

# The REPORTER

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

A community supported newspaper

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\$1

## Brandon tries to protect its covered bridge

BY STEVEN JUPITER

BRANDON—Though almost entirely rebuilt in the early 2000s, the Sanderson covered bridge on Pearl Street has spanned Otter Creek since 1838. It is the last remaining of Brandon's covered bridges (neighboring Pittsford has managed to hold onto four!) and, as such, is of significant historic and aesthetic value.

The roof on a covered bridge may seem quaint, but it originally served a practical purpose: keeping the bridge itself free of ice and snow in winter. However, today those picturesque roofs have become a problem unto themselves.

They often cannot accommodate the tractor-trailers that try to pass beneath them.

Over the last year, the Sanderson bridge has suffered several damaging assaults from trucks trying to cross the span without realizing until it was too late that the height of their vehicles ex-

(See Brandon's covered bridge, Page 20)



**OVER THE LAST year, the Sanderson covered bridge in Brandon has been damaged several times by tractor-trailers that did not heed warnings and could not pass under the roof. Brandon is trying to find ways to protect it.**

Photos by Steven Jupiter



**OV SPECIAL ED Teacher Brooke Kimball (first row, second from right) has been named Unified Basketball Coach of the Year by the Southern Vermont League for her work with Otter Valley's Unified basketball team. The Unified program gives special-needs kids opportunities to play interscholastic sports.**

Photo provided

## OV'S BROOKE KIMBALL NAMED UNIFIED BASKETBALL COACH OF THE YEAR BY SOUTHERN VT LEAGUE

BY KEVIN THORNTON

BRANDON—What really matters about sports? 2025 Southern Vermont League Unified Basketball Coach of the Year Brooke Kimball of Otter Valley said, "I love how much joy it brings." But she'd rather let her players do the talking, so let's hear from a few of them:

Madison Mitchell said, "It makes me happy to connect with

other teams and honored and special to play with them." (Note the "with.")

Brianna Hutchins just said she likes all the sports she plays. She's modest. On the other hand, she doesn't disagree when Brooke added that she's developed into a "top scorer." Hey, it ain't bragging if it's true.

Jeremiah Shaw happily said that he likes basketball but added

that he likes snowshoeing best of all. (More about that later.)

Logan Korson, a born chatterbox, got right to the point. "Before I met the team," he said, "there was a big void in my heart. I tried to fill it with family and food and stuff, but nothing worked until I joined the basketball team... and I met Mrs. Kimball."

The unified program allows (See Brooke Kimball, Page 6)

## A daughter embraces her late mother's artistic legacy

BY DAWN BAILEY

I lost my mother, Dolores Furnari, on January 16, 2025, at the age of 92 and a half. She was an incredible lady, talented, and kind. She taught art in Brandon and all over the country for many years. Her studio was in the Briggs Carriage Co. building when her home studio that held eight students was outgrown. She taught many different mediums such as stenciling, which she preferred for beginners. Anything can be stenciled: wood, canvas, many forms of metal like candle wall sconces. For the students that wanted a challenge, she would introduce them to her favor-

ite historical art techniques, which were tray painting, oil canvases, wooden chair decorating, furniture.

She often taught special classes to children, supplying everything her students would need to complete a project. She mentored one young lady for years, giving her free private lessons in her home after school. "Feed the passion," she would say. Give them the opportunity if they want to learn. The historical 19th century art she learned to adore, made, and taught. What people do not realize is she had to learn very precise techniques working with 'tacky varnish' to apply to trays or wood for judging



**DAWN BAILEY WORKS on a painted owl in the studio of her late mother, Dolores Furnari. Ms. Furnari was an accomplished artist and teacher who helped found the Brandon Artists Guild.**

Photos by Steven Jupiter

to become a certified teacher in this medium. This is working with gold leaf, bronze powders, silver powders, rose gold leaf, too many to list, along with striping. One of her trays can still be spotted in Café Provence.

She was not a boastful person. She received many lifetime achievement awards over her 60 years of doing and teaching her historical craft. Her knowledge was (See Dolores Furnari, Page 19)





# Coming to America, No.5: John and Anna (Moskał) Kamuda

**BY MICHAEL F. DWYER**  
On a perfect-weather Saturday in June, over 400 people gathered at the Village Farm in Pittsford to celebrate the life of Joseph John “Joe” Kamuda (1952–2025). The festivities not only honored Joe’s service to the community, it was also an homage to the three generations of Kamudas who have operated a market at the heart of the village since 1939. Joe and his wife Laurie took over the business in 1985 from his parents, Joseph S. and Josephine (Orzel) Kamuda. In turn, Brian Kamuda has now succeeded his parents in the business. There is, however, a less-remembered story of the grocery patriarch, John [Jan] Kamuda (1882–1967), the grandfather of Joseph J. Kamuda and John H. Brutkoski.

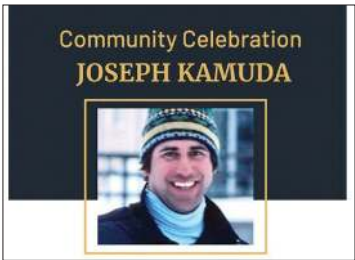
Unlike many immigrants whose precise origins get lost, Jan Kamuda left abundant clues about his home village, Mielec, then in the Austrian district of Poland. Catholic Church records reveal that Jan, born on January 30, 1882, was the eighth of nine children of Philip and Anna (Ortil) Kamuda. At least two preceding generations of the family lived in Mielic. One still finds Kamuda family members living in this charming market town today, once the locus of fierce opposition to Soviet domination during the Cold War.

A tantalizing clue to Jan’s early life comes through a framed studio portrait, displayed with pride of place in the Kamuda/Brutkoski home, of him in a dashing Austrian army uniform. Army conscription was mandatory for men over the age of 21, and in the early years of the 20th century, when Austria was not yet at war, his term of service would have lasted three years. The end of his time in uniform coincides with his departure to the United States. He sailed aboard the Batavia out of Hamburg and arrived in New York on 24 April 1906, final destination West Rutland. Thereafter, his life in Vermont diverged from the typical Polish immigrant who labored for the Vermont Marble Company.

The 1910 census for Pittsford lists John Comoda as a grocer boarding with the Constantin Tyminski family on Fire Hill Road in Florence. At the age of 32, he married fellow immigrant Anna Moskał, age 31, their marriage recorded in Pittsford with Rev. Max Gannas officiating. This fact puzzled me on two counts: I would have expected them to have been married by Rev. Valentin Michulka at St. Stanislaus in West Rutland. A Polish-born protégé of Father Michulka, Gannas worked as the choir master and teacher at St. Stanislaus before completing his seminary studies for the priesthood. In 1914, he completed his seminary studies and filled in for Michulka

while the latter returned to Poland for an extended visit. For many years, priests of St. Stanislaus said a Mass every month for the Polish residents of Florence who may not have been able to get to West Rutland with ease.

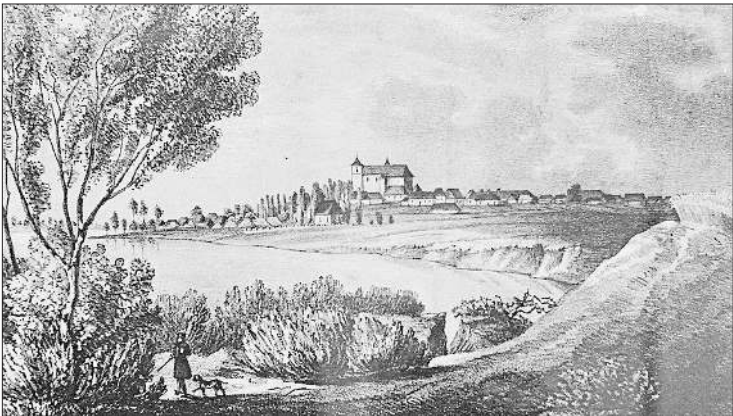
Anna Moskał, born in the village of Korczyn, about fifty miles



TOP: NOTICE OF Joseph Kamuda’s memorial service; Above: Jan Kamuda in Austrian army uniform, circa 1905.



TOP: RUTLAND HERALD headline about Anna Kamuda’s attempts to protect her husband; Center: Anna Kamuda, citizen application photo, 1931.; Bottom: Jan Kamuda, citizen application photo, 1933.



MID-19TH-CENTURY VIEW OF Mielec.

south of Mielec, came to the United States in 1903. Her whereabouts prior to her marriage have not been ascertained. All eight children of John and Anna had their baptisms recorded at St. Stanislaus between 1915 and 1924. Second son Stanislaw later anglicized his first name to Stephen. One usually anticipates finding clues to other family relationships in the names of the baptismal godparents. None, however, were named Kamuda. Martin Markowski served as godfather to (See Coming to America, Page 7)





LYLA FULLER HELPING construct housing with Habitat for Humanity in Mexico.

Photos provided

## My travels with Habitat for Humanity changed my life

BY LYLA FULLER

I don't remember where I learned about Habitat for Humanity, but it sounded like an interesting way to experience another country.

