

# The REPORTER

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

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75¢

## Voters pass \$22.7 million OVUU budget in a revote, 420-359

BY ANGELO LYNN

BRANDON — In a reversal from a Town Meeting vote that saw the OVUU budget go down to defeat, 522-462, district voters on Tuesday turned out in support of the \$22.7 million budget, 420-359.

Voter turnout, said Brandon Town Clerk Sue Gage who tallied the district vote, was lower than the Town Meeting vote by about 200 votes, which, Gage said, was low but not surprising for a second vote

in the spring.

The budget calls for a spending increase of 7.8%, even as district school taxes dropped five cents to levels of five years ago and school tax rates in most district towns were projected to go down, except for an increase in Whiting and level taxes in Leicester.

Driving cost increases for the budget was a three-year teacher contract in which teacher salaries are to increase 7 percent in the first

*"It means that we can go into planning for next year with confidence and not cut more programs."*

—Jeanne Collins RNESU Supt.



year of the contract and by 3% the following two years.

Passage of the budget is a huge relief for district administrators and faculty, who can now forge ahead with planning for next year's curriculum and school activities.

"We're very grateful and appreciative to the voters who went out on a rainy, gray day in late April to support the school and teachers," Superintendent Jeanné Collins said in a phone interview after the vote.

"It means that we can go into planning for next year with confidence and not cut more programs. We are in the hiring season, and this investment in the school allows us to get quality educators and staff."

"The budget," Collins added, "is a reflection of the values of the board, the community and student needs. After two years of learning under COVID, there are more needs than ever. This budget goes a long way to meet those needs."

## Q & A with Pittsford's Town Manager John Haverstock

BY ANGELO LYNN

PITTSFORD — Almost 20 years ago, in 2003, Pittsford Town Manager John Haverstock bought land in town and would soon have a log cabin built on that property. An attorney in Connecticut at the time, he used the property as a weekend and vacation getaway, and enjoyed it so much that he would move here full-time in 2008

when he took the job as town manager.

Haverstock had grown up in Arlington, Va., just outside Washington, D.C., attended Wakefield High School in Alexandria and went on to get his bachelors from the University of Virginia at Charlottesville in 1984, and his law degree from there in 1987. He practiced

(See John Haverstock, Page 15)

## Proctor select board get's tough on delinquent water accounts

BY ANGELO LYNN

PROCTOR — Delinquent water bills was a big topic of discussion at the Proctor select-board meeting Monday night, as the selectboard and Town Manager Michael Ramsey reviewed the page and a half list of accounts due and what process should be followed to collect before shutting off the wa-

ter to past-due accounts.

The selectboard said they started the process several years ago — "two town managers and also our second town attorney ago," said Selectman Bruce Bacceti — and, while they had whittled the list down from four pages to less than two full pages, it was still a

(See Proctor water, Page 3)



### Technicolor Spring

ORANGE TURKEY TAILS bloom on forest floors.

Reporter photo/Angelo Lynn

In Brandon

## Energy dominates select board agenda; EV or gas-powered cruisers?

BY ANGELO LYNN

BRANDON — A lengthy discussion on how Brandon should be investing in renewable energy and lowering its carbon footprint conflicted with the perceived practical realities of the times at the town's selectboard meeting Monday night.

In particular, the selectboard engaged in a 25-minute discussion on whether to buy a new electric police cruiser or gas-powered cruiser that

became fraught with overtones of not funding the police department at a satisfactory level. While some of the discussion was off-topic and drew questioning from Town Manager David Atherton, it did reflect on the night's decision, which was two-fold: Did the police department need a seventh vehicle immediately and should that vehicle be gas-powered or electric?

The conversation was prompted

by a board request two weeks ago asking the town's Energy Committee to draw an apples-to-apples comparison between the cost and functionality of buying an electric police cruiser versus a gas-powered one. The problem facing the police department today is that of their seven vehicles, one, a Dodge Charger sedan, is 12-plus years old, worn out and needs to be replaced. That leaves the department with one

Ford pickup, two Ford Explorers, two Ford Tauruses, and two Dodge Chargers (one of which is in the shop.)

The police department currently has six officers and Chief David Kachajian. In the town's contract with its police officers, one of the stated benefits is that each officer will be issued a police-equipped vehicle they can drive home so it's at their ready. Currently, the six of-

ficers and the chief are able to provide 20 hour coverage seven days a week, with four hours of on-call duty each day. Chief David Kachajian is pressing to hire a seventh officer to provide 24-7 coverage — a

(See Brandon energy Page 2)



# Brandon energy

(Continued from Page 1)

desire expressed by Brandon residents in a formal vote several years ago.

The Energy Committee presented a very complete comparison of the cost savings an electric cruiser would have over a gas-powered cruiser. Member Jack Schneider presented an abbreviated version of the 4-page report to the selectboard, in which the basic math showed an electric vehicle would save about \$7,000 annually in gas and operational costs, would last far longer before needing replacement and wouldn't be harming the environment. A Model 3 Tesla costs in the mid-\$50,000, but would also need police modifications and additions that would bring the cost closer to the high \$50,000 mark.

Problems with the electric vehicle, of which Ford and Tesla are the two competitive makers in police vehicles, is that they are typically too small for a prisoner cage; are smaller and more compact for police officers when fully belted up; they have lower ground clearance that is often not suitable for deep snow or deeply rutted muddy roads; and their immediate availability (because of a backlog of orders) is six-months out at least, if not longer.

By comparison, the Ford Explorer that G. Stone Motors of Middlebury offered would be avail-

able by this August, would come completely furnished with the police package, has ample room and clearance as a 4x4 SUV and would cost \$45,242. That price, however, does not include the higher annual operational costs of \$7,000 a year in fuel and maintenance, not to mention replacement costs.

The board's conflict was not about what's right or wrong long-term — electric was the clear answer for everyone in the room — but rather, what was practical now, how badly was the vehicle needed, and did it make more sense to satisfy the police department's need in the short-term and start building the department's electric fleet when the next cruiser was needed a year or more from now.

The energy committee and selectman Tim Guiles led the argument for buying an electric vehicle this time, or not buying a new one at all right now. Guiles had three issues: first, that the town should review its policy of providing a police cruiser to every officer as part of their contract. He noted that the practical effect was to be paying for that vehicle to sit unused at an officer's house when they were not on duty, rather than pooling the department's assets for officers on active duty. Second, he objected to buying a gas-powered vehicle when electric was a viable option and

was clearly better for the environment. And third, there was no reason to move from a Dodge Charger sedan to a much larger SUV Ford Explorer.

"It's simply a mistake in this era to move to a bigger vehicle, an SUV, when there is a viable option for change," Guiles said. "It's just wrong."

Energy Committee member Jim Emerson countered another argument from resident Patricia Welch, who was adamant that the town should not even think of "defunding the police" by reconsidering whether the police contract included providing a police vehicle to every officer. While several board members assured her the conversation wasn't about defunding the police department, but rather reallocating resources to provide the department more resources over the long-term, that argument seemed to get lost in the more emotional appeal of providing all officers with a cruiser 24-7 so, if needed, they could respond quickly to incidents.

Emerson tried to explain the long-term benefit of moving as soon as was reasonable to an electric fleet, a move that would allow the town to provide more funds to the department, not less, over the longer term.

With an eventual fleet of seven EV's, Emerson said, the savings would add up to \$49,000 a year.

Furthermore, the proven useful life of a Tesla (as a "million mile" car) should cut replacement costs in at least half, "saving roughly \$33,000-plus a year for a fleet of 7 vehicles, after taking into account the current initial price differential. Thus, by the time we move to a full EV fleet we would either save 10% of the police budget

a year, or be in a position to pay far more attractive compensation packages to our police staff."

The idea of defunding the police department, Emerson added later, was totally misconstrued because the outcome of going to electric vehicles would be more cost effective in the long-run.

But selectman Brian Coolidge took the side of Chief Kachajian, who had previously presented his findings at the selectboard meeting two weeks earlier, and said he believed the Ford Explorer was the

practical choice for the department at this time. Kachajian made a compelling case about the safety of the Ford Explorer's police package compared to the Tesla or Ford models, it's low clearance and small interior space, which is not well suited to either a prisoner cage or adequate room for the officer.

"The safety of my officers is my primary concern," the chief said, adding that right now the EV options just weren't as practical and the availability of the EV might be a year out. "Don't get me wrong, I very much support going with an electric fleet when those models can meet police needs," he said.

He said several times that he fully expected that electric police cruisers would be a viable option in the near future, but at this very moment the factors favored the Ford Explorer.

"I know what the reports say, and I appreciate the research," Coolidge added, "but I respect what our chief says too," adding that the chief had studied the issue, presented his own comparisons two weeks earlier and his calculus favored the Ford Explorer that was readily available in Middlebury.

In the end, in a 3-2 decision, selectmen Coolidge, Tracy Wyman and Mike Markowski voted to buy

the Ford Explorer from G. Stone Motors, while Guiles and selectboard Chair Seth Hopkins voted against.

## COMMUNITY SOLAR, SOLARFEST

That discussion had followed another lengthy conversation about whether to invest ARPA money in a community solar project, either owned by the town on its own land (a 150kw system on top of the former landfill), or perhaps wait to participate in a larger array built on Solarfest's 60-acres of land it is buying in Brandon just off Steinberg Road (behind the medical clinic north of town) that is accessible from and also borders Route 73.

