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Notes from editor (not for publication):



HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

####BEGIN HED####

1 Southern Vermont gets ready for 'No Kings 3.0'

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2 Marches, rallies, and discussions all part of a nationwide
3 protest March 28

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4 TEXT BODY:

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5 "No Kings 3.0," which organizers hope will be the
6 biggest mass protest in U.S. history, is set to take place on
7 Saturday, March 28 throughout the country, including events in
8 Brattleboro, Bellows Falls, and Wilmington.

9 [No Kings](#) is a mass, nonviolent movement against the
10 policies and behavior the Trump administration and has already
11 mobilized millions — from more than 5 million participants for

12 the first No Kings protest June 14, 2025, to more than 7 million
13 people joining more than 2,700 events across all 50 states and
14 the District of Columbia Oct. 18, 2025 for “No Kings 2.0.”

15 Organizers in Bellows Falls are encouraging participants
16 to invite three friends who have not attended previous protests to
17 attend with them to help meet the national goal of up to 12
18 million participants attending more than 3,000 events scheduled
19 across the country.

20 The biggest event locally as part of the third No Kings
21 National Day of Nonviolent Action will be in Brattleboro, with a
22 march starting at 10 a.m. from the Preston Lot on Flat Street and
23 proceeding north up Main Street.

24 “Come for a fun, music-filled vibe! Bring your signs and
25 silly costumes,” wrote organizers from Brattleboro Indivisible in a
26 news release.

27 No speakers are scheduled, they said — just “a rally, a
28 march with songs and dance, a “Signs of Fascism” march, street
29 theater, and facilitated community conversations around town.
30 But the event will feature seven community conversations around
31 downtown Brattleboro after the march, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30
32 p.m.

33 These discussions will focus on topics that cover “where
34 we go from here, what we’re trying to build, what kind of future
35 we want, and how we can get involved to help make that
36 happen,” organizers say. *[See sidebar.]*

37 According to Brattleboro Indivisible’s MD Baker, state
38 Rep. Emilie Kornheiser “started the whole forum aspect for this
39 event when she said that, [while we’re] really good at protesting,
40 we need to get better at organizing. She saw the opportunity in
41 the crowds coming out, carrying on to more solid action.”

42 “It is a logical next step: needing to be plugged in,
43 feeling connected, contributing,” she says.

44 Brattleboro Indivisible organizer Franz Reischman took
45 the lead in fleshing out the forums to ensure potent content and
46 engaging facilitators. He cites a recent article from *The New*

47 *Yorker* that “talked about the difference between mobilizing and
48 organizing. It’s kind of an obvious concept but one that I latch
49 right on to.”

50 The retired emergency room doctor and director hopes
51 participants will “become a really useful, longer-term force for
52 genuine change, not just for showing our feelings and emerging
53 every once in a while to do that, but rather to become a real
54 force in American politics and society.”

55 Reischman notes that November looms significantly,
56 “because if Republicans retain control of the U.S. Congress and
57 Senate and hand that control over to Donald Trump, as they’ve
58 been doing for the past year, and if that situation is maintained
59 for another two years, I’m not sure there’s any hope for
60 recovering our democracy.”

61 **Focusing on saving democracy,** 62 **stopping fascism**

63 The Brattleboro protest will also highlight the efforts of
64 the local Saving Democracy Action Group, which seeks to
65 increase participatory democracy and voter engagement and to
66 influence policy, according to organizer Claire Halverson.

67 The group will distribute a flyer “with information on
68 several bills in Vermont related to immigration” as well as contact
69 information for legislators involved “in order to contact them to
70 urge them to bring the bills to the full legislative body” by the end
71 of the legislative session in mid-May.

72 “Saving Democracy will focus next on midterm
73 elections,” she adds.

74 The “signs of fascism” segment of Brattleboro’s No Kings
75 Day event, organized by Jill Green, features a designated group
76 marching up the west side of Main Street, carrying signs that
77 speak about various aspects of fascism.

