome. Prize Bingo will be on break after Dec 14, until April.

The Leicester Historical Society is once again sponsoring the Memory Tree at the Four Corners. Names can be submitted for the Memory Tree by sending names and money to Diane Benware at 1594 Old Jerusalem Road, Salisbury, VT 05769. The cost is \$1.00 per name or six names for \$5.00. The tree will be lit on Saturday, Dec 21 at 5:00 p.m.



Maple Conference

(Continued from Page 4)

Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. Additional conference sponsors include Lapierre, Farm Credit East, Atlas CopCo, Burch Bottle, and Dominion & Grimm.

Daily sessions will be of interest not only to sugar makers but also to foresters who work with maple producers and forest landowners looking to lease to a producer. Forestry credits will be available for the online and in-person sessions of the entire conference.

For details and to register, go to www.vermontmaple.org/maple-conferences. Attendees can register for online sessions or a full conference pass and have access to all four days of the

conference. All sessions will be recorded for registrants' future enjoyment and learning.

Conference week kicks off with a full day Maple Quality School on Monday, December 9 featuring Mark Isselhardt from UVM Extension and Jason Liley from UMaine Extension. This hands-on, in-depth session will cover the science behind great and off-flavored syrup, the best measurement tools and how to use them, and will offer plenty of hands-on activities to refine your skills. A "must attend" for new and experienced producers!

The online portion of the Conference kicks off on Wednesday, December 11 at 9 a.m. with the first of eight online sessions

over a three-day period. The Conference "grand finale" occurs on Saturday, December 14 with a full day of sessions, guest speakers and a tradeshow at the Vermont State University's Randolph campus.

UVM Extension helps individuals and communities put research-based knowledge to work. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the

Letters to the Editor

A big Thank You to all the friends who attended my Birthday/Retirement Party

Thanks to everyone who braved the very cold weather to attend a gathering in the Brandon Town Hall to celebrate my 80th birthday and retirement from the Brandon Town Hall. Special thanks to Deb Jennings, Kathy Mathis, Bernie Carr, FOTH Board members Jan Coolidge, Barbara Blanco, and Mary Shields, the entire Jennings family, and the many friends, from

the past to the present, for their congratulations and best wishes. Brandon is such a special place with very special people. Thank you, Brandon, for all your support over the past 26 years, always keep the Hall in your heart. It is special!!!

Dennis Marden
Brandon

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

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Obituaries

June Anne (Johnson) Doaner, 76, Forest Dale

FOREST DALE—June Anne (Johnson) Doaner, age 76, died on Monday, December 2, 2024, as she wished at her home beside her Christmas tree, watching holiday movies while in the care of her family.

June was born in Forest Dale on June 17, 1948, at the house she grew up in. She was the daughter of Willis and Gladys (Swenor) Johnson and a graduate of Otter Valley Union High School, class of 1966. She married Allan Richard Doaner at St. Mary's Church in Brandon on March 9, 1968.

June was employed until her cancer diagnosis in 2014 and had several occupations throughout her life, including work at First Brandon National Bank, Freeman Jewelers, and establishing a family-owned business with Allan: Doaner's TV Center.

June, a self-proclaimed rebel, had a hearty laugh and kept her sense of humor to her last days. Due to her tenacity, she survived over a decade with metastatic lung cancer and associated pulmonary disease and got to live out her life in the home

she raised her kids in. She was a lover of chocolate with peanut butter, feeding the birds, caring for stray cats, Christmas, and especially flowers and gardening.

She is survived by her son, Daniel Doaner, and wife Nancy of Forest Dale; her daughter, Sarah Abberton, and her husband, Michael, of Bow, NH; 5 grandchildren: Cassandra, Brandi, Angus, Gabriel and Garrett; and 1 great-granddaughter, Addyson.

She was predeceased by her parents, her sister Willa Hotte, and her husband.

The graveside committal service and burial will take place in the spring at St. Mary's Cemetery in Brandon, when an abundance of

flowers can be planted at the graveside.

Until then, buy flowers for your own mother in her memory. Or make a memorial gift to Rutland County Humane Society, 765 Stevens Road, Pittsford, VT 05763, or The American Cancer Society.

Arrangements by Miller & Ketcham of Brandon.



JUNE ANNE DOANER



Hard Tellin'

BY DAVE PRAAMSMA

Big Christmas

BY DAVE PRAAMSMA

It's not until you try to explain an 8-foot high, inflatable Santa-on-a-motorcycle to visiting international students that you realize how problematic American-style Christmas is. Of course, I say this with utmost respect for those among us who choose to decorate their lawns with such inflatables this Christmas. This goes equally for those giant snow-globes, Santa race cars, and Santa helicopters. But I might just humbly remind my countrymen of the diplomatic difficulty they pose for those of us hosting foreigners in the holiday season.

Of course, cultural translation is part of the deal when hosting international students. Explaining runaway Christmas Excess is another matter. I think I was finally getting traction downplaying things with my visiting guests... and then WHAM, we were promptly passed by a 13-ton cement truck blazingly decked-out, bumper to bumper, with about 25,000 Christmas lights.

(Try explaining that to a wide-eyed 19-year-old student from the Czech Republic.)

Christmastime in 21st Century America, it must be clinically stated, has gone a bit bananas. ('Bananas' in Czechoslovakian is 'Banany', just for the record.) Profligate purchasing, shopping stampedes, Las Vegas-like lawn displays. The end-of-year festivities, it seems, usher in a time of suspended reason. Whether hearts are a-glowing from too much mistletoeing might be a fair point to ponder.

To even call Christmas a "major" holiday these days might feel like a gross understatement. Today we feel the seismic rumblings with that first play of Mariah Carey's Christmas song sometime around Thanksgiving and then are swept away in a Yuletide tsunami until our credit cards stop smoldering around mid-January.

To better understand our collective holiday immoderation, I decided this year to research the matter. To begin with, I started with what I thought was a rather rigorous and scholarly question: Are Americans the only ones who go completely bonkers at Christmas? A kind of American Exceptionalism, if you will. And while I will say that the results don't completely exonerate us of such behavior (like the mass mailing of unwanted 6-pound fruit cakes), I will report that it certainly takes some of the pressure off.

In South Africa, for instance, I learned that

holiday-fevered folks are actually eating deep fried caterpillars. I don't think I have the time here (or the understanding, really) to get into the history of why a people would choose to make this their Christmas-time delicacy. But the real point here not to be missed is that we are not alone.

And then there's Sweden. Whether their brochures care to admit it or not, Sweden is home to a rather infamous "Yule-Goat" tradition dating back hundreds of years. As a kind of St. Nick sidekick, the Yule-Goat lives on in some cities as a rather over-sized straw-effigy which oftentimes—I learned—gets set on fire by mischievous youngsters. (Or perhaps by the tourism industry trying to stamp out the tradition.)

Way over in Caracas, Venezuela, a tradition has evolved wherein folks strap on roller skates en masse to get to Mass. Yes, the whole city books it to church on wheels each Christmas—to the extent that roads are now being closed. (Whether local priests view this as a blessing or a blight is unclear.)

By degrees, I must say, my own country's holiday excesses were beginning to feel a whole lot less egregious. That is until my international visitors caught an eyeful of our annual barn wreath tradition.

I will be the first to admit that it is a bit large. To lost visitors coming to our house this time of year, my wife just tells them to look for the "beacon-like thing" blazing away on the barn peak. Of its 7-foot diameter I can only explain that I've been in a bit of an unspoken competition with my neighbor for some years now. Sure, he may have me on elevation (40 feet high on his silo), but for overall size he hasn't got a leg to stand on.