After a robust discussion in which the Energy Committee argued that the town should devote some of its \$1.1 million in federal ARPA funds toward such an investment — because it would generate at least \$40,000 in revenue annually for the life of the project — the selectboard said it would postpone any decision until the Solarfest option was on the table, or other options were reviewed. That was also the recommendation of the Energy Committee.

While the Energy Committee also recommended that the selectboard set aside ARPA funds to cover the cost of such an investment, roughly \$450,000 to \$500,000, the board balked at that recommendation, noting that the town had already committed close to half a million on other projects, and it wasn't yet ready to commit almost 100 percent of the remaining funds for this one project.

After a thorough discussion, again prompted by solid research done by the Energy Committee, the selectboard tabled any action but pledged to continued the discussion on how best to spend or invest the remaining ARPA funds and thanked Energy Committee members Jim Emerson, Jack Schneider, Economic Development Officer Bill Moore and selectman Tim Guiles for the exhaustive research on both issues — and for building the relationship with Solarfest that eventually convinced them to locate in Brandon.

"Something like this (getting Solarfest to locate in Brandon) doesn't happen on its own, but rather because a lot of hard work was put into building relationships, doing the research, and answering a lot of questions, so the town thanks you all," Hopkins said.

*"The safety of my officers is my primary concern."*

—Police Chief David Kachajian

*"Something like this (getting Solarfest to locate in Brandon) doesn't happen on its own, but rather because a lot of hard work was put into building relationships, doing the research, and answering a lot of questions, so the town thanks you all,"*

— Seth Hopkins, Board Chair

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# Proctor water

*(Continued from Page 1)*  
 problem. The board debated the legality of shutting the water off from delinquent payers (totally within the town's right), and also of making public the names and/or addresses of those delinquent (it's part of the public record) and noted that the delinquent list used to be published in the annual town report, but — after some talk of just cutting the water off to anyone significantly past due — opted to do a bit more research and study over the next two weeks before defining a deliberate policy.

The selectboard did, however, let it be known that those residents behind on their water payments would be facing consequences in the near future, so pay up now or enter into an agreement to make payments on the bill — one of the highest is \$3,700 — before the water is shut off.

## ARPA FUNDING

Facing an April 30 deadline to decide whether the town should adopt a standard allowance for American Rescue Plan projects, the selectboard voted unanimously to adopt the allowance that allows the town to use the funding for most General Fund expenses concerning town operations. The allowance was a recent change in how ARPA funds could be expended, allowing towns with less than \$10 million in funding to use it for most all town operational expenses, compared to far more limited parameters when the measure was first an-

nounced more than a year ago. No decision was made on how the town's \$476,780 of the federal money would be spent, but the town has until Dec. 31, 2024 to obligate the funds to specific projects and until Dec. 31, 2026 to spend the money.

## OTHER NEWS

In other news, the selectboard:

- Reminded Proctor residents that the town would be hosting a dump day for bulky waste on May 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., as well as a day to drop of hazardous waste at the transfer station from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event coincides with Green Up Day that same Saturday, May 7.

- Heard from the Beaver Pond Recreation Committee, who noted the picnic area was now open but Dale Christie cautioned hikers to stay off the trails while they were muddy to minimize damage to them. Christie also reported the docks would be going in soon and that more volunteers were always needed if folks were interested. The recreation committee also reported that the skating rink would be opening for the summer on May 30, and that the skating rink building would be re-stained this summer.

- Ramsey cautioned the selectboard that high fuel costs were being passed on to the town from major contractors such as Cassella's and for police protection, amounting to over \$1,000 per month for just one third-party contractor, and that the town would have to manage for the potential shortfall that would create in the

current budget. Ramsey said the administration should be able to manage for that, but that it would need to be monitored closely.

- The selectboard also unanimously approved a facility use agreement policy for town assets like the skating rink, the pool, and the ball fields.

- Initial plans for the upcoming Memorial Day Parade and ceremonies were discussed, as was the preliminary discussion of a town-sponsored triathlon to be held later this summer.

- An executive session was held to discuss the open position for summer pool director, which has so far remained unfilled.

# Brandon energy

*(Continued from Page 2)*

## OTHER ISSUES

In other matters, the selectboard:

- Unanimously approved Jack Schneider to replace Dave Atherton as a member of the Rutland Regional Planning Commission representative, as he is also newly appointed to the Brandon Planning Commission.

- Announced two vacancies on the town planning commission and called for any resident interested in filling those positions.

- Disagreed with a legal opinion in which an attorney suggested funding the town's share of the Otter Creek Mosquito District with a trust dedicated to that purpose did not follow the trust's wishes. The selectboard disagreed, however, noting that the language written 60 years ago clearly followed that intent and had been used for that

purpose for decades. Atherton was asked to consult the town attorney and then engage in a conversation with the trust's attorney to hopefully resolve the problem.

Resident Bernie Carr spoke up to say that funding of the mosquito district was essential to the town's quality of life, of which Hopkins responded that the selectboard overwhelmingly agreed the town's share would be fully funded. He assured Carr the issue at hand was an interpretation of the trust's intent of what to fund — and that their intent was to clarify with the trust's attorney that funding the mosquito district was clearly within the intent.

- The selectboard also met in executive session to discuss the process for annual evaluation of the town manager. No action was taken.

## Celebrate Mom!

### Mother's Day Brunch

Sunday, May 8th

Join us at *Mountain Top* for a Delectable Brunch Buffet in *Celebration of Moms Everywhere!*

Served in the Barn from 11:30a - 3p, Sunday 5/8/22.

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Chittenden, Vermont

# MOUNTAIN TOP

# R E S O R T

BRANDON REPORTER

Guest Editorial

# Brandon's Green Up Day set for May 7; details ready at Central Park Gazebo

Green Up Day is coming! Green Up Day is always the first Saturday in May and falls on May 7 this year! Every year a group of Brandon volunteers of all ages, sizes, and dispositions “celebrates” Green Up Day by picking up along the roadsides in our community and cleaning away the accumulated debris from the past year. Those efforts greatly improve the appearance of our town and neighborhoods and contribute to the overall beauty of the state.

For those not familiar with this annual event, Green Up Day is organized by a state coordinator and local volunteers. Green Up Day is not funded by the State of Vermont but, rather, through private donations and contributions by individual towns. This truly is a local effort, supported by local people. Volunteers walk the routes (usually about an hour or two) and collect roadside debris into plastic bags that are provided. There is no charge for the disposal of the debris, and arrangements for pickup and delivery to the town dump are made when needed.

If you would like to help clean up our community, I will be available at the gazebo in Central Park (across from the Brandon Inn) on Saturday morning, May 7, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. to provide Green Up Day garbage bags and route

assignments. Volunteers with pick-up trucks are helpful, as we always seem to need help getting the trash delivered from the roadsides to the transfer station.

If you'd like to help with “truck duty” please plan to meet at 10 a.m. at the gazebo in Central Park for route assignments. Please call me in advance of Green Up Day if you are aware of an illegal dumpsite or an especially hard-hit area that could use some special attention and resources.

Green Up Day bags and/or route assignments are available for those who would like to get an early start or who otherwise will not be available on Green Up Day. Please call me.

I recommend that volunteers wear sturdy work gloves as some items along our roadsides can be harmful and unhealthy (i.e., broken bottles, dirty diapers, etc.). We also recommend that you keep an eye on our younger Green Up Day volunteers to ensure that they don't pick up any items that may pose a hazard to them or others. Let's have a fun, safe and productive Green Up Day! I hope to see you on Saturday, May 7!

*Thank you,  
Jim Leary  
Brandon Green Up Day  
Coordinator  
247-9595*



## Spring Beauty

THE WEST RUTLAND Marsh is a great birding spot and just the place to find this Virginia Rail. Listen for the grunt calls.

Photo by Sue Wetmore



## Legislative Report

BY BUTCH SHAW

### Legislative Wrap-up, action is ramping up

The pace of legislative action is ramping up and the Capital Complex tulips will be blooming soon, a sure indicator of legislative adjournment. Another sure sign of adjournment is the movement of the three money bills — the General Fund Budget, the Transportation Budget, the bill governing Capital Construction and State Bonding.

The House received the Senate's version of the “Big Bill” and the House has requested a Committee of Conference to identify and iron out differences between the House and Senate versions.

The Transportation Budget has passed the Senate, which sent its version to the House to reconcile any troublesome differences. It is too early to determine if a Conference Committee will be necessary.

Meanwhile the Senate's version of the Capital Bill is up for action and possible passage this week. The Capital Bill is usually the last money bill to be acted on in the Assembly and the reason for this is, if negotiations break

down in the “Big Bill” conference committee and further legislative actions are required, the Capital Bill would function as “a vehicle” for that to happen.

But before adjournment there are also housekeeping measures that need attending to, such as the deadline for requesting House resolutions to be drafted and the always popular adjournment pool where members try to guess the date and time for adjournment. For the small fee of two dollars members select the date and time, down to the minute, of adjournment with the proceeds from the pool being donated to a local charity.

However, the surest sign of adjournment is that both House Speaker Jill Krowinski and Senate Pro-Tempore Becca Balint have instructed their respective bodies to target Friday, May 6 as the final day of the biennium. Your guess?

