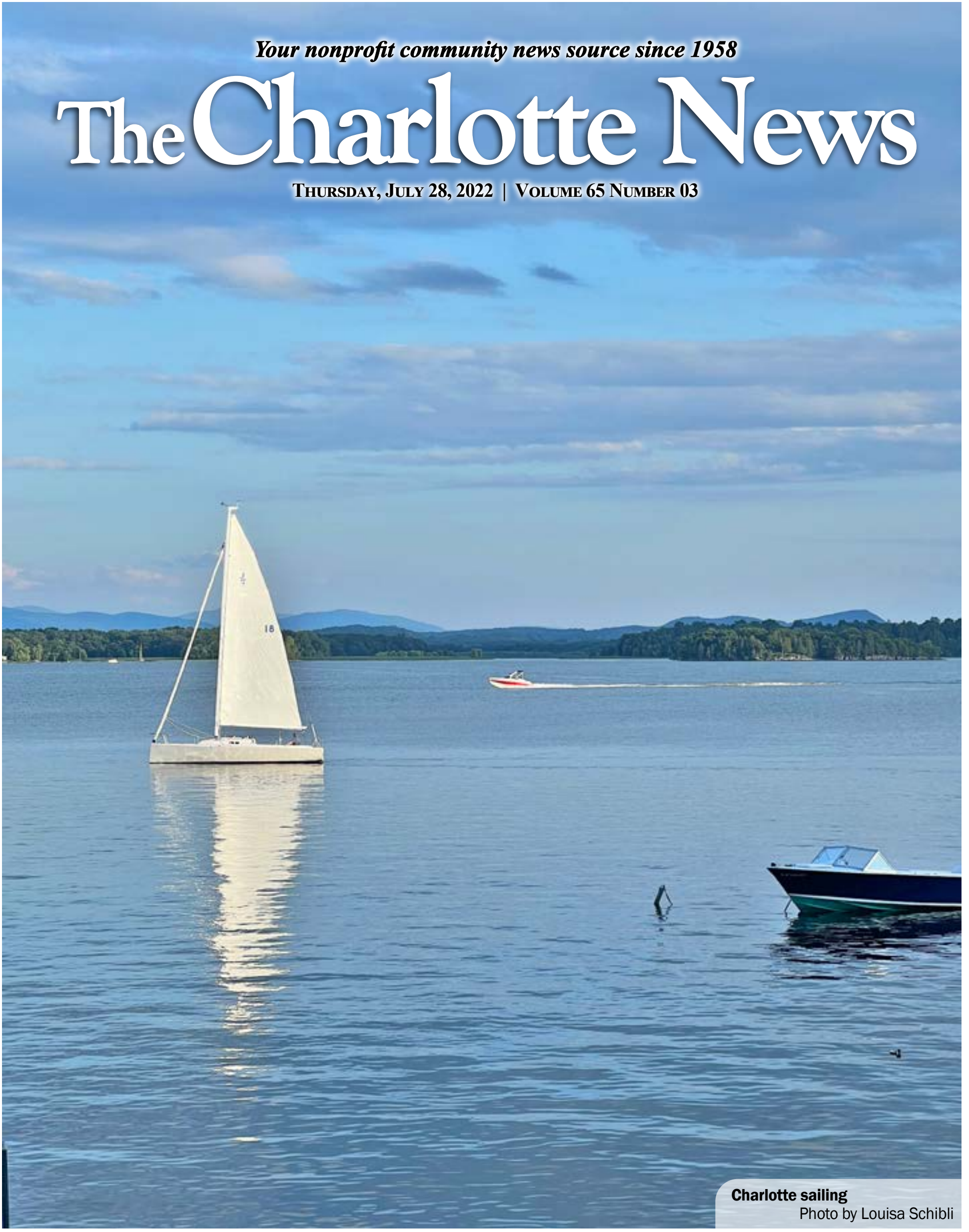


*Your nonprofit community news source since 1958*

# The Charlotte News

THURSDAY, JULY 28, 2022 | VOLUME 65 NUMBER 03



**Charlotte sailing**

Photo by Louisa Schibli



## SCAMMED!

**I never thought this would happen to me**



*It is The Charlotte News' usual policy to include the names of writers of articles. One notable exception is not including the names of victims of some crimes. We decided to apply that exception in not including the name of this Charlotte author and victim of this story.*

Doggone! I just got another email from Norton Utilities informing me that my contract had been renewed for another year of service, guarding my computer from invasive viruses, and that it had been "updated successfully," all for \$543.

I was very annoyed, even alarmed and decided to cancel my contract with this company, if possible. I searched the email and found a number to call to cancel the contract. I dialed and after three tries, "Steve" answered.

He said he could help me cancel the contract and refund my money. He explained that he would need my cooperation. I eagerly followed his directions.

I thought it weird, though, that we'd have to load a program onto my computer in order to refund the \$543. After we

went through about 50 steps and loaded a program onto my computer, I opened my Peoples checking account, and he instructed me to type in the amount to be refunded. So, I typed in \$543, and pressed "enter."

Immediately we both saw that a mistake had been made. The computer program had omitted the decimal point, so the amount deposited was \$54,300. He got very upset and seemed to panic: "Ooh! I'm going to lose my job! Please help me!"

It seemed to me that we could simply reverse the step that we'd just taken, but somehow that seemed to him to be impossible. I assured him that I would help however I could to get the money back into his company's account. I parked my thinking skills in my feet, exactly as "Steve" hoped I would.

Next came a barrage of ideas about how we could correct this situation, and how, if we got caught, terrible things would happen; the police and even the FBI might get involved.

By this time, I was totally confused; this all seemed like total nonsense, but

at the same time, the drama of it all had some appeal. I'm not sure how else to explain my willingness to go along with this man. All I knew was that there was an extra \$54,000 in my checking account. The next direction was equally weird, but in some bizarre way, I had gotten "hooked;" I had become "brainwashed."

Steve directed me to drive to my bank in Shelburne and withdraw \$13,000 — in cash — and not to speak to anyone. I wasn't to tell the people at the bank what I planned to do with the money, which was to wrap it up and send it off via UPS by overnight express.

Crazy enough, I did just that. The manager at the People's Shelburne branch came out of his office to speak with me, saying that a withdrawal of such a large sum of cash was highly unusual and that he suspected I was being scammed. No, I told him, this was for a real estate deal, and it was all "above board." I'm sure he knew I was lying, but after quizzing me a second time, he backed off.

I then took the money — an inch-

## Meeting on Aug. 9 to discuss how Charlotte should develop

Scooter MacMillan  
Editor

Charlotte will not only hold a primary election on Tuesday, Aug. 9; the planning commission will also hold a public hearing that evening about proposed amendments to the town's land-use regulations.

This meeting will take place at the Charlotte Library at 7 p.m. and online via Zoom.

The planning commission is involved in the complex, often tedious but critically important process of crafting amendments to the town plan. The land-use regulations guide how the town will develop.

These amendments will be presented for voters to approve or reject at the statewide general election on Nov. 8.

So, the Aug. 9 hearing will be a chance to get into the process early and share your hopes and concerns about the guidelines that in large part determine the future of Charlotte.

There will be another round of land-use regulation amendments presented to voters on Town Meeting Day.

Although many of the amendments to be voted on in the first vote in November are clearing up language in the land-use regulations, there are some meaty issues on the table for this vote, said town planner Larry Lewack.

Among those issues is an amendment that will increase the size limit for accessory dwelling units from 1,000 to 1,500 square feet. An accessory dwelling unit has often been referred to as a mother-in-law unit because traditionally such a dwelling has been built as a separate building where family members live.

Contrary to what some people might think, owners are not now prohibited from renting an accessory dwelling,

SEE **SCAMMED** PAGE 3

SEE **LAND-USE REGS** PAGE 2

## Charlotters bring their treasures to Antiques Roadshow

**PBS at Shelburne Museum appraised as a success**

Juliann Phelps  
Contributor

If you were in Vermont last week, you couldn't miss the news — in its 27th season, PBS' Antiques Roadshow stopped for the first time in the state.

The show's premise is compelling: Bring an item to the Roadshow and have it evaluated by an appraiser. Perhaps it is a priceless antique — or more commonly — perhaps it is priceless to you. The stories behind the items round out this beloved and popular series.

The Shelburne Museum's transformation from a sleepy landmark to a set location for this long-standing television show was nearly overnight. Large white event tents rose from the grounds, signs went up and traffic started flowing promptly on the

morning of Tuesday, July 19.

Among the estimated 3,000 attendees were several lucky Charlotters who received their tickets from the Clemmons Family Farm. Vermont Public gave the Clemmons Family Farm 100 tickets to distribute to their community of artists, neighbors and antique lovers.

"We are total Antiques Roadshow geeks," said Lucy Thayer. She and her husband were recipients of the tickets given out by the Clemmons Family Farm. They not only attended the event, they attended a reception the night before, which featured an armchair conversation with Antiques Roadshow executive producer Marsha Bemko.

Thayer said the night before Bemko had told them that attendees the next day might be filmed if the appraiser stopped them and said, "Do you mind if I call a producer over?"

Thayer brought art deco Tiffany jewelry she inherited from a family member,



Photo by Juliann Phelps

Roadshow attendees line up at the Shelburne Museum Round Barn for the furniture category.

SEE **ANTIQUES** PAGE 2



# Charlotte making getting to the beach easier

Brett Yates  
Contributor

The Charlotte Recreation Department wants to make trips to the beach a little easier.

At the Charlotte Selectboard’s July 25 meeting, recreation director Nicole Conley delivered a preliminary design for a 20-foot ramp that would help Charlotters who currently struggle with the concrete steps leading down to the town beach from Lake Road.

“Unfortunately, we recently had someone stumble down the stairs. One of the railings was loose. So just between that and trying to find an accessible way, we’re working on the process quickly,” Conley said. “I don’t necessarily want to say it’s ADA-accessible, but it definitely allows for an easier way to access the beach.”

Conley pointed out that the prospective ramp would also make visits to Lake Champlain more convenient for local kayakers. She described it as a removable,

seasonal structure, like the town’s nearby dock.

Municipal officials have discussed the possibility of constructing a ramp at the beach since 2019, and the selectboard formally committed to the project last year, after the town’s proposal for both a new dock and a ramp won a recreational facilities grant for \$19,000 from the Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services. A quote cited at the time priced the ramp by itself at \$9,000, but ultimately its installation could become part of a larger scope of work along Lake Road, for which Charlotte will seek additional grant funding from the Vermont Agency of Transportation.

“The land next to the road is eroding, so we’re trying to add some sort of what we decided was a cement wall,” Conley explained.

According to Juliann Phelps of the Charlotte Recreation Commission, the ramp will need approval from the development review board before installation. The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources will also weigh in.

“The Agency of Natural Resources application process is the timetable that’s the critical path right now, getting the determination to see if this needs a shoreline permit,” selectboard member Matthew Krasnow said. “If it’s within the town’s right of way and is considered a construction project part of the stabilization of that section of Lake Road, it could move a lot faster.”

In the meantime, the town could improve the staircase that currently admits beachgoers. When the selectboard approved a bid by Whitcomb Concrete Construction to repair the steps outside the Charlotte Senior Center for \$2,800, Phelps suggested taking advantage of potential “economies of scale” by asking the company for a quote to do the same at the beach.

“We’ve had a hard time finding a contractor to fix the cement stairs,” Phelps said.

Selectboard member Frank Tenney asked Charlotte Senior Center board member Gary Pittman to reach out to Whitcomb on the recreation department’s behalf.

## LAND-USE REGS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lewack said. Such a unit can be rented but the owner must live in the primary residence or in the accessory dwelling unit.

The proposed increase in the allowable size of such units is something that some people in town are concerned about. One of those is Christina Asquith, a member of the development review board.

“If you allow someone to build a house and then you say also you can build a 1,500 square foot accessory in-law suite next to it, you’re kind of allowing two houses,” Asquith said.

The maximum size for accessory dwelling units is 900 square feet in Ferrisburgh, Essex, Huntington, South Burlington and Burlington. It’s 1,200 square feet in Hinesburg, so this is a big deal for Charlotte, said Asquith.

She said if the town starts allowing two houses on every lot, it could become like Burlington, crowded with so many two-house properties.

Planning commission chair Charlie Pughe said the intention of the proposed change to the accessory dwelling units is to increase the amount of housing in Charlotte because there are so few places

for people to live. And the few available places are so expensive.

Two positive outcomes he hopes to see from this change are for homes to become more affordable and for older residents to be able to age in place, meaning an older couple, who may not require as much space as they once did, could move into their accessory dwelling unit. They could rent the primary house and help pay their mortgage.

Pughe also likes the idea of making it easier for multiple generations of a family to live together.

There are 27 proposed amendments that will be presented at the upcoming meeting, covering several areas of the town land-use regulations, including changes required by the legislature, clarifying the standards, minor technical updates, revised definitions and updates that are needed now that Charlotte has switched from a zoning board to a development review board.

