

NEWSLETTER

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To Our Readers:

The next issue of the Grove Street Campus Newsletter will be devoted to covering the Coronavirus Pandemic, specifically how your daily lives have changed in response to this risk. If you wish to submit an article for the June edition, please submit to Carolyn Ravenna at Carolyn.ravenna@repsvt.org

A Teacher Who Thinks Like a Proton... Always Positive

By Brielle Notte

Last June, Michael Ellis was approached by Principal Bill Olsen and Associate Principal Jen Wigmore about the possibility of teaching science at Grove Street Campus. Although he admits he was nervous when he first walked through the doors of our school, it did not stop him from coming to teach here. He currently splits his day between the main campus and our school.

Mike graduated from the University of Vermont, where he majored in Biology and minored in Chemistry. He went on to further his education,

earning a Master's Degree in Education from Castleton University. Mike confessed that he initially wanted to become a pediatrician; however, he soon realized he did not want to go through another eight years of medical school. Realizing that he wanted to work with kids, he decided to become a science teacher.

Chemistry is not an easy class, yet Mike has a way of teaching so that every student learns. Maybe that's due to the fact that he admitted even he didn't like some parts of chemistry while he was in high school and college. His ability to put himself in our shoes helps him to break down lessons into small steps. His positive attitude can make the most difficult lessons tolerable!

Mike reports that now he is into the swing of things, he enjoys teaching at Grove Street Campus. The small group setting allows him to get to know his students better than he can at the main campus. However, he is concerned about his inability to assist students as much as he'd like to; this is due to the fact that he has to return to the main campus for his next class. It is difficult at times to meet the needs of the students of both schools at the same time.

When not in school, Mike is an outdoorsman and loves anything that has to do with out-of-doors. He loves hiking, camping, fishing, and kayaking, just to name a few hobbies. He also likes to do manual labor, saying it helps keep him physically fit.

We are pleased to have such a positive, highly qualified teacher at Grove Street Campus. While Chemistry is still a difficult class to master, Mike makes learning less stressful. Grove Street Campus students hope his schedule allows him to return next year.

Stay tuned for our next edition of the Grove Street Campus Newsletter, where we will interview the latest addition to Grove Street Campus, English teacher Conrad Tuerk.



Mike Ellis

Semper Fidelis

By Isaac Voisine

As of the 3rd of January, I am enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, the same commitment my grandfather made many years ago. My enlistment did not happen overnight. Becoming a Marine takes preparation. As they say, "You don't join the Marines. You become one. This is where the battle begins."

The first step toward the goal of becoming a United States Marine was to walk into the recruiting station. Before ever walking through those doors, I asked myself time and time again whether this was the right move for me. To earn the title of Marine and all the title holds: courage, honor, and integrity to its highest, is a huge commitment. After much contemplation, I knew this was the right move for me.

Before going to MEPS (Military Entrance Processing Station) I was nervous; signing papers and making the commitment felt great in that I was finally accomplishing something towards that goal. It was a long two days of testing and a physical examinations, however, all said and done, to have the sergeant shake my hand as I was sworn in it felt amazing.

I am now a Poolee, a title given to those in the United States Marine Corp's delayed entry program. Given my poolee shirt and certificate signed by the commander, I will spend the next four months finishing high school and attending PT (physical training) every week, as well as learning all there is to know in the Marine Corps; from rank general orders to officer ranks. Next to gaining knowledge, being physically fit is a great way to be noticed. Every pack has a leader and he or she above all should be able to carry the weight of any of its members.

Upon graduation from Rutland High School, I will be off to boot camp where I will continue my goal of a career in the Marine Corps. I am excited for this opportunity.



The Cost of Owning a Pet

By Ariel Siliski

Being a first-time owner of a new animal is pretty exciting; however it can also be very expensive. The excitement of welcoming a pet into your home can blind you to the reality of how this adorable addition to your family has the potential to drain your savings account in a matter of months. The expenses that come with owning a pet vary, depending on what kind of animal you get. When you are ready to purchase an animal, even if it is a small animal like a guinea pig, rabbit or cat, you first have to make sure you have the proper cage in which to bring your pet home. Your new loved one will need some fresh bedding and possibly a new litter box. You might also want to potty train your new pet so you will need to purchase all the necessary supplies. For small animals, it can cost up to \$200.00 or more to obtain everything you will need, including food.