In more sober-minded hindsight I suppose I can now say things may have gotten a bit out of hand. A more recent bloated version grew to the point where it began to droop down resembling a kind of oblong-shaped egg. Which had to be supported with guide wires. And small planks from the windows. (I suppose my deforestation of the conifer trees on the property didn't impress the wife much either.)

This year I'm happy to report we're getting a nice respectable 2-foot, store-made wreath that will fit on the door. And we'll try to keep the kilowatts under 2,000.

Have yourself a merry (little) Christmas.

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It was a jolly tree lighting at Pittsford Village Farm



PITTSFORD VILLAGE FARM celebrated its annual Sap Bucket Tree lighting on Sunday, with the Lothrop School Chorus setting the festive mood with holiday songs. Hannah Hazen read "The Polar Express" in honor of her recently deceased father, David Hazen, a retired Lothrop teacher who read it to his students every holiday season.

Photos by Samantha Stone

'Bankers Alley' art installations joyfully unveiled in Brandon!

BY STEVEN JUPITER

The Downtown Brandon Alliance (DBA) unveiled 'Bankers Alley' on Saturday, capping a months-long campaign to add a little fun and color to what had been a rather dreary cut-through between Park Street and the parking lot behind Café Provence. The project, called "Park 2 Park," is meant to provide a more pleasant way for people to walk from Central Park on Park Street to Kennedy Park overlooking the upper falls on the Neshobe River.

The alley takes its name from the banks that flank it: Bar Harbor on the left and the National Bank of Middlebury on the right (looking from Park Street).

The alley now boasts new pavement, three colorful murals, and a wrought-iron archway at each end. The arches are held in place by weighted wooden planters.

The murals were painted by Matt Aucoin, John Brodowski, Fran Bull, and

Virginia Creighton. The arches were fabricated by Nops Metalworks and the planters by Steve Lohrenz.

DBA President Devon Fuller addressed the crowd, thanking the artists, Nops, and Mr. Lohrenz. He thanked DBA's Board of Directors, particularly architect Robert Black for his renderings of the project; DBA Coordinator Fiona Slattery; Heather & John Bierschenk, who own the Bank of Middlebury building on which the art was installed; G.W. Paving for the asphalt work; Brandon's Highway Department for prep work; Vermont Specialty Coatings for sealing the asphalt; Ralph French for the brick work; and Brandon's town management team, Seth Hopkins and Bill Moore, for all their help in shepherding the project through.

Mr. Fuller also thanked all the donors who contributed to Brandon's share (See 'Bankers Alley', Page 24)



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Brandon Deputy Town Manager Bill Moore, DBA President Devon Fuller, and DBA Board members Robert Black and Judy Bunde "cut the ribbon" at Bankers Alley on Saturday. Artists Virginia Creighton, Fran Bull, John Brodowski, and Matt Aucoin. Fran Bull's mural. Virginia Creighton's mural. Matt Aucoin and John Brodowski's mural.

Names lost

(Continued from Page 2)
and Phebe received eight dollars a month until the children were 16.

Alexander and Phebe's youngest daughter, Ellen, first married Civil War veteran Louis Sird in 1866. Upon Louis's

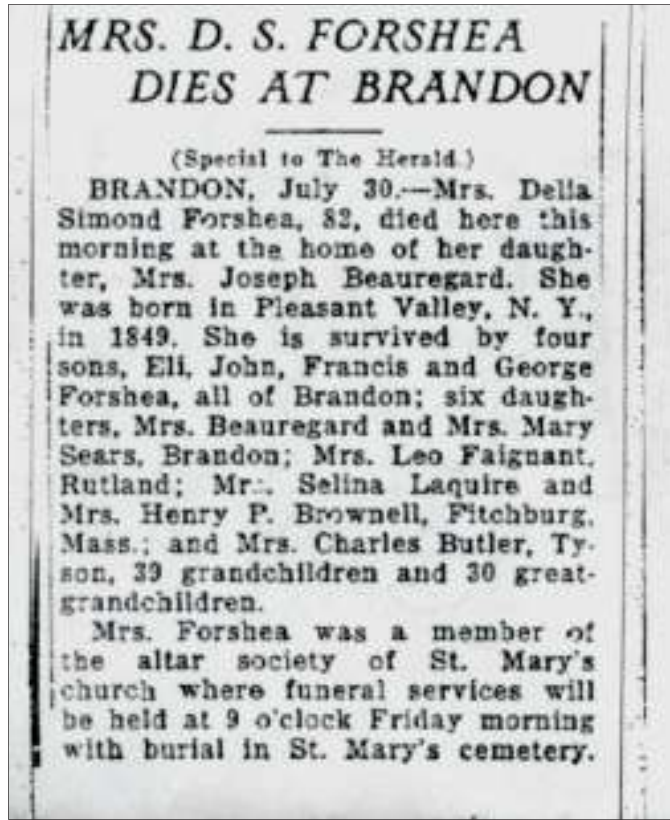
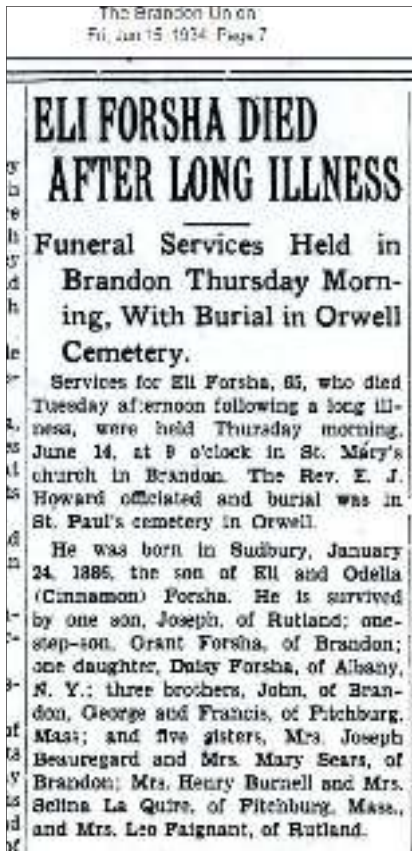
death in 1903, Ellen married as her second husband Louis's younger brother, Joseph Sird. The last survivor of the Lamor-der children, she died in 1924.

Another Calvary cross marks the gravestone of Eli Forsha. He was baptized as Hilaire

Israel Fortier in St. Rosalie Bagot, Québec on February 10, 1846, son of Emmanuel and Euphrosine Paillée. The entire family moved to Brandon, where they were counted in the 1860 census, their names almost unrecognizable. Eli married Delia Simmons in 1865. They would have thirteen children. Eli moved to Westminster, Massachusetts, where he died from gangrene of his foot. His name on the death certificate, Eli Fortier, with his date

of birth eight years off. Delia outlived her husband by 17 years, her name carved on the stone in a different style. Delia's obituary attests to their many descendants—Forsha, Fortier, Forcier, and Faucher all in the same family.

Whoever wrote the obituary of Eli Forsha, Jr. in 1934 remembered his mother's maiden name as Odelia Cinnamon!



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HOLIDAY BAZAAR**

DECEMBER 7TH
FROM 9 AM-3 PM

Christmas and household
wares, clothing, baked goods,
soup & chili.

