

Beauregard

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on their mountaintops, thinking and figuring, although practically right next door.

"John had the ability to get himself involved in so many different things about the community. He didn't hesitate, when he needed help; he just asked for it." He pauses, reconsiders, and adds, "Well, of course, John demanded it." He added, "He and I started together at the Messenger (John wrote a weekly column in the Sixties and worked there for several years before he became sheriff.) We developed quite a relationship."

And that reminds Beauregard, the former newspaper editor, of a different endeavor:

"One year -- we were always looking for something to cause some trouble," recalls Beauregard, "We got talking about (doing something about the mess at St. Albans Bay) . . . Perry Merrill was the State Forest and Park commissioner. We called him up and set up a meeting with him. . . . We kicked it around and we kicked it around, and he finally said, 'Well, if you guys think you're so smart why don't you take it over and run it?' And Finn says, 'We will.' We operated that dock down there for a couple of years." It was later taken over by the state and made into one of its parks. Years later Beauregard and others would successfully

Hard'ack

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of charge.

When the ice rink at the Collins Perley Sports & Fitness Center was replaced last year, the old boards were given to Hard'ack. Those boards will be used for the new rink, which will have a chilled concrete surface.

The ski lodge will have glass on the side facing the hill, a concession stand and restrooms. Decks over the soccer field will allow spectators to watch games from the comfort of the building.

"We're going to do this the Hard'ack way," said Tim Hurlbut, Hard'ack president at a January DRB meeting, explaining the project would make full use of donations and volunteer

labor.

The District Commission is requiring the preservation of 1.25 acres of prime agricultural soils located on the Hard'ack property, as well as screening so that interior lights on the ice rink will not be visible from I-89.

The commission is also requiring the use of water conserving fixtures and that the project comply with 2005 energy efficient commercial construction guidelines.

All buildings must be painted in browns or grays, with a final palette submitted to the commission for approval.

Cookies

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and Sewell are not looking to mass-produce boxed cookies with a shelf life that is longer than a U.S. presidential term.

One cookie distributor told Walker he would not carry a cookie that has a shelf life of less than three months.

"I don't want to make that kind of cookie," Walker replied.

"I think that you can really relate to people through food," she said this week. "It's such a basic need. A lot of barriers are broken down through food. Dessert or a cookie should be just as good as the meat and potatoes you're eating."

Comfort Cookies have a shelf life of 10 to 14 days, and they are soft, but if anyone craves a dipping cookie, a Comfort Cookie could stay on the shelf longer and harden nicely, Sewell said.

"I think being local actually helps us," he said. "The homemade aspect definitely helps."

"If you can't give back to other people, then there's no sense being in busi-

ness," Walker added. Asked about their business goal, Walker said she desires a storefront in downtown St. Albans, but she and Sewell said they must boost their Web business for that to happen.

"And our sons would have to get out of college," she said with a laugh. She said he and her husband have taken a relaxed approach to their business.

"If this is the path we're supposed to follow, then it will all fall into place for us," she said. And while they wait, they get unlimited cookies.

"Scott can eat 10 to my one," Walker said.

lobby to create a more than 26-mile recreation trail from St. Albans to Richford. It follows an old Central Vermont Railroad bed through some of the prettiest parts of the county and today also has state park designation.

The gene for direct action came straight from his father, Fred Beauregard.

"I think the one thing that has always stuck in my mind was the time when he was alderman and the city had a policy of not responding to any St. Albans Town fire calls. A house on Lower Newton Road was all ablaze and the fire chief . . . called my father and told him about that fire and my father said, 'Can you do anything about it?' And the chief said, 'If I was there, I could.' My father said, 'Well, go to it.'

"He went against the policy of the City Council. That was the kind of thing that always stuck in my mind. You need to do something, do it. He got all kinds of flack for it."

Beauregard attended old Holy Angels School before graduating from BFA. Instead of college, his parents sent him to Washington, D.C. to see what could be done about his failing eyesight. Its probable cause was an incident that occurred when he was batboy for the old St. Albans Giants of the Northern League.

"The prevailing wisdom," he says with a laugh, "is that during one of the baseball games, I was carrying a pail of water in front of the old Coot Field grandstand and the batter hit a foul ball and the catcher came back to get it and ran into me as I was walking with that water and threw me up against the grandstand building.

"It started gradually and got progressively worse as the doctors told me it would. . . . I guess if there was one thing to learn (it was) don't be afraid to ask for assistance when you need it. It certainly helps a lot."

Combined with lessons from his father, that was the advice he himself followed.