Some of the proposed changes are obvious, Lewack said, like including a definition of a building footprint, a term town officials use all the time but which wasn’t explained in the land-use regulations.

He expects the planning commission will tackle proposing land-use regulation

amendments like a substantial redo of Thompson’s Point standards, opportunities for people to get waivers for nonconforming structures and lowering the property size requirement for new homes constructed in the village districts at March’s Town Meeting Day vote. Those discussions should begin in early September, last through the fall and wrap up in early winter to be ready for town voters at the spring vote.

Those who can’t attend the upcoming meeting at the library are encouraged to participate via Zoom. After the official warning of the meeting has been posted, Lewack said people can get the Zoom link on the town website calendar by clicking on the link for Aug. 9.

This will not be the last chance to hear about the amendments or express an opinion. The planning commission will incorporate the feedback from this meeting into its proposals for these land-use regulation amendments. These will then be submitted to the selectboard.

The selectboard will hold a publicly warned meeting about its version of these amendments before crafting the actual wording of the amendments that will go before the voters.

And, there is also the opportunity to express your feelings by voting on Nov. 8.

## ANTIQUES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and her husband brought his great-grandmother’s mantel clock. And while she knew the approximate value of the jewelry, they learned a lot more about the family clock.

“The appraiser knew everything about it, he was very knowledgeable,” she said.

It was clear the show’s organizers had their process down to a science. Attendees queued in a triage tent where their two items were reviewed by a general appraiser and categorized.

Once you received your category tickets, a volunteer would direct you to the corresponding location on the grounds. Prints and photographs were located in the Circus Building; furniture in the Round Barn.

Depending on the entrance time on your tickets and what you brought, queues and wait times varied. For example, there was no wait to have a book appraised, but it was over an hour to have a print appraised.

When it came time to have your item appraised, the appraiser handled the item, asked how you acquired it and shared historical information about the item along with an estimated appraisal value.

My first illustrated edition of John Steinbeck’s “The Red Pony” was worth \$250, and my unsigned lithographic print had no identifying marks but was noted

to be over 100 years old and likely from a department store.

Several filming locations were visible, including one next to the carousel. These sets were where the production crew filmed the owners of an item as they shared its history, and the appraiser revealed the estimated value.

There was a “feedback booth” where attendees ad-libbed on camera about their experience. Roaming production crews filmed visitors with their items.

The post-production team at Antiques Roadshow will create three episodes from the Shelburne Museum location airing in 2023, including clips for the “Junk in the Trunk” show.

Lydia Clemmons, president and executive director of the Clemmons Family Farm, shared her experience as she distributed tickets her non-profit received to the Antiques Roadshow. Clemmons Family Farm is collaborating with Vermont Public on raising the visibility of African American art, history and culture.

“Vermont Public called and asked if we’d like tickets,” Clemmons said. “My first thought was to offer them to our artist network.”

She was able to give out about 40 tickets to their network, noting the lack of African American art and antiques featured on the show.

“Then I thought, we can do more. I’d love to give them to Charlotte residents, so we asked for 100 and we got them,”



Photos by Juliann Phelps  
Appraiser Devon Eastland of Swann Auction Galleries evaluates an atlas.

Clemmons said.

Speaking of another attendee who brought an African American artist’s photographic work to be appraised, she said, “The only way to generate value, to appreciate art, is by showing it.”

Clemmons said she’d heard stories about the items residents were planning on bringing if they were given tickets to the Antiques Roadshow: “I love the storytelling aspect. My parents’ collection is all about the stories. The art is beautiful — but it’s also the stories behind the art.”



**Mission Statement**  
The mission of The Charlotte News is:

- to publish rigorous, in-depth, fair reporting on town affairs, and,
- to source stories of interest from our neighbors and friends.

The Charlotte News is a forum for the free exchange of the views of Charlotte residents and community volunteers on matters related to the town and the people who live here.

**Editorial independence**  
The editor makes final decisions on stories that are published in The Charlotte News. While we are funded by advertising revenue and donor contributions, our news judgments are made in accordance with our mission and are independent of all sources of financial support.

**Letters, Opinions and Obituaries**  
Consistent with our mission The Charlotte News publishes letters to the editor, opinion pieces and obituaries submitted by our readers. All such materials are subject to review and approval by the editor in accordance with the following standards and requirements:

- The views expressed in letters or opinion pieces are those of the author, and are not endorsed by either the board or the editorial staff of the paper. Opinion pieces and letters to the editor will be clearly labelled as such.
- The News strives to stay clear of conflicts of interest. If an actual or perceived conflict arises or becomes known at a later date, it will be fully disclosed.
- While letters or opinion pieces may endorse political positions or candidates for public office, the paper always remains objective and impartial in such matters.
- All submissions are strictly monitored for personal attacks, score settling, blatantly false information and inflammatory language. The editor reserves the right to reject any submission that is deemed contrary to the paper’s standards.
- All submissions are subject to editing for clarity, factual accuracy, tone, length and consistency with our publishing style.
- Efforts will be made to publish submissions in their entirety and to preserve the original intent and wording, but minor editing may nonetheless be necessary. Contributors will be notified before publishing, if in the editor’s judgment, significant changes are required, or the submission is rejected.
- Submission requirements:
  - Letters to the editor, opinion pieces and obituaries should be emailed to [news@thecharlottenews.org](mailto:news@thecharlottenews.org) as attachments in .doc format and must contain the writer’s full name, town of residence and, for editing purposes only, contact phone number.
  - Letters may not exceed 300 words, obituaries 500 words and opinion pieces 750 words.
  - All published letters and opinion pieces will include the writer’s name and town of residence.
  - Before publishing any obituary, we will need proper verification of death.

**Editorial Staff**  
**Editor:** Scotter MacMillan ([scooter@thecharlottenews.org](mailto:scooter@thecharlottenews.org))  
**Production Manager:** Anna Cyr ([anna@thecharlottenews.org](mailto:anna@thecharlottenews.org))  
**Copy editors:** Beth Merritt, Katherine Arthaud  
**Proofreaders:** Mike & Janet Yantachka

**Business Staff**  
**Ad manager:** Christy Hagios ([ads@thecharlottenews.org](mailto:ads@thecharlottenews.org))  
**Bookkeeper:** Susan Jones ([billing@thecharlottenews.org](mailto:billing@thecharlottenews.org))


**Board Members**  
**President & Publisher:** John Quinney ([john@thecharlottenews.org](mailto:john@thecharlottenews.org))  
**Treasurer:** Margery McCracken ([treasurer@thecharlottenews.org](mailto:treasurer@thecharlottenews.org))  
**Secretary:** Susanne Davis  
**Board members:** Claudia Marshall, Ben Miller, Gay Regan, Bill Regan, John Hammer (emeritus), Vince Crockenberg (emeritus)  
**Technical advisor:** Melissa Mendelsohn, Orchard Road Computers  
**Website:** [charlottenewsvt.org](http://charlottenewsvt.org)

**Subscription Information**  
The Charlotte News is delivered at no cost to all Charlotte residences. Subscriptions are available for first-class delivery at \$60 per calendar year.  
**Want a subscription? Subscribe on our website,** [charlottenewsvt.org](http://charlottenewsvt.org)

**Postmaster/Send address changes to:**  
The Charlotte News, P.O. Box 251,  
Charlotte, VT 05445 Telephone: 802-425-4949  
Circulation: 2,100

Copyright © 2022 TCN, Inc., dba  
Member of the New England Newspaper  
and Press Association, LION Publishers  
and the Vermont Press Association.

**Support local nonprofit reporting.**



**Scan this QR code with your phone camera and donate today.**



# When you think computer tech support is a scam

Crystal Baldwin  
Consumer Assistance Program

Computer tech support scammers are imposters that immediately gain trust by using well-known company names like Norton, Microsoft or Apple, or by expressing a desire to help fix a daunting problem. Ranking third among the scams with the highest dollar loss, \$695,240, in Vermont in 2021, this scam is historically successful due to its ability to establish a sense of familiarity and legitimacy garnered by the scammer’s suggested affiliation with a company and their technical prowess.

In the computer tech support scam, you are contacted by phone, pop-up or email on your computer. The message spikes your anxiety and drives your response to be reactive. Tech scammers may claim, “There is a virus on your device,” “Your security subscription has been automatically renewed,” or “You have been charged for a year’s subscription of antivirus.” In the communication, a link or phone number is included, which you are urged to contact immediately to rectify the issue.

While in reaction mode, you call, hoping to resolve the issue. During the call, the scammer will try to persuade you to give remote access to your device to fix the problem, and sometimes will ask for immediate payment for their services. In scenarios where a refund is requested, they facilitate what appears to be a transfer of funds by walking you through steps to log into your own online bank account. Utilizing their program and ability to freely



roam on your computer while they have remote access, they disguise the origin of the funds transfer, which is in actuality a transfer of funds between your own bank accounts.

Tech support scammers further escalate the call, using high tones of voice, demands of urgency, and call on your empathy to help solve a problem they created. The scammer’s tactics pull the recipient of the scam further into reaction mode. While in reaction mode, responses are based on impulse and with little additional collective data. Once a person has more information, through the process of asking questions and seeking out resources, the ability to think critically and problem-solve the issue comes back online.

For this scam and consumer transactions generally, you can apply the SLOW method to disrupt the unpredictable reaction response by substituting a planned response instead. At the onset of the first communication, start with SLOW as a strategy to help you take steps to verify.

**S** - Slow down – scammers pressure you to react urgently. Don’t! Instead, take a breath and find your calm by doing what is immediately natural to you.

**L** - Log the contact – write down the information of the email, or phone call. If they are on the phone, you can tell them you will call them back, even if you don’t intend to. Then, disengage.

**O** - One call – make one call to a primary contact, such as a friend or family member and discuss the incident. It works best if you have pre-established who this will be; someone you can trust no matter what. The contact is a sounding board, who will ask questions and help you get curious about the interaction.

**W** - Who cares? Contact another party or organization in your life who cares. The Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) can help you identify scams and report them: 1-800-649-2424 and [ago.vermont.gov/cap](http://ago.vermont.gov/cap)

Know what to watch out for in computer tech scams, so you can avoid them:

- Be wary of pop-ups and unexpected emails/phone calls.
- Watch out for security warnings and account renewals.
- Don’t trust contact information, like links, URLs and phone numbers provided in unexpected emails.
- Never click on links or provide remote

- access to your computer from an unknown email or source.
- If you received an email or pop-up message you cannot click out of, don’t engage. Instead, shut down, restart or unplug your device.
  - If you get a call from “tech support,” hang up.
  - Be careful when searching for tech support online. Some users have been scammed by calling illegitimate phone numbers listed on the internet.
  - In the age of the internet and free-flowing technology, scammers hope to capitalize at every turn. You can prevent scams by practicing SLOW in all your consumer transactions now — and commit to being a primary contact for others. Everyone can help stop scams by following a scam prevention plan and sharing scam knowledge with your community.

*(Crystal Baldwin publishes the CAP Connection blog for the Consumer Assistance Program in partnership with the University of Vermont and the Vermont Attorney General’s Office.)*

## SCAMMED

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

thick packet of 130 hundred dollar bills, wrapped it up carefully and sent it off via overnight, UPS express, for \$95, to a Mr. F. Moon in Jamaica, New York. But not before photographing the UPS package label with its tracking number, which I sent off to “Steve,” as he directed me to do. Mission accomplished.

After a few errands, I returned home for the evening, where I mulled over my last two or three hours, thinking how very weird it all was. Very quickly, I recognized that this had to be a scam, even though “Steve” seemed so intelligent and so nice.

Around 2-3 a.m., too anxious to sleep, I got on my computer and checked my checking account at People’s where there was indeed a deposit for \$54,300. I then looked up the websites of the UPS and the Vermont State Police. The UPS package was promised by noon the next day, so it seemed likely that I could cancel the delivery to Moon. I called UPS, and the night owl who answered their phone said the shipment could only be canceled from the office from which the package was picked up.

I had to wait until 9 a.m. to call the Copy Ship Fax Plus office on Shelburne Road. I told the owner my story and asked him to cancel the UPS delivery. He said he’d do that right away. I also called the state police and spoke with a sergeant who told me that this kind of thing happened way too frequently, and no, his office could not help me catch these people as there are just too many of them.

A mere 15 minutes after I spoke with Copy Ship Fax Plus, “Steve” called me to ask what happened: he’d been notified by UPS that the shipment had been canceled.

“Oh! You made such a mistake,” he whined. “Now I am surely going to lose my job!”

That argument worked yesterday, but not today. I could not be persuaded; and in a few moments, he hung up.

Ten minutes later, the Copy Ship Fax Plus owner called to say that someone pretending to be me had called him and demanded that he reverse the order and cancel the cancellation.

Now I knew for sure that this was a

scam ... how could I have been so dense? In a final phone call, the owner said that the delivery of my package had been canceled, it might take a week before the package was returned to his shop and that he’d let me know right away.

