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Champlain Bridge Opens

“We will link arms and walk across this new path *together*”
-Karen Hennessy

Both Vermont and New York residents were beyond overjoyed when they heard news of the bridge opening set for November 7th. After two years of waiting every morning for the ferry or driving the two hour route around it felt almost magical to drive over the new bridge. People from both Vermont and New York gathered as one big family today to watch the Champlain Bridge be re-opened. People spoke about how two small states can come together through, “Hell and high water” and complete a project eight years ahead of schedule. Representatives from both states all stated one simple fact: “This is a new marriage. Let us hope there will never be a divorce.” Just those two simple sentences will be something no one will forget. The original bridge was closed in October of 2009 because it wasn’t safe anymore. On October 27th 2009 a meeting was held on what to do. The final decision was that there would be a free ferry going right beside the old bridge, and the design on a new bridge was made. The design chosen was supposed to take around ten years to build. Instead it only took two because New York and Vermont construction builders came together and focused on the mission. The crowd included the 29ers which was a group of people that were there in 1929 when the ribbon was cut on the first bridge. One of them included Miss Cora Spaulding who tells her story of that day with pride and embarrassment. She remembers it being a warm and breezy day. She was wearing a beautiful flowing dress. She remembers exactly how the wind came up and blew her gorgeous dress right over her head. She remembers how she was so embarrassed she ran to hide behind a car until she could fix her dress. The procession over the bridge included the Governor’s cars and all sorts of cars from the 20’s.. Although it was a great day, there will be a real celebration in a few months. November 7th, 2011 was truly a great day for Vermont and New York.

WOODSTOCK WINS DIVISION 3 CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE OVER WINDSOR

State Champions the Woodstock Wasps came back after a rough start to the season. They started off the season with Tropical Storm Irene to slow down the season. After a slow start of a 0-2 it wasn't looking good for the Wasps. “Enough was enough.” commented Ed Doten (#15) at the beginning of the season, The team listened to him and made the playoffs, moving to the State Championship. Ed Doten ran for 255 yards and he scored 3 touchdowns. Back in the finals for the first time in five years they beat Windsor in a overall 27-7 game, bringing back home the State Champion win.

COFFEE ROASTERS’ STOCK UNDER PRESSURE

WATERBURY: The Green Mountain Coffee Roasters are under attack from high profile investors. The Waterbury-based company shares fell by 34%. The net sales made in the fourth quarter, 117.9 million dollars, was forty eight million dollars short of analysts’ forecasts. The attacks were made by “short sellers”, who are stock brokers that benefit when the stock price falls, since they sell their stock at that point. The fourth quarter sales were expected to be around 760 million dollars, but fell short, causing the stock price to fall.

VERMONT EFFORT RECOGNIZED

A preservation effort in downtown Vermont earned a national-level award. They have been recognized for an achievement in historic preservation. The counties that were recognized are Addison, Chittenden, Franklin, Grand Isle, and Washington county.



WINTER VS DISCONTENT BURLINGTON:

Many people have moved into tents in the City Hall Park. The park has turned into a massive political activist hot spot. However, winter will be arriving soon, and the occupiers of the park may have to move out. Occupy Wall Street supporter Dylan Kelley spoke with a reporter, saying, “That’s the twenty thousand dollar question, isn’t it: Can we make it through the winter?” It is obvious that the occupiers of the park are determined, but how determined is the question.

<http://www.newenglandpost.com/2011/11/11/occupy-movement-turns-deadly-suicide-occupy-burlington-fatal-choosing-occupy-soldier/>

NEW SKATE PARK CAUSES CONCERN WITHIN COMMUNITY

The Burlington City Council had a discussion about a new skate park in Burlington. This would replace the old skate park near the Moran plant that is made out of wood and steel. The new skate park would cost \$400,000 to \$940,000. Many people criticized the park, because it could be paving over some of the city’s green space. None of this will be paid for by taxpayers.