As we approach Vermont's “Green Up Day” on May 7, I feel compelled to express some per-

sonal frustration with the amount of highway litter that has been exposed as the snow has melted. I am immensely proud of the volunteer efforts of the folks in Brandon, Pittsford and Sudbury as we rally around this unique Vermont effort to make our towns a welcoming and beautiful place to be as volunteers clean up the mess left by others. A substantial portion of the cost to provide the necessary tools and disposal efforts for Green up Day are donated by local and statewide merchants and businesses.

At the state level the direct cost to the Agency of Transportation's budget for picking up litter along our state and interstate highways is as astonishing \$1.25 million annually! If everyone could all be more thoughtful in our litter control, just think how many more miles of pavement maintenance the state could do.

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The General Assembly has passed, and Gov. Scott has signed S.239. An act relating to enrollment. (See Legislative Wrap, Page 6)

**The Reporter**  
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# Letters to the Editor

## Energy Works: A small program with a large impact

Vermont boasts an ambitious goal to weatherize 120,000 homes by January 2031. Successful implementation would reduce greenhouse gas emissions while saving families and businesses substantial fuel costs.

Energy Works is a small, yet ambitious project of Vermont Adult Learning (VAL) designed to train much-needed entry-level weatherization workers. An added benefit allows trainees who lack a high school credential to tap into VAL's services to earn a high school diploma or GED. Wrap-around supports are provided to help trainees overcome employment barriers.

Starting wages for weather-

ization workers in Vermont are, typically, \$18 per hour. Successful trainees participate in a three-week module comprised of classroom and hands-on training; they leave with a nationally recognized certification in Building Science Principles, a \$250 stipend, and, most often, a job with full benefits.

A recent participant said: "By the end of the job shadowing, I was confident of what the job required of me and if I wanted to pursue employment."

VAL's partners include: Office of Economic Opportunity, Efficiency Vermont, Bennington, Rutland Opportunity Council, HireAbility (Division of Vocational

Rehabilitation), and the Department of Labor. Funding partners include: VLITE, BOWSE Health Trust, HireAbility (Division of Vocational Rehabilitation), and the Johnson Family Foundation.

Energy Works offers ongoing training sessions in Rutland with plans to expand to other regions of Vermont. For more information, contact Jeff Nerney, Energy Works Project Coordinator, at 802-779-0056 or jnerney@vtadullearning.org.

*Hal Cohen  
Executive Director  
Vermont Adult Learning*

## Hope that the Neshobe bell is put to good use

I read your very interesting article on the historic bell located at Neshobe School. In short, I hope it will be placed somewhere where it will find extensive use. Quite likely, right where it is. All of Mr. Mathis' suggestions were very good, such as letting it announce the beginning and end of the school day, letting graduating 6th graders ring it as part of their graduation observance, etc. and I would add, ringing on the 4th of July, Memorial Day, Veterans' Day, and others.

I have been a Brandon resident since 1995 and I have been carillonist of Middlebury College and

Norwich University since 1985. I have made carillon concert tours of the U.S. and Europe, in a word, I love bells: I feel they encapsulate Western civilization.

The West Troy (NY) Meneely family was the best firm of carillon and bell builders in the country until their unfortunate closing in 1960. The first member of that family to cast bells was the son-in-law of Paul Revere, so this bell would have been made by his grandson or great grandson (I'm not that up on genealogy).

The original 12-bell chime of Middlebury College was made by

West Troy Meneely in 1918. Those bells are still in daily use as part of the college carillon, which was extended to 48 bells in 1985. The first American made carillon, a 25-bell instrument, from 1926 was made by West Troy Meneely for St. James Episcopal Church, Danbury, Conn.

I hope to hear some great things for the Neshobe bell in the near future.

*George Matthew Jr.  
Carillonist  
Middlebury College & Norwich  
University  
Organist St. Stephen's on the  
Green, Middlebury, VT*

## Police Chief thanks supporters of Brandon's new K-9 program

To all of you who have supported our cause, My officers and I (and K-9 Guinness) just wanted to personally reach out to you to say "Thank you" for your unbelievably generous support and donations to our efforts to start a K-9 program at the Brandon Police Department. We are truly awestruck by the public outreach we have received from not only the residents of Brandon, but across Vermont and even out-of-state.

We have received such a great outpouring of support from many people and business in our community, to include Phoenix Feed & Nutrition, Blue Seal, Lawes Agricultural, and Dr. Robin Crossman and the staff at the Otterside Animal Hospital. We would also like to extend a special "Thank you" to Brianna Stevens-Clark for holding a basket raffle for K-9 Guinness this past weekend and to Mrs. Roberta Haskins of Barre City, Vermont,

who has been a huge supporter of our efforts and has been very generous in donating to our cause.

In a day and age where there is unfortunately not a lot of support for law enforcement, it was very uplifting to see how much the people of Brandon and across Vermont have been supportive of us. Without generous donations from businesses and people such as yourselves, we would not be able to provide the residents of Brandon with programs, such as the K-9 unit, that help to keep everyone safe and reduce crime in our community.

Again, from all of our officers and myself (and don't forget Guinness!), thank you very much for your donations and support. It is greatly appreciated and I guarantee that it will be put to the best use possible going forward towards the funding of our program.

*David Kachajian  
Chief of Police*



Get Ready for 2022 at Brandon Town Hall and Community Center

### Saturday, April 30, 7:30 pm The Doughboys Dance Band

What a great way to open our 2022 season, celebrating with one of Vermont's best dance bands! The Doughboys will play their signature mix of highly danceable soul and rock music from the 1950's to today.

Tickets...Adults, \$8, Seniors & Students, \$7, Couples, \$14.  
Sponsored by The Hanson Family in memory of Pat Hanson.

### Saturday, May 14, 7:00 pm Silent Movie "For Heaven's Sake" (1926)

Jeff Rapsis returns for his 11th year with a Harold Lloyd comedy. A wealthy playboy falls for a young gal working for her father's church in the slums, giving rise to one of the best movie taglines, "A Man With a Mansion. A Miss With a Mission."

Free Will Donation Event.  
Sponsored by Pam & Steve Douglass, Gary & Nancy Meffe, Judith Reilly Gallery.

### Sunday, May 15, 2:00 pm Hocus Pocus Magic Show

With a wave of his wand, you'll be amazed, amused, and astounded by Master Magician Blaine Goad. You will see amazing things that will befuddle your mind and you will laugh till you cry at the comedic situations.

Tickets...Adults, \$8, Seniors and Students, \$5, Children 5 and under, FREE.  
Sponsored by Sam & Sharon Glaser, Tracy Holden & Kirk Thomas, New England Woodcraft, Nifty Thrifty, in memory of Martha Thurston.

### Sunday, June 5, 1:30 pm "Dinoman-Dinosaurs"

The dinosaurs are returning to the Brandon Town Hall! Have no fear, "Dinoman" is here. Bob Lisaius, accompanied by his raccoon, Reflex, presents all aspects of the world of paleontology. Don't miss the life size T-Rex come alive on the Town Hall stage.

Tickets...Adults, \$8, Seniors and Students, \$5, Children, 5 and under, FREE.  
Sponsored by Tom and Carolyn Whittaker, Whittaker Real Estate, Kathy & Bob Clark, The Hanson Family in memory of Pat Hanson, Frank & Ettie Spezzano.

### Saturday, June 11, 7:00 pm Silent Movie "Robin Hood" (1922)

Jeff Rapsis makes his monthly trip to Vermont with his talented fingers playing on the keyboard. Massive sets, great action and Douglas Fairbanks Sr. in the lead, made this the top grossing film of 1922. The first of this year's 100th anniversary celebration of this blockbuster adaptation of the tales of Robin Hood and his merry men.

Free Will Donation Event.  
Sponsored by Bruce Ness and Nancy Spalding-Ness

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**2014 TOYOTA 4RUNNER**  
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# Obituaries

## Ronald Joseph Disorda, 60, Brandon

BRANDON — Ronald Joseph Disorda, 60, passed away peacefully with his wife by his side on Monday, April 25, 2022, at his home in Brandon.

Mr. Disorda was born in Middlebury on January 19, 1962. He was the son of Reginald and Freda (Euber) Disorda. He grew up in the Brandon-Forest Dale area where he received his early education and graduated from Otter Valley Union High School, class 1980.

Ron began his working career at the music store in Brandon and later joined the staff at Vermont Tubbs for several years. He was forced to retire, due to illness, in January 2022 following 17 years with General Electric in Rutland. He enjoyed music and playing his guitar. He loved to travel, hike and old cars. He loved family gatherings.



RONALD JOSEPH DISORDA

Surviving are his wife, Lana Marie Disorda of Brandon, whom he married May 9, 2015; two sisters, Rebecca Conway of Georgia and Martha Wright of Glens Falls, N.Y.; four brothers, Reginald Disorda and George Disorda, both of

Brandon, David Disorda of Orwell and Scott Disorda of Virginia. Many nieces, a nephew and cousins also survive him. He was predeceased by his parents, a brother Robert Disorda, his sister Joan, and a nephew.

The funeral service will be held on Thursday, April 28, 2022, at 10 a.m. at the Brandon Congregational Church. The Rev. Sara Rossig, pastor, will officiate. A graveside committal service and burial will follow in Pine Hill Cemetery. Following the ceremony, the family will receive friends at Brandon American Legion Post #55 for a time of remembrance.