After the weekend, I returned to a People’s bank where the teller immediately saw that there was no mistaken deposit; rather, “Steve,” using the program that he’d installed into my computer, had transferred funds from my own savings account into the checking account.

So, the entire situation was a sham. Wow, did I feel stupid! And gullible.

I returned to my car, understanding suddenly why “Steve” had stopped calling after about 50 calls.

A day later, Copy Ship Fax Plus called to say that UPS had returned the package, and that it was intact. So, I hurried to pick it up and heard more stories from the owner about other scams he’s dealt with. Of course, I thanked him many times over.

My next stop was to People’s bank with the cash to deposit back into my account. Every dollar was accounted for.

My next task will be to change all my passwords, bank account and credit card numbers; then hope I can put this behind me. I am very grateful to have recovered my money — thanks to help of so many people. My only losses were the UPS fees to send the package overnight to New York City and retrieve it the next day — and a bit to my self-esteem.

This has been a hugely humbling experience. A story I’m not even sure I should share with others — as most readers will think: “How could she have been so gullible?”

I have no idea why or how I let this happen. I am determined that nothing

like this will ever happen to me again, though I’ve had a flurry of similar emails since then, now that I’ve been identified as gullible by some people. If my story warns others of this danger, then the writing is definitely worthwhile.

## Around Town

**Congratulations**  
**Cole Rehkgugler** of Charlotte was named to the dean’s list at Rochester Institute of Technology for the spring semester.

CSH Rotary Presents

DIAMONDS AND DENIM

CASINO NIGHT

SUNDAY AUGUST 7

OLD LANTERN BARN

FEATURING

LOWELL THOMPSON AND FRIENDS

6 P M

PRIZES!

\$40 per person at the door or online

FUN!

SCAN HERE!!

sponsored by

New York Life, Fenn & Co Design Build

Greentree Real Estate, Vermont Farm Table

Church Hill Landscapes

**NEXT PUBLICATION DATES**

**August 11, 2022**

Copy Deadline: Friday, Aug. 5

Ads Deadline: Friday, Aug. 5

**TO ADVERTISE CONTACT:**  
[ads@thecharlottenews.org](mailto:ads@thecharlottenews.org)

**SEND YOUR CHARLOTTE NEWS TO:**  
[news@thecharlottenews.org](mailto:news@thecharlottenews.org)



# Letters to the Editor

## Charlotte Fire Department doesn’t use foam with PFAS

To the Editor:

I would like to clear up some misconceptions with regards to a fire our department responded to last winter at the garage located on Church Hill Road. Questionable statements have been published in multiple places that need to be set straight. Charlotte Fire and Rescue uses and has used for the last 20 years PHOS-CHEK 881 class A foam linked here (perimeter-solutions.com/en/class-a-foam/phos-chek-wd881/) which is a forestry service approved Class A foam. It is a surfactant, equivalent to Dawn Dish soap. It contains no added PFAS. PHOS-CHEK WD-881 Class A foam is highly biodegradable. More than 85 percent reverts to carbon dioxide within 28 days of exposure to ambient conditions in the environment. MSDA sheets are available at their website but are for pure concentrate exposure.

Prior to that we used a product called Flameout with the same properties (hhchemical.co/products/flameout-fire-suppressor?variant=28490181967952). Charlotte Volunteer Fire and Rescue applies this product at a rate of 0.03 percent per gallon of finished foam in our compressed air systems, which allows us a quicker knockdown with less time and water usage. Applying this with our Compressed Air Foam Systems (CAFS) to the point of being 5 to 10 times more effective than just plain water along with other benefits.

I’ve reached out to other area departments, most are our mutual aid partners, on their foam. The Shelburne, Ferrisburgh, Hinesburg and Monkton fire departments all use one of the foams mentioned above and have for years for interoperability on the scene of a call and we can share foam at an incident.

As for the Air Guard apologizing for contaminating the site with PFAS and paying for the cleanup, the only thing they

brought to the scene was 4,000 gallons of clean city water. The same as the first load of water from the departments of Hinesburg, Ferrisburgh, Shelburne, Vergennes and New Haven. When that water supply was depleted, water was pulled from two dry hydrants in ponds in Charlotte. It is important to note that these departments did not refill when leaving the scene due to the water being full of particles that are rough on the pumps of fire trucks.

If someone had brought a Class B foam with PFAS in it we would not have used it. Mixing it with the Class A foam used in our area would have turned into a gel, which would have resulted in a repair costing in the range of \$50,000 and placing the truck out of service for months.

We are aware and very mindful of the issues of PFAS and to my knowledge have not used any in over 30 years. I cannot attest to what was used prior to that.

As for using a year’s worth of foam to suppress the fire, CVFRS arrived on scene in less than four minutes with six firefighters. Using this foam allowed us to (1) save a truck next to the burning fuel tanks, (2) prevent the spread to the house across the road which was a real possibility and (3) prevent the rupture of two fuel tanks with 2,500 gallons of fuel which would have contaminated the waterway downstream into Lake Champlain. Furthermore, the main power line next to the building was on the verge of melting and did not have to be turned off. This line supplies many customers in Charlotte and other communities from the Velco substation in sub-freezing conditions.

Dick St. George  
Charlotte

## Good weather is time to prepare for storms

To the Editor:

I’ve been a lineworker at Green Mountain Power for 26 years. Over my career I’ve

worked to keep Vermonters powered up in every kind of weather you can imagine. Severe weather comes to Vermont all year round. It can be windy, wet, freezing cold, icy or sweltering hot.

These days I help lead the line crews. For the past four years I’ve been part of a team that coordinates during storm restoration. It is tough and exhilarating work but getting to help customers — especially turning the lights back on — is the very best part of the job.

Safety is critical to all the work we do — whether restoring power or working on important proactive resiliency projects — and there are steps you can take to be safe at home in case of severe weather.

It is good to have some basics on hand all year, and good weather is a great time to plan ahead. Make sure you have a charged cellphone, flashlights with fresh batteries, and some bottled water on hand. More tips that can help you get ready for storms are on the Green Mountain Power website: greenmountainpower.com/safety.

It is also important to always stay far away from any downed lines or trees. That goes for when they’re down because of a storm or for when a vehicle crashed into a pole. Just stepping on the ground around a downed line could be deadly — the ground can be energized and there is no way for you to know. Always assume downed lines and trees are still energized, stay far away, and call for help.

The Green Mountain Power app is an easy way to report outages and get restoration alerts, plus manage your Green Mountain Power account and track energy usage. You can download it to your phone or tablet from the app store, and get more details from the Green Mountain Power website: greenmountainpower.com/apps-skills/mobile-app.

Stay safe and have a great summer season.

Glenn Johnson  
Milton

## New materials recovery facility is crucial to climate goals

To the Editor:

As a restaurant co-owner, I experience firsthand how much waste is generated in the food industry. We are a mission-driven company and try our best to reduce the amount of waste we send to landfill. Vermont state offers ample opportunities to recycle, but a large amount of waste is still not recyclable or compostable and sadly ends up in the landfill (Vermont only has one single landfill). Therefore, I was very excited to hear about the plans to update Chittenden Solid Waste District’s facility which will enable it to increase its capacity by 40 percent and recycle black plastic and smaller plastic parts like snap-off can covers.

Pingala Cafe alone sells about 8,000 canned drinks per year, most of which come packed in snap-off pack covers. This new facility would enable us to divert these from landfill. In 1993, when the facility was first built, Vermont didn’t have nearly as many businesses, such as ours, generating trash and

recycling. This means that the aged facility is now at capacity and is in desperate need of modernizing. Both for the sake of the people who work there, and for folks like me, who want to do the right thing and recycle as much as possible.

Because the current materials recovery facility is at capacity, because the people who work there deserve updated equipment to make things more efficient and improve their work environment, and because Chittenden Solid Waste District must modernize to keep up with present and future packaging demands, I will be voting ‘yes’ on my November general election ballot to approve the bond for Chittenden Solid Waste District to build a new facility.

An up-to-date recycling facility is crucial to achieve Vermont’s climate goals and rebuild back better following the COVID pandemic. This plan is an obvious yes to make that happen.

Lisa Bergström  
Burlington

## Thanks to library book sale buyers, donors and volunteers

To the Editor:

Thanks to all who enjoyed the recent Charlotte Library book sale on the porch. It was a hot day; the sun shone brightly and there were plenty of good reads for all ages and interests. Thanks to LuLu ice cream for providing cooling relief and to the School House volunteers who supplied shoppers with refreshing lemonade.

Many people donated books that were culled and sorted by an impressive number of library supporters. Thanks to all who volunteered to cashier at this event.

A special shout out to Jenny Blanshine who came to every donation session (and to her mother Carol who dropped her off and picked her up).

Also, we are very grateful to the library staff for their assistance with the sale and for tolerating the disruption.

Please note that a selection of recent volumes will be available in the program room for the foreseeable future. So, if you missed the sale you will still be able to stock up on books to carry you through the coming year.

Again, we are grateful to our town for the support of the library.

Nan Mason  
Charlotte

*(Nan Mason is president of the Friends of the Charlotte Library.)*

## Support Thomas Chittenden for Vermont State Senate

To the Editor,

I write this letter in support of Thomas Chittenden for Vermont State Senate.

As a first-term senator, Thomas is highly regarded by his colleagues as someone who listens to all points of view on issues and always deliberates and advocates for the best interest of Vermonters. Thomas is a champion for fiscal responsibility, education and environmental stewardship.

Thomas has been fully engaged and

FREE

FIRST

FRIDAY EVE

5–7:30 p.m. | Music starts at 6 p.m.

Celebrate summer at Shelburne Museum and join us for **Free First Friday Eve** events this season. Enjoy an evening of live music, lawn games, food trucks, and special exhibitions – the entire Museum campus will be open and **FREE** to all!

August 5: with Brickdrop

September 2: with The Reflexions



SHELBURNE

MUSEUM

shelburnemuseum.org



# Letters to the Editor

involved in his hometown South Burlington community as a city councilor, and he has worked tirelessly in his representation. His commitment to public service and dedication to helping Vermonters is inspiring and his actions as an elected official have been thoughtful, creative and caring.

Vermont needs people like Thomas Chittenden to serve in our Vermont State Senate. He has earned my vote and I hope you will consider joining me in voting for Thomas Chittenden for the Vermont Senate.

Frank Cioffi  
South Burlington

### Thomas Chittenden for Vermont State Senate

This letter is in support of Thomas Chittenden for Vermont State Senate.

Chittenden has demonstrated himself to be one of our very promising young leaders who understands the complex challenges of quality education, economic development and transportation infrastructure. Chittenden serves on both the Senate Transportation and Senate Education committees where, in a relatively short period of time, he has become highly regarded for his leadership and his dedication to helping Vermonters.

He and his wife are raising their family in South Burlington. He is a very involved parent and role model who understands the rewards and trials of raising a family in these very challenging times. His strong environmental values and advocacy for balance and consensus-building have earned him a reputation as one of the very best serving Vermonters today.

Please join me in voting for Thomas Chittenden for the Vermont Senate.

Lisa Ventriss  
South Burlington

### Supporting Chea Waters Evans for Chittenden-5 House seat

To the Editor:  
It's time for a change. I voted for Chea Waters Evans in the Democratic primary for the Chittenden-5 seat in the Vermont House of Representatives.

Evans loves her community and has always put in the work to make things better around our town. I and so many others have seen her energy, work ethic and sincerity in action, whether it's her work for the school or as a journalist.

I respect Evans' values, her commitment, her intelligence, and the fact that she has a healthy willingness to challenge the powers that be. Charlotte and Hinesburg are great

communities and the collective talent of the people who live here is truly inspiring.

I don't see any reason that we should be represented by the same person for more than a decade. If there were no reasonable alternative, I suppose another term for Mike Yantachka would be fine.

But we have an excellent option in Chea Waters Evans. She will work for us. She doesn't owe anything to any ossified party apparatus. Evans' loyalties are not to a political party, but to her values and to solving the many everyday, non-partisan problems faced by her fellow citizens. Chea Waters Evans is open-minded and has a mind of her own. She will listen and will not pander.

Thank you, Chea, for all of your work over the years, and thank you for running for the state house. I happily voted for Evans and I know that she will serve our community well.

Rich Sicotte  
Charlotte

### Politicians should not decide curriculum for our children

To the Editor:  
A column by Jay Mathews provoked me to look at the fact-filled curriculum he admires. I read E.D. Hirsch Jr.'s new book, "American Ethnicity: A Sense of Commonality," which he calls a sequel to his 1987 tome "The New Dictionary of Cultural Literacy: What Every American Needs to Know."

Hirsch insists that "a school can teach anything to anyone if it has a mind to." So, he puts kindergartners to studying globes and learning the seven continents. First-graders get the "Code of Hammurabi."

According to Hirsch, what we need for our schools is "a mandatory commonality in the sequence of school topics." Who decides this very specific and mandatory topic-by-topic, grade-by-grade list? Hirsch has the answer: state governors and legislators. He says these politicians would base this mandatory curriculum on "a list of what high-income adult Americans tend to know."