I was newly divorced with very little money, but I could travel with only a donation to Habitat for Humanity and my airfare. Everything at my destination was paid for: housing, food, and transportation.

My first build was in the Mexican state of Vera Cruz, which is on the eastern coast of Mexico. It is the city where Hernan Cortez landed in Spain's effort in the conquest of Mexico. I flew to the city of Vera Cruz, where I was met by the team captain and other team members. There are usually 14 to 20 members to a build team. We were bussed to a small village at the edge of a lake. Catamaco is also the site of a Sean Conner movie called "Medicine Man."

We checked into a small hotel at the edge of town just before dinner. I was assigned to a room with a widow from New Jersey, with whom I will later do another Habitat build. After dinner, we gathered for a briefing and then early to bed because we will be up early for our 45-minute ride in the back of a cattle truck to the village where we will build. This is the sugarcane-growing part of the county and we worked in the fields along with the other villagers. Santa Catalina has many

homes built by Habitat for Humanity, and we were given a brief tour of them. All the same layout: 500 square feet, two bedrooms, with bathroom and kitchen, plumbing and electricity but each

members work a specific number of hours, and pay back the cost of building materials to the local Habitat Organization. At the time I was involved, the repayment was about 99% of all loans.



THE HOUSES BUILT by H4H were modest by American standards, leading Fuller to appreciate the comforts of her life in the United States.

has been personalized with garden, paint, and flowers.

The first day of building is always an introduction to the building contractor and other local builders and the new homeowner.

The new owner must qualify with the local Habitat for Humanity organization. They must have a job, own the land to be built on, work on the build or have family

Day one, I made bricks by mixing cement, straw, and water. We packed it into forms and set them aside to dry. The following day, we took them out of the forms and stacked them to further dry. They would be used to build the walls once the foundation had been poured and set. There were 12 to 15 forms to be filled each (See Habitat for Humanity, Page 24)

## Spotlight On Business

### MILLER HILL FARM, NURSERY & GARDENS



BRANDON AREA  
CHAMBER  
of Commerce  
Brandon.org for more info

We value your support & kind words. The energy is pure magic

Carrie, Brandon ~ Love the vignettes Sarah, Brandon ~ Spectacular, I bring friends from Woodstock ~ Not just a nursery, it's art with neat pieces that pop out and intrigue your imagination Cornwall ~ Similar to places I love in France Andrew, Hardwick ~ Amazing gardens and plants, such a quaint place Jamie, Sudbury Be part of the experience!

—With gratitude Carl, Nan & Tess



## Farm Flicks

Friday, August 15, 2025  
8:00 PM — 9:30 PM



Farm Flicks FREE outdoor movies series on the knoll at Pittsford Village Farm. Park in the parking field facing the screen for a drive-in experience or bring a blanket or chairs and sit a little closer to enjoy the movie. Snacks and drinks for sale to benefit PVF and free popcorn provided. Free and open to the public. Donations appreciated.

PITTSFORDVILLAGEFARM.ORG

## Tunesdays

### Summer Concert Series

JUNE 17 - AUG. 12, 2025

TUESDAYS @ 6PM

42 Elm St., Pittsford, VT  
across from Kamuda's



Concerts are outside on the Village Farm grounds. For extreme weather, concert is canceled. Check PittsfordVillageFarm.org This event is free and open to the public. Donations appreciated.

## Aug.12-Krishna Guthrie Band

"KGB" creates their own unique sound, steeped in folk, rock and blues.

FOOD BY  
SUSTAINABLE  
EATS

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VERMONT GREEN FOOTBALL Club's Maxi Kissel celebrates his go-ahead goal over Ballard FC in the USL League Two national championship in Burlington on Saturday, August 2, 2025.

Photo by Glenn Russell/VTDigger

The Green topped Seattle-based Ballard FC, 2-1, in the United Soccer League Two finals in Burlington in front of thousands of fans.

# 'Unbelievable. Unreal': Vermont Green FC wins national soccer championship

BY SHAUN ROBINSON/  
VTDIGGER  
BURLINGTON — Vermont Green Football Club are national champions.

The Green toppled Seattle-based Ballard FC, 2-1, in Saturday night's United Soccer League Two championship game at the University of Vermont in Burlington. Thousands of fans turned out to the Green's home stadium at the school, Virtue Field, to watch the team cap off its undefeated 2025 season with its first-ever national-level prize.

United Soccer League Two is a semi-professional, summertime competition made up largely of

collegiate players. It has about 150 total teams across the country.

"Unbelievable. Unreal," Maxi Kissel, the forward who scored the Green's go-ahead second goal, said after the match ended. He was surrounded by at least a dozen kids, all clad in Vermont Green merchandise, who had run onto the field to get his and other players' autographs. "I knew what I had to do — and I'm so thankful that I did it."

Saturday's game was deadlocked at 0-0 until just after halftime, when Vermont Green midfielder Julien Le Bourdou-

(See Vermont Green, Page 11)



*I wonder if I can pay in crustaceans?*

THIS IS AN amusing photo of a Wood Stork checking out the concession stand at Gatorland in Florida. The gator on the left is a photo.

Photo by Sue Wetmore

## Community Forums The 2025 Tour de Farms rides through Middlebury for the first time ever! Early Bird Ticket Sales End August 22

Launching from Middlebury, Vermont, for the first time ever in its seventeen-year history, the Tour de Farms is one of Vermont's oldest and most cherished cycling farm tours. The Tour celebrates local food with a picturesque, non-competitive bike ride around Addison County, one of the most agricultural regions in New England.

"We're so excited to have

the Tour de Farms ride through Middlebury, the shire town of the most agricultural county in Vermont! The Tour is ACORN's landmark community event and largest fundraiser of the year. It is one of the most joy-filled days, celebrating local food and the vibrant working landscape of Addison County," said Lindsey Berk, ACORN's Executive Director.

"Each ticket sold supports

ACORN's food access programs including the ACORN Food Hub and Farmacy: Food is Medicine program. By riding the Tour de Farms, you are supporting small-scale agriculture and increased access to local food!"

The Tour commences at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 20. Riders will visit eight different farm stops, before finishing.

(See Tour de Farms, Page 6)

The Reporter

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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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## Labor Day Weekend is BIG in Shoreham!

Start your celebration of Labor Day Weekend by coming to Breakfast at the Shoreham Congregational Church on Saturday August 30, 2025 from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Feast on Plain or Blueberry Pancakes or French Toast with Vermont Maple Syrup, Sausages, Home Fries, our famous Quiches, and Beverages. The cost is only \$12 for Adults, \$6 for Children, and \$30 for Families. Please bring a non-perishable food item or paper product for the Food Shelf

to help those in need.

You will also be able to buy your raffle tickets for the beautiful hand-knit afghan! Handknit of a wool/acrylic yarn blend, it is machine washable and dryable. The cost is only \$5 each or 3 tickets for \$10. The drawing for the afghan will be on Sunday, September 14 at Apple Fest.





# Letter to the Editor

## A thousand thanks for a successful Chamber Auction!!

Thanks to the tremendous amount of quality items donated throughout the year by our great businesses and supportive community, we had a record-breaking year at the 37th annual Chamber of Commerce Great Brandon Auction!! And, of course many thanks go out to all those who came in and bid on all the treasures or walked out the door with our Buy It Now option, which has proved to be highly successful!

Our beautiful town hall once again was the perfect location, and we filled every square

inch of space! We couldn't have done it without the support of the Brandon Recreation Department and the town of Brandon, our great board of directors and our hardworking auction action team. The team managed to organize, research and price, clean and beautifully display over 1000 items! Basically, a small business was set up in just over 2 weeks, opened for 10 days, and our friends in this community and from near and far showed up to bid and buy. It amazes us every year how supportive everyone is

and how smoothly it works. The money will continue to go towards supporting our hardworking businesses and publicizing our great town! We have grown in population by almost 5% over the past two or three years and that is because we continue to work towards making Brandon an incredible place to live, work and play. It doesn't just magically happen though, many people put an immense amount of time and effort into making this the community that it is. It literally takes a village and many dif-

ferent organizations working together towards one goal.

With the success of the auction we hope to expand our reach of publicity, and draw even more folks into this town that has grown and developed in such incredible ways. Increasing tourism, from both in state and regionally in New England, helps us bolster our businesses and show off the quality of life that we have here in this town. That in turn encourages and entices people to move here and become part of the fabric of Brandon.

Thank you again for your support and the volunteerism that makes this function work so well. We look forward to seeing you next year starting on Friday July 3rd and running through Saturday July 11th! Mark your calendars!

—Brandon area Chamber of Commerce board of directors and Bernie Carr, chamber executive director

## Community Forums continued

# Japanese Barberry is a problematic invasive plant in many gardens

The Rutland Chapter of UVM Extension Master Gardeners would like to share some

information about a common ornamental plant that you may have on your property. We have concerns about the Japanese barberry, a spiny shrub that in the past 30 years became a popular landscape plant, chosen for its red autumn foliage and red berries in winter, and because it is deer resistant. The plant has virtually no predators or natural de-

terrents, and its thorns put off most animals that might graze on it.