Memorial gifts in lieu of flowers may be made, in his memory, to The Foley Cancer Clinic, 160 Allen Street, Rutland, Vt. 05701. Arrangements are under the direction of the Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home in Brandon.

## Lori Keith, 61, Pittsford

PITTSFORD — Lori Keith, 61, of Pittsford, died Sunday, April 3, 2022, at her residence following a long illness.

She was born in Rutland on March 9, 1961, the daughter of Cyle and Marion (Lincoln) Brown. She graduated from Otter Valley Union High School in 1979. Lori married Terence Keith on March 9, 1993.

She was a lady who liked to be on the go. She enjoyed taking care of the elderly and, in general, doing anything she could for others. Her work history illustrates her industrious nature. Her career path took her through being an operator for New England Telephone, working at Alpan Glove Factory, selling Avon, production work at the Vermont Juvenile Furniture Factory, working with the Blanchard family at the Maple Museum, and forever working for the elderly, which included house cleaning and shopping errands.

She is survived by her husband, Terence, and stepson Matthew (Mamie) of Pittsford; her sister, Lynn Brown, nephew Pawz Brown and



LORI KEITH

great-nephew Lincoln Brown of Rutland; her sister, Luci Scinto and her children, Christopher and Allyson Scinto, of Essex Junction, and Abigail Scinto, of Kansas.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 8, 2022, at St. Alphonsus Church in Pittsford. A reception will follow in the Parish Hall. Arrangements are with the Barnard Funeral Home in Pittsford.

In lieu of flowers, please send memorial contributions to the Rutland County Humane Society, 765 Stevens Road, Pittsford, VT 05763.

## Legislative wrap

(Continued from Page 4)

ment in supplemental insurance policies. Many older Vermonters and others who are eligible for Medicare face a myriad of deci-

sions concerning health care coverage, including the possibility of selecting a Medicare Supplemental coverage plan.

During the open enrollment

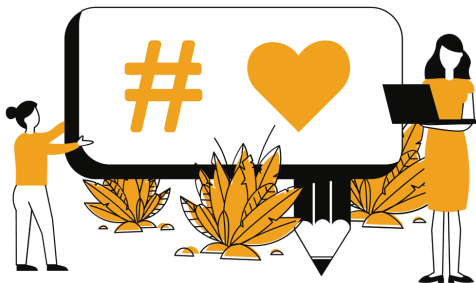
period for these plans, Vermonters are barraged by endless offers, encouragement and sometimes bullying tactics by various insurance companies to purchase their Medicare supplemental products.

This bill directs the Vermont Department of Financial Regulation to report to the legislature next January on how to improve the process for Vermonters to select and clearly understand supplemental Medicare plans and do so with confidence. I fully supported S.239 as many constituents have asked me for help with these decisions.

I am honored to serve as your state representative. You may reach me at bshaw@leg.state.vt.us or at 802-483-2398 if you have questions.

*Representative Butch Shaw  
Vice Chair House Committee  
on Transportation*

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Christopher Book/Director

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

Also operating the Birch Grove Crematory

# Calendar of events

## April

### Tuesday:

#### Chess Club

Join us every Tuesday evening for a fun night of chess from 4:00–6:00 p.m. at the Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer Street, Rutland.

#### Brandon Public Library Pins & Needles Crafting Group

The club will meet 5:30–7 p.m.

#### Brandon Public Library Teen Advisory Group

This advisory group meets every first Tuesday of the month from 3:30–5 p.m.

#### Brandon Public Library Book Discussion Group

Starting at 6 p.m., this group also meets every first Tuesday of the month.

### Wednesdays:

#### Brandon Public Library Meditation Group

Meet us for an hour of calm from 12:30–1:30 p.m.

### Thursdays:

#### Open Mic Nights

The Clear River Inn & Tavern in Pittsfield hosts weekly open mic nights. Sign-up starts at 8:00 p.m., the show is

### Through June 11:

“We’re All At A Party Called Life on Earth.”

The Compass Music and Arts Center is excited to announce the opening of a compelling art installation by FROBERTAN, a collaboration between acclaimed artist Fran Bull with her

partner Robert Black from 5:00–8:00 p.m. Master classes will be available as well April 30–May 1, and May 14–15. The fee is \$50 for adults per session (or \$75 for two sessions) and includes costs for materials and light refreshments. The fee for children under 10 years and accompanied by a participating adult is \$5 and for students is \$25. To reserve for a workshop, please call (802) 247-4295 or e-mail edna@brandon-music.net

### 29:

#### Take a tour of the Poetry Downtown Rutland

Join The Paper Poet for a Poetry Walk around downtown on Poem In Your Pocket Day Friday, April 29, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. beginning at Phoenix Books Rutland (rain or shine). If you submitted a poem to Poetry Downtown Rutland and plan to attend the Poetry Walk, we would be honored to hear you perform your piece at the location. We’ll be giving away “pocket poems” as well!

## May

### 3:

#### Poultney River and Rail Trail Audubon Walk

All are welcome. No worry if you can’t identify many birds. There will be friendly birders in the group who will happily share their knowledge with you. Bring water and a snack (and insect repellent if you use it), binoculars, cameras, field guides, if you have them. There is usually an opportunity to cut it short if you need to leave early. Slow pace with lots of opportunities for observing &

photographing. For more information: jptilley50@gmail.com (preferred method), or 802-598-2583, evenings 7 to 8pm. Meet at the D&H Trail crossing on Main Street, Poultney, at 7:30 am. (3.3 miles, Easy terrain), about 3-1/2 hours.

#### Castleton University Jazz Ensemble Concert

Starting at 7:00 p.m., the tickets are free for all students, staff, faculty, and alumni, \$10 for adults, and \$5 for seniors. Tickets can be reserved in advance by calling the Fine Arts Center Box Office at (802) 468-1119 or starting one hour before the performance in-person at the Box Office.

### 7:

#### Green Up Day in the West Rutland Marsh

On Sat from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. help clean up our favorite Audubon “Important Bird Area”. Wear gloves and boots. Meet at the West Rutland Town Hall at 9am. More info: birding@rutlandcountyaudubon

### 14:

#### Town of West Rutland open to vendors for Town Wide Yard Sale

The Town of West Rutland has scheduled its annual Town-Wide Yard Sale for Saturday, May 14th from 8:00am to 2:00pm. West Rutland residents can register their sale with the town by May 9th, to be included on the town wide map. Vendor space is also available for rental on the Town Hall lawn - a 10'x10' space is \$20.00 (bring your own tables). For more information call the Town Office at 802-438-2263.

## St. Thomas & Grace Episcopal Church, Brandon drive-thru cash/food drive on April 30, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

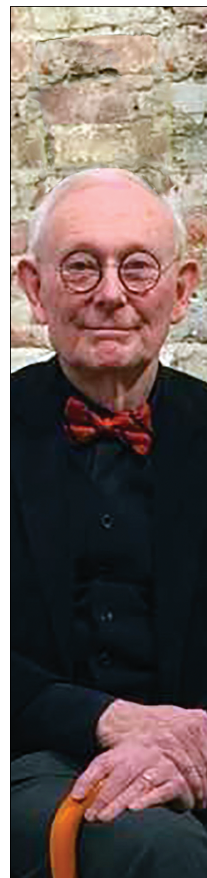
The Brandon Food Shelf is such an important part of our community. Let’s refill the shelves and keep our neighbors from going hungry. Cash and food donations welcome. Please drive up — we will meet you at your car and take donations.

**NEEDED: Cash for Hannaford’s gift cards  
(for purchase of milk, juice and veggies)**

**NEEDED: Peanut butter, pasta/sauce,  
canned pasta, tuna/chicken/beef in cans,  
mayonnaise, soups/stews.**

Thank you in advance for your thoughtfulness and caring.

Conant Square (Route 7) across from St Thomas Church building



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Warren Kimble's artwork is also available at **Vermont Folk Art Gallery**, 24 Park Street, in Brandon village.

# Sports

## Otter Valley lacrosse gets first win, splits two games

BY GENE DELORENZO

BRANDON — Otter Valley lacrosse gained its first win of the season with a hard fought victory over Randolph on Monday, April 25. OV's 7-3 win featured outstanding goalkeeping from senior Danny O'Brien (13 saves) and scoring from senior Hayden Bernhardt (4 goals). An added bonus came from junior Ben Marks, who took over the face-off duties after OV got off to a sluggish start in the circle.

Unofficial statistics had Marks

winning 8 of the 9 face-offs he took. Otter Valley built a 5-0 halftime lead as Bernhardt scored three of the game's first four goals. Bernhardt used his 6'4" frame and basketball skills to score on two jumping shots, while Matt Moseley and Evan Thomas contributed the other two.

The first-half star for OV, nonetheless, had to be O'Brien as he corralled seven saves and kept the Randolph team at bay. Even though the score appeared

to be one-sided, halftime statistics showed the game to be remarkably equal: Randolph led in face-offs (5 to 4), ground balls (19-18), both teams had 7 saves, OV had two less turnovers (9 to 11), and OV led in total shots, 14-13. All in all, one would think the score would have been much closer than 5-0. The difference was O'Brien.