So, if you'd entrust our school curriculum to the state politicians, then step right up and applaud Hirsch and Mathews. As a longtime teacher, I know our children deserve much better.

Susan Ohanian  
Charlotte  
(This letter originally appeared in The Washington Post.)

## Getting pumped



Photo by Suzy Hodgson

Margaret Russell making use of the Charlotte Beach public bike pump and stand which was installed over the winter thanks to the Charlotte Shelburne Hinesburg Rotary, said Bill Fraser-Harris, chair of the recreation commission.



Re-elect  
Representative  
Mike Yantachka  
for  
Charlotte-Hinesburg

*Experienced! Effective!  
Democratic Values!*

*I have worked hard for you in Montpelier for the past 12 years, and I'm proud of my record of support for Democratic values. During my 36 years in Charlotte my civic involvement has included service on the Charlotte Central School Board, Justice of the Peace, Chair of the Charlotte Democratic Committee, and Chair of the Chittenden County Democratic Committee. I am an active member of Charlotte Community Partners, a Greenup Day volunteer, and a Senior Center volunteer. I am also the Treasurer of the Vermont Disaster Recovery Fund Board.*

I have been a leader on legislation to:

- ✓ expand access to mental health services
- ✓ raise the minimum wage
- ✓ support childcare and Pre-K opportunities
- ✓ promote local agriculture and forestry
- ✓ enact reasonable firearm regulations
- ✓ promote social equity principles
- ✓ promote a healthy environment
- ✓ require greenhouse gas reductions to combat climate change and save Vermonters money.

Endorsed by Rights And Democracy, Vermont State Employees Association, Vermont Conservation Voters

Paid for by Mike Yantachka for State Representative, 393 Natures Way, Charlotte, VT 802-233-5238

[www.MikeYantachka.com](http://www.MikeYantachka.com)



**Featuring Environmentally Friendly Flooring Solutions**  
Hardwood • Bamboo • Cork • Marmoleum • Rubber • Wool

Locally Owned & Operated • 802-658-9336  
257 PINE STREET, BURLINGTON • [www.NEFCVT.COM](http://www.NEFCVT.COM)



# Community

## Farm Night: Regenerative agriculture and stunning view

Juliann Phelps  
Contributor

After the thunderstorm broke over the Adirondacks, distantly rumbling off over Mount Mansfield, the skies cleared to reveal the stunning, sultry 360-degree views at Earthkeep Farmcommon.

Vendors set up in the tree-lined shade across from the iconic red-roofed barn for Farm Night, a weekly event with a range of local offerings from fresh food to flowers.

“We are adding value by practicing regenerative agriculture and are hoping to create models to export to other farms. Farm Night is a way to get the community to care,” said Joel Gardner, Earthkeep Farmcommon’s content and farm project manager.

Gardner and chief operating officer Robin Jeffers hosted the information booth, which included designs of their master plan as well as samples of Shrubby — an aronia- and honey-based soft drink steeped on site. They fielded questions about the event as well as future plans for the farmer’s collaborative, and chief executive officer Will Raap also walked the grounds talking with visitors.

Raap said next for Earthkeep Farmcommon (formerly known as Nordic 3.0) is a malthouse expansion as well as a nascent idea called a “craft micro-dairy.”

“I had a conversation with the commissioner of agriculture about the shift away from commodity dairy to craft, or

micro-dairies, with a focus on higher value, higher margin milk, cheeses, yogurt, kefir, etcetera.”

He highlighted the well-known decline of Vermont dairy farms, citing the challenges of current farms competing with large-scale dairy farms out west.

Conversely, he noted the cachet of Vermont-based brands like Cabot. Even the transformation of the “cheese world” in Vermont lends itself to a naturally higher margin when selling products outside of the state.

“We could be a training center for other farms,” Raap said.

Another area of Farmkeep Common hard not to notice is the grain elevators rising from the solar-paneled red barn located further back on the property. This is the location of Vermont Malthouse — Vermont’s only malthouse producing regionally sourced malts.

It’s so hyperlocal, the rye is growing on the property right along Route 7.

Rob Hunter, Malthouse general manager, said several upgrades are in process which would reduce overhead costs and boost production to 15 tons a month — and they have room to expand further.

“Our eventual goal is 18,000 to 20,000 tons a year,” Hunter said.

One of the farm collective members, Foam Brewers, sources its malt from Vermont Malthouse, among other



Photo by Juliann Phelps

Alexandra and Vivian Phelps enjoyed playing at Earthkeep’s Farm Night.

ingredients, to brew a completely locally-sourced pale ale called “For You.” Hunter said the expansion of the malthouse includes a system that is 100 percent efficient using a heat recovery system.

“By dropping malting expenses we can be more competitive in the market and we are able to do more,” said Hunter.

Hunter, along with other members of Earthkeeps’ farmers collective, are featured vendors at Farm Night. The event is held every Thursday from 4:30-7:30 p.m. and features a rotating list of vendors and producers.

At the most recent Farm Night, there was Earthkeep’s organic fresh produce booth, Farmer’s Market Pizza and The Wise Pie serving food on site, and Sweet Sound

Aquaculture offering samples of their shrimp bisque. Arrangements from Clayton Floral, CBD products by Upstate Elevator Supply Company, and House of Fermentology/Foam Brewers rounded out the vendors.

There are plenty of places to stretch your legs, with seating under a large event tent, cocktail tables next to the barn. There’s even a cornhole game and a large sand pile and sand toys for the kids.

As part of their continued effort to raise visibility of local agriculture, Jeffers noted that on Aug. 18 Earthkeep Farmcommon is working on a combined event with the Charlotte Land Trust with the hopes of featuring products from Charlotte farms at Farm Night.

## Free app finds closest lake pumpout services

University of Vermont extension service

A free digital tool is available for recreational boaters on Lake Champlain and Lake George to help them locate the closest marina with pumpout services for the proper disposal of boat sewage.

The Pumpout Nav: Marina Pumpout Finder app is available for download from both the Android Play and iOS Apple stores. In addition to showing the locations of the marinas, it lists hours of operation, cost and exact location of the pumpout or portable toilet dump station at each marina. The app also allows the user to log pumpouts, create a list of favorite sewage disposal stations and report mechanical issues and non-functioning units.

Other features include instructions on how to use a pumpout station, access to the marinas’ websites and distance from the boater’s location on the lake to the nearest

pumpout facility. Boaters also can learn about the how and why to pump out along with the rules and regulations of recreational boat sewage disposal.

The sewage pump-out locator app was developed by the San Francisco Estuary Partnership in collaboration with The Bay Foundation. Funding was provided by a Clean Vessel Act grant and administered by the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways through the federal Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund.

Lake Champlain was the first body of water outside of California to be included in the app. Its inclusion was thanks to a partnership between University of Vermont Extension, the Lake Champlain Sea Grant Program, the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department and San Francisco Estuary Partnership.

To learn more, go to [go.uvm.edu/pumpout](http://go.uvm.edu/pumpout).



Sports

Three from Champlain Valley High representing Vermont in annual gridiron clash against New Hampshire’s best

Scooter MacMillan  
Editor

Three of Champlain Valley Union High’s football players will be joining the rest of Vermont’s gridiron best against New Hampshire’s allstars in the annual Shrine Game.

Kickoff for the contest at Castleton University will be noon on Saturday, Aug. 6.

The Redhawks selected to represent the Green Mountain State are Ryan Canty, Angelos Carroll and Jared Anderson.

Canty will be playing inside linebacker for the Vermont defense. He was a three-year starter at Champlain Valley and captain both his junior and senior years.

Canty “is a ‘no matter what’ rather than an ‘as long as it works out for me’ kind of young man,” coach Rahn Fleming said. “Determined and stalwart as a linebacker, he is also the inspirational fire for every other Redhawk on the field with him.”

Carroll will be playing at outside linebacker and/or running back. His coach said Carroll has a motor that never stops and was a unanimous choice of his teammates as a captain his senior year.

“If a mad scientist were to concoct the perfect mind/spirit combination for a young

athlete, they could do no better than what nature gave us in Angelos Carroll,” Fleming said.

Anderson will be playing cornerback for Vermont and he was also a captain his senior year.

Fleming said his defensive skills were so high that in game planning, he put Anderson on the best receiver for all of their opponents. “Then we’d set about figuring out what we were going to do about the other 10 guys on the field.”

The Shrine Maple Sugar Bowl Football Game is one of 30 Shrine football games played across the country every year. The game is preceded by a spectacular parade of Shriners from throughout the Northeast Region, according the game’s website.

“Strong Legs Run That Weak Legs May Walk” is the motto of every Shrine Football Game.

The Shrine Maple Sugar Bowl has raised over \$4.5 million dollars over 68 years for Shriner’s hospitals. These hospitals provide care for children up to the age of 18 with special health care needs and conduct research to discover new knowledge that improves the quality of care and life of these children and their families.



Courtesy photo

As recently graduated seniors, Ryan Canty, Angelos Carroll and Jared Anderson will represent Champlain Valley Union High in the Shrine Maple Sugar Bowl Game when Vermont’s best high school footballers face off against New Hampshire’s best. This will be their last football game as Redhawks.

Party at the Beach



Photo by John Quinney

Once again, the tone of the annual Town Party was established by the harmonious stylings of the Mystic Party Band.



Photo by Colleen Armstrong

Bill Fraser-Harris cleaning up after another successful Charlotte Town Party.



Photo by John Quinney

Recreation commission chair Bill Fraser-Harris said more than 200 people attended the Town Party on July 16, and everybody brought a dish so there were more than eight tables of food.



Photo by Colleen Armstrong

From left, Kay Dellagrotta and Aidan Bundock introduced Graciella to what volunteering with the Charlotte Fire and Rescue Department is like.

Photo by John Quinney

Swimming, gelato and Adams Berry Farm sorbet popsicles helped keep the party cool — both literally and figuratively.





# Meet the Candidates



**Thomas Chittenden**  
Running for re-election  
Chittenden Southeast  
District Senate District

**Do you approve of the way districts were reapportioned? Do you think the representation of smaller towns like Charlotte were improved by this reapportionment? Why or why not?**

The redistricting process was complicated and did not have any obvious configurations that would satisfy all perspectives. This new configuration effectively split the previous district in half (population-wise) which will allow senators to concentrate their attention better on half as many constituents. I allocate my time to my constituents regardless of town lines so this re-apportionment process doesn't change how much I have dedicated my 'town' representation — it will (if I am re-elected) just give me twice as much time to focus on half as many people than the previous six-seat Senate district.

**Besides Prop 5, what else should Vermont do about abortion?**

We need to send leaders to Washington, D.C., who will champion protection for reproductive rights and individual liberties across our entire country. In this post-Dobbs decision time, we need to enshrine in our state law reproductive rights protections for all regardless of what state or country someone calls home. We also need to be vigilant in protecting Vermont obstetricians and gynecologists from out-of-state legal, financial or professional persecution. Vermont needs to stand firm with legislative force to protect our individual rights and reproductive liberties.

**What more could be done in Montpelier to lessen sprawl and boost development in**

**our village centers?**

Exempting downtowns and village centers with existing local zoning regulations from Act 250 redundant reviews. We need to allow on-the-record review of documentation for the Act 250 appeals process to reduce the uncertainty, cost and time of much needed housing and infrastructure investments. At the local level, the state is funding this year's land development review bylaws modernization and I continue to advocate for increased inter-municipality coordination of planning and municipal services. We need to encourage and enable more density closer to our metropolitan centers where very expensive public infrastructure is already in the ground. I support eliminating parking minimums in our downtown centers and regional/county funding solutions to support concentrated smart growth projects is needed.

In addition to this, I supported and voted for H. 606 (an act relating to community resilience and biodiversity protection) and H. 697 (an act relating to eligibility of reserve forestland for enrollment in the Use Value Appraisal Program). In addition to these two votes, I would continue to advocate for smart growth development patterns to steward our rural working landscapes while encouraging more in fill and concentrated development.

**What specific changes would you propose to the Clean Heat Standard Bill (H. 715) to improve its prospects in 2023? What additional legislation would you propose to address climate change in Vermont?**

I voted for the Clean Heat Standard legislation and I would only propose changes that would get this legislation over the finish line. This veto was sustained because we didn't get to "yes" with enough legislators — nor with the governor. Going forward, I think it is important to ensure that the Public Utility Commission properly addresses equity concerns and conducts a full life-cycle analysis to account for all

environmental impacts. The legislature needs to better understand the costs and benefits of such significant regulation to get enough legislators to sign off on this important legislation. The Clean Heat Standard is a reasonable and important step to transform our heating methods using a glide path to reduce market tumult while building up expertise and capacity in our heating industry.

As for additional legislation to address climate change, three areas come to mind:

1. Transportation sector climate emissions reduction through rational assessment with emissions variable car registration fees and road usage assessment with automated vehicle identification methods as well as public transportation usage tracking for income-sensitive time subsidies through state income tax policy.

2. Permit reform to foster more affordable high-density housing in our urban cores served by existing municipal infrastructure balanced with increased forest block protections in our rural swaths.