### WHY IS JAPANESE BARBERRY A PROBLEM?

Japanese barberry is originally from Asia, and consequently does not have natural enemies or competition in our region. It has come to the attention of hunters, foresters, and gardeners because, thanks to birds dropping seed in the forest, it has invaded the edges of forests and woodland clearings, creating thorny impenetrable underbrush that forces out the

natural understory plants and animals. Any time we allow an invasive to take over in this manner, it alters the ecosystems for our native birds and animals normally living there, disrupting their habitats.

The attractive berries of the barberry are not nutritious, and birds, especially migratory birds, innocently fill up on what studies have shown to be equivalent to junk food.

**And MOST IMPORTANT:** Japanese barberry is a haven for ticks and deer mice that carry ticks. According to the

University of Connecticut, "areas with a lot of Japanese barberry often have more of those ticks...responsible for Lyme disease." This problem has been confirmed by other studies, and the hazard of tick-infested shrubs is prompting many gardeners to eradicate all Japanese barberry from their yards. Barberry has earned the nicknames of "tick nursery" and "tick magnet."

### HOW TO REMOVE BARBERRY BUSHES:

Protect yourself with long (See Japanese Barberry, Page 6)



# Moose, deer & elk from CWD areas must be processed before entry into Vermont

Hunters traveling outside Vermont to hunt moose, deer or elk need to follow a regulation designed to protect Vermont's deer and moose from chronic wasting disease, according to the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department.

Moose were added to the related regulation this year at the Fish and Wildlife Board's July 16 meeting.

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a fatal disease that affects the brain and nervous system of deer, elk and moose. Abnormal prion proteins produce lesions in the brain that cause disorientation and emaciation in conjunction with other abnormal behaviors. For the latest information on CWD, check the Vermont Fish and Wildlife website and [www.cwd-info.org](http://www.cwd-info.org).

The potential exists for CWD

prion proteins to be introduced to the environment through the body parts of CWD-positive deer, elk or moose and then persist in the environment for extended periods of time.

Vermont rules on importing and possession of deer, elk or moose from areas with chronic wasting disease (CWD) and captive hunt areas or farms:

It is illegal to import or possess deer, elk or moose, or parts of deer, elk or moose, from states and Canadian provinces that have had chronic wasting disease, or from any captive hunt or farm facilities regardless of location with the following exceptions:

- Meat that is cut up, packaged and labeled with hunting license information and not mixed with other deer or elk during processing;

- Meat that is boneless;
- Hides or capes with no part of the head attached;
- Clean skull-cap with antlers attached;
- Antlers with no other meat or tissue attached;
- Finished taxidermy heads;
- Upper canine teeth with no tissue attached.

Vermont's CWD importation regulation currently applies to hunters bringing in deer, elk or moose carcasses from the following states and provinces that have detected CWD in either captive or wild animals:

Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, (See CWD Processing, Page 21)

The situation at the immigration detention center known as "Alligator Alcatraz" has gotten so bad that detainees have been on a hunger strike for over ten straight days.

They're refusing to eat to protest the inhumane conditions inside the facility - conditions that include filthy living spaces, lack of medical care, overcrowding, and mistreatment by staff.

Learn more at:

[indivisiblebrandon.org/CrueltyIsThePoint](http://indivisiblebrandon.org/CrueltyIsThePoint)



**Sharpen your mind with our puzzles.**

Crossword & Sudoku on page 17



## Tour de Farms

(Continued from Page 4)  
ishing at a special farmers market held at Rec Field in conjunction with Experience Middlebury.

The Tour features one challenging 37-mile route this year that rolls through the towns of Weybridge, Cornwall, and Salisbury, in addition to Middlebury. Riders will set out in the morning from the Middlebury Rec Field, located an hour south of Burlington, off Route 7. The terrain includes rolling hills with a mix of paved and dirt roads, so a gravel bike or road bike with wide tires is recommended. E-bikes are highly encouraged for folks not used to Vermont's rolling hills!

The pastoral landscapes, while breathtaking, can't beat the samples riders will taste. At each stop, farms will provide local meats, fruit, vegetables, and value-added products like cheese, donuts, chocolate, granola, and jam. A concierge van brings purchased goods back to the finish so that riders can make purchases at each farm.

The Tour de Farms is a rain or shine event. Advanced, online registration is now open and early bird registration ends August 22. Registration prices vary based on age and date of registration.

Registration will be capped at 500 riders. Commemorative t-shirts can be purchased online or at registration but jerseys must be purchased in advance by August 5.

The 2025 Tour is sponsored by Cooperative Insurance, Community Bank, Swift House Inn, Farm Credit East, VBT Bicycling Vacations, Salvation Farms, IPJ Real Estate, UVM Medical Center, and Vermont Federal Credit Union.

ACORN (Addison County Relocalization Network) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community organization based in Middlebury, Vermont. Its mission is to promote the growth and health of local food and agriculture in Vermont's Champlain Valley by providing support to our farmers and food producers, engaging in food education, and ensuring access to healthy food for all members of our community. For more information, go to <http://www.acornvt.org/>.

TOUR DE FARMS: This year's Tour de Farms will be hosted on Saturday, September 20. To date, over 7,000 people have ridden the Tour. The Tour is ACORN's top fundraiser of the year and proceeds go to supporting ACORN's Food Hub and Farmacy: Food is Medicine Program.

## Brooke Kimball

(Continued from Page 1)

Special Education athletes the opportunity to compete in a variety of sports against teams from other schools. Unified basketball is the big one right now. It's a varsity sport sanctioned by the Vermont Principals Association. Students also compete in bocce and snowshoeing jamborees, which explains Jeremiah's preference. Unified soccer will begin this coming season. As of the 2025-26 school year, unified athletes will have the chance to play a sport from September to May. Kimball is the first-ever Coach of the Year honoree.

Kimball, an OV Special Education teacher, first got involved in unified sports in 2017, when she had a student who loved basketball and wanted to play for his school. Along with OV Athletic Director Steven Keith she "threw a season together," adding, "I think it went well."

That appears to be a major understatement. "Brooke's commitment and dedication to making the program succeed is beyond measure," said Keith. "That coaching award is voted on by peers. It's the utmost compliment when your peers vote for you. For her to be the first coach honored is a pretty large statement."

Keith has a soft spot in his heart for unified. Asked what he loves best about it he said, "the sportsmanship level—natural sportsmanship without being forced [even though] these are competitive games. You can't leave the gym after a unified game without feeling good about being a part of it."

Parents feel the same way. Katie Mitchell, Madison's mom, can't compliment the program enough. She carved out part of her day just to talk about it and spoke with a sense of urgency, because

she wanted to convey how important unified sports have been for her entire family. "As a parent involved in unified sports for the past five years," she said, "I've seen firsthand how powerful this program is. This program shows what happens when inclusion is more than just a word, it's a way of life. The program breaks down barriers and fosters genuine connection across differences. It's not just about competition—it's about connection. The program creates a space where each student can shine. It allows everyone to be a star. It allows everyone to get recognition. Brooke does a tremendous job."

Brooke, for her part, said her "greatest pleasure" as a coach is witnessing the pride of her players' parents.

Inclusion, it is easy to forget, is a two-way street. Everyone gains from it. "We start seeing it in the hallway and the cafeteria," says Kimball. "We see it spill over."

Unified basketball includes "partner athletes," who share the court with their special-needs teammates. By rule, partner athletes can't rebound, shoot, or steal the ball. Their job is to advance the ball up the court by passing to open teammates and otherwise helping game flow. Addison Boynton, who played both on the unified team and on the OV varsity boys' team last season, said the best thing about unified was "being there for the kids, helping them out and making them feel like they can do basketball and making them happy about the sport." Despite his own busy schedule, he always made sure to make unified practice and stay to the end. What he got out of it, he said, was "making friendships." "There were a lot of favorite moments," he says. "A lot of them."

The ordinary things that go

with sports became special, too. Logan, who likes to eat, mentions how much he liked stopping for meals after the away games. He spoke rather wistfully about the bus passing the candy store in Middlebury after the game there, only for his coach to remind him that dedicated candy stops are not part of the deal.

"It's a beautiful thing when you see kids build friendships," said Katie Mitchell. "It's huge. These athletes do so well because they have Brooke behind them supporting them one hundred percent. It's easy for them to play their hearts out when they have Brooke and the community behind them."

What's next for the OV unified sports program is expansion. Brooke's short-term goal is to get OV recognized as a National Banner School for supporting inclusion. "I definitely want that to happen." In addition, she wants to build up the OV Unified Club, continue to welcome students from schools like West Rutland and Proctor that are too small to have unified teams of their own, increase the number of partner athletes, and "start getting younger students involved."

So, what really matters about sports? Competition, sure. Winning, absolutely. And then there's building confidence. Making friends. Enjoying a meal with teammates after a game. Representing your school. Being part of something bigger than yourself. "My hero is Brooke Kimball," said Madison. "Unified makes me connected to my community. I find that so cool. I love doing unified sports."