"From him, I learned how to meet with people and enlist their support for whatever he was doing and it worked out that way . . . You have to develop a comfort level in sitting with people and talking. I think that's the secret," said Stan For him, that secret worked well. One day, he picked up the phone and asked for Community College of Vermont President Peter Smith who went on to become Congressman Smith. More calls followed.

"I finally convinced him we needed a Community College in St. Albans. He came up several times and we got the thing put together and working. We worked out of our homes and on the telephone. There were people (needed), and we enlisted their support and we were off and running."

The same traits helped him following his appointment by President John F. Kennedy on Dec. 29, 1961 to be St. Albans postmaster. He was 31.

Even after he was on the job "it took 23 months to get it cleared. It was tough. There were a lot of people who wanted it. I had not only the physical end, but I was up against veterans' preference. I overcame that. It was hard. And it was hard on the guys I worked with at the Post Office because they didn't know whether I was going to be there for another month or another decade."

He was there until 1991, when he retired. Among the many letters the post office delivered were those to Santa Claus from kids who never knew what they might get in return. That's just about the same as what it took for the community to see what it got from its very own advocate - Stanley Beauregard.

Two drivers suffer minor injuries in head-on accident in Highgate

HIGHGATE — Two Franklin County men were treated for minor injuries at the Northwestern Medical Center (NMC) late Thursday morning following a two-vehicle crash on Highgate Road.

Just after 11 a.m., Ronald Peterson, 77, of Franklin, slid out of control in his 1998 Nissan Altima and struck a car operated by Michael Trippany, 49, of Highgate, head-on, said police.

Both operators were wearing their safety belts, and were brought to the hospital by ambulance.

Peterson's vehicle and Trippany's 2005 Nissan Murano sustained heavy front end damage.

Roads were covered with snow and ice when the crash occurred. The incident is still under investigation.

Shumlin names Oliver Vt. mental health chief

MONTPELIER — Governor-elect Peter Shumlin on Friday announced that Christine M. Oliver will serve as Commissioner of Mental Health.

"Christine has broad experience with mental health issues and services, and with health care issues broadly," said Shumlin. "Her professional background makes her a strong addition to our human services team."

Oliver has served as Deputy Commissioner of the Division of Health Care Administration, through the Vermont Department of Banking, Insurance, Securities and Health Care Administration, since her appointment in 2006. In that post, she was the managerial head of the state division responsible for regulating health insurance (including rates and forms), quality of health care services, and related consumer education and protection. The division also has statutory responsibility for reviewing hospital budgets and issuing "certificates of need" for hospital expenditures.

"We are very fortunate to have Christine join the Human Services team," said Human Services Secretary Designee Doug Racine. "She understands the connections between mental and physical health.

Those skills will help us as we proceed with health care reform and closing the Vermont State Hospital as soon as possible."

Prior to her Vermont tenure, Oliver was Executive Assistant for Health and Human Services to Ohio Governor Bob Taft, focusing on Mental Health, Health, Job and Family Services (including Medicaid), Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities,

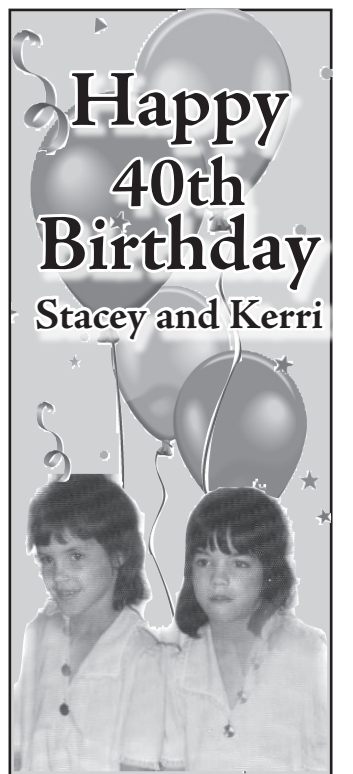
Aging, Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services issues.

She also served as General Counsel for the Ohio Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, an agency that serves 60,000 individuals through 12 state-operated developmental centers, 88 county boards of mental retardation and developmental disabilities, and 1,300 private providers regulated by the State.

In addition, she previously was an associate with the Ohio law firm of Delligatti, Hollenbaugh & Briscoe Co., L.P.A., with a focus on business and health care litigation.

Oliver obtained her law degree from the Ohio State University, College of Law and Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, magna cum laude, from Youngstown State University.

Her salary will be \$99,000.



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Stacey and Kerri

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The Heald Funeral Home has trimmed their fourth annual Memory Tree, with the names of the families we have served this past year.

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