3. Property assessed clean energy state supported/fostered funding mechanisms for commercial properties to align the financial benefit of energy saving investments with the property owners over the useful life of the building and necessary upfront costs.

**What small-scale agriculture initiatives do you support?**

This last session we passed unprecedented funding for school meals and food security initiatives for farm fresh school meals including farm-to-school and early childhood grants that also included a local food purchasing incentive program. Our fruit and veggie farmers will be able to sell to these school lunch programs making kids meals fresh and local.

I also fully support better funding the Vermont Housing Conservation Board to help more people interested in buying farms to finance the transaction — this is critical to support the next generation of farmers in Vermont.

I am proud of the legislation we passed this biennium to help our organic dairy farmers transition to a new buyer that required facility upgrades including change ties, bigger bulk tanks, wider driveways and every-other-day shipments. And we created a state cost-sharing program to support this.

I'm also proud of the fixes to the water withdrawal bill that protected our small farmers from having to buy electric control devices for small water withdrawals from our streams.

**Do you support stronger gun control legislation to protect school children and guard against mass shootings, and if so, what would that be? If not, explain.**

I strongly support more sensible gun control measures including required safe storage, waiting periods, universal background checks and guns/ammo sales taxes.

We need sensible rules over who can access, buy, sell, transport and register guns.

I'm proud of the steps we've taken in Vermont to pass more sensible gun laws, but we have more to do. And we need to get this done yesterday.



**Kesha Ram Hinsdale**  
Running for  
Chittenden Southeast  
District Senate District

**Do you approve of the way districts were reapportioned? Do you think the representation of smaller towns like Charlotte were improved by this reapportionment? Why or why not?**

I approve of the way the districts were reapportioned. I believe the smaller towns now have a larger voice and opportunity to advance local residents to serve. It is a privilege to serve Charlotte, where my husband was born and raised.

**Besides Prop 5, what else should Vermont do about abortion?**

Vermont should:

- Ensure medical providers and those seeking abortion are safe from extradition and criminalization.
- Advance measures related to data privacy and call on our federal delegation to ensure codify Roe and advance privacy nationally.
- Find additional opportunities to underscore medical sovereignty, freedom from involuntary servitude, and equality under the law in our states and Vermont Constitution.

**What more could be done in Montpelier to lessen sprawl and boost development in our village centers?**

Provisions like those in the housing bill I authored that was signed into law that incentivizes building and reduces red tape in neighborhood development areas. We need to invest in restoring blighted properties while reducing the permitting burden in core downtowns and village centers.

**What specific changes would you propose to the Clean Heat Standard Bill (H. 715) to improve its prospects in 2023? What additional legislation would you propose to address climate change in Vermont?**

Remove reference to biofuels and make the decision points clearer to the impacted communities. Focus more on rental properties, low-income families and mobile home communities in terms of receiving the benefits.

**What small-scale agriculture initiatives do you support?**

Agritourism, investments in water quality, supporting access to capital for the next generation of farmers, value-add product development, labeling, hub development, regenerative practices, marketing and technical support.

**Do you support stronger gun control legislation to protect school children and guard against mass shootings, and if so, what would that be? If not, explain.**

Strengthening the laws we have on the books to prevent teen suicide and domestic violence fatalities. This includes closing loopholes in red flag laws, seeking federal resources for storage and studying access to guns near schools.

Chea

WATERS EVANS

For Chittenden-5 Representative

VOTE FOR

Chea Waters Evans

to represent you in Montpelier.

★

Transparency

Accountability

Honesty

★

You have a choice.

Vote now at your town hall, or absentee by calling your town clerk for a ballot.

You can also vote on August 9 at the polls.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Chea Waters Evans

181 Windswept Lane Charlotte VT 05445

Fenn & Company

A BUILDING PARTNERSHIP

New Construction & Renovations.

Quality Work. Cheerfully Done!

Peter Fenn

802-734-0353



# Meet the Candidates



**Ginny Lyons**  
Running for  
Chittenden Southeast  
District Senate District

**Do you approve of the way districts were reapportioned? Do you think the representation of smaller towns like Charlotte were improved by this reapportionment? Why or why not?**

Yes, I approved the reapportionment. I have represented over 120,000 Chittenden County voters in over 15 towns for several sessions. If I am re-elected, it will be refreshing to work for 68,000 voters in fewer towns during the next session. The Senate reapportionment committee worked hard to include people and municipalities in decision making. The committee followed the law requiring a breakup of the Chittenden County 6 seat Senate district. The committee worked to maintain county and municipal boundaries as much as possible. Attention was also paid to school districts. This could be an improvement for many smaller towns like Charlotte in the Chittenden SE District. We can continue to understand how each municipality is unique with individual concerns. We can represent each town as well as the district, working with local elected officials, representatives and voters. The new district will give three Chittenden SE district Senators an opportunity to focus on rural communities, their schools, municipal planning and zoning, economic, housing, agricultural, social service and other resource needs.

**Besides Prop 5, what else should Vermont do about abortion?**

I support Prop 5, the Constitutional amendment for reproductive liberty, and it's passage in November I created the initial bill, then led the Senate process, helping others to understand it with respect to Roe v. Wade (recently overturned by Dobbs). From a practical point of view Article 22 ensures that individuals can make personal decisions about family planning. These are significant life-changing decisions that affect one's family, social, and/or economic stability. The intrusion of government into these very personal decisions, especially those between a woman and her doctor, has not happened in Vermont for nearly 50 years. This proposal ensures that the fundamental right of reproductive autonomy continues. I am now working with others on a bill to provide a safe place for residents from other states who seek reproductive or abortion care in Vermont. It is important to continue to support physicians and patients when personal reproductive decisions are made. Our state has a history of access to family planning, contraception, fertility services and abortion. Prop 5 and additional legislation can continue this.

**What more could be done in Montpelier to lessen sprawl and boost development in our village centers?**

Downtown, village center, growth

center and neighborhood tax credits help incentivize development in areas identified for development accessible to nonprofits seeking to develop local workforce housing. Ensure the anti-sprawl language we added to Act 250 continues to mitigate against unwanted development. Develop specific tax increment financing (TIF) districts for smaller development options in smaller municipalities. Ensure that state buildings/functions are planned for growth areas. The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission can work with municipalities to identify environmental conditions that support local growth. Encourage municipalities or nonprofits seeking to develop local workforce housing. Encourage the Vermont Housing and Conservation board and other nonprofits to develop the types of affordable housing that meet needs and fit within the town. Establish criteria at the state level for the use of economic development money, including for affordable housing, to target village and growth centers. Prioritize revolving loan fund use for village centers. Provide incentives for rural activities that help preserve open land outside of growth areas. Provide incentives and criteria for green spaces/parks, transportation access, water, sewer and other services within growth areas.

**What specific changes would you propose to the Clean Heat Standard Bill (H. 715) to improve its prospects in 2023? What additional legislation would you propose to address climate change in Vermont?**

1. Provide defined criteria/incentives for fuel dealers, distributors to move toward a new business model — for example, use a percentage of the petroleum cleanup fund to educate for new heat pump, electric car infrastructure, biofuel, renewable businesses for folks.
2. Establish criteria/ceiling for biomass development to maintain a balance of food agriculture, biofuels and forestry in the state.
3. Clearly determine parameters for how and what the Public Utility Commission will design and bring back to the legislature for approval by legislative committees or similar process.
4. Ensure that lower- and middle-income folks have identifiable places to find incentives and access to new technologies including electric vehicles, heat pumps, weatherization.
5. Ensure the clean energy development fund is replenished and directed to provide incentives for small renewable energy development, build the Property Assessed Clean Energy program for defined areas of development, support the use of the incentives in No. 4 above.

**What small-scale agriculture initiatives do you support?**

I support a multitude of creative/entrepreneurial agricultural enterprises. Many have been supported by the Working Lands Enterprise Program I added into legislation a few sessions ago. Small-scale

initiatives include CSAs, farmers' stands/markets, bed and breakfast with or without "farm work" experience, Philo Ridge or Bread and Butter Farm type enterprise, cheese, maple, meat processing, local vineyards, small cannabis production, sustainable forestry, regenerative and organic agriculture, recreational activities, farm and barn arts/social events, and others. An active agricultural landscape helps maintain economic vitality for our rural areas and small towns.

**Do you support stronger gun control legislation to protect school children and guard against mass shootings, and if so, what would that be? If not, explain.**

Yes.

Some important steps to be taken include: Safe storage; expanded time for background checks before sales — close the Charleston loophole; remove AR15 and similar military weapons from market access; improve red flag laws to keep firearms from those who seek firearms to harm themselves or others; maintain advisory social service or mental health workers within public safety/first responder organizations; maintain and improve training for public safety and first responders; treat the use of guns to solve social/mental health problems as a public health issue; improve access to mental health and social services to avoid use of public safety or judicial system; improve state substance use disorder programs.



**Lewis Mudge**  
Running for  
Chittenden Southeast  
District Senate District

**Do you approve of the way districts were reapportioned? Do you think**

**the representation of smaller towns like Charlotte were improved by this reapportionment? Why or why not?**

Charlotte could benefit from this reapportionment. At selectboard meetings — since these reapportionment conversations started — we've been saying over and over that we feel a part of Chittenden County, but we feel disenfranchised by too much of the Burlington focus in our representation. We don't have municipal sewer or water, we do not have a police department, we had to go it alone in our broadband rollout, the list goes on. When a municipal garage burns down, it's a big deal in a town like Charlotte. Larger towns in the county have the ability to cover a crisis like that, but we have to scramble. This could be an opportunity for smaller towns to have more representation and, if elected, I'd make sure to be in regular contact with the larger towns, but also with the selectboard chairs in Hinesburg, Richmond, Underhill, Jericho, Bolton and St. George (and of course here in Charlotte!).

**Besides Prop 5, what else should Vermont do about abortion?**

After Prop 5 is passed we can't just give ourselves a pat on the back. A fundamental right that roughly 25 percent of American women have had for almost 50 years has been stripped away and we need to ensure Vermont supports women and doctors across the country. The next step is to craft legislation that protects reproductive rights for patients from states that prohibit it.

**What more could be done in Montpelier to lessen sprawl and boost development in our village centers?**

I live in the west village, and I support increasing density in our two villages. It's a part of our town plan and it's how we can preserve our open spaces and forests (which

SEE **CANDIDATES** PAGE 10

## CHARLOTTE TOWN HIGHWAY GARAGE INFORMATION to VOTERS From the Charlotte Selectboard

The Town will be holding a Special Town Meeting on August 9, 2022 (with early voting) to authorize debt of \$1,500,000 to finance the design and construction of the Town Garage. The estimated cost of the garage is \$3,000,000; the balance of the cost is planned to be paid from funds offset by a federal grant and from accumulated reserves within the Town's highway fund and highway capital fund.

For a sense of the tax impact, at current interest rates, a property valued at \$500,000 would pay an additional \$72 in taxes the first year; this will go down each year over the life of the 20 year loan to approximately \$42.

The Town Garage is to be located on a town-owned parcel on the west side of Route 7 approximately ½ mile south of the intersection with Ferry Road and Church Hill Road; this parcel hosted the Charlotte Flea Market many years ago. Four other town-owned and four privately-owned parcels were also considered—none of these parcels are as well situated or configured as the "flea market parcel" for the proposed Town Garage.

The State of Vermont has granted an access permit for the Town Garage, which included a consideration of the safety of the access. Other permits are in the process of being obtained.

Below are renderings of the proposed Town Garage as seen from Route 7 and from the "back" side, which were created by Centerline Architects of Burlington and Bennington, VT based on direction from the Selectboard and Town resident advisors. The building is being planned to be fossil fuel free, meaning it will be heated without propane or oil. The building is also being planned to be "solar ready," although the installation of solar panels will be a separate project from the building's construction.



## Update the look of your home or business

- Quality Craftsmanship
- Courteous Customer Care
- Interior & Exterior Painting
- Free Estimate
- Lead Certified
- Fully Insured

**802-345-2038 or**  
**classicshadespainting@gmail.com**  
Local references available.



*High quality work  
at an affordable price*



# Meet the Candidates

## CANDIDATES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

is important in combatting climate change and protecting wildlife corridors).

In Montpelier we can make Act 250 more user friendly for all sides in terms of timing and adjudication, but we can't abandon its principles. State funding for affordable housing should focus on density and proximity to mass transit. State guidance and training on increasing housing must encourage meaningful conversations and thought to the increases on municipal services and schools that come with growth.

Finally, I'd like to shift away from these conversations that devolve into name-calling or accusing people of wanting to turn Vermont into New Jersey. Let's instead encourage better planning to accommodate for growth we can sustain. Chittenden County is an amazing place to be, and people want to come here. That's good! Let's make sure we grow on our terms.

