



**Brookfield**  
Old Town Hall  
Willkommen!

## OKTOBERFEST 2023

For the third year in a row the Oktoberfest was a rollicking, joyous event. About 90 people attended despite the rainy weather. Everyone enjoyed consuming a hearty German lunch, warm pretzels, and cold beer.

The recorded music created a festive atmosphere, which had people dancing and singing all afternoon.

EC Fiber donated colorful pens and key chains, which disappeared quickly.

There was no charge for the event this year. However, a lot of Alpine merchandise was purchased, there was a cash raffle, and a number of people made generous donations.

Once again, many thanks to the volunteers who helped make this event successful, especially Pete Mancauskas, the originator of Oktoberfest. We will see you all next year!

## THIRD ANNUAL OKTOBERFEST 5K FUN RUN

This year's Oktoberfest 5K took place amongst torrential rain and on muddy roads, but enthusiasm remained undampened. Thirty-six racers lined up on the bridge with many familiar faces and many new, including a big contingent from UVM medical school.

Alicia Freese (18:24) and Sam Huntington (18:17) lifted the fastest female and fastest male steins, respectively, though Alicia's course record of 18:10 from last year's race stood unchallenged.

Perennial favorite Joseph Kill dropped from 1st place male to 3rd in the face of strong competition, but persevered to put down a personal best. Chad Jacobs slayed long-time rival Scott Elzey in a devastating run, but a new rivalry was born as Miles Hooper edged him out on the line in a photo finish.



Crossing the finish line in the pouring rain.

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Walkers Brian and Rae treaded new ground by parading a handsome canine in the event.

Despite the weather, many of the racers took a celebratory dip in the lake upon finishing. Many thanks to all who made this year's 5K possible, particularly the volunteers who - with rain jackets, wet timing sheets, and Brookfieldian fortitude - guided racers along.

A refreshing dip off the Floating Bridge at the end of the soggy race.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings from Brookfield's Old Town Hall and the members of the Board of Directors of the Brookfield Community Partnership, Inc.

2023 was a very active year at the Old Town Hall due to the hard-working and creative members of the Events Committee. They delivered another full season of over 20 entertaining and enriching events for our community and beyond.

How can a small-town, all-volunteer, nonprofit organization like the BCP host a spring, summer, and fall array of activities, including family gatherings, public presentations, educational workshops and kid-centered programs? Because the programs reflect our town's sense of community and neighborliness - values that Brookfield holds dear.

We offer our thanks to the Events Committee members, Board members, visitors, community supporters and generous donors who contribute to the operation of the Old Town Hall, as a vibrant community center. This collective effort keeps the building maintained, the lights on, and the taxes paid each year.

Please know that you can use our OTH for a celebration of life, a family reunion, a birthday party, or a wedding at reasonably priced rentals. Information is at [www.brookfieldoth.org](http://www.brookfieldoth.org).

See you at the Old Town Hall in 2024!

Perry Kacik, Interim Chair, BCP Board of Directors



Toddlers and parents enjoyed some preschool play time at the Old Town Hall in July.





Ed Koren in 2005 upon the announcement of a \$75,000 grant from the Preservation Trust of Vermont for the restoration of the Old Town Hall.

## TRIBUTE TO A FRIEND, A NEIGHBOR, A FOUNDER OF BCP

On April 14 Ed Koren died at the age of 87. The world knew him as the celebrated cartoonist for the New Yorker magazine, whose shaggy creatures brought a smile to everyone's face, along with keen insight into the vagaries of life. Ed drew his remarkable cartoons up until the end.

However, his neighbors in Brookfield knew him as the cyclist whom we passed in our cars as he pedaled his way up and down our hilly roads and around Sunset Lake – almost daily.

Ed was known and admired for his thirty years of service as a volunteer fire fighter. No matter what the season, in all kinds of weather and at all times of day or night, he donned the gear, boots and hat to save a neighbor's home or barn from destruction.

Way back in 2002 Ed was a member of the original group of neighbors, who decided to buy the historic Brookfield Old Town Hall, when the private owner put it up for auction. That huge leap of faith led to the formation of the Brookfield Community Partnership, which restored the building and created our vibrant community center. Ed served on the board of BCP for many years.

***Thank you, Ed, our good friend and neighbor.***

## SENDING THANKS...

The Brookfield Community Partnership would like to express our sincere appreciation for the continued generous series sponsorship of Frankenburg Agency of Randolph. For more years than we can count, The Frankenburg Agency has stepped up to donate a significant portion of the business sponsorship donations and grants that BCP receives in order to host our community events at no or very low cost to all attendees each year. We are extremely grateful.

### *Other area business sponsors this year include:*

Bar Harbor Bank, Ben & Jerry's Foundation, Compucount, Gillespie Fuels & Propane, Magee Office Supplies, Northfield Savings Bank, Rule Signs, and Washington Electric Coop.



This spring the peeling facade of the Old Town Hall received a fresh coat of paint by Stan Wheeler, who generously squeezed us into his busy schedule.

## LOVE THE COMMUNITY EVENTS AT BOTH?

### *Join Our Events Committee!*

We are seeking community members interested in participating in our community events planning committee! We are a fun and active group of community members who are passionate about helping our community gather, learn, play and share at the Brookfield Old Town Hall.

We hold very few meetings and accomplish a lot via email or quick phone calls. Our committee operates very efficiently and very cooperatively --- it's a real pleasure to serve with this group, and you'll feel rewarded by your positive contributions to our community!

Please send a note to Linda Kelly at [lkellyvt@gmail.com](mailto:lkellyvt@gmail.com) for more information about joining our committee.

## BROOKFIELD COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

P.O. Box 452  
93 Stone Road  
Brookfield, VT 05036  
[www.brookfieldoth.org](http://www.brookfieldoth.org)  
[facebook.com/brookfieldoldtownhall](https://facebook.com/brookfieldoldtownhall)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Perry Kacik, *Interim Chair*  
Betty Lord, *Secretary*  
Dan Childs, *Treasurer*  
David Doda  
Billi Gosh  
Betsy Hale  
Curtis Koren  
Peter Mancauskas  
Dan O'Brien

### EVENTS COMMITTEE

Nancy Doda  
Marda Donner  
Emily Warner  
Shelby Girard  
Clotilde Hryshko  
Linday Kelly  
Susan O'Brien  
Laura Thygesen

### RENTAL COMMITTEE

Perry Kacik

### NEWSLETTER

Billi Gosh  
Valerie Schoolcraft

## FUNDS RAISED

### *November 2022 - October 2023*

<i>Individuals</i>	<i>\$11,534</i>
<i>Events</i>	<i>\$4,950</i>
<i>Sponsors</i>	<i>\$9,175</i>
<i>Rentals</i>	<i>\$925</i>
<i>Raffle</i>	<i>\$686</i>

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<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$27,270</i></b>
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