The OV lead would grow to 6-0 on another goal by Bernhardt with 10:11 to play before Randolph would finally get on the

board with 5:38 remaining in the quarter. Two more goals in the final quarter would bring the lead down to 3, but Moseley would add an insurance goal with 2:15 to play and that would be the final cushion for Otter Valley.

Marks efforts in the circle would give the Otters a final margin of 9-5 on face-offs, while OV won the groundball battle, 41-37. Turnovers were even at 19-19, while OV would take nine more shots at 35-26. All in all, it was a solid win over a Division III

team after going against the iron of Rutland and Hartford. "It was fun," added Coach Matt Clark after the game.

On Saturday morning, April 23, the Otters played the Hartford team, falling 16-1. Kieran Williams scored the Otter goal on a fine pass from Bernhardt to tie the game at 1-all, but that was the highlight for the Otters.

## WEST RUTLAND HIGH SPORTS PREVIEW



WEST RUTLAND HIGH track & field team is: Abigail Lanfear; Isabell Lanfear; Quincy Senecal; Tristan Rocke; JJ Plemmons; Colby Perry.

### Track team is small in numbers, but big in talent

The West Rutland track program is small in numbers, but not in talent, as the WRHS harriers have performed well at the state level for many years. The team has competed in two meets so far this season, and are off to a fine start.

Three young men — Quincy Senecal, Tristan Rocke, and JJ Plemmons — have carried the team in the early going on the men's side, while Abigail and Isabell Lanfear are once again carrying the women's side with excellence in the field events.

At the Burr and Burton meet on Saturday, April 23, Senecal finished 13th in the 100 meters, eighth in the 200, and third in the high jump. Rocke placed 16th in the 200, fifth in the 400, and fourth in the 800. JJ Plemmons ran the 100 in 13.66 to finish 16th, threw the shot well enough to place fourth, and his 65'10" in the discus was good enough for 12th place. Colby Perry, another team member, added a 16th place in the javelin.

For the women, Isabell Lanfear was unable to perform over the weekend, but Abigail stepped in and had excellent performances in the shot put, long jump and triple jump. The Lanfear duo are two of the finest in the state at their level and hope to do well throughout the season.

### TRI-SCHOOL SCOREBOARD UPDATE

#### BASEBALL

4/19	Otter Valley	8	Bellows Falls	2
4/19	Bellows Falls	8	Otter Valley	1
4/21	Mt. Abraham	21	Otter Valley	1
4/23	Mt. Anthony	10	Otter Valley	4

#### SOFTBALL

4/19	Springfield	11	Otter Valley	9
4/21	Mt. Abraham	23	Otter Valley	6

#### LACROSSE (Boys)

4/19	Rutland	17	Otter Valley	1
4/23	Hartford	16	Otter Valley	1
4/25	Otter Valley	7	Randolph	3

## Spring is Tire Time!

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**WEST RUTLAND HIGH softball team by grade is:** Coach - Laurie Serrani; Juniors - Emma Sevigny; Arianna Coombs; Sophmores - Emily Trepanier; Olivia Cyr; Ruth Petit; Gabby Griffith; Samara Raiche; Gina Danyliencko; Freshman - Peyton Guay; Aubrey Beaulieu; Camryn Williams; Emma Beede; Kennah Wright-Chapman; Isabella Coombs; Sohyr Perry.

## Softball team off to a strong season start

West Rutland — The Golden Hordes softball team is off to a soaring start for the season with a 3-0 season, defeating Poultney in its first outing, 18-6, on April 12, then beating Leland and Gray, 17-4, on April 15, and overwhelming White River Valley on April 18, 25-0.

Much of the team's success has relied on the surprising arm of

freshman standout Peyton Guay, following dominating pitching last year by graduating seniors Elizabeth Bailey and Kiana Grabowski. Coach Laurie Serrani has said she's been "very impressed" by Guay's early performances, while Guay has given the credit to her success to pitching coach Mikayla Taylor.

Kennah Wright-Chapman is a re-

liable hitter and base-runner as the team's lead-off batter, while Aubrey Beaulieu wields a strong bat as second in the line-up, while Guay has turned in strong performances batting, as well, hitting a grand slam homer in the team's first outing against Poultney. Others hitting well this season have been Bella Coombs, Gabby Griffith, and Oliv-

ia Cyr but with every team member playing stout defense and carrying their weight in the line-up.

Westside faced Poultney again April 26 (after this deadline), and, if all things proceed as the season has started, looks to be competitive as a playoff contender.



**West Rutland high baseball team by grade is:** Coach - David Bartlett; Senior - Caden Reed; Juniors - Noah Olsen; Dominick Ellison; Sophmores - Garrett Owens; Gus Covarrubias; Freshmen - Gabe Firpo; Clayton Kessop; Andrew Bailey; Cayman Pratt; Eight Graders - Jeff Tedesco; Braden Hogan; Jayden Sevigny; Grady Johnson.

## Young baseball team improves skills, builds talent

West Rutland — Coach David Bartlett is very excited about his young baseball team at West Rutland High. He is very confident that the group can compete and will only get better as the season progresses.

In the teams' opener versus Poultney, they trailed 6-1 early and battled back to tie the con-

test at 6-6 before dropping a 10-6 decision. Coach Bartlett cites senior Caden Reed as the backbone of the team and his primary starting pitcher. He also mentions that there are several "strike-throwers" on the team and they will be competitive off this year.

The team has four eighth grad-

ers. Reed is the only senior who started in the Poultney game. Gus Covarrubias, a sophomore first baseman, had a walk and a single in that game and does a nice job around the bag. Andrew Bailey, a freshman, plays a strong second base and also can pitch for the Golden Horde.

Garrett Owens, a speedy cen-

terfielder, is also the team's lead-off hitter and his speed will add an extra touch to the lineup. Dominick Ellison plays at third base and had a solid two-run single in the game against Poultney last week. Look for him to contribute to the team often. Reed, in addition to pitching, is a quality hitter who had a single

and scored a run in the Poultney game.

All in all, despite their youth, the team should show great improvement during the year under the veteran head coach. Next game for the Golden Horde was Tuesday, April 26 when they played Poultney there, but after our press deadline.

### WEST RUTLAND SPRING SCHEDULE

#### W. RUTLAND HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY BASEBALL

4/12	Poultney	4:30 p.m.
4/14	Rivendell	4:30 p.m.
4/16	Danville	11 a.m.
4/26	@ Poultney	4:30 p.m.
4/28	@ MSJ	4:30 p.m.
4/30	Arlington	11 a.m.
5/5	@ Proctor	4:30 p.m.
5/7	Mill River	4:30 p.m.
5/9	Leland & Gray	4:30 p.m.
5/12	@ Rivendell	4:30 p.m.
5/17	@ Arlington	4:30 p.m.
5/19	@ Twin Valley	4:30 p.m.
5/21	MSJ	11 a.m.
5/24	Proctor	4:30 p.m.
5/26	@ Green Mtn.	4:30 p.m.
5/28	Mill River	11 a.m.

#### W. RUTLAND HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY TRACK & FIELD

4/12	@ Fair Haven	TBA
4/23	@ Burr & Burton	10 a.m.
4/30	@ Windsor	9:30 a.m.
5/3	@ Mt. Anthony	TBA
5/10	@ Fair Haven	TBA
5/17	@ Burr & Burton	3:30 p.m.
5/24	@ SVL Champion	TBA
5/31	@ Fair Haven	TBA
6/4	@ State Champion	TBA

#### W. RUTLAND HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY SOFTBALL

4/12	Poultney	4:30 p.m.
4/14	@ Leland & Gray	4:30 p.m.
4/16	White River	11 a.m.
4/26	@ Poultney	4:30 p.m.
4/30	Bellows Falls	11 a.m.
5/3	Green Mtn.	4:30 p.m.
5/5	@ Proctor	4:30 p.m.
5/7	Otter Valley	4:30 p.m.
5/9	Leland & Gray	4:30 p.m.
5/10	Twin Valley	4:30 p.m.
5/12	@ Twin Valley	4:30 p.m.
5/17	@ White River	4:30 p.m.
5/19	@ Mill River	4:30 p.m.
5/24	Proctor	4:30 p.m.
5/26	@ Green Mtn.	4:30 p.m.
5/28	@ Bellows Falls	12 p.m.

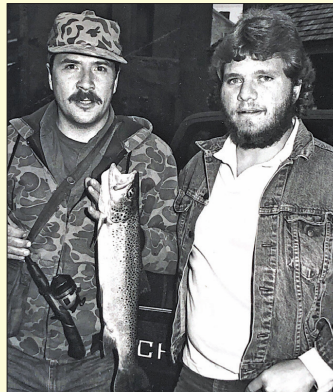


# Mim's Photos

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



## Recognized



Gary Gorton of Salisbury called to identify the man in the photo of 2 guys and a fish, printed in the 4/20 edition of The Reporter. Gary says the man on the left is Randy Alexander Trudeau, who went by the nickname RAT (his initials). Gary went to school with him. Gary thinks this photo is probably from the 1980s. Randy lives in Leicester now. Gary added that he and Randy were both members of "The Red Riders", a self-named group of boys who had a cabin (club house) on Smead Road in Salisbury where they would meet.

Joann Trudeau of Leicester also called in to recognize the 2 men with the fish. The man on the left is her husband, Randy Trudeau and the man on the right is her brother John Quelch. Randy is holding a 5 pound brown trout they caught in the Neshobe River, probably in 1988 or '89.