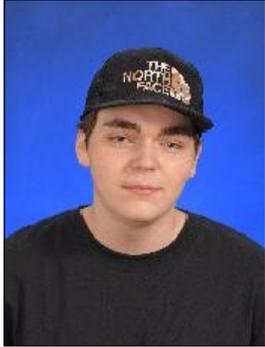


The true dollar amount spent on a pet is something every person should consider before welcoming a pet into your home. While pets are fun and rewarding, owning one can be costly. Like any other major decision in life, weigh the pros and cons before purchasing a pet. If you struggle to get by, pet ownership is not your best choice at this time. It is a huge responsibility.

Campus Chatter

By Ariel Siliski

Which are you more afraid of, the Coronavirus or the Flu?



"I am more afraid of the coronavirus because it's an unknown strain of virus that we have little data on."

-Trent Brogren

"The flu is scarier. In the past flu season 15 million were sick and 8 thousand died. The coronavirus is a respiratory infection and is only lethal to people with decreased immune systems."



-Tucker Rappaport



"I'm not afraid of either. Everyone will forget about the coronavirus. The flu has been around forever and people still don't care."

-Ethan Corey

"The coronavirus is scarier because I've never seen what the virus actually is. I've seen the flu so I'm not afraid of the flu."

- Devin Reed



"Career and College Week" Marks 3rd Year of Post-Secondary Preparation

By Travis Churchill

The week of January 13th was "Career and College Week" at Grove Street Campus. Students spent the week thinking about their futures with the goal that all will be college or career ready when they graduate from high school. The week was full of building-level activities, as well as community activities aimed at giving students a glimpse into their futures.

There was something for everyone. For those students who expressed interest in college, Community College of Vermont generously gave students a tour of the campus. Students looking for employment opportunities within the Rutland area participated in tours of The Vermont Country Store, Casella Construction and The Department of Labor, while Rutland Regional Medical Center presented information on job openings and employee training opportunities.

"Career and College Week" was designed to assist with preparing students for life after high school. The goal isn't to lock us into a college or career choice, but rather to expose us to a wide range of possibilities. I know after this experience, I started thinking about my future!

Pizza: It's What Matt Does

By Travis Churchill and Matt Wilder

After a day of hitting the books at Grove Street Campus, Matt Wilder goes to hit the dough at Domino's Pizza. He has been working there for about six months and says he really enjoys his job. He is a Customer Service



Representative crewmember, so he does a little bit of everything on the job. His daily routine consists of prepping vegetables and meats, rotating dough, tying cheese bags, serving customers, and any other tasks that spring up during his shift.

Matt describes his work environment as friendly and easygoing. He looks forward to going to work every day, which is important. He also describes his coworkers as very understanding people with great work ethics. His biggest and only complaint about the job is rotating dough and prepping in the walk-in freezer because it's super cold.

When asked what he would consider his dream occupation, Matt expressed his desire to be a plant and soil scientist. Matt also has plans after graduation. After he graduates, he plans on pursuing a degree in Agriculture and from there on out, chase his dreams.



Birthdays

March

Tucker Rappaport – March 7
 Kirrahn Richardson - March 19
 Brielle Notte – March 26
 Devin Reed - March 31



April

Joel Muscatello - April 2
 Ariel Siliski – April 19
 Betty Bell – April 22
 Katelyn Knapp – April 24
 Madalynn Marshall – April 26

May

Trent Brogren - May 3
 Laurie Bullock – May 17
 Anthony Keefe – May 22
 Mea Sullivan – May 24

Commentary: Needing Experience to Get Experience

By Kirrahan Richardson

As a teenager, it's harder than ever before to get a job. I have applied to many places and have even gotten interviews; I think the interview went well and then nothing materializes. It leaves me to wonder what happened. With no experience, from the employer's perspective I am a statistic; I could either be a good worker or a terrible one and they don't know which I will be because I don't have any job experience...in their eyes.

As the employee-to-be, it would be nice to be able to access some experience if jobs are requiring it. It's a cycle that has been created and it is destructive to businesses because they are leaving out people who possibly could be great workers. It is even more detrimental to the young individual attempting to be hired due to all of the things having a first job entails: money, experience, and etcetera.

On top of no experience, appearance can make a difference if you are hired or not; whether you like it or not, this is oftentimes the case. I have witnessed my friends get hired at the same places I previously had interviews and I'm left wondering what happened to me.

When applicants are the same age and have the same experience level, what could it come down to? Is it a question of appearance? When you are judged based on how you look, you have already lost. That, added to the fact that you had a small percent chance of acquiring the job due to your age and lack of experience, you are really stuck. Although this keeps happening and people continue to persevere, it is a cycle that does not need to continue. The cycle needs to be broken.