**What specific changes would you propose to the Clean Heat Standard Bill (H. 715) to improve its prospects in 2023? What additional legislation would you propose to address climate change in Vermont?**

The next iteration of the clean heat standard should focus on two things: ensuring that vulnerable Vermonters don't bear the cost of the program and removing cutouts for biofuels. Those without the income to heat themselves will need support, both through programs that focus on efficiencies and with subsidies. Regarding biofuels, I don't think we should be promoting programs that turn food into fuel.

**What small-scale agriculture initiatives do you support?**

Vermont needs to make our small-scale farms work and I think Charlotte can lead the way on this. Some of the farms in our town have been using agritourism to generate income outside of farming. I look at operations like Philo Ridge and Sweet Roots (the old berry farm). These are the types of operations that reinforce how small farms are indeed stewards of our lands and providers of local produce. I'm excited about the potential of Earthkeep Farmcommon (formerly Nordic Farms) as a model for how we can bring the

farming economy into the 21st century.

Also, nobody becomes a farmer to get rich and our farmers and farm employees should be considered when we discuss real affordable housing. We need to think outside the box to help our small farms thrive, and that should extend to housing for staff.

**Do you support stronger gun control legislation to protect school children and guard against mass shootings, and if so, what would that be? If not, explain.**

I own and recreate with firearms, and I support stronger gun regulation. People should pass background checks to get a gun, period.

The fact is most responsible gun owners like me think it's ridiculous that the proposed maximum waiting period was reduced from 30 days to only seven. To be clear, the majority of people who purchase guns get their national instant background check in minutes. Don't we want to give the state at least a month to make sure the people who aren't cleared with this instant check are not criminals?

With regards to the mass shootings, my job has focused on documenting war crimes carried out by assault weapons and I've seen too many dead bodies in war zones killed by the same weapons we allow the gun industry to sell here. We need to curb this. I also feel we need Democrats like me, who hunt and own guns, to call out this new and bizarre culture that mixes assault weapons and tactical gear (who needs a helmet, Kevlar vest and knee pads in Vermont?) with misogyny and patriotism.

*Steve May is also a candidate for the Chittenden Southeast Senate District, but could not respond to these questions because of time constraints caused by a personal issue.*



**Chea Waters Evans**  
Running for Chittenden-5 Representative

**Do you approve of the way districts were reapportioned? Do you think the representation of smaller towns**

**like Charlotte were improved by this reapportionment? Why or why not?**

I do approve of the way districts were reapportioned. I think Charlotte and other smaller towns in our new Senate district have the real possibility of getting a candidate in there who understands the nuances of small rural towns.

**Besides Prop 5, what else should Vermont do about abortion?**

Vermont needs legislation to legally protect our abortion providers and their families from prosecution by other states that have restricted abortion access. They shouldn't ever be at risk if they've provided healthcare to a pregnant person from another state.

Vermont needs to support nonprofit organizations that help pregnant people gain access to abortion, whether it's financially or legally. According to the PEW Research Center, there are 36 million women of child-bearing age who will lose easy access to abortion due to new state laws. Vermont needs to continue to be a leader in standing up for what's right. Reproductive healthcare is right.

**What more could be done in Montpelier to lessen sprawl and boost development in our village centers?**

Land-use regulations are developed by individual towns. Town plans are developed by individual towns. Vermont towns are generally left to manage their own development futures, with the exceptions of agricultural land and the broader scope of Act 250. A revision of Act 250 failed during the last legislative session, but it's imperative that it's addressed definitively in 2023.

It's important and possible to protect the forests, waters, wetlands and wildlife and at the same time support sensible development and growth in villages in town centers. Act 250 is state-wide legislation that applies to towns whether they're Rutland or Burlington or Swanton or Charlotte. I'd like to see individual towns given adequate control over the course and pace of their own development, since each town is unique.

**What specific changes would you propose to the Clean Heat Standard Bill (H. 715) to improve its prospects in 2023? What additional legislation would you propose**

**to address climate change in Vermont?**

The Clean Heat Standards Bill needs more financial specifics to lay out a plan to ensure that no one group is shouldering the entire burden of funding the state's legal obligation to reduce greenhouse gas pollution. The clearer and more detailed the plan, the more likely it is to pass. We can remain aggressive in reducing pollution while making sure we know exactly how it's paid for and by whom.

I would propose incentives for individuals and companies that provide or take advantage of public transportation or ride-sharing opportunities. Vermonters drive a lot — better access to bike paths and more options for trains or commuter bus routes would help.

It's important to weatherize homes and make them more heat-efficient, but that also costs money; the people who probably need those changes in their homes the most are also people who probably can't afford them. The Charlotte Energy Committee has a program to help people make their homes more energy efficient; I'd like to see a program where every Vermonter gets an efficiency evaluation and financial assistance to make changes if they need it. Many small changes add up to big ones.


**What small-scale agriculture initiatives do you support?**

I support Act 46 and the way it helps small farms overcome complicated and sometimes costly planning and zoning hurdles. I think it's been really great for Charlotte and I hope to see it continue to help farmers dream big and think creatively.

I support helping farmers come up with ways to provide reasonably affordable housing for their employees. Farming is hard work and doesn't often pay much; providing avenues for farmers and farm employees to access less-expensive local housing is essential.

I support initiatives that connect smaller, local farms to local organizations like schools, daycares or food banks, providing a mutually beneficial relationship. As a farm town, Charlotte already does this in a lot of ways (the school garden, community members providing eggs for the Charlotte Food Shelf) and I think there are a lot more exciting possibilities.

**Do you support stronger gun control**



LEWIS MUDGE

DEMOCRAT FOR VERMONT

# Elect Lewis Mudge for State Senate

Lewis will...


• Advocate for affordable housing that actually meets the needs of lower income families

• Help protect Vermont's green spaces so that they can be enjoyed by future generations

• Fight for the right for every parent to access affordable child care

• Promote economic plans that address our demographic crisis now

• Support laws that will protect reproductive rights for all



lewisforvermont.com

Chittenden County Southeast District

PAID FOR BY LEWIS MUDGE FOR STATE SENATE, 3046 GREENBUSH RD, CHARLOTTE VT 05445



# Meet the Candidates

**legislation to protect school children and guard against mass shootings, and if so, what would that be? If not, explain.**

I do. I don’t want to take away anyone’s gun or limit the kinds of guns people can have — although I don’t personally see a reason for anyone to own an assault weapon unless they want to assault something.

Every parent who has a child in school has a small, silent fear creeping through their mind every day when their kids are in school. Could today be the day that the unthinkable happens? You might not always acknowledge that it’s there, but it is.

I understand, however, that people hold dear their right to own and carry weapons.

I have a couple of teenagers and a tween. They’re at the ages where they’re just getting their driver’s licenses and going out on their own. In order to get there, they had to take a 30-hour driver education course, and I had to attend one class with them. They’re required to get a permit for a year before their license, they have to take written test for a permit and a driving test for a license. They’re required to drive a number of hours with a certified instructor. They’re required to drive 40 hours total with a parent or guardian, keeping track of their driving time on an app, 10 of those hours at night and several on the highway.

That’s to drive a car, which is inherently dangerous, but not created specifically to be so. Let’s be forward-thinking in the Legislature and come up with a similar training and licensing system for gun owners.



**Mike Yantachka**  
Running for re-election to Chittenden-5 Representative

**Do you approve of the way districts were reapportioned? Do you think the representation of smaller towns like Charlotte were improved by this reapportionment? Why or why not?**

Reapportionment occurs every 10 years after the national census. The House is responsible for reapportioning House districts and the Senate for Senate districts. For the 150 House members districts can be one-member or two-member districts. Redrawing the districts after population changes is very complicated, and the Government Operations committee tries very hard to follow town and geophysical boundaries to include a population as close to the ideal number, roughly 4,200 per member, as possible. Single-member districts are best, in my opinion, and Charlotte is such a district. Since Charlotte’s population is less than the ideal number of residents, part of Hinesburg was added to the district to bring it into compliance with the allowable deviation of about 7 percent. This arrangement has been in place for the last 20 years and seems to work well. It will continue for the next decade.

Senate districts are now limited to three members. Charlotte was part of the Chittenden County Senate district with six members. Now it is part of the Chittenden Southeast district with three members.

This change provides more opportunity for representation from the smaller towns of Chittenden County.

**Besides Prop 5, what else should Vermont do about abortion?**

Health care is a human right, and abortion is part of women’s health care. I support the right to reproductive autonomy for all women, and that is the point of Prop 5, which I will vote for in November. With the Supreme Court’s Dobbs decision overturning Roe v. Wade, access to abortion has become a patchwork across the country. Vermont should be open and welcoming to those who need access and provide protection of individuals’ medical information to prevent its use for prosecutorial purposes in the individual’s home state. We also must ensure that providers are protected from legal actions of other states. Access to abortion should be covered by health insurance like any other medical care.

The Dobbs ruling and Justice Clarence Thomas’ opinion also threatens other rights such as marriage equality, contraception and gender modification. Vermont should enact protective legislation for these matters as well.

**What more could be done in Montpelier to lessen sprawl and boost development in our village centers?**

The Legislature has passed laws over the last few years to encourage development in designated village centers. Another step in that direction was taken this year in the Act 250 update bill, but it was vetoed by the governor over differences in the way projects would be reviewed on appeal. It would have replaced review by the Environmental Court by a professional Environmental Review Board with deep expertise to think systemically about how development in the right places can benefit our citizens while avoiding sprawl and the destruction of natural resources that comes with unplanned development. We should take this issue up again in the next session. Also, the current budget contains American Rescue Plan Act funding for water and wastewater upgrades that would help development in downtowns and village centers.

**What specific changes would you propose to the Clean Heat Standard Bill (H. 715) to improve its prospects in 2023? What additional legislation would you propose to address climate change in Vermont?**

The Energy and Technology Committee took a lot of time and testimony to craft the best Clean Heat Standard bill we could. We gave a lot of responsibility to the Public Utility Commission and the Department of Public Service to do the technical analyses needed to determine the clean heat credits and requirements on fossil fuel importers to Vermont. There were questions about “greenwashing” heating energy sources that perhaps needed more clarification, and that’s an area we need to address in the next session. If the veto had been overridden, we would be on our way to answering questions

about costs and benefits, but that will now have to wait another year.

Additional steps we can take to address climate change include updating the Renewable Energy Standard to require our electrical energy sources to be 100 percent renewable by 2040 or sooner. The Renewable Energy Standard currently requires 75 percent by 2032. We also need to stop disincentivizing net metering, recognizing that net metering customers are making a capital investment to generate power for the grid. We should be increasing solar and wind generation and requiring electrical storage for all arrays over 150Kw. We also need to upgrade our transmission infrastructure because there are parts of Vermont where renewable energy is restricted because of transmission constraints.

**What small-scale agriculture initiatives do you support?**

The Working Lands Enterprise Initiative has been a keystone of agricultural investment since 2012. The Legislature continues to fund this important program to stimulate economic development in Vermont’s agriculture and forest products sectors by systematically advancing entrepreneurship, business development and job creation. This program should continue to be adequately funded. Since inception, an investment of \$7 million has leveraged \$11 million in matching funds to employ over 1,000 workers.

The agritourism limited liability bill which I sponsored will help farms develop another revenue stream as well as educate the public on the source of their food and the work required to produce it.

I am working on a modification to the farm-produced products definition so that water is not counted as an ingredient that has to be included in the 51 percent calculation. The current criteria preclude beverages from being considered farm produced.

Also, we have to continue supporting our farmers in their efforts to adhere to the Required Agricultural Practices to prevent water pollution.

**Do you support stronger gun control legislation to protect school children and guard against mass shootings, and if so, what would that be? If not, explain.**

I have been a strong proponent and sponsor of reasonable firearm safety legislation since the Sandy Hook massacre in Newtown, Conn. I co-sponsored legislation for universal background checks, waiting periods for handgun purchases,

“red-flag” laws, closing the “Charleston loophole” and limiting magazine size. In the last session we narrowed the Charleston loophole but could not close it completely because of a veto. We need to try again.

It is quite apparent that the weapon of choice for mass murderers is the AR-15 type of semiautomatic rifle. This is a type of weapon that was developed for the military and is extremely deadly, tearing apart the insides of victims. It should not be in the hands of civilians any more than a RPG (rocket-propelled grenade) or a hand grenade should be. Lacking action on the federal level, I will work with colleagues to sponsor a bill restricting the sale and use of assault-style rifles in Vermont. Unfortunately, laws alone won’t stop these shootings. It is necessary for all of us to re-emphasize the “see something; say something” approach to stop shootings before they occur. In most cases, shooters have shown signs of their intentions and attitudes before acting.

**KILEY LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION**

Full Service Landscape Installation

Stone Work—  
Walls, Steps, Walks & Patios

Plantings

Tree Spade

Excavation—  
Ponds, Waterlines,  
Grading, Land Clearing,  
Mini-Excavation on Call

Est. 1993

Deedle Kiley • 425-2882



Opinion

How do we include the missing middle in housing?