MORNINGSIDE BAKERY

WOOD FIRED PIZZA & PROVISIONS

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Open late DEC. 4th & 6th until 8pm
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MORNINGSIDE BAKERY
WOOD FIRED PIZZA & PROVISIONS

OUR CREATIVE KIDS

STUDENT: Samantha Davis

GRADE: 10

SCHOOL: Otter Valley Union High School

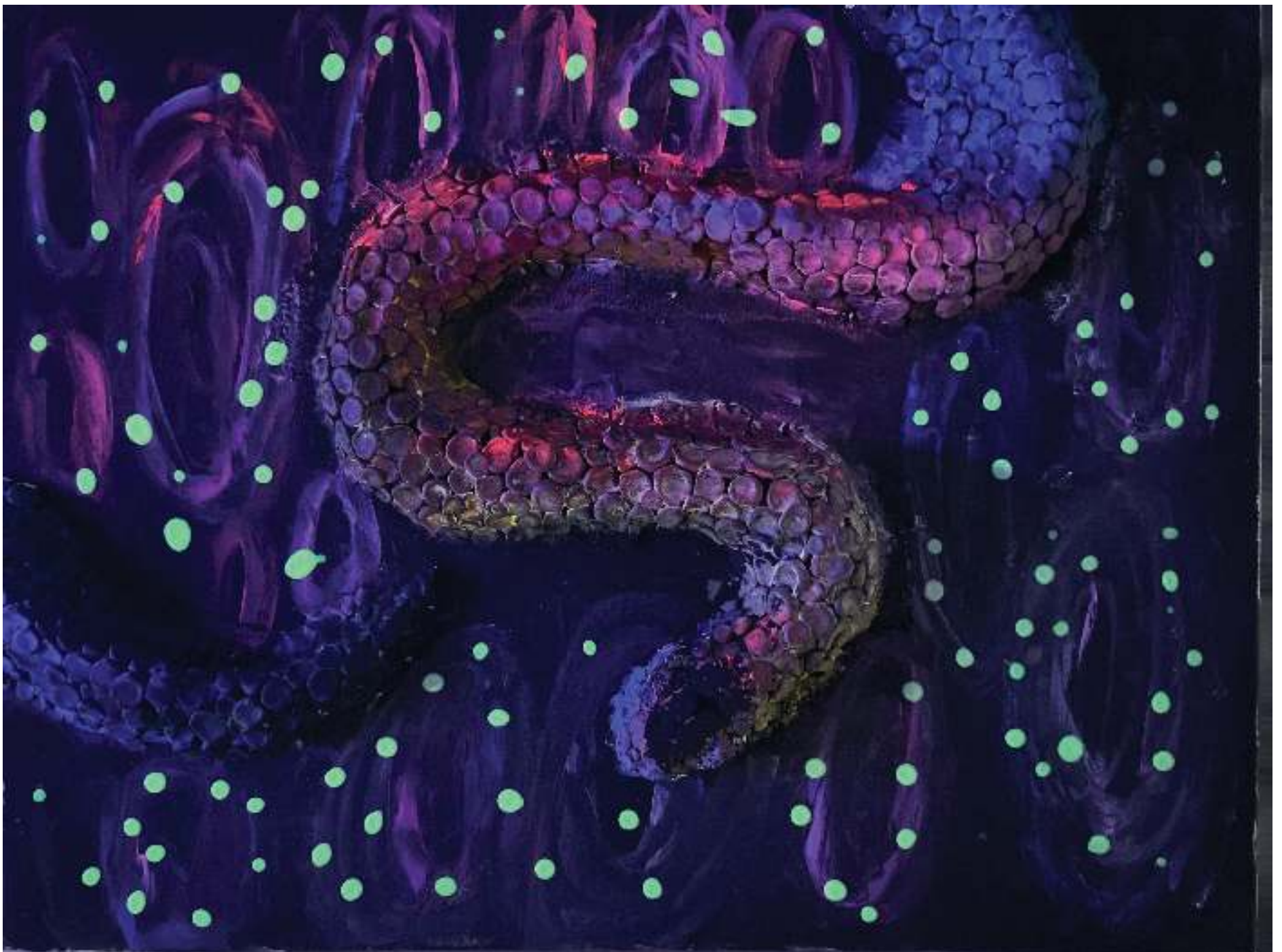
TITLE: Jerry the Snake

MEDIUM: Clay

TEACHER: Tiffany St. Michaud

STATEMENT FROM MS. ST. MICHAUD:

This piece was created during a free choice project unit. Samantha was inspired by an online creator who created a similar 3D canvas piece. Samantha came up with ideas around material use and execution. She used glow in the dark paint so that the snake really comes to life in the dark!



Our Creative Kids Poetry Corner Where I'm From

by **Braxton**
5th grade class at
Otter Creek Academy

I am from Vermont, from my Mom and Dad.
I am from the world. The world is where I am from.

I'm from Rutland Hospital and Rutland City,
Otter Valley and Little Caesars.

I am from Whiting, on Route 30.

I'm from sports - basketball, football and baseball.

I am from tee-ball, since I was six.

I am from baseball.

I am from Bandit and Millie, protective dogs.

MAPLE COW™ by Matt Aucoin



VYCC

(Continued from Page 3)
mer camp. We worked 16 to 18 hours per day sometimes.”

“Be prepared for difficult work,” added Sophiya. “Be prepared for rough conditions and to take care of yourself.”

But all the hard work had benefits beyond experience and pay: the friendships they made. In fact, Isaac and Sophiya were just about to head up to Maine to spend a few days with friends

from VYCC.

“You meet a lot of cool people,” said Sophiya. “You make powerful connections and lasting friendships.”

Isaac nodded in agreement. “Our whole crew loved each other.”

[Editor’s note: Anyone interested in learning more about VYCC should visit vycc.org for more details about the organization and its programs.]



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OR WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Premium, AWD, Auto, 122k miles
\$11,995



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\$7,995



2014 TOYOTA TUNDRA
DB Cab, 4X4, TRD, SR5, 201k miles
\$15,995



2017 HYUNDAI TUCSON
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WE NEED U

Calendar of events

December

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

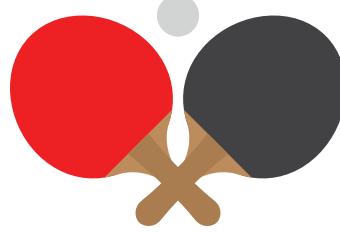
Tuesdays 12-3 pm at the Brandon United Methodist Church, 1 Franklin Street, Brandon. Meet with old friends and make new ones. Play cards, cribbage, or Yahtzee. Put a puzzle together or bring your arts, crafts, and hobbies to work on. Snacks and beverages provided. All are welcome to attend.

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

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

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 Conscious, Spiritual, Gentle Physical Yoga Practice. We meet on Mondays via zoom. Contact for

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 wth 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.

Coming to the



St. Ambrose Church presents "Gnome for Christmas" Bazaar!

Friday, Dec 6th, 1-4 pm AND Saturday, Dec 7th, 9 am-3 pm.

Featuring: Craft Shop, Bake Shop, Doll & Jewelry Shop, Wonder Jars, Attic Treasures, Face Painting, on-line Silent Auction 11/29-12/5, and Raffle Mania including: Hand-

ven Blanket, Theme Baskets filled with Great Items, 50/50.

Special Events include: on Fri.—Silver Tea (2:30 pm).



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.

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!

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 4th

Dealing with the Hard Stuff During the Teen Years — Brandon Free Public Library

Come explore different ways to ease the anxiety of growing up. We will dive into meditation, journaling, companioning conversations and visioning to help add tools to our toolboxes. Workshop hosted from 4–5:30 pm by Becki Lund of La Dimora.

Register by Dec. 2 by emailing eva@brandonpubliclibrary.org. Ages 11–17.

Friday 6th

Tree Lighting and Caroling at the Gazebo — Brandon

Join us at 6 pm for the tree lighting and caroling. Cocoa, cookies, and crafts following immediately at the library.

Rutland Railway Association Holiday Open House

The Rutland Railway Association, located at the historic Center Rutland Railroad Station is having their First Annual Holiday Open House. Beginning on Friday, December 6th and continuing on the 13th and 20th, from 6 pm–8 pm, the station will welcome visitors to view the museum collection as well as the two operating model railroad layouts.