They call soccer "the beautiful game." But maybe it's time to make room for Unified Basketball. See you in the gym next season.

## Japanese Barberry

(Continued from Page 5)

sleeves and heavy gloves. Ideally, remove in early spring, before it flowers. Cut away as many branches as possible and put them into a sturdy black garbage bag for disposal. The root system is not deep, but there can be many fibrous roots. Remove as much of the root system as possible, so it cannot re-sprout. Repeated digging and cutting back may be necessary. However, some gardeners have had the good luck of simply sawing off the trunk of the shrub very close to the

soil, and the plant did not come back.

### GOOD REPLACEMENT PLANTS:

To have the red leaves that the barberry produces in fall, many people have replaced the shrub with blueberry bushes, understanding that at least two bushes must be planted for proper pollination. UVM's Extension Professor Dr. Leonard Perry recommends cultivars of weigela (*Weigela florida*), and old-fashioned shrub roses, especially ones sold as "own root" roses. He also suggests

Winterberry and Inkberry holly if berries are important and the leaf color is not. Finally, Chokeberries (*Aronia*) are hardy, have white flowers in spring and red berries and reddish leaves in fall.

If you have any further questions, you can contact UVM Extension Service at their help line: <https://www.uvm.edu/extension/mastergardener/helpline>, or call 800-639-2230.

Thank you for your attention to this problem. Enjoy your gardens!

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ANNIVERSARY,  
OR WEDDING  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

[news@brandonreporter.com](mailto:news@brandonreporter.com)





KAMUDA'S MARKET STORE interior in 1948 with launch of "supermarket": Joe Kamuda, as yet unidentified meat cutter, Doris Champine, and Josephine Kamuda.

# Coming to America

(Continued from Page 2)

the first two children, with Rosalia Moskal as godmother to Stanislaw. How and if they were related has not been ascertained. John Kamuda had one younger brother, Matthew Kamuda, who emigrated to Buffalo. A cousin from Mielec, Joseph Kamuda worked for many years for the Vermont Marble Company, but he does not appear to have a close connection to John and Anna.

As his family grew, John and Anna managed two grocery businesses. Sonny Poremski shared this recollection from his mother, nee Stella Markowski, born in 1920. "There was a Kamuda's store on the right hand side of Whipple Hollow (See Coming to America, Page 21)



ABOVE: 1941 WEDDING of Mary Kamuda and Herman Brutkoski united two families from different regions of Poland. Below: Early ads for Kamuda's Market.

**GRAND  
OPENING**

**KAMUDA'S  
SUPER  
MARKET**

an independent self-  
service store

**Pittsford, Vt.**

**FRIDAY**  
**AUG. 20 and 21**

10 boxes of groceries to be  
given away free. Nothing to  
buy.

Watch for our hand bills  
Friday morning with a lot  
of extra specials.

**WE DELIVER**

Leave Your Dry Cleaning at

**KAMUDA'S MARKET**

**Pittsford Phone 70**

Pick-Ups Tuesdays and Fridays

**RUTLAND CLEANERS**

## Blueberry Hill

### PIZZA BY THE POND

Wood-fired pizza from our  
outside hearth in the  
quintessential summer setting!

WALK-INS WELCOME BUT  
RESERVATIONS STRONGLY SUGGESTED

[www.blueberryhillinn.com/pizza](http://www.blueberryhillinn.com/pizza)

**Next concert:**  
Hot Pickin' Party

Thursday Aug. 14, 5-8 PM

### Chamber Music Concerts featuring Summer Faculty

**Friday, August 8th:**  
Salisbury Congregational Church

**Thursday, August 21st:** Salisbury Congregational Church

**Sat., August 30th:** CVUUS, 2 Duane Court, Middlebury

All concerts start at 7:30 p.m. • Admission is FREE. All are welcome!

**NMOP presents**  
**Strings and Serenade**  
featuring Tony Arnold, Conrad Tao, and  
Bergamot Quartet  
**September 13th 7:30 p.m. at Barn Opera**  
Tickets \$20 at the door

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\*Varies yearly based on co-op performance and is subject to change



# Celebrating the Sunshine Village on Pittsford Day!



PITTSFORD RESIDENTS CAME out to enjoy food, music (the Aaron Audet Band), and fun activities at Pittsford Rec for Pittsford Day on Saturday, August 2. The Vermont Covered Bridge Society (bottom left) gave out raffle prizes to Ty Paulding (1st place), Alicia Malay (2nd place), and Lori Greeno (3rd place—not pictured). Bridge Society President Beth Limmer-Brown of Sudbury distributed the prizes.



# Iconic silent star in uproarious society comedy; silent film to be shown with live music

## Gloria Swanson to get 'Manhandled' at Brandon Town Hall

BRANDON—She's one of the few stars from the silent days whose name is still instantly recognized by the movie-going public.

She's Gloria Swanson, who defined an era with memorable performances that ranged from intense drama to flat-out comedy.

Swanson's talents are on display in 'Manhandled' (1924), a riotous society comedy, to be screened with live music on Saturday, Aug. 16 at 7 p.m. at the Brandon Town Hall and Community Center, Route 7, in Brandon, Vt.

Admission is free; donations are welcome to help defray expenses.

Live music will be provided by Jeff Rapsis, a New Hampshire-based performer and composer who specializes in scoring and presenting silent films.

'Manhandled,' directed by Allan Dwan, tells the story of Tessie McGuire (Swanson), a down-on-her-luck salesgirl who climbs the social ladder by pretending to be a Russian countess.

Tessie is a working class gal who attends a sculptor's party, where her skill with mimicry makes her a hit. She is hired by a fashionable dressmaking establishment to use her acting skills on their customers.

Tessie finds that by imper-

music and an audience is a classic movie experiences," said Jeff Rapsis, who will provide an improvised musical score for the movie.

Rapsis emphasized the value of seeing early cinema as it was originally presented.

"These films were designed for the big screen, live music, and large audiences. If you can put those conditions together again, you get a sense of why people first fell in love with the movies," Rapsis said.

The Brandon Town Hall silent film series is now in its 14th year.

Screenings are held once a month, generally on Saturday nights starting in May and running through November. Admission is free; donations are encouraged to defray expenses.

Over the years, silent film donations have helped support projects including handicapped access to the 19th century building; renovating the bathrooms; and restoring the structure's original slate roof.

Other films in this year's Brandon Town Hall silent film series include:

- Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025, 7 p.m.: "Spies" (1928) directed by Fritz Lang. Director Fritz Lang's tale of espionage was the forerunner of all movie spy sagas, packed with double agents, hi-tech gadgets, beautiful (and dangerous) women,

Just in time for Halloween: a scientist uses an ancient spell to reanimate a dead body. The secret missing ingredient is, of course, the blood of a virgin, making it a good bet for all

is about to be saved from bankruptcy by an unexpected inheritance of \$7 million—but only if he gets married by 7 p.m. that very day. Can Buster somehow find the girl of his dreams while

Swanson, will be screened with live music on Saturday, Aug. 16 at 7 p.m. at the Brandon Town Hall and Community Center, Route 7, in Brandon, Vt.

Admission is free; donations



kinds of creepy goings-on.

- Saturday, Nov. 15, 2025, 7 p.m.: "Seven Chances" (1925) starring Buster Keaton. Buster

being pursued by an army of women eager to marry a soon-to-be millionaire?

'Manhandled' starring Gloria

are welcome to help defray expenses.

For more about the music, visit [www.jeffrapsis.com](http://www.jeffrapsis.com).



sonating a Russian noblewoman, she has men at her beck and call. But then authentic Russians arrive, with unexpected complications.

"Seeing a Gloria Swanson picture in a theater with live

and an evil genius with a plan to take over the world, mwah-ha-ha-ha!

- Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025, 7 p.m.: "The Magician" (1926) starring Paul Wegener, Alice Terry, directed by Rex Ingram.

## HOT AUGUST DEALS AT WIMETT'S!



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OUR  
CREATIVE  
KIDS

STUDENT: Olivia Ingerson  
GRADE: 5 (going into grade 6)  
SCHOOL: Neshobe  
TITLE: Untitled  
TEACHER: John Brodowski





# Vermont Green

(Continued from Page 4)

lous slotted home a penalty kick. Ballard then tied the game at one apiece around the one-hour mark. Both teams continued to trade chances for the next half-hour, but with the game approaching the final whistle, it looked likely to be heading to overtime.

That was until the Green won a corner kick in the match's final moments. After the initial delivery from the corner, Kissel latched onto the end of a second bouncing cross toward the goal and pounded the ball past Ballard's goalkeeper, sending the stadium into an eruption of cheers. The game ended shortly after.

"It was tough. That's the best team we saw all year," Vermont Green coach Chris Taylor said after the match. "But we knew the longer the game went on, we'd be the stronger team."

Saturday's win was the culmination of a dream run for Vermont Green, which is in its fourth season and has garnered international attention for its outspoken support of climate justice and other progressive social causes. The team regularly draws sell-out crowds for its home games,

boasting some of the highest average attendance of any similar team in the country.