Peter Joslin

There is a severe housing shortage in Vermont for low-income earners and for the missing middle: Those who earn too much to qualify for affordable housing programs and are unable to afford current housing costs. One need only tour our local area to see that new residential construction is limited to large, one-family houses, out of reach for most modest wage earners and young families. This is especially true in Charlotte.

Continuing its “Locked Out” series about the housing crisis in Vermont, in a recently published Seven Days article titled “Raising Homes: It takes a village to grow housing. How Vermont towns are trying to make it happen,” Kate Buckley of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns said, “Everybody is about affordable housing, but you can’t get there unless you set the stage, and the stage is water and sewer.”

I concur and would add small lots. The minimum of five acres for a house in Charlotte’s village districts in addition to lack of wastewater and water does not remotely add up to affordable or middle-income housing.

“Raising Homes” looks at five communities and how they are dealing with the need for affordable housing. One of those towns is Westford. They have been working on a plan to build a community septic system. According to the article, they are one of 19 towns in Vermont working to develop these systems. The article states, “Many of the homes in Westford depend on old underground septic tanks, and the area’s fine clay soils have poor filtration.” Clay soils are very typical in Charlotte.

In Waitsfield, a couple is preparing 10 acres of land for eight building lots which will utilize a community wastewater system. The lots will be small and houses limited to



Photo by David McBee

2,000 square feet. Current zoning prohibits such a project in Charlotte with the exception of utilizing density bonuses available only for subsidized affordable housing.

In this Seven Days article, Tyler Maas, accessory dwelling unit program director for the Vermont State Housing Authority, sees another significant solution to the missing middle of the housing crisis: accessory dwelling units on properties around the state. Garages and sheds are potential candidates for conversion to answer some of this need. In such circumstances it is possible to tap into existing water, wastewater and power to keep costs down compared to starting from scratch.

The Charlotte Planning Commission is in the process of amending the land-use regulations to be compliant with state statute regarding accessory dwelling units. Larry Lewack, town planner, via email said, “The most important effect of these changes is to eliminate the need for development review board review of detached accessory dwelling units (i.e., such projects would no longer be subject to conditional use review), and to eliminate the restriction based on the number of bedrooms. Both are in conflict with

current state statute. Also, it sets a regulatory limit for size when the accessory dwelling unit is permitted and built before a primary dwelling on an unimproved lot.”

At a recent Fourth of July picnic, I met a long-time resident of Hinesburg who is a builder. I asked him about all the development going on in their village compared to the lack of development in Charlotte’s village districts. He looked at me, smiled and asked if we’d like some of theirs. As stated in previous articles, I think a far more modest approach to growth is appropriate for Charlotte. To encourage this, the land-use regulations should be amended to reduce the five acres per dwelling unit in the village districts and in other targeted hamlet areas and expand and/or create community wastewater systems and water systems. The Champlain Water District ends at the Charlotte/Shelburne line. Should we consider tapping into this resource?

The current Charlotte Town Plan, under section 1.2 states, “Charlotte continues to support efforts towards the realization of more active village centers and is in the midst of transition as a discussion regarding community water supply and wastewater

disposal in these areas. ... Like much of the region, it is hampered by a dwindling school population, higher taxes and by land values that make it more difficult to provide affordable and moderately priced housing. In this town plan, we seek to address these key issues through regulatory and non-regulatory means.”

It goes on to state nine land use policies including the following:

- 1. With an aging population, we will work to attract a younger and more diverse population.
- 7. The town will encourage through its regulations and policies the development of a more economically active town center with business services to fulfill local needs and moderately priced housing.
- 9. The town will evaluate the need for more specific zoning districts or overlay districts within the currently defined rural area. These may include but not be limited to areas intended to protect the long-term viability of productive farmland in Charlotte; areas appropriate for low-density, clustered residential development; and areas with significant, limited or irreplaceable natural or scenic resources.

How do we fulfill these policies and what is a reasonable timeline? The planning commission, in conjunction with the non-profit Community Heart and Soul and the formation of a Charlotte Economic Development Committee, as outlined in the town plan and supported by the selectboard, may be the right mix to get us on our way to the future to include the missing middle.

*(Peter Joslin is former chair of the Charlotte Planning Commission.)*

# VOTE TED KENNEY

## DEMOCRAT FOR STATE’S ATTORNEY

### Criminal Justice Reform and Safe Streets

**My Platform & Priorities**

**Racial Equity and Social Justice**

**Safe Streets, Neighborhoods, Businesses, and Families**

**Drug Treatment, Rehabilitation, and Enforcement**

**Prosecution of Crimes Against Women and Children**

**Proudly Endorsed By:**

**Doug Racine**  
FORMER LT GOVERNOR

**Ginny Lyons**  
VERMONT STATE SENATOR

**Linda Levitt**  
RET. SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

**Debbie Ingram**  
FORMER STATE SENATOR

**Dick Mazza**  
VERMONT STATE SENATOR

**June Heston**  
RICHMOND

**Thomas Chittenden**  
VERMONT STATE SENATOR

**Lauren Bowerman**  
FORMER CHITTENDEN COUNTY STATE’S ATTORNEY

**Bob Simpson**  
FORMER CHITTENDEN COUNTY STATE’S ATTORNEY

**Mary Kehoe**  
FORMER BURLINGTON CITY COUNCILOR  
SHELBURNE SELECTBOARD

**tedforstatesattorney.com**

**FOLLOW TED ON:**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Ted Kenney, Leslie Black-Plumeau, Treasurer. P.O. Box 1238, Williston, VT 05495



RE-ELECT

Thomas

Chittenden

Democrat for State Senate



Background & Qualifications

- Vermont State Senator 2020 - present
- 3 Term South Burlington Councilor 2015 – present
- UVM Faculty Senate President 2019-2020
- GMT Board Chair & Vice Chair 2015-2020
- Deep Rooted Vermonter

Priorities

- Affordability
- Helping Neighbors
- Keeping Vermont Green
- Sustainable Economic Growth
- Opportunity for Current & Future Vermonters

Tom Chittenden is an active listener, who engages people with diverse viewpoints, and considers a broad range of perspectives in his decision making. I appreciate the time he takes to dig in to complex issues. Please join me in voting to re-elect Tom Chittenden to the Vermont State Senate.



- Joan Shannon, Burlington South District City Councilor

Thomas has been a great addition to the Vermont State Senate. His commitment to community, family and independent thinking in these times are essential for responding to today’s crisis while moving Vermont forward.



- Ann Pugh, State Representative

Thomas Chittenden served his first term in the Senate with high energy, determination and integrity. His thoughtful approach to legislation makes him a great colleague in the Senate and I look forward to working with him in the future. Chittenden County is served well by his representation.



- Senator Brian Campion

Thomas Chittenden is a great voice for Chittenden County. He served his first term with integrity, hard work and transparency. He was the first one in the statehouse each morning and one of the last to leave. His efforts showed with results.



- Senator Dick Mazza

ENDORSED/RECOMMENDED BY:



**www.thomaschittenden.com**  
1600 Dorset St South Burlington VT 05403  
(802) 233-1913 – Thomas.Chittenden@gmail.com



Email [ads@TheCharlotteNews.org](mailto:ads@TheCharlotteNews.org)



## Food Shelf News

# As temperature rises, need for food shelf donations rises, too

Maj Eisneger  
Food Shelf Director

As I write this, the thermometer reads 91 degrees. The rise in temperatures we are experiencing this week brings to mind the rise in food prices we are also experiencing.

The United States Department of Agriculture predicts that the cost of meats, poultry and fish will increase about 9 percent in 2022. In many cases, wages have not kept pace with increases in the cost of food and fuel.

The food shelf is privileged to provide assistance and food to our neighbors, mitigating the rise in food prices and fluctuations in fuel prices. The all-volunteer food shelf is totally dependent on donations and we are grateful for the strong community support we receive. We receive 80-90 percent of our financial support during holiday giving. We so appreciate the much-needed gifts that keep our mission of “neighbors helping neighbors” going during the heat of summer and throughout the year.

This month, we are grateful to the Weezie Foundation, Deborah Cook and Beth Merritt for charitable donations, and to Jen and Jorden Wilson, who donated their fresh veggie share from Stony Loam Farm. David Quickel of Stony Loam farm has added lettuce and zucchini for every family. We also gratefully received a large donation of beautiful fresh organic vegetables from Katie Rose and Head Over Fields Farm, whose food stand is located on Ethan Allen Highway. The food shelf also thanks O Bread Bakery at Shelburne Farms for ongoing donations of delicious bread.

The Charlotte Grange had a beautiful night for their music on the Charlotte Town Green on July 15. Music lovers supplied the food shelf with four large boxes of

nonperishable food items along with generous donations of cash and checks. Thank you to the Grange, musicians and music-loving attendees for your support.

Thank you to Linda Hamilton for all her prior donations of eggs from her flock as well as for her extensive community service. Linda has recently donated her entire flock of hens and one rooster to a very appreciative refugee family.

If Charlotters have hens that are supplying them with more eggs than they can use, the food shelf would be happy to accept them on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 3-4 p.m. or by previously arranged drop off.

High quality N95 masks have been supplied by the Resilience Community Committee for distribution. Given concerns about possible increasing risk from rising levels of the more transmissible Omicron BA.5 variant, we continue to encourage masking and will continue distributing food by curbside pickup to keep families and volunteers safe.

If you cannot come to food shelf distribution due to COVID symptoms, or seek further information about the food shelf, call 802-425-3252.

Monetary donations are appreciated and can be addressed to: Charlotte Food Shelf, Inc., P.O. Box 83, Charlotte VT 05445. The Food Shelf is a 501c entity, and contributions remain tax deductible.

The food shelf is open for food distribution from 4-6 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month.

For emergency food, please call John at 802-425-3130.

David Quickel of Stony Loam Farm with food donations for the Food Shelf.



## Hi Neighbor!

# Woody Keppel: A new career twist for a lifetime performer



Phyl Newbeck  
Contributor

This will be the fifteenth year Woody Keppel has been the artistic director for Burlington’s Festival of Fools, continuing a lifetime in entertainment including performances as Woodhead, his alter ego.

Growing up in Virginia, Keppel was surrounded by music. His mother was a children’s theater director and his grandmother had been a vaudevillian.

“We put on ‘South Pacific’ in our basement,” he said. “Entertainment was always in my blood.”

Keppel was a child prodigy on the piano but his first performance, in front of upperclassmen, turned into a disaster when he had to be pulled off the stage by his teacher after freezing at the keyboard, unable to get past the first seven measures.

It took four years before he returned to music after listening to a neighbor play Beatles tunes on a four-string guitar. Keppel purchased a six-string guitar at the age of 16, mostly to learn Cat Stevens and Neil Young songs in the hope of impressing a pretty girl who had just moved to the neighborhood.

Keppel majored in music at Virginia Commonwealth University, but after graduating he decided to try his hand at acting with Sarah Caldwell’s opera company.

“That started the idea of me being physical on stage,” he said.

Several years later, while in New Orleans, he met a street performer who juggled under the name Waldo. Keppel had already created his Woodhead persona and was hoping to do physical comedy. He and Waldo teamed up and performed as a duo in New Orleans, Key West and at Faneuil Hall in Boston.

On their way to perform at the Montreal Jazz Festival, the pair stopped in Burlington and did an impromptu performance on



Mark “Woody” Keppel

Church Street.

“We got a massive crowd and people were really generous,” Keppel said. Several years later, he made the move to Vermont.

For two years, Montpelier had a festival called Fool’s Fest which gave Keppel the idea of creating a Burlington event.

“I had just come back from the last Festival of Fools to be held in Amsterdam,” he said, “so I proposed the idea to Burlington City Arts.”

Keppel is excited about the acts which will be part of this year’s festival from Aug. 5-7.

“Vaudeville used to be our national pastime,” Keppel said. “Burlington once had seven vaudeville houses. It was a cleaned-up derivative of burlesque and cabaret.”

For the last few years, Keppel has been performing in a trio known as the Hokum Brothers, but this year he will be bringing Woodhead back for the first time in 10 years, working with another performer as Two Fools and a Mule.

Keppel will also be reviving the Scautaqua movement which originated in

upstate New York during the heyday of vaudeville.

“It went from town to town with music and social commentary,” he said, “but it also brought doctors, philosophers, news of the day and public debate on issues.”

Keppel said the onset of talking movies put an end to the festivals, but the spirit of vaudeville returned with television comedians like Redd Foxx, Lucille Ball, Sid Caesar and Fannie Brice. Keppel is looking forward to recreating the movement.

“We’ll be taking our band of merrymakers and performers to seven communities in Vermont,” he said.

On July 24, Keppel announced the start of a new career. He will be running for governor as an independent.

“I’m going to run as Woodhead,” he said. “He’s my place of freedom and a reminder for people of what it was like to be a kid. His alter-ego, Woody Keppel doesn’t have as much fun as he has.”

Keppel’s interest in politics dates back 25 years to the production of the movie Woodhead Saves the Farm. In that film, Woodhead jumps on a runaway tractor to save the life of Senator Patrick Leahy.

