

the Chronicle
 office is now open to the public on
MONDAYS & TUESDAYS.
 Thursday and Friday the office is open by
 chance. ALWAYS CLOSED WEDNESDAYS.
**PLEASE WEAR A MASK IF
 YOU ARE NOT VACCINATED.**
*There is usually someone in the office to answer the
 phone during regular business hours. But if there is no
 answer, please call back or send an email to the
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Anything else can be put in the drop
 box or mailed to us at:
P.O. Box 660, Barton, VT 05822
*Thank you for your understanding as we
 continue to provide the local news.*

**Chronicle
 office hours**
 We are open for business:
Monday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Wednesday, closed.
Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Please call or email us during normal
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Always closed Wednesdays.

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Founded in 1974 by Chris Braithwaite,
 Ellen Braithwaite and Edward Cowan.

Opinion

Don't let Juneteenth go unnoticed

by Molly Veysey, executive director, Old Stone House Museum & Historic Village

On this coming Saturday, June 19, we hope you can take a moment to pause and reflect. While Juneteenth marks just one day in the struggle for equity for African Americans in this nation, it provides us with a chance to recognize contributions made right here at home in the Northeast Kingdom and Orleans County.

The national holiday commemorates June 19, 1865, when General Gordon Granger led the Union occupation force into Galveston, Texas, and delivered the news of the Emancipation Proclamation to the still enslaved people in the region. Juneteenth became a nationwide celebration in the past few decades as we reached the sesquicentennial of the United States Civil War (2011 to 2015) and, more recently, the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement.

At the Old Stone House Museum & Historic Village, we will celebrate this day with a reopening (post-COVID-19) to normal operations and the unveiling of a new exhibit that sheds light on the life of African American Alexander Lucius Twilight. Mr. Twilight is the reason our institution exists today. Without him, there quite literally would not be an Old Stone House.

Born September 23, 1795, Mr. Twilight led a life devoted to education and faith. As the first African American to gain a college degree in the United States (from Middlebury College in 1823), his often-noted strong will and dynamic leadership made the Brownington Historic District what it is today. As the headmaster of the Orleans County Grammar School and minister of the Brownington Congregational

Church, he taught a vibrant student body. He also designed and led the construction of the Old Stone House Museum's impressive granite hall.

Mr. Twilight's is only one story among many in our region and state. Edna Hall Brown, who attended St. Johnsbury Academy, was among the first African American women to graduate from the University of Vermont with a bachelor of science in education degree in 1930. The commencement issue of the St. Johnsbury Academy student magazine noted Ms. Brown's love of reading and skills in Latin. It also proclaimed: "We know she'll make good." And she did! She taught until her death in 2000 in Baltimore, Maryland, (where she was originally born).

George Washington Henderson, who also graduated from the University of Vermont in 1877, is celebrated for being the first African American to be inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, the highest academic honor society. He, too, gave back to his community, this time right here in Vermont. He served as principal of Craftsbury Academy and Newport Graded School. He also held positions at two historically black universities: Fisk in Tennessee and Wilberforce in Ohio. In addition to being a scholar, he was active in early civil rights initiatives and campaigned against the horrific practice of lynching.

These are only a few of the stories we could tell on this holiday. Consider celebrating this special day on Saturday to learn and share. At the museum, we aspire to be a space for open dialogue around the interconnected issues of inequality in our shared society.

Loon lake, moon lake

by Ellin Anderson

Through fog-ripe air, the rising moon
 Pulls up and draws out the call of the loon,
 And in the summer's chill, I hear
 Through quills of mist, that note of fear.
 I tremble at its eerie touch,
 Aware of why it meant so much
 To you, my partner at moonrise
 With roads celestial in his eyes.

As slick as paint, with ruby-red
 Round eyes, he lifts his long sleek head
 For pride in what he'll never lack,
 And floats his chicks upon his back.
 He guards them while they dive and play,
 And wails to tell us, "Keep away,
 For we have claimed this wooded cove,
 Like those our scaly fathers dove."

In secret inlets, well aware
 That night must fall, the nesting pair
 Will hoot and coo in quiet glee,
 And watch the same white moon as we.
 They skim the lake and leave no trace;

You left your mark on heaven's face,
 But night has come for you, and I
 Must chase the brightness in the sky.

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June 8 - 14, 2021

		High	Low	Precip.	Snow	Snow on Ground
T	6/8	81	71	0.00"	0.00"	0.00"
W	6/9	75	60	0.03"	0.00"	0.00"
Th	6/10	68	49	0.00"	0.00"	0.00"
F	6/11	64	48	0.00"	0.00"	0.00"
S	6/12	73	46	0.00"	0.00"	0.00"
S	6/13	78	54	0.00"	0.00"	0.00"
M	6/14	67	58	0.00"	0.00"	0.00"

Both temperature and precipitation are observed at the same location, at approximately 1,500 feet elevation 3 miles east-northeast of Barton town center. Data courtesy Jason Shafer.

About letters, editorials, and opinions

The Chronicle welcomes letters from our readers from all points of view on the political spectrum.

The deadline is Tuesday at noon. Letters may be dropped off, mailed, e-mailed, or faxed. Letters on paper must be signed, and all letters must include a telephone number for confirmation. All letters must include the writer's town.

We will not publish a letter that has been sent anonymously to this office. In rare and extreme circumstances, we will publish a letter without the writer's name.

Please keep your letters brief. Length aside, we reserve the right to edit letters for content.

Letters should be about public issues, not personal gripes. We will not run letters that are libelous, racist, or contain personal attacks. We

welcome robust debate but won't print letters that, in our opinion, are merely offensive.

The letters section is intended for the free expression of opinion, not the arbitration of competing claims of fact. We reserve the right to reject letters that are based on claims of fact that are demonstrably false and potentially damaging. Examples would be that people of color are genetically inferior, or that global warming is a scientific hoax. Internet citations are not, in themselves, sufficient to prove such claims.

Thanks for your help making these pages thought-provoking, lively, and interesting.

Editorials are initialed by the author and reflect a consensus of the editorial staff of the Chronicle. Opinions and letters are the opinion of the author.