Sunday 8th

December Holiday Craft Show — Rutland
Discover 60+ local vendors offering hot food, jewelry, maple syrup, honey, CBD, apparel, holiday decor, health & beauty, and more! Find unique gifts for everyone on your list at our holiday craft show. The Vermont Farmers Market Holiday Fairs are the perfect destination for holiday shopping, offering a festive atmosphere with over 60 local vendors. Held on Sunday, December 8th from 9 am to 4 pm at 251 West Street in Rutland, these fairs showcase a wide range of unique gifts, from handmade jewelry and cozy apparel to Vermont maple syrup. Shoppers can also enjoy delicious hot food and beverages while listening to live music. Plus, there are free gifts for kids, making it a family-friendly event.

Wednesday 18th

Bells of Joy Handbell Concert — Wallingford Town Hall

The Bells of Joy, of the Rutland United Methodist Church and special guests, present their annual handbell concert. Together they ring one instrument consisting of 5 octaves of handbells and hand chimes to provide lovely sounds of the season. 7 pm at 75 School St., Wallingford.



Maclure Library



Friday 6th Saturday 7th

St. Mary's Christmas Bazaar — Poultney

St. Mary's Bazaar (to benefit OLSD, Fair Haven) Friday from 3–6 pm and Saturday from 9 am–3 pm at St. Raphael Parish Hall, 21 E Main St. Poultney. There will be a Basket Raffle, traditional raffle, 50/50 raffle, food tables, Trash and Treasures, and vendor tables. Stay for supper or lunch from our kitchen! Raffle drawings at 2 pm Saturday. For vendor information call Claudia Stacey 802-265-8049.



Goings on around town

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).



Brandon Forestdale Lions Club Diaper Drive

To make up for the cut in state funding to the VT diaper bank from \$320,000/yr to \$100,000/yr, there will be a diaper drive at Brandon United Methodist Church.

Donations accepted during Food Shelf Hours:
Tuesdays 12–3 pm
Sundays 12:30–2 pm
1 Franklin Street

Historic sites

(Continued from Page 4)
historic sites open to the public compared to today's nine. The low for attendance was during the COVID pandemic with just 18,214 visitors in 2020.

The Historic Sites Program encourages discovery and appreciation of Vermont's rich heritage through stewardship

and interpretation of historic sites. Most sites have permanent exhibitions featuring their unique history, as well as regularly changing displays that focus on specialized subjects.

Vermont Historic Sites will begin receiving visitors again in the spring of 2025.

REAL ESTATE



MULTI-USE PROPERTY!

Impressive 2 story commercial building with 6,614 sq. ft. This meticulously maintained building was entirely renovated in 2007. Features a spacious commercial kitchen, office space, conference room, a very yoga/pilates room. All rooms are large and bright with ample lighting and natural light. The building is well insulated, with a state of the art heating system with radiant heat, and 3 separate Buderus Logamax furnaces. ADA compliant with a lift/elevator, 4 restrooms, ample paved parking, 3 bay garage and a spacious backyard. There are a multitude of potential uses for this building. Located in Historic Brandon Village. A great investment opportunity offered at \$415,000



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Sharpen your mind with our puzzles.

See page 17



GARDENING CORNER

Year-end gardening wrap-up

BY LYN DESMARAIS

I'm sure all of you have been busy with final garden clean-up. I'm dragging in all my hoses, cleaning out pots, adding to the compost pile, stacking wood, and cutting back lavender, some of which is still in bloom. Pumpkins are cooked and frozen, and fruitcake made. Brandon pulled in its pots last weekend and put out some Christmas decorations. Now that it's stick season, I'm pulling some color from my archives to brighten up the holiday season. Happy holidays and good luck planning your garden projects for 2025. If you have the time or the inclination, the

master gardener course starts in January and can be found at: <https://www.uvm.edu/extension/>

mastergardener/extension-master-gardener-program



Town Hall bids farewell to a real star



THE INDEFATIGABLE DENNIS Marden (pictured about to dig in) celebrated his 80th birthday and his retirement from the Friends of the Town Hall on Sunday. Friends filled the Town Hall to express their fondness for the former art teacher, local theater impresario, and devoted supporter of the Town Hall. The bond between him and his friends was undeniable as they told story after story of their crazy experiences with him over the years. **Congrats, Dennis! You deserve a break!**

Golf Course

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

Judy Anderson - Mornings from 6 to 10 am!



101.5 FM

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The Roots of American Music



Mim's Photos

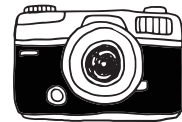
Can you identify any of the people in these vintage photos from Mim Welton's Dateline Brandon newspaper archives? Let us know!



Sue Wetmore and Terry Ferson recognized Charles Jakiela (Terry recalls that he was a moderator, or Chairman of the Selectboard) on the left in this photo, and Dale Knapp on the right. Terry also knows the woman seated beside him is Wilda Harris, town clerk and treasurer for many years.



Recognized



Tom Whittaker recognized Chet Watters, standing fifth from the left, in this photo, and Edward (Ted) Toby, center (seventh from the left).

Sue Wetmore and Terry Ferson both wrote to correct the caption for this photo from our 11/27 issue. Lucille Huntley, far right, and her husband Bill Huntley, ran a general store and post office at Leicester Junction. Ms. Wetmore, a cousin of Ms. Huntley's, wrote, "Once the store closed, Lucille ran the post office from their home across the street." The general store has since been converted into housing.



All-star Mim's recognizer Terry Ferson has identified the woman seated on the left here as Jean Childers, former school nurse. Seated next to her is Maridon Gibson, and fourth from the left is Kerry Clifford.

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

Or call us at 247-8080

Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

1. Bar bills
5. Recipe measurement (abbr.)
8. Swiss river
11. Czech Republic capital
13. "Officially known as"
14. A French abbot
15. Having a strong sharp smell or taste
16. Local area network
17. Data transmission speed measure
18. Embarrass
20. When you hope to get there
21. This (Spanish)
22. Gives up
25. Churchgoer
30. Current
31. Slang for gun
32. Small drum
33. Vanished union bigwig
38. Rocker's tool of the trade
41. Dearth
43. 2024 Olympics host
45. Excess blood in the vessels
48. Afrikaans
49. Agreement between provider and customer
50. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
55. Ancient Syrian city
56. Witch
57. Celebrations
59. Long period of time
60. A team's best pitcher
61. Current unit
62. One-time aerospace company
63. French/Belgian river
64. Swedish rock group

CLUES DOWN

1. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
2. Genus of clams
3. Remark
4. Actor LaBeouf
5. Ohio town
6. Olympic sport
7. Cure
8. Behave in a way that belittles
9. Shares a boundary with
10. Give advice
12. Promotional materials
14. Assist or encourage, usually in some wrongdoing
19. "Agatha All Along" actress Kathryn
23. Small piece
24. King of Camelot
25. Parts per thousand (abbr.)
26. Small Milky Way constellation
27. One who challenges authority (abbr.)
28. Equal (prefix)
29. Shawl
34. S. American wood sorrel relative
35. The end
36. Supervises interstate commerce
37. Yes vote
39. Officer of high rank
40. Church office
41. Tire pressure measurement
42. From a distance
44. Photographs
45. Industrial process
46. Nobel Prize-winning physicist
47. Map out
48. Mammary gland part of female mammal
51. Honorable title (Turkish)
52. Spongelike cake leavened with yeast
53. Speak incessantly
54. Poetry term
58. Relaxing space

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10		
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48						49			50	51	52	53	54
55						56				57			58
59						60				61			
62						63				64			

Sudoku

Here's how a sudoku puzzle works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku every row, every column and every box must contain the numbers 1 through 9. Each number must appear only once in each row, column and box. Figure out where to fill in the missing numbers by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers that are filled in, the easier it gets to solve.