Deb Miner also recognized John Quelch in this photo.



Deb Miner of Leicester called to identify these men pictured from the 4/20 edition of the Reporter. Left to right they are: Butch Trombley of Brandon, Rich Kepner (D) formerly of Brandon and Bob Gearwar is who Deb thinks this is also from Brandon.



Lexi DUBY of Forest Dale emailed to identify the kids in the back of the truck with the deer as Britney Cote, Sam Cote, Andrew Stewart, Jon Stewart and Lisa Stewart. Lexi says she attended Neshobe school with these folks.

E-mail [ads@brandonreporter.com](mailto:ads@brandonreporter.com)  
if you can identify someone in these photos.  
Or call us at 247-8080

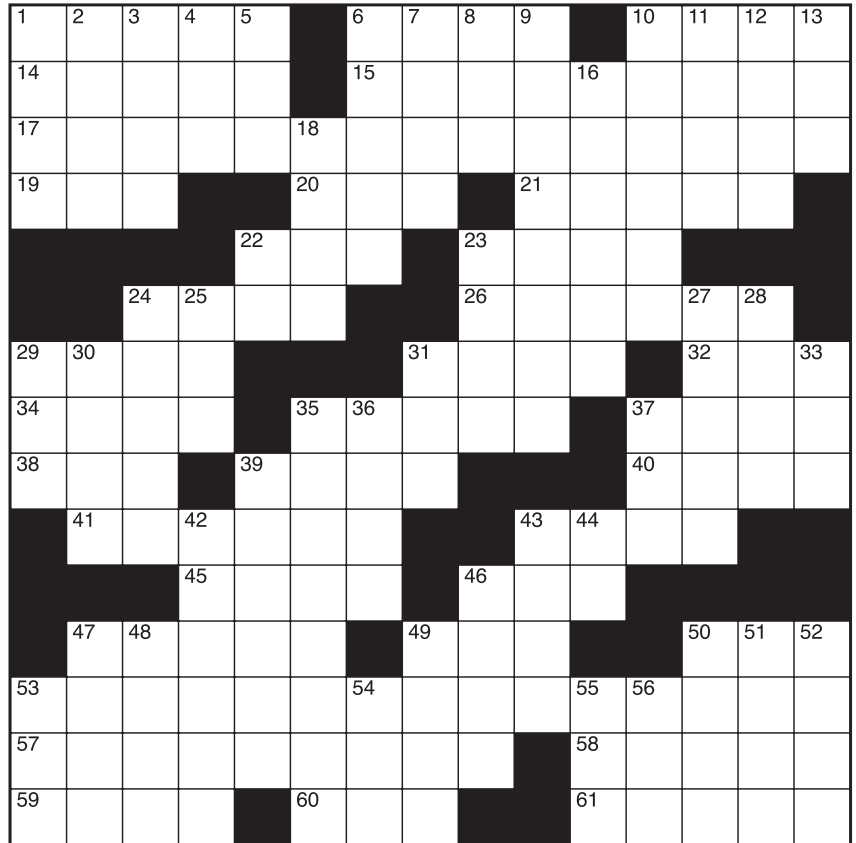
# Crossword

## CLUES ACROSS

1. North American people
6. Chinese surname
10. Fit in at the last minute
14. "Very" in musical terminology
15. Underwater displays
17. Crosby's bandmates
19. Belong to he
20. Informed about the latest trends (archaic)
21. Sequences of alternating turns
22. Genus of grasses
23. Satisfy
24. Petty quarrel
26. Made level
29. Ruler of Iran
31. Historical region of Syria
32. Food suitable for babies
34. Something to lend
35. Zone of oceanic trenches
37. Philippine island
38. Domesticated animal
39. Plant of the lily family
40. Bluish green
41. \_\_\_ Tomei, actress
43. Without (French)
45. Lilly and Manning are two
46. Apply pressure to
47. Divide in half
49. Bad deed
50. Don't know when yet
53. Hollywood's greatest honor
57. Aiming to exhort
58. Faked
59. A way to pierce
60. Midway between northeast and east
61. Points

## CLUES DOWN

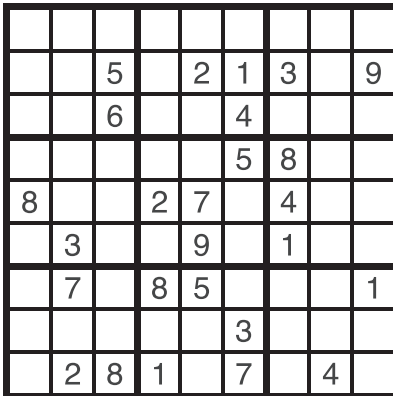
1. Chop up
2. \_\_\_ Spumante (Italian wine)
3. Egyptian goddess
4. Split pulses
5. Afflict
6. Type of area rug
7. Tide
8. Affirmative
9. Sudden change
10. One picked
11. Debauched man
12. Stiff bristles
13. Famous arena
16. Established rules and methods
18. Injection
22. Father
23. Protein-rich liquids
24. He delivers gifts
25. Advanced degree
27. Fencing swords
28. Chinese mountain range
29. Shaft horsepower (abbr.)
30. Precursor to hemoglobin
31. Much \_\_\_ about nothing
33. Compound fabric (abbr.)
35. A way to act slowly on
36. Ottoman military commanders
37. Popular kids' network
39. Hard compound
42. Sympathize with
43. Northeast college
44. Blood group
46. Frosted
47. Turn away
48. Benefit
49. Dry or withered
50. Bangladeshi monetary unit
51. Reproduced
52. Contributes
53. Thrust horse power (abbr.)
54. Wear
55. Promotes retention of water (abbr.)
56. Very small



# Sudoku

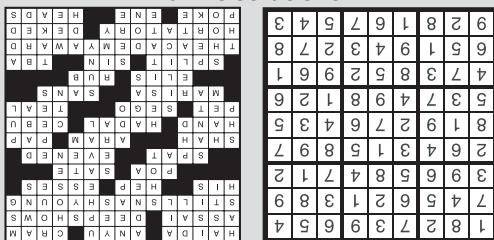
Here's how a sudoku puzzle works:

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



Level: Intermediate

## Puzzle solutions



## Let Us Help You Find Homes for Your Kittens and Puppies!

Did you know that the Rutland County Humane Society (RCHS) offers a "Spay The Mom" program? Even better, the program is simple and free! If you're a Rutland County resident, and have a mother dog or cat with babies, you can bring the whole litter of kittens or puppies to us! In exchange, RCHS will schedule an appointment to "Spay The Mom," as well as get her updated on rabies and distemper vaccines, all at no charge. The kittens and puppies will be adopted into loving new homes after being spayed and neutered. Please help spread the word if you know of a female cat or dog with kittens or puppies! For more information, please call the Adoption Center at 802.483.6700.

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



#### SAM 6-MONTH-OLD. MALE. LAB MIX. BLACK.

I am looking for a family who can help build my confidence and give me lots of love. I am a super sweet guy but can be a little timid at first. I need someone who can be patient with me. I am just a puppy, so I am pretty hyper once I am comfortable, and do typical puppy things. I will need my new family to work with me on house training, and to help me feel less anxious when I am left alone. I really can't wait for my new family to take me home.

#### SNUGGLES 14-YEAR-OLD. SPAYED FEMALE. DOMESTIC SHORT HAIR. BROWN TABBY.

I'm Snuggles, and my name matches my personality pretty well. I'll start purring as soon as you pet me. The more cuddles the better! I'm quite a charmer with people. I am looking for a home that will give me plenty of affection as well as enough time and quiet space to sleep. I'm on the heavier side and appreciate the occasional treat. All around, I'm a friendly, gentle senior gal and would love to spend my retirement with you!



## RUTLAND COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

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ADOPTION CENTER OPEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

# Off the Shelf

New books at the Brandon Free Public Library

## Adult Fiction

### I'll Be You by Janelle Brown

As children, Sam and Elli were gorgeous identical twins, and became B-list child TV stars. But as adults, their lives have splintered. Elli reinvented herself as the perfect homemaker, but Sam never recovered from her failed Hollywood career, or her addiction to the pills and booze. Sam is shocked to learn that Elli's life has been in turmoil; she's stopped answering her phone and has checked in to a mysterious spa in Ojai. Is her sister just decompressing, or is she in trouble? Sam works to figure out Elli's baffling disappearance, and realizes that their sisterly bond is more complicated than she ever knew.

## Young Adult Fiction

### The Cost of Knowing by Britt Morris

Sixteen-year-old Alex Rufus is trying his best, but it's hard for him to be present when every time he touches an object or person, Alex sees into its future. When he touches his car, he sees it years from now, totaled and underwater. When he touches his girlfriend, he sees them at the precipice of breaking up, and that terrifies him. Alex feels these visions are a curse, distracting him, making him anxious and

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unable to live an ordinary life. And when Alex touches a photo that gives him a vision of his brother's imminent death, everything changes.

## Picture Books

### I Eat Poop.: A Dung Beetle Story by Mark Pett

Dougie has a secret: he's not a ground beetle. He's a dung beetle, and he loves eating poop. Dougie knows he should be proud. Dung beetles help process waste and do other extraordinary things! But Dougie also knows that if anyone at school saw his lunch, he'd be an outcast. One day, the lunchroom bugs out over a classmate eating poop, and Dougie must make a choice. Can he stand up for his friend—and for his true self?