After tying just three regular-season games and winning every other, the Green won its local United Soccer League Two division, the Northeast Division, in early July. Later that month, the team topped the league's regional Eastern Conference bracket to advance to the final stages of the national playoffs.

Saturday's win marks the second national championship for a Vermont-based soccer team in the past year. Last December, the University of Vermont men's soccer team won the NCAA Division I championship, the first national collegiate title in a major sport in school history. Four UVM players were part of the Vermont Green team that won Saturday's game.

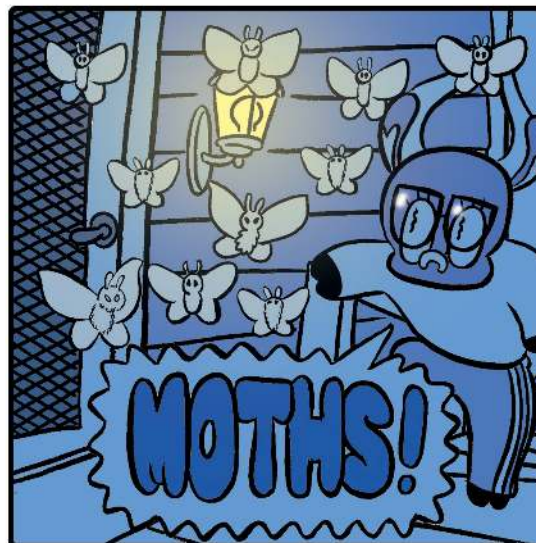
Kissel, the late goalscorer, was one of those players. He said last fall's win for UVM was echoing in his head as the final whistle blew on Saturday night.

"We did it again," he said, catching his breath before repeating: "We did it again."

**MAPLE** <sup>the</sup> **COW**® by Matt Aucoin



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## Mother's Meadow Blueberry Farm

Pick Your Own Blueberries

Open Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Friday, Saturday  
7 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
*Rain or shine*

2075 McConnell Road, Brandon  
[pickyourownberries.com](http://pickyourownberries.com)





# Calendar of events

## August

### Mondays

**Brandon Rec offers Aikido classes**  
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](http://www.AikidoVermont.org)

**Maclure Library Yoga -**  
Gentle to moderate Kripalu yoga. Class includes physical movement, breathing techniques & meditation. Please bring a mat & any props you practice with. At 6 pm, \$10 fee. Sign up by emailing Paula Liguori at [pali36@aol.com](mailto:pali36@aol.com)!

### Tuesdays

**Maclure Library Story Time Playgroup**  
Jessica Abbott from the Rutland County Parent Child Center hosts a weekly family program at the Library from 10 am–12 pm, geared towards kids ages 5 and under with singing, dancing, stories and crafts!

**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.

**Free Drop-In Tech Support at the Brandon Free Public Library**  
5–6 pm

### 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](http://www.gmttc.com).

**Friends Zone**  
Need a safe space to socialize? Come join us at the Friends Zone. Open Wednesdays 2-5 p.m. at the Brandon United Methodist Church, 1 Franklin Street,

### Music at the River Bend

Behind the Brandon Inn, 6-8 p.m.

Aug 6: Breanna & the Boys  
Local folk rock power quartet  
Aug 13: Cold Chocolate  
Genre-bending Americana band fusing folk, funk & bluegrass  
Aug 20: Enerjazz  
Vermont's high energy big-band  
Aug 27: Ten Rod Road  
Classic Brandon band reunites for one show!  
**Rain location: Town Hall**

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 at [vqueenoftheearth@gmail.com](mailto:vqueenoftheearth@gmail.com) or 802 345-4125.

**Crafternoons**  
Join us from 12–2 pm at Maclure Library every Wednesday & bring your craft projects & supplies for an afternoon of art. Share tips, get ideas & inspiration for new projects with fellow crafters!

**Free Drop-In Tech Support at the Brandon Free Public Library**  
5–6 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 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.

### Thursdays

**Ukulele Group**  
Free at the Chaffee Art Center from 12–1 p.m., for adults & 12+. This is not a class but a group enjoying playing the ukulele together. Must pre-register. There are a limited amount of in-house instruments to reserve. Attendees will be led through specific sheet music by musician Steven Wilson. All levels are welcome.

**Open Mic at Red Clover in Brandon**  
Join us starting at 6 p.m. for a rousing good time!

**Storytime at the Brandon Free Public Library**  
Starts at 10:30 a.m. Join us for stories and bubbles!

### 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.

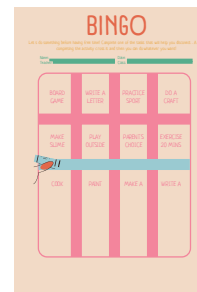
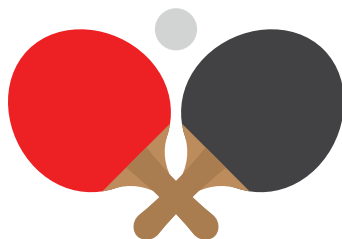
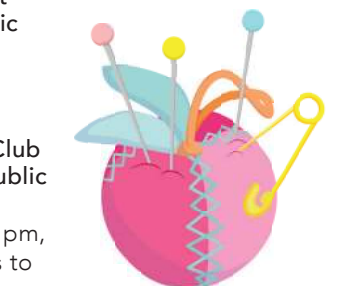
**Brandon Senior Center Game Day**  
Come join us every Friday at 2:00 p.m. Cards, darts, puzzles, board games, coloring.

**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.





## 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."

### Chess

Join us at The Greenhouse Dispensary on Conant Square in Brandon for a few casual games of chess on Sunday mornings from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. All experience levels are welcome. Free and open to adults 21 and older only.

## Wednesday 6th

**Jazz at Stone Valley Arts —**

**Jazz Essentials to Perform**

The Jazz Cafe at Stone Valley Arts continues on August 6 at 7 p.m. featuring "JAZZ ESSENTIALS" with Bear Irwin on trombone, Glendon Ingalls on trumpet, Ron White on bass, Bill Vitek on piano and Nick Aloï on drumset. This group of seasoned musicians will be sure to lift your spirits! If you're looking for a place to listen

to great music and maybe even do a bit of swing dancing, SVA's jazz night is the place for you to relax and enjoy!

The Jazz Cafe is a free event that offers a unique setting to hear and enjoy live jazz music performed by professional Vermont musicians. Stone Valley Arts is a non-profit community art center located at 145 E. Main St., Poultney, Vt.

## Free Medical Care for Adults Wednesdays in Aug. from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

A free walk-in healthcare clinic for uninsured or underinsured adults in Rutland County will be offered by the Rutland County Health Partners (formerly Rutland Free Clinic) every Wednesday in August from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at our offices at 204 North Main Street, Rutland, Vt. No appointment is necessary. For appointments or any questions, call 802-774-1082.

ple skills - Learn new things - Seek advice - Work on a project in a public space - Discover common interests - Boost your mood - Recharge creativity - Because you deserve to have some fun! To learn more, go to: <https://REclaimedEDVT.org/>

To learn more about Social Tinkering, visit <https://www.socialtinkering.org>

## Saturday 9th

**4th Annual Great North American Maple Pie Contest—Baird Farm**

Join us at 2 p.m. (rain date 8/10), sit back and picnic while you watch the 4th Annual Great North American Maple Pie Contest go down!

Activities will include: pie contest with local celebrity judges, pie throwing, and of course eating pie and ice cream!

The winner of the pie contest will receive a year's supply of maple syrup and other pie themed prizes! Lawn games and fun for the whole family!

Added bonus this year:

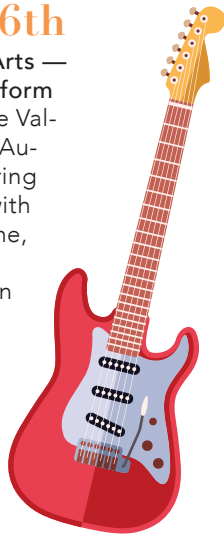
Catherine Bruns, USA Today bestselling author, will be selling and signing copies of "In the Blink of a Pie" (murder mystery book inspired by our farm and the maple pie contest).

Free to attend but please bring cash to participate in the delicious activities! A portion of proceeds will go toward the Vermont Farmers Food Center.

For pie competition registration and details, visit: <https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLScstGMd1dawX.../viewform>

(pie entries must be in by 1:30)

Baird Farm, 59 West Rd., North Chittenden, Vt. 05763.



ton, 143 Woodstock Ave., Rutland. Free Will Donations. All proceeds will go to a nonprofit that assists families in need. Please support our AKtion Club and Self-Advocate members in their efforts to raise funds to help others.

ARC - Advocacy ~ Resources ~ Community. ARC's mission is to "advocate for the right of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to be regarded as valued citizens with the same entitlements as non-disabled individuals, including the right to lifelong opportunities for personal growth and full participation in the community."

### 4th Annual Lit Fest at Stone Valley Arts

If you read or write poetry, or any other genre, this is your opportunity to celebrate the written and spoken word! We all have thoughts, feelings and experiences worth

preserving and sharing with family, friends or a public audience. Writing a poem is one way to honor the special people and the important moments and memories of our lives.