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

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

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

Don't Forget the Animals This Holiday Season!

While you're making your holiday gift lists, remember the homeless animals who could use some extra love too! They're always in need of cozy bedding, soft chewy dog treats, durable dog toys, fun cat toys, and more to make their days brighter while they wait for their forever homes. Every small gesture makes a big difference, bringing warmth and comfort to animals who need it most. Together we can give them the love they deserve this holiday season. Your generosity warms their hearts (and tails)! Check out our full Wishlist here: rchsvt.org/ways-to-give/wish-list.

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

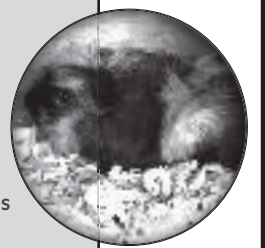


PHOENIX *BONDED WITH MERICA* - 1-YEAR-OLD. FEMALE.

AMERICAN. ORANGE. SMALL. This beautiful gal is so affectionate! Phoenix and her friend, Merica, were surrendered to us on 11/1/24 because their previous owner could no longer care for them. They are the best of friends and will need to go home together. These ladies are very active and love to run around their enclosure. They are also very big on their snacks and love to eat a variety of foods, so make sure you stock up for them! They also love their house, and you can often find them huddling in it. Please do your research on what Guinea Pigs require to live a long and happy life. If these lovely ladies sound like the right fit, please stop by to visit them! The Adoption Center is open Tuesday through Saturday 11 am to 4 pm.

MEET MERICA *BONDED WITH PHOENIX* - 1-YEAR-OLD.

FEMALE. AMERICAN. ORANGE/BLACK. SMALL. This beautiful gal is so affectionate! Merica and her friend, Phoenix, were surrendered to us on 11/1/24 because their previous owner could no longer care for them. They are the best of friends and will need to go home together. These ladies are very active and love to run around their enclosure. They are also very big on their snacks and love to eat a variety of foods, so make sure you stock up for them! They also love their house, and you can often find them huddling in it. Please do your research on what Guinea Pigs require to live a long and happy life. If these lovely ladies sound like the right fit, please stop by to visit them! The Adoption Center is open Tuesday through Saturday 11 am to 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.



New ongoing events

Open Art Night

Wednesdays from 5 to 7pm. Join Shy, bring your own art supplies, and work on your projects! Make new friends and get out of the house. Bring your own snacks. For ages 18 & up.

Friday Flicks

1-3 pm. We'll supply the movie and popcorn! Come watch and relax in our new meeting room. For this week's movie, please stop in or call us at 802-247-8230.

Special Event

Dealing with Hard Stuff During Your Teenage Years December 4th, 4 - 5:30 pm. Life can be challenging and stressful and a sense of anxiety, fear, and loss are also common for teens. Finding someone who understands the struggle can be hard. As a Health and Wellness Coach and Bereavement Coach, Becki Lund will share ways such as meditation, journaling, and visioning to ease the anxiety of growing up. However our outside lives look, we all still want to find a place where we can be authentic. Aimed at ages 11-17, this event will provide practical skills to handle life's challenges while connecting with peers. Pizza provided!

Learn more about our ongoing events for all ages at <https://brandonpubliclibrary.org/>

New Junior Fiction

Fuzzy Mud by Louis Sachar

If you go down to the woods today ... Well, every child knows NOT to, don't they? Tamaya is on a scholarship to the prestigious Woodridge Academy and every day she and seventh-grader Marshall walk to school together. They never go through the woods. And when they arrive at school, they stop talking to each other - because Marshall can't be seen to be friends with a little kid like Tamaya. Especially not with Chad

around. Chad the bully, who makes Marshall's life utterly miserable. But today, hoping to avoid Chad, Marshall and Tamaya decide to go through the woods ... And what is waiting there for them is strange, sinister, and entirely unexpected. The next day, Chad doesn't turn up at school - no one knows where he is, not even his family. And Tamaya's arm is covered in a horribly, burning, itchy wound. As two unlikely heroes set out to rescue their bully, the town is about to be turned upside down by the mysterious Fuzzy Mud.

Cody and the Fountain of Happiness by Tricia Springstubb

Cody is excited about the first day of summer but less than happy to spend it with a mopey older brother and a stressed-out mother. Then Cody meets a neighborhood boy named Spencer who is searching for his cat MewMew, and together they set off on an adventure through their multicultural neighborhood in search of Spencer's cat.

Bog Myrtle by Sid Sharp (graphic novel)

Two sisters, one stubbornly cheerful (Beatrice) and one relentlessly grumpy (Magnolia), live in a drafty old house with a family of helpful spiders. When Beatrice is gifted magic yarn from a giant forest spider obsessed with sustainability named Bog Myrtle, she and the spiders set to work knitting up a perfectly warm sweater. But greedy Magnolia sees only the opportunity for profit, and quickly converts the old house into a magic sweater factory. The exhausted spiders are driven to strike, and Bog Myrtle is not pleased.

DID YOU KNOW?

As we go into the darker season, we have a lot going on each week. Below are some new weekly meetups; see our website for more!

Brandon Police Report

November 25

- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street near OVUHS for failure to maintain travel lane. Warning issued.
- Received a report of suspicious activity on Basin Road.
- Took fingerprints for teacher licensing.
- Vehicle stop on Grove Street for failure to display license plate(s). Warning issued.
- Issued a citation upon a woman during a vehicle stop on Grove Street for an in-state cite and release warrant out of Addison County.
- Vehicle stop on Forest Dale Road. Warning issued.

November 26

No police activity logged on this date

November 27

- Responded to a residence on Conant Square regarding a complaint made by a property owner about a possible homeless camp that had been erected on his property. The structure was located by the responding officer, who determined that it was likely a child's fort and not a homeless encampment.
- Vehicle stop on Park Street for a stop sign violation. Warning issued.
- Participated in a Sobriety Checkpoint in Mendon, with several agencies from Rutland County, for the Highway Safety Thanksgiving Holiday Campaign. One person was screened; no tickets issued.
- Assisted the Brandon Area Rescue Squad (BARS) with a patient expressing suicidal ideations on Stanton Road. The individual was transported to the hospital per the patient's request.
- Conducted a patrol on Center Street.

November 28

- Attempted to locate a vehicle that had eluded a traffic stop on Franklin Street at Alta Woods Drive. The brief pursuit was terminated due to the snowy weather and slippery road conditions. The vehicle that fled was described as a newer model, dark colored Dodge Ram pickup truck. The vehicle was last seen in the area of Country Club Road in Brandon.
- K9 Unit dispatched to the area of Fay Road in Goshen to assist with a report of a missing individual. The individual was located safe and sound.
- Responded to High Pond

Road for a report of a single-car crash in which a utility pole was struck and damaged.

- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for a red light violation. Warning issued.
- Assisted the Vermont State Police in providing backup for a vehicle accident that occurred just over the Pittsford/Brandon Town Line.
- Assisted in removing a tree that had fallen on Hollow Road and was blocking the roadway.
- Vehicle stop near the intersection of Union Street and Supermarket Drive for an illegal turn on red arrow violation. Warning issued.
- Vehicle stop near the intersection of Franklin Street and Park Street for a defective equipment violation. Warning issued.
- Removed a downed tree and debris from the roadway on Richmond Road.

