Recover Stronger Tour – Rutland

June 16, 2021

Local Issues

[Racial Justice](#)

- (Pittsburg) Towns are adopting inclusivity statements in the light of the 2020 George Floyd Murder. So far, Franklin, Pittsford, Brandon, Pawlet, Middlebury, Moretown, Waterbury, Pittsfield, Milton, Woodstock village, Randolph, and Rutland City. It's being debated in the Town of Woodstock, Tinmouth, West Rutland, Mendon, Chester, Springfield, and Bristol, and perhaps more. -- started by Al Wakefield.

[Housing Insecurity/Public Health](#)

- (Montpelier) There is a lot of talk about portable restrooms/showers as the housing insecure populations will be released from their subsidized motels very soon, leaving a large portion of the population with no way to use the restroom or freshen up. The public restrooms that are readily accessible in Montpelier and elsewhere are hard to use with no means of transportation.

**** the above is actually in Washington County****

[LGBTQ+](#)

- (Brandon) Otter Valley High School had multiple altercations as some students dressed to celebrate Pride Month, and were met with other students dressed in Trump and other far right apparel. Students identifying within the LGBTQIA+ community are not feeling safe in their school, yet they are the ones facing repercussions for any physical or verbal altercations.

==I would restructure the above like the below, make the link the policy area, if no link just write the policy area, and start description with the town w/in the county If applicable==

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[Education](#)

- (Rutland) Rutland City Schools are debating between two mascot ideas, both put forward by Rutland school alum. The administration and School Board are on two different pages on the mascot debate. The artists and students want to remove politics from the decision. -- the school is moving from the Rutland Raiders to the Rutland Ravens.

[Broadband](#)

- (Brandon) The Brandon Town Selectboard Balked at a chance to offer free WiFi spots in their downtown. Economic Development Director Bill Moore said he set aside money in the budget, and as a broadband project, they would received federal ARPA funds. Those opposed said they were not sure if the start up costs would be met by federal funds, and thus they could not predict if it would be cost effective in the long run.

VIP Background:

Mayor David Allaire

- Lifelong resident of Rutland
- Served on Board of Alderman for 19 years
- Attended Castleton University
    - Employed in Outside Sales for 35 years – Interstate Batteries
- Elected Mayor of Rutland in March 2017
- Previously served as a State Rep for 6 years
    - House Transportation Committee (4 years)
    - House Ways and Means Committee (2 years)
- Supports Rutland Raiders as opposed to Rutland Ravens
- Survivor of esophageal cancer (underwent surgery in June 2020)

Draft Tweets

It was great to meet some of the participants from our virtual Lt. Governor for a Day Series in person! These great minds are the future. We must work to bridge the gap of accessibility of government to its people by fostering transparency.

Thank you @rutlandregional and Senator Cheryl Hooker for taking the time to meet with me today. Expanding our telehealth resources are necessary in recovering stronger from this pandemic. Healthcare is a human right and accessibility to it is crucial.