Bianca Stone, the current Vermont State Poet Laureate, will be the featured presenter! Bianca Amira Zanella, The Paper Poet, will also facilitate a workshop. Two Biancas!

Saturday, August 9, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Stone Valley Arts at Fox Hill. Sign in will be at 9:30 with the first workshop getting under-

way at 10. After a lunch break the second workshop will begin at 2 p.m. Each workshop will last approximately two hours and is crafted to benefit writers in all genres and with all levels of experience. Poets and Writers are encouraged to participate in both workshops. Expand your creativity!

Preregister by clicking this link: <https://tinyurl.com/SVA25LitFest>. Or RSVP by mail to Stone Valley Arts, P.O. Box 47, Poultney, Vt. 05764



## Donation Based Yoga with Melanie Redel Yoga & Reiki

Monday—Vinyasa 9:00–10:15 a.m.  
Wednesday—Gentle Yoga 9:00–10:15 a.m.  
Friday—Vinyasa 9:00–10:15 a.m.  
All drop in classes are Donation Bases

Reiki sessions available by appointment (sliding scale) \$25–\$75

For more information please visit [www.melanieredel.com](http://www.melanieredel.com)  
25 Rossiter Street Brandon



### Orwell Art Festival 2025

Don't miss the third annual Orwell Art Festival on the beautiful town green in Orwell, Vt.

Sat., Aug 9, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Artwork by local artists including pottery, painting, photography and fiber arts. Don't miss out!

ARC Rutland Area's AKtion Club & SABE-R Group Annual Car Wash Fundraiser

ARC Rutland Area's AKtion Club & SABE-R group will hold their Annual Car Wash Fundraiser on Saturday, August 9, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Bank of Benning-

Barbequed chicken + fixin's; pie contest & sale; baked goods; White Elephant table; face painting and kids' games. For info, call 453-2488.



## Thursday 7th

**Social Tinkering's Gather Together at REclaimed —**  
**Poultney**

Social Tinkering presents Gather Together at the REclaimed makerspace in Poultney! a FREE event for locals of all ages to simply hangout. Haven't checked out the makerspace yet? Come swing by! This is a zero pressure space. Feel free to chat with others as much or as little as you feel like! Bring your knitting or a favorite musical instrument or game. Light refreshments are provided in addition to a variety of games, cards, puzzles, Legos, drawing supplies, etc. Come check this out anytime between 5-7 p.m., no set agenda, just hanging out with friends.

Reasons to attend: New in town - Build community - Make new friends - Shake up routine - Practice peo-



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UNTIL  
7:00 PM

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WEST STAGE

ANDRIANA  
(& THE BANANAS) 6:00 PM

—  
BLUES FOR BREAKFAST 4:15 PM

—  
HUDOST 3:00 PM

EAST STAGE

OPEN SWIM 5:15 PM

—  
TEDDY MEDDLE 3:45 PM

—  
HOLDING NAPOLEON 2:30 PM

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# Sunset over Dunmore



A FIERY ORANGE sun begins to set over Lake Dunmore last weekend, capping a weekend of perfect summer weather.

Photo by Steven Jupiter



## Steep Steeple!

A STEEPLEJACK FROM Robert Morgan Co. of New Hampshire climbed out onto the steeple of the Brandon Congregational Church on Tuesday, beginning the long-awaited restoration of the church's steeple and belfry.

Photo by Brian Jerome

Kevin Sandwich - 10am to 3pm Weekdays





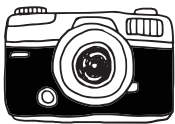
# Mim's Photos

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](mailto:kate@brandonreporter.com) if you can identify  
someone in these photos.

Or call us at 247-8080





# Crossword

### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Spiritual leaders
- 7. Salt
- 13. Fortified wine
- 14. Edible mollusk
- 16. They precede C
- 17. A way to compare
- 19. State lawyer
- 20. "Game of Thrones" actor Ciaran
- 22. Eighth month (abbr.)
- 23. Very willing
- 25. \_\_\_ ex machina
- 26. Satisfies
- 28. Mountain in New Zealand
- 29. A doctrine
- 30. Popular Dodge truck model
- 31. Dekagram
- 33. Naturally occurring solid
- 34. Company officer
- 36. Villains
- 38. Cricket frogs
- 40. One of the founders of modern psychology
- 41. Endured
- 43. A female domestic
- 44. You can get stuck in one
- 45. Partner to feather
- 47. Passive optical network
- 48. French ballet dynasty
- 51. Employee stock ownership plan
- 53. Bottom layer
- 55. Sound
- 56. Yankee great Judge
- 58. Dickens character
- 59. Late beloved TNT sportscaster
- 60. South Dakota
- 61. Exposing human vice or folly to ridicule
- 64. Gold
- 65. Longtime Braves hurler Julio
- 67. Humor
- 69. Shawl
- 70. Hospital unit

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Animal disease
- 2. Commercial
- 3. Necklace materials
- 4. Containers
- 5. Investment account
- 6. Colorado Heisman Trophy winner
- 7. Dipped down
- 8. Head injury category (abbr.)
- 9. Lay about
- 10. Intestinal
- 11. Not yes
- 12. Caused to be loved
- 13. Muslim spiritual leader
- 15. Showing sincere conviction
- 18. Not in
- 21. Number above the line in a fraction
- 24. Lawn pest
- 26. Pouch
- 27. Ancient language in India (abbr.)
- 30. Start over
- 32. Wild white flower
- 35. Fourteen
- 37. Visual way to interact with computer (abbr.)
- 38. Side by side and facing the same way
- 39. Religious conflicts
- 42. Touch lightly
- 43. "Boardwalk Empire" actress Gretchen
- 46. Violent seizure of property
- 47. One who supports the pope
- 49. Malaise
- 50. Body fluid
- 52. Inauthentic person
- 54. Title of respect
- 55. Chilean city
- 57. Japanese city
- 59. Silk garment
- 62. Draw from
- 63. Automobile
- 66. The man
- 68. Top government lawyer

	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.

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

Level: Intermediate

### PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

3	0	4	1	8	5	2	9	6	7
5	3	6	2	8	4	7	9	1	
9	2	8	6	7	1	3	4	5	
7	1	2	8	4	9	5	3	6	
3	8	5	1	6	7	9	2	4	
6	9	4	5	3	2	1	8	7	
4	7	1	3	9	8	6	5	2	
8	6	9	7	2	5	4	1	3	
2	5	3	4	1	6	8	7	9	

## Let's Clear the Shelter!

We're proud to be part of the nationwide Clear the Shelters movement from August 1st to 31st. A campaign dedicated to helping every adoptable pet find a loving home. Since 2015, it has helped more than 1 million animals across the country find their forever families! Our kennels and cat rooms are at capacity, and we NEED your help to make space. For the entire month of August, adoption fees are 50% off! Now's the perfect time to bring home your new best friend. Stop by the Adoption Center Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Have questions? Call us at 802-483-6700.

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### MEET BUDDY- 4 1/2-YEAR-OLD. NEUTERED MALE. PIT BULL TERRIER. BRINDLE.

Buddy is low-key, laid-back, and more of a roommate than a constant shadow. Buddy enjoys his space and his routine, and he appreciates the quiet kind of companionship. He may be shy when you first meet him, often greeting new people with a grumble and a cautious glance. But give him time and a little patience, and you'll start to see that tail wag when he sees you. That's Buddy's way of saying you're in his circle. Buddy is also cautious around other dogs and prefers slow introductions. With the right approach and some understanding, he might just warm up to canine company, too. He gets along with cats and kids, but they must be old enough to respect his space. He's currently carrying a few extra pounds and would benefit from a healthy weight-loss plan. Short walks and portion control will go a long way in helping him feel his best. If you're looking for a chill, soulful companion who doesn't need to be the life of the party, Buddy might be your perfect match.

### MEET KEEGAN - 2-YEAR-OLD. NEUTERED MALE. DOMESTIC SHORTHAIR. TIGER.

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# OFF THE SHELF

## NEW BOOKS AND NEWS



### New adult fiction

#### Dwelling by Emily Hunt Kivel

Every New York City renter is evicted en masse, leaving only the landlords and owners—the demented, the aristocratic, the luckiest few. Evie—parentless, sisterless, basically friendless, underemployed—has nothing and no one. Except, she remembers, a second cousin in Texas, in a strange town called Gulluck, where nothing is as it seems.

#### The Magician of Tiger Castle by Louis Sachar

A princess ordered to marry an awful prince falls in love with a scribe. When the somewhat failed court magician is ordered to make a potion that'll ensure she marries the prince, will he obey the king's orders or protect the princess, the only one left who believes in him.

#### Black Flame by Gretchen Belker-Martin

When lonely archivist Ellen Kramer—deeply closeted and pathologically repressed—begins to restore a hedonistic exploitation film long thought destroyed by Nazi fire, she descends into madness, growing to believe its occult horrors are being unleashed on the world as she goes through it frame by frame.