November 29

- Vehicle stop near the intersection of Grove Street and Steinberg Road for failure to maintain travel lane. Warning issued.
- Received a report of an alleged Conditions of Release violation on Valley View Drive. Based on investigation of the incident given the information provided, no probable cause for a charge was found.
- Dispatched to a multi-unit residence on Franklin Street for a report of a trespass into an unoccupied unit within the building. No signs of unlawful trespass were found.
- Vehicle stop near the intersection of Town Farm Road and Forest Dale Road for defective equipment (brake light). Warning issued.
- Responded to a domestic disturbance on Town Farm Road. The disturbance was found to be verbal and the parties were separated with no charges placed.
- Vehicle stop near the intersection of Grove Street and Steinberg Road for driving without taillights. Warning issued.
- Vehicle stop on Supermarket Drive for a traffic violation. Ticket issued for operating without liability insurance.
- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for failure to display license plate(s). Warning issued.

November 30

- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for failure to display license plate(s). Warning issued. *(See Police report, Page 19)*

Brandon SB

(Continued from Page 1)

Monday night, as they struggled to reach a decision whether to reduce, increase, or maintain the police budget for the fiscal year that begins on July 1, 2025.

Following up on the last budget meeting, Town Manager Seth Hopkins had prepared three scenarios for the Selectboard and Committee to consider:

A decrease of the BPD budget from \$856,400 to \$750,000.

A minimal increase of the BPD budget from \$856,400 to \$874,675.

An increase of the BPD budget from \$856,400 to \$1,000,000.

BPD Chief David Kachajian was

present to explain the effect that each scenario would have on the level of police service BPD could offer.

Scenario A would entail not replacing an officer that is already scheduled to leave BPD at the end of January and would require laying off one other, leaving BPD with the Chief and four full-time officers. Some shifts would have only one officer on duty. BPD would not be able to respond to all calls because of the reduction in staffing and traffic enforcement would also suffer.

Scenario B would entail not replacing the officer leaving in January but retaining the remaining

staff, leaving BPD with the Chief and five full-time officers. The department would return to 18 hours of on-duty and 6 hours of on-call service per day. On-duty service means that officers are in uniform and in Brandon. On-call service means that officers have returned home and have to be called back to Brandon, usually at night. There would be two officers on duty during the day.

Scenario C, which was dubbed the "million-dollar scenario," would allow the department to provide 24/7 coverage with two officers on duty at all times.

(See Brandon SB, Page 23)

Police report

(Continued from Page 18)

- Obtained a lost bank deposit bag, which was returned to its owner.
- Received a complaint of a vehicle break-in on Church Street. Money and valuables were taken. Investigation ongoing.
- Assisted a motorist on Franklin Street that had a disabled vehicle. The motorist called for a tow truck.
- Received a complaint of a vehicle break-in on Forest Dale

Road. Money was stolen.

- Stopped a vehicle that was reportedly unsafely passing cars on Route 7 in Brandon. The operator was found not to be impaired by drugs or alcohol and was given a warning.
- Received a complaint of multiple cars that had been broken into on Rossiter Street. It is believed that this incident is related to the other car break-ins that have occurred in the area recently. The Brandon Police

Department is encouraging everyone to remember to lock their car doors and not to leave any valuables inside their vehicles.

- Vehicle stop on Center Street for failure to display license plate(s). Warning issued.
- Vehicle stop on Grove Street for failure to display license plate(s). Multiple tickets were issued for failure to display license plate(s), operating without liability insurance, unregistered motor vehicle, and operating without a

learner's permit.

- Vehicle stop on Franklin Street for driving without lights on. Warning issued.
- Vehicle stop on Grove Street for failure to display license plate(s). Warning issued.
- Responded, together with BARS, Brandon Fire Department, and Rutland Regional Ambulance Service, to a residence on Fox Road for a medical call. The patient was transported to the hospital.

December 1

- Received a report of a vehicle break-in on Park Street. Numerous valuables were taken.
- Received a complaint of a vehicle break-in on East Seminary Street. Money was stolen.
- Conducted a patrol on Conant Square.
- Vehicle stop on Wheeler Road for flashing signal violation. Ticket issued for having an unregistered vehicle.

Proto-Cycology at The Bookstore in Brandon!



AUTHOR ANGUS CHANEY (bottom photo) and **illustrator Ethan Nelson** (at left in top photo) presented their joint effort *Proto-Cycology II: Chasing the Falcon* at The Bookstore in Brandon on Sunday. A sequel to their first book together, this volume continues the absurdist mythology of the mountain bike tribes of West Goshen. A packed house listened raptly as the duo drew the crowd into the unique world they created.

Photos by Molly Sherman




Fa La La La!

THE BRANDON FESTIVAL singers performed Christmas Carols on the steps of the town hall on Sunday. They will present their full holiday concert on Sunday, December 8th at the Brandon Congregational Church.



WEEKLY HOROSCOPE



most of your attention of late. Pay attention to your own needs, too, and enjoy some relaxation.

LEO July 23–Aug. 23
Employ your natural charisma to forge new connections and network at upcoming events, Leo. You are good at sharing ideas and expressing yourself with confidence.

ARIES March 21–April 20
Your pioneering spirit is in full swing this week, Aries. Embrace new challenges and don't hesitate to get out front and take the lead. You just might inspire others with your confidence.

TAURUS April 21–May 21
Make finances a priority this week, Taurus. A bit of budgeting could ease some of the financial stress that has been affecting you lately. Indulge in a small luxury as a reward for hard work.

GEMINI May 22–June 21
Conversations could be interesting this week, Gemini. You're curious about what others do when they are home behind closed doors. Don't pry too much.

CANCER June 22–July 22
Cancer, nurture your relationships this week, particularly if work has garnered

those you normally travel, Sagittarius. Who knows what you may find along the way?

CAPRICORN Dec. 22–Jan. 20
Revisit your goals and make a plan for the future, Capricorn. Remember to take the people closest to you into consideration. Do not trample them in the process of getting ahead.

AQUARIUS Jan. 21–Feb. 18
Aquarius, collaborate with like-minded individuals who are ready to think outside the box. It is amazing what you can accomplish when you multiply your power.

PISCES Feb. 19–March 20
You might need to warm up before the creative energy starts to flow, Pisces. Don't worry, once you have the right inspiration, things will begin moving at a rapid pace.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 6	Ira Gershwin, lyricist (d)
Dec. 7	Willa Cather, author (d)
Dec. 8	Sinead O'Connor, singer songwriter (d)
Dec. 9	Judi Dench, actor (90)
Dec. 10	Emily Dickinson, poet (d)
Dec. 11	Rita Moreno, actor (93)
Dec. 12	Emerson Fittipaldi, Formula One racer (78)



Like all things vintage?

Mim's Photos

are on page 16!

SUBMIT YOUR BIRTH, ANNIVERSARY, OR WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS



Baby it's (finally) cold outside
 AN ICICLE-LADEN CHAIR lift at Killington made clear that winter is here! Photo by George Fjeld

Restaurant guide



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EmRose

(Continued from Page 1)

his luck when the property popped up for sale online.

“I saw it on Facebook Marketplace,” he laughed. “I thought, ‘This is meant to be.’ I came up to take a look and saw the potential.”

Having worked in the construction business—he runs an electrical contracting company in New York—he wasn’t daunted jumping into a project as big as this. In addition to the 20 cabins, there’s a main house, which older Brandonites will remember as The Adams restaurant, and a barn. The Jablonskis have made the main house their living quarters when they’re on site, though the interior is still in fairly unfinished condition.

They bought the property in November of 2023 and began renovating the cabins in February of 2024. Though they haven’t altered the footprint of the cabins, not much remains of the original structures. They’ve gotten new electrical, plumbing, roofs, and interiors. Instead of classic New England white, they’re now an on-trend brown with black roofs and enormous windows.