78 “We’re going to fan out up Putney Road, you know, and
79 be stationed every 20 feet or so,” Green says. It seems, she adds,

80 that many are “fearful of — not understanding — the word
81 ‘fascism.’ It’s a word that people shy away from. And so when we
82 hold up confirmed signs of fascism, people might then make their
83 own conclusion that ‘Yes, we are in a fascist regime right now.’”

84 A protest model that’s been replicated across the country
85 it involves, Green explains, individuals holding a series of signs,
86 the first of which asks “What are the signs of fascism?”

87 Each of the two dozen signs to follow lists one hallmark
88 of the political ideology, among them oppressing opposition,
89 installing loyalists, and controlling the media.

90 “These are confirmed signs of fascism. And we’re just
91 trying to show that, yes, this is happening now.” Volunteers
92 willing to hold a series sign should sign up with the [Windham](#)
93 [County Action Network](#).

94 Entertainment will include Peter Gould with a Chilean
95 crowd jumping; Becky Graber and the Good Trouble Street Choir;
96 Peter Siegel; Luke from Guilford; Bard Owl, joined by Seth
97 Handelman; the Joyful Strummers ukulele ensemble; the
98 Sambaganza Band led by Julian Gerstin and Ron Kelley; and The
99 People’s Resistance Marching Band, the leader of which for this
100 event is Dan DeWalt.

101 For more information on the Brattleboro event, visit
102 [wecantgether.net/no-kings-3-0](#) and [4thbranch.us](#).

103 Rally planned in Bellows Falls

104 In Bellows Falls, at 1 p.m., the rally kicks off at the
105 Waypoint Visitors Center, followed by a march through the
106 village.

107 Musician Holly Brewer will kick off pre-rally events at
108 the Waypoint Center starting around 12:15 p.m. The Milkhouse
109 Heaters will perform, and students from The Putney School will
110 offer hands-on activities for young children.

111 Artist and community leader Charlie Hunter will serve as
112 master of ceremonies. Speakers will include state Reps. Michelle
113 Bos-Lun and Mike Mrowicki, Rev. Telos Whitfield of All Souls

114 Church in Brattleboro, and Brattleboro Union High School
115 student James Chapman, of Putney.

116 Local musicians Valerie Kosednar, Mark Grieco, and
117 others will lead the crowd in songs of resistance.

118 At around 1:45 p.m., organizers will lead participants on
119 a 1.5-mile march through the village at a relaxed pace. The
120 Waypoint Center is an ADA-accessible space with limited seating
121 available for non-marchers. Marchers will return there just before
122 2:30 p.m. for the closing of the event.

123 For details and to register for the event, go to
124 mobilize.us/s/DPzawb.

125 Events in Chester, Wilmington

126 Residents of Chester and neighboring towns will gather n
127 the Chester Village Green from 10 a.m. to noon. For more
128 information and to register for this event, visit
129 mobilize.us/nokings/event/901555/, or contact Steve Dock at
130 styeve35@gmail.com.

131 A No Kings Wilmington gathering for Deerfield Valley
132 residents will also take place from 10 a.m. to noon at the
133 intersection of routes 9 and 100. (Neither road will be closed to
134 traffic.)

135 Speakers, including Rep. Emily Carris Duncan, of
136 Whitingham, will focus on voting rights, veterans, and foreign
137 aid, Karen Gaynin, an organizer, told *The Deerfield Valley News*.

138 For more information about this event, or to become
139 active with Deerfield Valley VT Indivisible, email
140 dvvt.indivisible@gmail.com. Participants are asked to register at
141 mobilize.us/nokings/event/902047.

142 As No Kings planners stress on nokings.org, “a core
143 principle behind all No Kings events is a commitment to
144 nonviolent action.”

145 “We expect all participants to seek to de-escalate any
146 potential confrontation with those who disagree with our values
147 and to act lawfully at these events,” the national organizers say.

148 “Weapons of any kind, including those legally permitted, should
149 not be brought to events.”

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BIO/COATTAIL:

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150 With additional reporting by *Commons News* Editor
151 Randolph T. Holhut.

####END BIO/COATTAIL####

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