#### This Here is Love by Princess Joy L. Perry

Bless, taken to serve a slaveowner's daughter, must decide where she belongs: with the enslaved or above them. David, sold away from his people, retreats into himself even as he yearns to unite with others. Jack, acting impetuously to escape indentured servitude, changes his fortune, but will doing so sacrifice his humanity?

#### Automatic Noodle by Annalee Newitz

Following a devastating war, a group of deactivated robots come back online in an abandoned ghost kitchen. They decide to make their own way doing what they know: making food—the tastiest hand-pulled noodles around—for the humans of San Francisco. But when their robot-run business starts causing a stir, a targeted wave of one-star reviews threatens to boil over into a crisis. To keep their doors open, they'll have to call on their customers, their community, and each other—and find a way to survive and thrive in a world that wasn't built for them.

#### Large-print books donated by Brenda Whittaker

#### Wayward Girls by Susan Wiggs, donated in memory of Matilda E. Whittaker

Based on the true story of six teens confined at the

### DID YOU KNOW?

Summer Reading Bingo for adults continues to the end of August! Fill in your bingo sheets and get a chance to win gift certificates for local businesses.

Good Shepherd in 1968—a dark and secretive institution controlled by Sisters of Charity nuns—locked away merely for being gay, pregnant, or simply unruly.

#### The Unraveling of Julia by Lisa Scottoline, donated in memory of Mary Blackmer

Lately, Julia Pritzker is beginning to think she's cursed. She's lost her adoptive parents, then her husband is murdered. When she realizes that her horoscope essentially foretold his death, she begins to spiral. She fears her fate is written in the stars, not held in her own hands. Then a letter arrives out of the blue, informing her that she has inherited a Tuscan villa and vineyard—but her benefactor is a total stranger named Emilia Rossi. Bewildered, she heads to Tuscany for answers. There, Julia is horrified to discover that Rossi was a paranoid recluse with delusions of grandeur, who believed herself to be a descendant of Duchess Caterina Sforza, a legendary Renaissance ruler. Julia is stunned by her uncanny resemblance to Rossi, and even to Caterina. Then she uncovers eerie parallels between them, including an obsession with astrology. Before long, Julia suspects she's being followed, and strange things begin to happen.

Like all things vintage?

## Mim's Photos



are on page 16!

# Brandon Police Report

*Note from Brandon Police Chief David Kachajian: The Vermont State Police (VSP) are covering the Town of Brandon for emergency calls from 4 p.m./6 p.m. until 8 a.m., 7 days a week, due to the staffing shortage at the Brandon Police Department (BPD). This log may not reflect calls that VSP receives during the time Brandon officers are off duty.*

### July 28

- Assisted the Brandon Area Rescue Squad (BARS) with a patient lift assist on Deer Run Road.
- Responded to a report of illegal dumping on West Seminary Street.
- Assisted the VSP with scene security at a death investigation on Carver Street.
- Received a call from a resident on Park Street to report that someone may have tried to gain entry into her apartment by pushing in her window air conditioner. Incident documented for informational purposes.
- Received a reported of a domestic disturbance/assault that occurred at a residence on Church Street.

- Received a walk-in visit from a parent and child to report an online fraud/extortion scheme involving a TikTok account.

### July 29

- Assisted the Castleton Police in attempting to locate an individual on Rossiter Street to serve a criminal citation.
- Assisted BARS with a medical call on Mulcahy Drive. The responding officer subsequently helped EMS personnel with a lift assist of the patient.
- Responded to a parking problem on West Seminary Street where multiple vehicles were parked on the sidewalk. An officer spoke to the owners who subsequently moved their vehicles.

### July 30

- Responded to a commercial burglary alarm at the Lucky 7 Dispensary on Grove Street. The alarm was determined to be false.
- Received a complaint regarding fireworks that landed on the complainant's property from a neighbor's residence.
- Responded to a phone line that was down on Grove Street and which was creating a traf-

fic hazard. The line was removed from the roadway and Comcast was notified.

- Responded to a requested welfare check on Grove Street near the Pine Hill Cemetery for a report of a woman in a wheelchair who had been sitting by the edge of the road for several hours. Contact was made with the woman, who was determined to be homeless and was subsequently offered services, but she refused all assistance. The responding officer provided the woman with some food and water before leaving.
- Responded along with the Brandon Fire Department to the area of Forest Dale Road and Town Farm Road for a report of a tree company that had stuck a power line and had caused a fire. Both the fire and police departments provided scene security and traffic control until Green Mountain Power arrived to repair the downed line. No injuries were reported.
- Responded to a domestic disturbance on Mulcahy Drive. It was determined that the dispute was verbal and that no crime had been committed.

### July 31

- Observed a traffic hazard on Wood Lane, which the officer removed from the roadway.
- Vehicle stop on Grove Street at Steinberg Road for display of plates. Written warning issued to the operator for uninspected vehicle.
- Responded to North Street for a report of a dirt bike driving in an erratic manner. Officers were unable to locate the dirt bike or the operator.

### August 1

- Received a report of a possible intoxicated driver pumping gas at the Jiffy Mart on Grove Street. The area was checked by the responding officer, but the vehicle was not located.
- Responded to a residence on Hendee Lane in Pittsford to assist the Pittsford Police with a possible domestic disturbance. The agency assist was later cancelled after it was determined that the situation was under control.
- Received notification of a burglary alarm activation at OVUHS coming from the library. The building was found to be unlocked and the interior was checked. The alarm app-  
(See Police report, Page 19)

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# Brandon's covered bridge

(Continued from Page 1)

ceeded the available clearance.

According to Brandon Town Manager Seth Hopkins, the resulting damage has cost a total of \$32,440.65 to repair, though the expense will be borne by Brandon's insurance company. Moreover, the repairs have necessitated the closure of the bridge for certain periods and the collisions themselves have taken Brandon's already strained police department away from other tasks and situations.

And despite Brandon's attempts, it's proven extremely difficult to prevent these accidents. Warning signs on both sides of the bridge have proven inadequate. Either truckers are ignoring the signage or are unable to read it because of language barriers.

But Brandon is continuing its efforts.

On Monday evening, just in time for Covered Bridge Week across Vermont, Mr. Hopkins attended the Sudbury Selectboard's regular meeting to request permission to erect additional signage along the approach to the bridge from the Sudbury side.

The original request was to put a sign near the intersection of Long Swamp and Burr Pond Roads, near the historic Ketcham homestead. The Sudbury Selectboard resisted that proposal because the location doesn't offer an easy turnaround for any trucks that wish to turn back. Instead, the Sudbury Board agreed to allow a sign at the intersection of Willowbrook Road and Burr Pond, where a turnaround is possible, and a sign at Long Swamp and Burr Pond that will advise truckers of an available turnaround farther ahead at the intersection of Long Swamp and Short Swamp Roads.

Most of the collisions between trucks and the bridge have occurred on the approach from the "Sudbury side." GPS devices and apps often guide trucks coming up Route 30 through Burr Pond and Long Swamp Roads as the shortest route to Routes 7 and/or 73 in Brandon. Attempts to have Google Maps cease this have not been successful.

Brandon would bear the cost of having the signage manufactured and installed.

Mr. Hopkins also explained Monday night and in a subsequent email to The Reporter that Brandon planned to erect telephone poles with swinging PVC bars on both sides of the bridge. The bars would be set to alert any vehicles that cannot pass beneath them that they will also not be able to pass through the bridge. The hope is that the physical reminder will cause the drivers to turn around rather than risk getting stuck and damaging the bridge. The PVC bars would swing as well, so as not to cause damage to the



**THE TOWN OF Brandon has installed signage on both sides of the Sanderson bridge to warn truckers of the low clearance and help prevent further damage to the beleaguered structure. Even so, accidents continue to occur.**

trucks themselves.

Mr. Hopkins described this proposal as a "shoestring approach" that will help prevent further accidents without requiring expensive construction. Mr. Hopkins said that the town already has the poles and that the remaining materials and labor should run only into the low hundreds of dollars.

Other Vermont towns with covered bridges or other difficult roadways have experienced similar issues and have tried all sorts of different methods to prevent damage from trucks, ranging from rigid metal archways to twisting roadways (known as "chicanes") that force trucks to assess the likelihood of successful passage.

Mr. Hopkins did not offer a specific timeline for the installation of the signage or the poles.

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**LEFT: JOSEPH J. Kamuda, with his great-grandfather John Kamuda, in the apartment over the store, 1960. Right: John Kamuda and Anna Kamuda with great-grandchildren Joanne and Sharron Brutkoski, ca. 1954.**

## Coming to America

*(Continued from Page 7)*

Road which would have been between the third and fourth house (which was Charlie Fay's and is the last house now, before Liz Willis's farm) from the second set of railroad tracks past OMYA but that house was torn down and Stella said that Kamuda's also had a store at one point on the left hand side just before you turn into OMYA now."

Prohibition laws ensnared the family when an undercover agent purchased gallons of bootleg liquor at the Whipple Hollow Store. What made headlines though is that Anna Kamuda attempted to take the rap for her husband. This article from the January 16, 1925 issue of The Rutland Herald conveys how the story became sensationalized.