“We were surprised by the amount of work that was needed. Nothing could be saved. We spent a lot of time planning the design,”

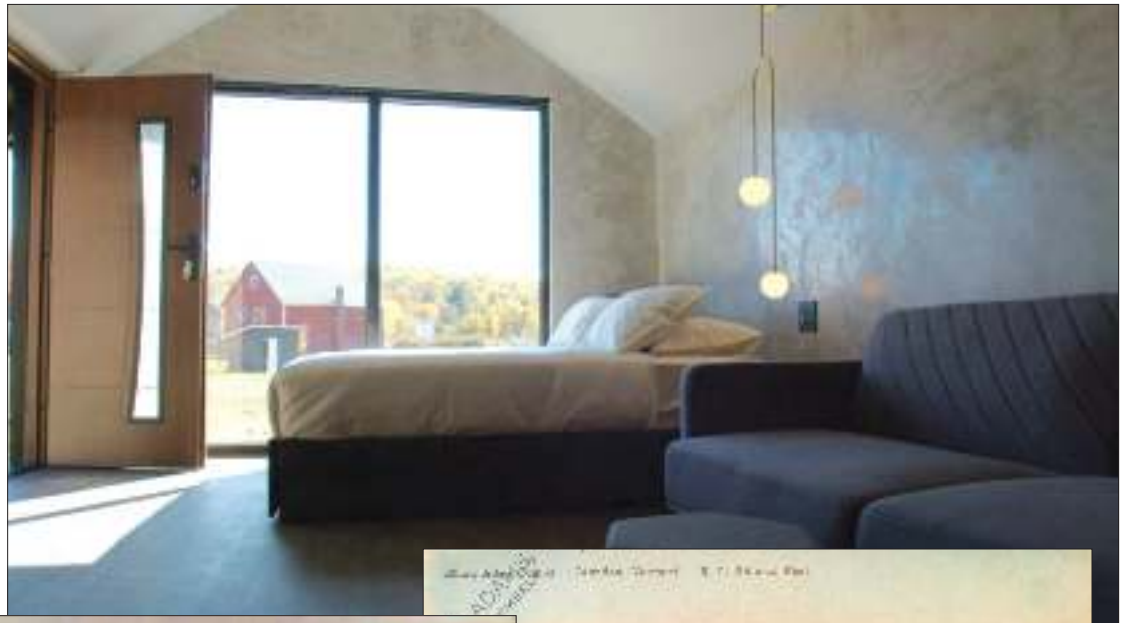
for Vermont,” said Chris.

The Jablonskis also wanted to make sure that the cabins were comfortable throughout the year, from Vermont’s notoriously frigid winters through the increasingly sweltering summers. The huge triple-pane front windows, which were imported from Poland, were intended to let in as much winter sunlight as possible to keep the units warm.

“The cabins not only keep heat in in winter, but also keep heat out in summer,” Chris said. “All the cabins have heat pumps for A/C as well. Everything is done to the most recent energy standards. The cabins should be good for the next 50 years.”

The cabins have kitchens, decks, and barbecues. A few “VIP” suites also have their own saunas.

Chris has done as much of the construction work himself as he could, to keep expenses down. But he’s also used local tradesmen whenever needed—the



TOP: THE INTERIOR of one of the sleekly remodeled cabins at EmRose. Above: Views of the site when it was The Adams. Below left: Nirvanie, Rosie, Chris, and Emily Jablonski. Chris and Nirvanie have big plans for the site, including a restaurant and wedding venue.



said Chris. “Everything is very well thought out.”

Nirvanie, who also grew up in New York, did most of the design work.

“We thought a lot about materials and used a lot of European techniques,” she said. “We wanted it to be calm and tranquil. No matter what you were doing during the day, you have someplace peaceful to come back to at night.”

The cabins are minimalist, with neutral colors and sleek furnishings. “We wanted to avoid clutter,” added Nirvanie.

“There will be people who want something more traditional, but we’re offering something different

plumbing, for example—and now has a small crew that works for him directly.

“Bills add up really fast when you outsource,” he laughed.

One of the most noticeable changes to the property has been the landscaping. Chris took down many of the trees that loomed over the cabins.

“They were old and dying,” he said. “It was all about safety. There’s zero chance now of any tree coming down on any of the units.”

But the landscape won’t remain barren. They’ll plant fruit trees to go along with the grapevines that remain from the winery.

“We want guests to be able to

pick their own fruit,” said Nirvanie.

They also plan a poolside bar, billiards and ping pong in the barn, a playground, and an indoor playroom.

As if all that weren’t enough, the Jablonskis hope to expand the main house to allow them to create a hall for weddings and events. And they plan to revive the restaurant—there’s still a huge commercial kitchen on the premises.

“We’ll have classic American food but with ethnic specials like West Indian curries and Polish pirogi,” said Nirvanie, whose family is originally from Guyana in South America.

They anticipate getting these additions done by 2026.

Business is already starting to pick up for them. They have a handful of cabins already available to rent and reservations are coming in. They had reservations for Thanksgiving and have some lined up for New Year’s Eve as well. They’ve had skiers on their way to Killington. They have a bunch of reservations for next spring: overflow from weddings at the Lilac Inn and even from Middlebury College graduation.

The revitalization of the site brings more visitors to Brandon, which brings more revenue to local businesses and more revenue to the town through the 1% local option tax.

“The town has been really helpful. It was a culture shock,” laughed Chris, contrasting Brandon’s embrace of new business with New York City’s endless barriers and red

tape.

“E v e n

when I didn’t realize I needed certain permits from the state, the state inspectors wanted to help,” he added.

“And everyone we’ve met in Brandon so far has been really nice,” said Nirvanie. A young family—Chris and Nirvanie are both 40 and have two small daughters,

five-year-old Rosie and nine-year-old Emily (hence the name “Em-Rose”)—the Jablonskis expect to settle in Brandon as the business accelerates.

“As a businessman, I really love the mentality I’ve found here of wanting to bring people into Vermont,” said Chris. “It’s what I want to do, too.”

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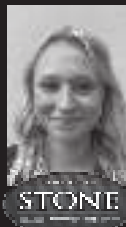
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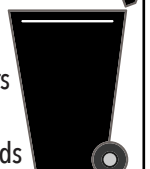
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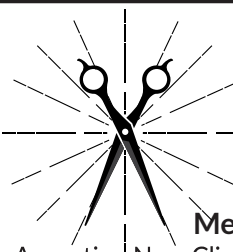
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Brandon SB

(Continued from Page 18)

Until this past July, BPD had provided the 18/6 coverage described in Scenario B. However, an attempt to provide 24/7 coverage with six officers plus the Chief wound up costing the department \$34,000 more in overtime pay by the end of the summer than it had budgeted for the entire fiscal year. The excessive overtime has been halted since August and the town is still considering options to bring the BPD in on budget for the year.

Last March, the Selectboard included a non-binding advisory question on the ballot at Town Meeting asking whether voters were in favor of BPD hiring additional officers in order to ensure 24/7 coverage. The responses were 55% in favor and 45% against, adding to the Board's confusion as to whether voters would accept a budget increase to pay for increased service.

Both Chief Kachajian and Board Chair Doug Bailey both noted that the department would need 9 or 10 officers in order to provide 24/7 coverage with minimal overtime and with consideration for the fatigue of the officers.

"\$1,000,000 doesn't get us there," said Mr. Bailey.

No Committee members advocated for a reduction in budget or service, with a number arguing that public safety justified an increase in the budget.

"What price tag can you put on public safety?" asked Committee member Karen Rhodes.

When polled by Mr. Bailey, two of the five Committee members were in favor of Scenario C, two were in favor of Scenario B, and one was in favor of a middle ground of \$900K.

The Selectboard was also divided, with Board member Tim Guiles reminding the group that 45% of voters did not want to hire additional officers and suggesting that voters be given the option to choose between a reduction in service and an increase to 24/7 with the attendant costs spelled out clearly.

