

Letters to the Editor

Legislative Wrap

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Brandon to hold drive-thru food collection

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 are welcome. Please drive up, we will meet you at your car and take donations, no personal contact is required.

There is a Drive-thru cash/food collection on Saturday, June 26, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Comant Square (Route 7) across from the St. Thomas church building.

Needed: Cash for Hannaford's gift cards (for purchase of milk, juice and veggies). Plus, we also need peanut butter, pasta/sauce, canned pasta, tuna/chicken/beef

in cans, mayonnaise, and soups/stews.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtfulness and caring.

Missey Thompson, parish communicator
St. Thomas & Grace Episcopal Church, Brandon

Clarification offered on school equity policy

It appears that a couple of different items in the June 9 Reporter were accidentally conflated. Private schools, known as independent schools, operate with publicly funded vouchers yet they do not have to be accountable to the public for where that money goes. Further, they do not have to accept all students on an equal opportunity basis. A recent but narrow United States Supreme

Court decision allowing vouchers to religious schools has reignited this controversy.

The Vermont School Boards Resolution adopts positions at its annual meeting to place before the legislature and the state board of education for action in law or rule. The OVUU resolution, if adopted, becomes the board's association. In this case, the desired action is that

private schools be accountable for the public money they receive in a way similar to the public schools and that except for some unique special needs, admission be under the same equal opportunity criteria.

William J. Mathis
Goshen Representative
OVUU

the Department of Motor Vehicles; Department of Labor, modernizing the Bright Futures Information System to serve children's programs, and making critical cybersecurity upgrades. The page required to keep up with the necessary technology replacements and maintain more than 1,200 software applications requires consistent funding.

BILLS PASSED THIS SESSION

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/passed/2022#both-house-and-senate>

I look forward to keeping you up to date with The Reporter articles, Facebook posts, Front Porch Forum posts and emails.

Stay Healthy!
Rep. Stephanie Zak Jerome (Brandon, Pittsford, Sudbury) Committee on Commerce and Economic Development (Ranking Member)
sjerome@leg.state.vt.us / www.stephaniejeromevt.com

Letters to the editor

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

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

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

Send your letters to the Editor by Friday before 5 p.m.
Brandon Reporter, 58 Maple St., Middlebury, VT 05753.
Or email to news@brandonreporter.com