### Someone Builds the Dream by Lisa Wheeler, illustrated by Loren

## Long

This is an exploration of the many types of work that go into building our world—from the making of a bridge to a wind farm, an amusement park, and even the very picture book that you are reading. An architect may dream up the plans for a house, but someone has to actually work the saws and pound the nails. This book is a thank-you to the skilled women and men who work tirelessly to see our dreams brought to life.

## Magazines

We've got a new magazine! **Making** is a bi-annual craft magazine for makers. If you're into knitting, sewing, crocheting, weaving, embroidery, or quilting, this is the magazine for you!

### The following books were donated by Brenda Whittaker:

"Summer at the Cape" by RaeAnne Thayne in memory of Marion C. Sawyer

"Dream Town" by David Baldacci in memory of "Judge" Chet Ketcham

"Mulberry Hollow" by Denise Hunter in memory of Zola B. Sawyer

# Oops! Contractor takes the roof off wrong house

## Brandon Police Report

BRANDON — Brandon police received an unusual call on Thursday, April 21 from a family member on Deer Run Road reporting that someone had removed the roof from her elderly parent's home, also on Deer Run Road. An officer investigated the scene and, after making a few calls, discovered that a roofing contractor had gone to the wrong house and removed almost three quarters of the homeowner's roof by mistake.

Since the issue was civil and not criminal in nature, the complainant was advised of the mistake and was given her options as to what she could do to resolve the damage done.

The next day, April 22, an officer on patrol on Ella Dean Road observed a suspicious female walking around a property. The officer knew the property owner did not want anyone on the property, so investigated. It was later determined the unknown woman was with the University of Vermont and had the owner's permission to be on the property.

Police also received multiple complaints of aggressive driving in the Wood Lane area during the past week. After directed traffic enforcement on April 18, police instituted frequent patrols in that area and said they will strictly enforce motor vehicle violations that occur.

### In other activity, police: On April 18

- Responded to a complaint of a suspicious vehicle on Wood Lane. The vehicle was parked at Wood's Market and Garden with a male reportedly sleeping inside. Upon further investigation, it was determined that the operator became too tired to drive, prompting him to stop

to sleep.

- Offered advice on resolving a mental health issue to a resident on Mulcahy Drive. No police response was needed at the scene.

- Conducted speed enforcement on Franklin Street by Otter Valley Union High School. One motor vehicle was stopped for speeding in a school zone.

- Conducted speed enforcement on McConnell Road. Two motor vehicles were stopped and issued tickets for speeding.

- Made traffic stops on McConnell Road and Franklin Street. Two tickets and two warnings were issued.

- Took fingerprints for nursing license.

- Conducted a foot patrol on Center Street.

### On April 19

- Assisted Rutland City Police in attempting to locate a suspect residing on Furnace Road in Brandon who may have been involved in a theft in Rutland City earlier that day.


- Took fingerprints for nursing student licensing, school chaperone, and a Foster Care candidate.

- Conducted routine property checks at Champlain Farms on Grove Street and 802 Spirits on Conant Square. Both buildings were secure.

### On April 20

- Responded to the area of West Seminary Street for a report of kids vandalizing the park. Litter and some possible damage to the park equipment was found. The

(See Police report 13)



## WEEKLY HOROSCOPE

**LEO July 23-Aug. 23**  
This week you could receive word of an exciting challenge at work, Leo. If you have been putting in for a promotion or job change, this could be what you've waited for.

**CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 20**  
There is a lot of work to get done around the house, Capricorn. A lack of funding has you in a holding pattern. Examine your budget to see if there's wiggle room.

**ARIES March 21-April 20.**  
A strong urge to be alone arises this week, Aries. If this happens, turn off your phone and put a message that you're not to be disturbed until you're ready for some company.

**AQUARIUS Jan. 21-Feb. 18**  
Aquarius, if you find yourself in a poor mood this week, try not to take it out on others. Simply ask for some alone time until you can work out your feelings for the better.

**TAURUS April 21-May 21**  
Yours may turn into the party house this week when a lot of uninvited visitors show up and expect to socialize. It's a good thing you have energy to spare right now, Taurus.

**PISCES Feb. 19-March 20**  
Exercise tact and diplomacy when someone asks for your honest opinion about their performance at work, Pisces. You'll get your point across.

**GEMINI May 22-June 21**  
Errands are not going to complete themselves, Gemini. Schedule time this week to get all of your ducks in a row. You have obligations to your family and friends.

**LIBRA Sept. 23-Oct. 23**  
Spring cleaning is in the air, and this week you are ready to tackle your home top to bottom. Why not ask for some help from the kids or your spouse to work more quickly?

**FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS**

- April 28 Terry Pratchett, author, humorist (d)
- April 29 Duke Ellington, composer (d)
- April 30 Gal Gadot, actress, model (37)
- May 1 Calamity Jane, scout (d)
- May 2 Satyajit Ray, Indian filmmaker (d)
- May 3 James Brown, singer (d)
- May 4 Audrey Hepburn, actress (d)

**SCORPIO Oct. 24-Nov. 22**  
Frustrations may be high this week. Scorpio. Despite your desire to socialize, you can't seem to get out of the house. Responsibilities at home won't change for some time.

**SAGITTARIUS Nov. 23-Dec. 21**  
Keep in mind it can take a few days for you to recover from a night of revelry, Sagittarius. Avoid overdoing it on weeknights or you may pay the price at work energy.

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# Police report

(Continued from Page 12)

suspect(s) had fled prior to the arrival of the police.

- During a foot patrol on Center Street, officers were approached by juveniles reporting a runaway friend. The runaway child was located within an hour and was safely returned to her parent.

- Responded to a motor vehicle complaint on McConnell Road. Officers attempted to locate the operator, who was reported to be driving recklessly in the area, but were unable to find him.

- Conducted directed traffic patrols on Wood Lane and McConnell Road. No violations were observed on Wood Lane, but multiple tickets were issued for various traffic violations on McConnell Road.

- Made traffic stops on Grove Street, Franklin Street/Alta Wood and McConnell Road/Wood Lane. Warnings were issued for speeding, defective equipment, and expired registration. Tickets were issued for speeding, and one operator was found to be under civil suspension. Multiple tickets were issued to the operator.

- Took fingerprints for a nursing school student.

- Conducted routine property watches on North Birch Hill Road for owner who is in long term care, on Forest Dale Road at the Brandon Senior Citizen Center, at 802 Spirits on Conant Square, and the Grassroots Vermont building on Lover's Lane.

- Conducted a foot patrol on Center Street.

## On April 21

- Responded to a motor vehicle complaint on Wood Lane of a vehicle revving its engine. The responding officer remained in the area for an extended period of time, but did not observe any violations.

- Responded to a landlord/tenant dispute on Furnace Road.

- Took in a found wallet and later returned it to the owner.

- Were involved in a minor crash involving a police cruiser on Park Street; no injuries were reported.

- Conducted a directed patrol in the Wood Lane area.

- Stopped a vehicle for speeding on Forest Dale Road and issued tickets.

- Took fingerprints for teaching licenses.

- Conducted routine property watches at Green Mountain Garage on Franklin Street and Walgreens on Union Street. Both were secure.

## On April 22

- Made a welfare check on Union Street. The person being checked on was found to be fine.

- Responded to a motor vehicle complaint of an erratic operator on Route 7/Franklin Street in Brandon heading towards Pittsford. Police in Pittsford and Rutland City were no-

tified.

- Were notified of an alarm activation at Comcast on Frog Hollow Road. The alarm company later called to cancel the alarm and no police response was necessary.

- Conducted a directed traffic enforcement on Wood Lane in response to ongoing complaints of aggressive driving. No violations were observed.

- Conducted routine property watches at Pine Hill Cemetery and St. Mary's Church on Carver Street. Both were secure.

- Took fingerprints for employment, nursing school, Foster Care and a teaching license.

## On April 23

- Were advised of potential vehicle break-ins in the area of Franklin Street near Greg's Tire.

- Received a call from a Furnace Road resident of unsafe use of an ATV. Caller did not want to give information and hung up on dispatch. Area will be patrolled for any unsafe ATV use.

- Received a report of a stolen vehicle from Newton Road. The vehicle was later found in Rutland City and returned to owner. Investi-

gation is ongoing.

- Aided with the removal of a traffic hazard on Union Street involving a U-haul trailer; the tow company assisted the motorist.

- Attended a basket raffle fundraiser for K9 Guinness.

## On April 24

- Responded to a noise complaint on River Street. The parties were advised of Title 13 V.S.A. 1022 — Noise in the Nighttime — and told to tone it down. No further complaints were made.

- Conducted a directed patrol on Wood Lane/Franklin Street. Two vehicles were stopped for speeding. One operator was issued a warning. The other was arrested for DUI and driving with a criminally suspended license.

- Conducted speed enforcement on Grove Street. One vehicle was stopped, ticket issued.

- Made traffic stops on Franklin Street and Grove Street for speeding and issued two warnings and three tickets. On Park Street a traffic stop was made for a defective exhaust and a ticket was issued.

- While conducting a foot patrol, police observed a silver Volkswagen with a defective exhaust. An officer caught up with the vehicle, issuing a ticket for defective equipment.