"Let the voters speak," he said.

Brandon Fire Chief Tom Kilpeck

and Brandon Rescue Chief Andy Jackson were on hand and both recommended that the Board do what it could to provide for the well-being of the town's police officers, on whom both men's departments rely for assistance during dangerous calls.

The Board once again discussed the possibility of separating the police budget from the rest of the town budget, but there was little support for the proposal.

There were numerous attendees, including BPD officers, and several expressed a desire for 24/7 coverage, stating that residents needed to be able to rely on prompt response at night and that the town needed to treat its officers with respect by staffing the department appropriately.

Committee member Gabe McGuigan stated that the community in general supported BPD and that an increase in the police budget could pass if the Board provided adequate information to let residents know where the money was going.

Board member Heather Nelson moved to provide \$1,000,000 for BPD for FY26 but the motion did not receive a second and was not voted on.

Ms. Nelson then moved to provide \$950K, but the motion failed on a 2-2 vote (Board member Brian Coolidge was attending via Zoom but did not respond to the motion). Both Ms. Nelson and Mr. Bailey voted in favor of the motion while Mr. Guiles and Board member Ralph Ethier voted against.

Mr. Ethier suggested a budget of \$875K plus an appropriation of \$125K for overtime but did not receive support for the proposal.

The meeting concluded without any definite steps taken toward a budget for BPD.

The next budget meeting will take place on Monday, December 16 at 7 p.m. in the Selectboard meeting room at Brandon Town Hall. All meetings are open to the public.

TOWN OF PROCTOR, VERMONT Grounds Maintenance Ordinance

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY. This ordinance is adopted by the Selectboard of the Town of Proctor under authority granted in 24 V.S.A. §§ 2291 (13), (14), and (15) and 24 V.S.A. Chapter 59.

SECTION 2. PURPOSE. The purpose of this ordinance is to establish measures to abate the public nuisances, health and safety hazards, and other harmful effects that arise from failure to maintain the grounds of properties in the Town of Proctor.

SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS.

A. Enforcement: Property Grounds Inspection Officer. The Town Manager or their designee is the Property Grounds Inspection Officer under this ordinance. The Property Grounds Inspection Officer may hold any other office in the Town of Proctor. Nothing in this ordinance shall prevent the Property Grounds Inspection Officer from performing their duties under other regulations or ordinances that they may be designated to administer and enforce. In the event, that the Property Grounds Inspection Officer is unavailable, or has a conflict of interest, the Chair of the Selectboard shall perform the functions of the Property Grounds Inspection Officer and may designate a person to function as the Property Grounds Inspection Officer.

B. The Property Owner. The Property Owner is the person or entity holding title to, controlling, occupying, or claiming a right to the property as indicated in the Grand List, on the Tax Map, according to the Land Records of the Town, or the records of a court in which a proceeding against the Property Owner or the property has been brought.

SECTION 4. OBLIGATIONS OF PROPERTY OWNERS. A Property Owner shall ensure that the following measures have been undertaken to maintain a property:

A. Walkways. Walkways shall be safe for pedestrian passage.

B. Premises. The grounds shall be clean, safe, and sanitary, free from waste, rubbish, debris, standing water or uncontrolled growth, and shall not pose a threat to the public health or safety. Grass shall not exceed a height of 6 inches. Grass, trees, and bushes must be kept maintained in a manner as to not overhang into pedestrian walkways or roadways.

C. Open fields must be mowed at least once during the year

SECTION 5. VIOLATIONS. If upon inspection, the Property Grounds Inspection Officer determines that a property is not in compliance with any or all of the requirements of Section 4, the Officer will report the findings to the Selectboard. The Town Manager shall give the property owner notice of the failure to maintain the property and demand that the property be brought into compliance with the applicable requirements immediately, in no event later than thirty days following the date of the notice. In the event of a failure to achieve compliance within the time allowed, the Town Manager may take such corrective action as is deemed appropriate to bring the property into compliance including employment of the necessary labor and materials to achieve compliance. All costs incurred to perform such work as expeditiously as possible will be billed to the property owner and shall be chargeable as a lien against the property.

SECTION 6. PENALTY AND ENFORCEMENT. A violation of this ordinance shall also result in a penalty which may be enforced in the Vermont Judicial Bureau or in the Rutland Unit, criminal division of the Vermont Superior Court, if the penalty and recoverable costs for continuing violations is greater than \$800 or injunctive relief is sought.

A. Violations enforced in the Judicial Bureau shall be in accordance with the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 1974a and 1977 et seq. A civil penalty of \$250.00 may be imposed for an initial violation of this ordinance and an additional \$100.00/day for each day the violation continues.

1. A municipal ticket will be issued 30 days after written notification of violation is mailed by the Town Manager if the violation has not been corrected by the Property Owner in accordance with this ordinance. Each day that the violation continues shall constitute a separate violation of this ordinance.

2. For purposes of enforcement in the Judicial Bureau, the Property Grounds Inspection Officer shall be the designated enforcement officer. Said designee shall issue tickets and may be the appearing officer at any hearing.

B. Violations enforced in the Superior Court shall be in accordance with the Vermont Rules of Criminal Procedure. The Town of Proctor may pursue all appropriate injunctive relief. In addition, a civil penalty of not more than \$800.00 may be imposed for violation of this ordinance.

1. A civil action may be initiated in the Superior Court within 30 days after written notification of violation is mailed by the Town Manager if the violation has not been corrected by the Property Owner in accordance with this ordinance. Each day that the violation continues shall constitute a separate violation of this ordinance.

SECTION 7. OTHER LAWS. This ordinance is in addition to all other ordinances of the Town of Proctor and all applicable laws of the State of Vermont.

SECTION 8. SEVERABILITY. If any section of this ordinance is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such finding shall not invalidate any other part of this ordinance.

SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall become effective 60 days after its adoption by the Proctor Selectboard. If a petition is filed under 24 V.S.A. § 1973, that statute shall govern the taking effect of this ordinance.

Duly enacted and ordained this 25th day of November, 2024 by the Selectboard of the Town of Proctor, County of Rutland, State of Vermont, at a duly called and duly held meeting of said Selectboard.

ATTESTED BY:


Celia Lisauanti, Town Clerk

11/25/2024
Date

SIGNATURES OF SELECT BOARD:


Bruce Barcei


Linda Doty


Lisa Miser


Jay Thurman


Albert Weida

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

'Bankers Alley'

(Continued from Page 8)
of the project, half of which was funded by a Better Places grant from the state. The local response to the proposed project was so great that DBA ended up raising \$3,000 more than the project cost. The extra money will be used to continue improving the alley.

"I cannot express how grateful and proud I am to be part of such a wonderful place to live," said Fuller.

If you haven't yet visited the alley, make your way down there and appreciate the vision that makes Brandon such a special place.

BELOW LEFT: THE crew that made Bankers Alley possible (l to r), Bill Moore, Fiona Slattery, Robert Black, Devon Fuller, Sophia Leary, Judy Bunde, Jill Freeland, and Laura Peterson. Right: DBA President Devon Fuller (in blue) welcomes guests to the newly opened Alley.



STUFF-A-TRUCK HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

HOPE served over 600 children, right here in Addison County last Christmas!

It's time to re-stock the Holiday Store shelves.

Drop off your new unwrapped toys, or make a monetary donation at G. Stone Motors or StoneCDJR. Help us make sure every child has gifts under the tree and a smile on their face!

Donation deadline: December 20th!

Hope

Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects



36 Boardman St.,
Middlebury VT 05753
802-388-6718
gstonemotors.com

2149 Rt 7 South,
Middlebury VT 05753
802-388-9961
stonecdjr.com