"In spite of the fact that his wife Anna, who is the mother of eight children, attempted to take the blame on her own shoulders for the sake of five gallons of alcohol made at their store in Florence, Vermont, John Kamuda, was found guilty in Rutland County Court yesterday of selling intoxicating liquor...Mrs. Kamuda told the jury that it was she and not her husband who made the sale." It continued, "Husband 'Works for Wife.' Mrs. Kamuda told the jury that it was she who operated a grocery store at Florence; it was she who bargained with [agent] Thompson for the sale of alcohol; it was she who bought the alcohol in the first place; it was she who was head of the household. Her husband worked for her for his board and was content in this arrangement the woman testified. Confronted with the question as to why she had so much alcohol about the premises Mrs. Kamuda testified that she used it for bathing purposes...State's attorney Charles E. Novak, who prosecuted, argued that Kamuda was the

head of the family and was responsible for the acts of the household. He believed the jury would not per-

gated his naturalization application, for the time being. He had taken out papers earlier. Anna once again took



**LIEUT. KAMUDA.**

**FRANK KAMUDA, PURPLE Heart photo from Rutland Herald, 1943.**

mit a man to hide behind a woman's skirts, he said."

John Kamuda's guilty verdict ne-

up the mantle and became a United States citizen in her own right in (See *Coming to America*, Page 23)

## CWD processing

*(Continued from Page 5)*

Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Alberta, British Columbia, Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan.

"CWD is a very persistent disease that can spread in several ways," said Nick Fortin, Vermont's deer and moose biologist. "Vermont's CWD regulations are designed to help prevent CWD from infecting Vermont's deer and moose and the irreversible impacts it could have if it gets here."

"Hunters bringing deer, elk or moose from any of the CWD-listed states or provinces into Vermont must have them processed according to Vermont's regulations before doing so. This includes successful hunters returning to Vermont from nearby areas, including New York and Quebec."

A fine of up to \$1,000 and loss of hunting and fishing licenses for one year are applicable for each animal imported illegally.

Vermont Fish and Wildlife is also reminding hunters that using any type of natural deer urine-based or deer body fluid attractant scents is prohibited in the state because of the CWD threat.

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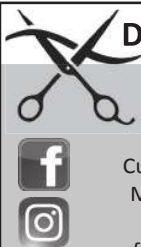
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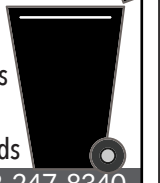
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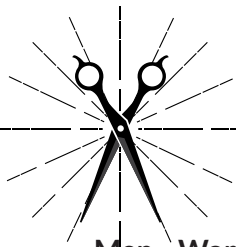
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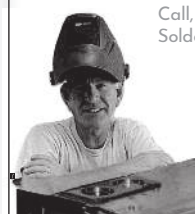


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# The sun shone on Yard Sale Day in Brandon



THOUGH THE CROWDS were smaller and the offerings less plentiful than in years past, folks came from miles around hoping to find bargains and treasures (hopefully both!).

Photos by Steven Jupiter



# Coming to America

*(Continued from Page 21)*  
1933. A photo accompanied her file as well as a personal description that she was 5' 7" and weighed 170 pounds. John found another way to apply for citizenship a second time. Using his native name as Jan Kamuda and changing his birthplace, Miliec, to Zlotniki, Poland, in fact his last residence before coming to America, he obfuscated his earlier brush with the law and successfully became a citizen in 1934.

By 1930, the Kamudas acquired a second property at 8 East Street in Proctor. John and eldest son Joe were listed as grocers in Florence, while Anna and the other seven children are listed in Proctor at another grocery business. The World War II years had a significant impact on the family. In 1943, The Rutland Herald reported that son Frank Kamuda won a Purple Heart for meritorious service in North Africa, while his three brothers, Joe, Peter, Edward, and son-in-law Herman Brutkoski also served in the army.

While her husband Joe Kamuda was away in the service for four years, Josephine Kamuda ran the Pittsford Market with the help of her brother. In 1948, with Joe's return, they made a significant change to the store's operation from a customer going in with a list while the grocer obtained the provisions to what we are accustomed to today as a supermarket with self-service. Meanwhile, continuing to live over their Proctor market, John and Anna

Kamuda worked 100-hour weeks as reported in the 1950 census. Following Anna's death in 1956, John slipped into gradual retirement after 46 years in the grocery business.

John Kamuda died in 1967 after a long period of declining health. Three of his children still lived in Vermont: Joe, over the store in Pittsford; Steve, over his store in Proctor; Mary Brutkoski in Brandon. The others left the area: Frank had moved to Troy, New York; Eddie to New Hampshire; Frances Doerner to Mamaroneck, New York; Peter to New Smyrna Beach, Florida, and Amelia, a career telephone operator and owner of an apartment building in Los Angeles.

From an ambitious immigrant, Jan Kamuda, arriving at Ellis Island in 1906 to his great-grandson Brian continuing to manage a thriving grocery and catering business, this family can look back on more than a century of long hours and major changes in this service industry. My take on their institutional longevity? Always going the extra mile for the customer!

Acknowledgements: The Brutkoski family, Olivia Boughton, Brian and Jeff Kamuda [former students, of course!], Sonny Poremski, Frederick Stachura, and Tracey Snow.

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

### TOWN OF BRANDON, VERMONT NOTICE TO PROPERTY TAXPAYERS

Notice is hereby given that payment for the property taxes assessed upon the grand list of the Town of Brandon for the first quarter of the fiscal year July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026 is due Friday, August 15, 2025. First quarter payments not received, or postmarked by August 15 will be subject to interest at 1% per month. Please furnish your tax notice by enclosing it with your remittance. Payments may be made by mail to 49 Center Street, Brandon VT 05733, 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. The Town Clerk's office will be open to the public on Friday, August 15 to accommodate. Thank you.

Susan Gage,  
Town Treasurer



# Habitat for Humanity

(Continued from Page 3)  
day.

The foundation is measured and “chalked” with flour so the digging could begin. We all took turns digging in the hardpack soil, carrying rocks to fill the trench before concrete is poured into it. At the same time, others are digging the hole for the sep-

tic tank. Habitat required indoor plumbing and electricity for their homes. The family now lived in a 10-ft square shack, Grandparents, parents, and two children! I feel grateful for the comparatively huge home I have.

Lunch is a big affair, speeches, great homemade food, a party to start the build. Later the hotel

would provide us with lunches and drinks, which the locals were excited to exchange for their homemade lunch. I loved the swap, great local things that I had never had before. I took photos with my Polaroid and gifted them, which was a big success. Also shared photos of my family. One lady thought my son looked like a Mexican actor she had seen in a movie. He was very handsome!

The rocks are carried on an empty burlap bag, like a sling! Two people carry it, one on each side, then roll them off and go back to collect more. I think there was one wheelbarrow for everyone to use. This worked well and encouraged friendships to develop.

Once the foundation was dug, the concrete was mixed on the ground, a pile of sand, some cement, add water by the bucketful, and stir with a hoe. Buckets and the one

wheelbarrow carried the finished concrete to the foundation. Rocks and rebar were added for strength. Once the concrete was dry, we built with the blocks we had made over the past week.

A professional mason did most of the building. I was allowed to help once but I did not do it correctly or fast enough, so I was sent by the mason to do another job. He was polite but firm.

The septic tank hole was about 5 feet deep, and the dirt piled on the edge was falling back into the hole where men were digging, so I shoveled the pile away from the edge to a safer location. A few young men out of school for the day stopped to watch and comment. I handed two of them shovels and told them in my pidgin Spanish to move the dirt. They helped for about 15 minutes but didn’t come by the next day. When the hole was 7-8 feet deep, it was lined with bricks for filtering.

One afternoon, we returned to the hotel early so we could have a boat ride on the lake. There was a Shaman reserve at the other end of the lake and several of us went to see the camp. We had a guide who put special mud on our faces then walked us through the

ceremonial circle, sweat lodge, the springs, cabanas, and soaking tub. The Shaman was not there that day. After our tour, we washed the mud off and visited the shop. The Mexican witches meet here every fall.

Our last day of work was only a half-day, but we have accomplished a lot in 10 days. A feast of chicken cooked in oil over an open fire, wrapped in banana leaves, rice, corn, spaghetti with tuna and much dancing.

Back in Vera Cruz, we spent a day touring the city and having one last meal as a team. I stayed on a few more days to explore.

I wanted to see the remains of the fort Cortez build and it was an hour bus ride away. It was a lovely small village, some modern homes, and beautiful cathedral. The fort was not much. I don’t think the government wants to spend money restoring it!

Bus ride back and time to explore this beautiful seaport and eat some good seafood.

My experience is with Habitat for Humanity International, but I have visited Rutland County Habitat homes. They are nice and I am the organization sure would like volunteers.



**LYLA FULLER VOLUNTEERED** to work with Habitat for Humanity as a way to do something positive and constructive after her divorce. She helped build housing in Mexico, a country she has since visited often.





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