# PUBLIC NOTICES

## NOTICE

### Town of Proctor Water Department Water System Flushing Public Notice

The annual or semi-annual flushing of water mains, via fire hydrants, will take place from Monday, May 9th through Friday May 20th 2022. Please contact the Water Department at (802) 342-1900 or the Town Manager at (802) 459-3333 ex.13 with any questions. During flushing users may experience cloudy water. Please run the water until the water clears.

## TOWN OF PROCTOR INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Town of Proctor is inviting bids from a licensed and insured person/company to remove existing grout material and apply silicone joint sealant along the Marble Bridge Railing on Main Street. Bids can be emailed to Michael Ramsey/Town Manager at [manager@proctorvermont.com](mailto:manager@proctorvermont.com), or mailed to the address below by May 2nd, 2022.

Town of Proctor  
45 Main Street  
Proctor, VT 05765

Questions can be directed to Michael Ramsey at 802-459-3333 Ext. 13 and amendments will be posted to the website no later than April 25th, 2022. The Town reserves the right to waive any informality, to accept or reject, in whole or in part any or all bids, or take whatever other action may be deemed to be in the best interest of the town. See the "Current Bid" menu on the Towns Website for more project detail.

## TOWN OF GOSHEN PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022, AT 7:00 PM

Residents and non-resident property owners of the Town of Goshen are hereby warned to appear at the Goshen Town Hall at 7:00 PM on May 16, 2022, to discuss the application of Moose House, LLC requesting subdivision of 167 Goshen Ripton Rd.

Interested person(s) may forfeit the right to appeal the decision of the Town of Goshen Planning Commission if they fail to participate by attending and speaking, submitting a signed letter of concern, or are represented by an authorized person.

For questions or to view the application, please visit the Goshen Town Offices open Tuesdays 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM or by contacting Marci Hayes, Zoning Administrator at (802) 247-6455 or [zoning@goshenvt.org](mailto:zoning@goshenvt.org).

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# John Haverstock

(Continued from Page 1)

law for the next 20 years, never married or had kids during that time.

Today, however, he and his girlfriend/partner of 12 years live in Addison, Vt., and he still very much enjoys walking in the woods, gardening, doing home improvement projects and travelling. Good passions to have in light of his decision to step down from the town manager's position as of this Friday, April 26.

Before he heads out of town, we took the opportunity to ask him a few questions — an exit interview, per se — and to share the wisdom of his 14 years as town manager.

**Q:** It's been a good ride for you here as Pittsford's Town Manager. When you first arrived in town, what were your first impressions and did you think you'd stay this long?

**A:** I have always loved Pittsford because of the peace and natural beauty of the Town and its warm and friendly residents. I am pleased with my long tenure here as it has enabled me to learn all about municipal and state government and to be productive on behalf of the Select Board and town residents.

**Q:** For newcomers, first impressions of a town can be important. What do you think those impressions are for many and what are some of the things Pittsford could do to improve?

**A:** I believe many are impressed that so many families have stayed in town for many generations—a testament to the quality of life here and the strong community spirit which prevails. For better or worse, many people's first impressions of town derive from the condition of US Route 7, which bisects the town. We anxiously await the implementation of state plans to reconstruct several segments of the highway—particularly Segment 2, which is within the Village. We have seen how a highway reconstruction project has transformed the Brandon downtown and we hope that the Village of Pittsford will similarly benefit from an upgrade of the highway and related infrastructure, such as

sidewalks.

**Q:** If the elementary school is full, and housing is tight, does Pittsford have a need/desire to attract new residents?

**A:** Yes, the Town wishes to attract new families. However, the lack of affordable and moderately priced housing is a problem here and all across the state.

**Q:** Pittsford has done a lot over the past decade to develop its town recreational trail system. Could you sum up what's been done and who's been responsible for that? Are more trails on the way?

**A:** Baird Morgan and Bob Harnish have led a hard-working Trails Committee, with a large roster of volunteers. We are always looking to establish new trails and any landowners willing to discuss access are encouraged to reach out to Baird, Bob or our Recreation Director, Jennifer Popp.

**Q:** What other town recreation developments are in the town's future?

**A:** The new Recreation Director, Jennifer Popp, is a dynamo and has done a great deal in her first year to maintain popular programs and develop new ones. Her facility with social media is a great asset, as we reach out to the public with programming information and other time-sensitive notices. Jen has plans to resurface bathroom floors at the Recreation Area, re-surface the tennis and basketball courts and to replace the dock at the Recreation Area's swimming pond. We also hope to better showcase our excellent 18-hole disc golf course, creating league play and hosting bigger and better tournaments there.

**Q:** Big projects upcoming include improving Route 7 through Pittsford. Could you briefly outline the project and how long it'll take?

**A:** The state plans to upgrade Route 7 within Pittsford by segments, each of which takes approximately 2 years to complete. Segment 1 (south of the Mobil Station) is nearly complete. Segment 4 (which spans northern Pittsford and southern Brandon) is likely next to be upgraded. This will likely be followed by Segment 3 (running from Plains Road



JOHN HAVERSTOCK

northward) and finally Segment 2 (the Village segment). Since each segment takes about 2 years, and VTrans prefers to only tackle one segment at a time, we may not see Segment 2 upgraded until late in this decade (2028?). In addition, the state also plans to replace the bridge across Furnace Brook near the Mobil station.

**Q:** What other infrastructure projects are in the works for Pittsford?

**A:** The Town has plans to install a pre-cast box culvert on West Creek Road and to pave the southern end of West Creek Road and resurface several other stretches of highway. The Town also hopes to replace two oversized steel tube culverts on Whipple Hollow Road.

**Q:** What were three of the most significant developments or projects you've helped oversee in your time as Town Manager?

**A:** It was great to get sidewalk segments installed with grant funds along Arch and Pleasant Roads. We also used grant funds to build a sand/salt shed at the Transfer Station lot (for Highway Department use). This enables the highway crew to mix and load sand and salt for more efficient winter operations. Perhaps most enjoyable and satisfying for me was the dismantling of Kendrick Dam on Sugar Hollow Road (once again with grant funds). The dam was once used to power a mill and allowed for ice harvesting and storage. However, in recent de-

(See John Haverstock, Page 16)

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# John Haverstock

(Continued from Page 15)

acades, it had fallen into disrepair, was silting in and serving as mosquito habitat. We persuaded the state to erect a historic marker off Plains Road to note the site's importance to the community in its heyday. It was also wonderful to work with a local business — Markowski Excavating, Inc. — on this project. A few historic artifacts relating to ice harvesting operations were unearthed and given over to the Pittsford Historical Society.

**Q:** Define what the job of town manager is. Then define what the position entails.

**A:** Basically, a Town Manager runs the town on a day-to-day basis, doing his/her best to implement the policy goals of the elected Select Board, to which he/she regularly reports. This entails staying abreast of trends and issues in municipal government through continuing education/training and working with the state, other municipalities, town staff and, of course, town residents. A lot of the job is receiving and disseminating information. Other duties include handling personnel matters, budgeting and preparing for big events (Pittsford Day, Veterans Day, Town meeting, etc.). I have truly

loved the work and its variety. The job has taught me how to prioritize tasks and to adapt to constantly changing circumstances.

**Q:** What's been the biggest surprise since you've been here?

**A:** I have found it remarkable that so many Town residents give so freely of their time and talents to help the Town function. Volunteerism and community spirit are alive and well in Pittsford!

**Q:** What's been the most helpful thing — community, select board members, colleagues — in allowing you to get your job done?

**A:** All of the above. As a Vermont "transplant" it has been great to work with a select board that has deep roots in the community. They have often educated me about Pittsford's history and culture. I have also been especially thankful for the assistance and guidance offered by the Vermont League of Cities & Towns.

**Q:** If you could tell townspeople the most helpful action they could do to help any town manager, what would it be?

**A:** I would encourage them to stop by and say hello and introduce yourself to the new Town Manager. Let her know what you

love most about your community and how she might help to make Pittsford even better. If you have some time and talent to offer, please also consider volunteering to serve on a Town board or commission, or as a Town representative on a regional board.

**Q:** Any favorite moments stand out?

**A:** Pittsford Day is always a wonderful time for townspeople to renew relationships with friends and neighbors. However, most thrilling was the completion of the Kendrick Dam dismantling, as it (a) cost the Town residents nothing, (b) greatly improved the area aesthetically, (c) highlighted the history of the site (through the erection of a State historic marker), (d) employed a local business in a worthy project and (e) restored the natural flow of Sugar Hollow Brook, hopefully to the benefit of its trout population.

**Q:** Looking back over the years in Pittsford, any comments about your time here and words of wisdom for the new town manager?

**A:** I hope that Brenda enjoys the people of Pittsford as much as I have and that she enjoys the work of Town Manager as much as I have. Pittsford has been very good to me and I will miss it a great deal. I hope to return to visit often to the "Sunshine Village."



**PITTSFORD TOWN MANAGER John Haverstock hams it up during a going-away party last week at Pittsford town offices. Cutting the cake is town treasurer Liz Willis, new Town Manager Brenda Fox-Howard is in the back, and Jennifer Popp is at left. Haverstock's last day on the job is Friday, April 29.**

## Addison County's Hometown Dealer



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