“I won the highest bravery award and Leahy gave me a medal,” he said, “and I’ve wanted to go into politics ever since.”

Keppel admits that Woodhead’s platform of bringing people together may sound trite, but he is committed to that cause.

“I’ve performed for people from all walks of life,” he said. “It’s best when it’s affordable and the street is that way. That’s how politics should be.”

Keppel is also concerned about keeping Vermont’s natural world intact and is serious about focusing on that issue and the importance of Act 250.

“This isn’t an ego thing,” he said. “It’s something I was asked to do because people close to me believe in the simplicity and fun of Woodhead.”



# Sacred Hunter

## Miracles abound in the snow as we trudge to our spirit’s home



Bradley Carleton  
Contributor

I’ve got to be honest with you, folks. I moved to Vermont in 1975 from a small town outside Pittsburgh called Beaver. In the southwest corner of Pennsylvania, if you weren’t a 6-foot, 2-inch, 250-pound kid who loved football, you weren’t very popular. Team sports were the only way to get any recognition. I was too small and incredibly shy to make my way through adolescence in this environment. So after hearing a song called “Wildfire” by Michael Murphy, I dreamt of skiing through deep powder in the trees during a blizzard. It appealed to my newly formed image of what I wanted to be “when I grew up.” I spent a lot of time alone in the woods. Every time it snowed, I would stare longingly out the big bay window in the “rec room.” I would dream of a life in the Great North Woods, where, alone, I would embrace the cold and find the serenity and feeling of belonging that every struggling teenager seeks. I was failing school and skipping days when it snowed. At one point my father asked me what I was doing when my report card stated that I had missed 32 days of the winter semester. I was obsessed with skiing and found a “bad character” who would always oblige me with a ride to Seven Springs, an hour and a half north. We would stash our skis in the woods behind the high school, and after we were dropped off by our parents, we would walk into the school at the front door, sign in, and walk out the back door by the gym, where the car would be waiting. Finally, one day my father saw me

walking into the woods behind the house carrying my skis and it was obvious that I had found something to be more enthusiastic about than my three years of failing Spanish. He gave me an ultimatum: either you find a private school that you want to attend, or you will be going to a military school. Finally, I saw my dream coming to fruition. I picked up a copy of SKI magazine, and in the back under the ads, I found a private school that claimed I could ski every day. I circled the ad and laid the magazine open on my father’s rolltop desk. My dream became reality with great alacrity. Within two months, I was “shipped off” to Vermont Academy. I was 16. While I was at Vermont Academy, a certain teacher was a powerful influence on me. His name was “Mr. Sargent.” I never knew his whole name, but he introduced us to the outdoors in a way that set my soul on an insatiable path of wonderment about everything from bugs in streams to the snort of a buck in the dark. When my family sold their house in Beaver, I told them that I had found “my home.” My spirit cried out so loudly that I would be living here in Vermont, no matter where they wanted to go. Without being the least bit manipulative, I simply stated that I had found my heart’s home. Strangely enough, they all decided to move to Stowe, where, once again, I was promised that I could ski every day as a potential contender for the burgeoning sport of freestyle skiing. Six short years later my body began to wear down from skiing 150 days a season but the wonderment of the outdoors and the feeling of finally finding where I belonged, my dream of skiing in deep powder and the peacefulness it brought me formed the spiritual infrastructure that would define the rest of my life. I guided people for 28 years under



Bradley Carleton and Chessie duck hunting late in the season. Courtesy photo

the name Champlain Valley Guide Service. I took people waterfowl hunting, turkey hunting, ice fishing and foraging. Through those 28 years I developed an ever-increasing base of knowledge and discovered that my happiest moments were teaching others to see the awe and miracles that nature constantly offered. Maybe it was discovering a cluster of chanterelles on a moist hillside or an acrobatic leap of a colorful brook trout in a mountain stream. Maybe it was the flock of Canada geese coming to my calls and locking their wings, dropping their chimney black feet to glide into the spread of decoys. It could have been that very first buck that walked near the tree stand that my father and I built on the hillside in Stowe. Or the time I found my truck keys that had

fallen out of my pocket in the dark in a bay a mile wide. My point, my readers, is that in our dreams and on the paths that we follow, we can find miracles all around us. All we must do to see them is to be open to see the beauty of every leaf, every blade of grass, every cool breeze, every scent of a lake or glowing yellow light inside of a deer camp as we walk back in the fading light. It is in every snowflake that makes up a blizzard as we trudge forward in the deep powder toward our spirit’s home. *(Bradley Carleton is executive director of Sacred Hunter.org, a non-profit that seeks to educate the public on the spiritual connection of man to nature.)*

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

### Go Solar with AllEarth Renewables

allearthrenewables.com CALL 802.872.9600 x122

Customer-driven solutions designed, engineered and built in Vermont, with over 3,000 installations in the state.



### Nina Falsen LCMHC Individual and Couples counseling

2 Church St., Burlington  
nfalsen@icloud.com  
802-999-6533

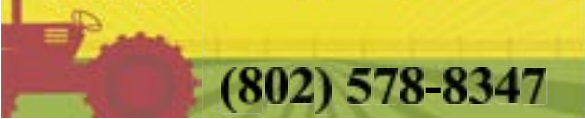
### PLEASANT VALLEY, INC.

Spring Cleanup & Mulch  
Lawn Maintenance  
Landscape Design  
Stonework & Planting  
Mini Excavation  
802-343-4820 | pleasantvalley@madriver.com  
www.pleasantvalleyvt.com

www.DeepT.com  
23 San Remo Drive  
SOUTH BURLINGTON | 865.0010  
166 Athletic Drive  
SHELBURNE | 985.4445  
52 Farmall Drive  
feel good again! HINESBURG | 482.3333

### BRUSHHOGGING by Adam

- BACKHOE • FIELD MOWING
- CHAIN SAWING • HAUL AWAY
- DELIVERY • LAWN MOWING



Advertise your business here!

Only \$25 per issue or \$20 per issue when you run six months or more . Contact ads@TheCharlotteNews.org



# Art rocks!



Photo by Louisa Schibli

Charlotte beach is graced with another beautiful art piece. Do you know the artist? Email us and let us know at [news@thecharlottenews.org](mailto:news@thecharlottenews.org).

## Education

# Good college roommate relationship important for good college experience



Margo Bartsch  
Contributor

Stanford University has the supplemental essay prompt, “Write a note to your future roommate that reveals something about you or that will help your roommate — and us — get to know you better.” This important letter is not a hypothetical exercise; rather, without honest communication, the college living and learning experience could become less than ideal.

Although many colleges ask students to complete a questionnaire with the hope of finding a perfect match, this is not always the case. As you pack and plan for your dorm room, be sure to keep the line of communication open with your roommate. The fewer surprises the better.

Before college, while preparing for your dorm, contact your roommate to decide on a room theme and assign who will purchase shared items, such as peel-and-stick removeable wallpaper, vacuum cleaner or shower curtain. The college usually provides a list of items already in the room like a small refrigerator.

Coordinate with your roommate to decide how to organize your room (many colleges provide room layouts online). For posters and tapestries, most colleges do not allow nails or push pins on the walls. Typically, command strips are easy to use and remove. For tapestries, buy some clothespins and cut the strips to fit the on the narrow backside. With indoor string lights, purchase ones that have on and off switches, instead of pulling the cord from the wall to shut it off.

In shopping for dorm décor such as bedding, shoe racks and desk supplies, most items can be ordered online at Amazon, Urban Outfitters or Target to be shipped directly to the dorm. Check with your college to confirm the shipping and receiving location to claim your packages.

To have a positive roommate relationship, move-in day is the perfect time to set rules and boundaries. Since most students bring a white board to put on their dorm door, create a list of questions to guide the conversation as talking points. Discuss them with your roommate, write down thoughts as the conversation progresses and erase options until there is agreement. After the list is complete, take a photo of the board as a

reminder to what you both agreed.

For example, with early morning classes, explain to your roommate that you will go to sleep earlier on specific nights so that they can be quieter when entering the room. Also, if there is a quad with a shared bathroom between two rooms, it is considerate to discuss the shower schedule and remind others not to enter your room.

Since class schedules vary for each student, posting your classes and activities above your desk allows your roommate to know where you will be if they want to meet for lunch or dinner. Having a quick reference allows for a more respectful and friendly environment.

With any relationship, there are usually bumps in the road. Being open and communicating clearly is the first step to discussing an issue and moving forward. If there is a concern with your roommate, ask to arrange a time to talk. Prepare an outline of the top points that you want to address.

In talking together, both of you should sit down and be able to look at each other in the eyes to show openness. Be careful to keep your voice steady and calm as you both discuss the issues through. Remember, there are two sides to the story.

After your conversation, take time to write down your thoughts about the discussion. This will remind you of the points you made and the steps your roommate agreed to make. If there was no resolution, documenting the situation will help be a reference point if you decide to share with others.

Thankfully, resident assistants (RAs) are available to talk with and suggest additional resources during challenging times. These upperclassmen are selected to live on each floor of the dorm as additional support because of their listening skills. The college typically trains RAs to provide guidance in resolving disputes.

College roommates are part of the rite of passage in making new friends and establishing independence. Being organized with a roommate checklist can ease your mind and build excitement as you begin the next chapter of life both in and outside the classroom. Get ready for dorm ice cream socials and game day with friends all decked in swag.

*(Margo Bartsch founded College Essay Coach, a full-service college admission business, and has been an adjunct professor in business at Champlain College and at Middlebury College.)*



## Library News

# Create a mural depicting sustainable living in 2030



Margaret Woodruff  
Director

The Charlotte Library would like to thank all who contributed ideas, concepts and concerns at the kick-off for our 40 x 2030 Mural Project.

You can access information about the project here: [bit.ly/3IEb94r](https://bit.ly/3IEb94r).

Stop by the library through Aug. 12 to add your thoughts and look for the mural project around town in the coming weeks.

### Reminder!

The Charlotte Library and the Charlotte Senior Center are designated cooling centers with air-conditioned facilities where you can cool down during hot weather. Community cooling centers help provide temporary relief and are especially helpful when the National Weather Service issues a Heat Advisory or Excessive Heat Warning.

During a heat advisory or excessive heat warning, notices will be placed in Front Porch Forum in addition to notices on social media and the library and senior center websites. The emergency management team is supplying cooling center refreshments.

### Library programs for all ages

#### "The Music Man"

Friday, July 29, 2 p.m.

Join the Very Merry Theatre Teen Group for a production of "The Music Man." The

event will be on the library lawn. Please bring low lawn chairs or a blanket, sunscreen and bottled water.

### Story time session: What's it like to be visually impaired?

Monday, Aug. 1, 10 a.m.

Ever wonder what it's like to have trouble seeing the world around you? Join Stephanie Bissonette from the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired to understand how some people see differently than you do and try out some of the tools and devices they use. No registration necessary.

### Short story selections

Thursday, Aug. 4, 1 p.m.

Join library director Margaret Woodruff via Zoom to share and discuss short stories old and new. The reading list will include a variety of authors, and one or two stories will be featured each session. Copies of the stories are available at the library circulation desk or via email. Register to join the discussion: [bit.ly/3Ma6KXb](https://bit.ly/3Ma6KXb). Co-sponsored by the Charlotte Senior Center.

### Grange on the Green: Tournesol

Thursday, Aug. 11, 5:30 p.m.

Join us for live music on the Town Green with French and Italian songs from the '30s, swing standards, musette waltzes and Latin too. Bring a picnic supper or grab a take-out dinner from Stone's Throw or Backyard Bistro to enjoy on the lawn. Blankets recommended. In partnership with the Charlotte Grange.

### Library book discussion: "Waiting for Teddy Williams"

Thursday, Aug. 11, 7:30 p.m.

Join the discussion via Zoom of "one of the funniest and most heartfelt baseball sto-



Courtesy photo

People appreciating art in one of the library's many summer programs.

ries in recent memory," according to Publishers Weekly. Howard Frank Mosher returns to Kingdom Common, Vermont, to spin a touching coming-of-age tale in an America that has almost disappeared. From this remote village, noted for its fervent devotion to the Red Sox, comes Ethan "E.A." Allen, a young man with a chance to change baseball history. Homeschooled, fatherless and living on the wrong side of the tracks, E.A. is haunted by a dark mystery in his family's past until a drifter named Teddy arrives in his life, determined to teach E.A. everything he knows about baseball.

Filled with an array of rambunctious, memorable characters and brimming with faith, "Waiting for Teddy Williams" reminds us that dreams — no matter how far-fetched

— sometimes do come true.

Copies available at the library circulation desk. Register for the Zoom link: [bit.ly/3z-8KmdR](https://bit.ly/3z-8KmdR).

### Charlie Cart salsa stories

Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2 p.m.

What to do with all of those tomatoes? And onions? And peppers? Join us to explore the many flavors and colors of salsa in this hands-on program, complete with stories and some delicious treats to try and take home. We'll be using our portable Charlie Cart kitchen and set up wherever the weather takes us, inside or out.

### Ongoing programs

#### Free Little Art Gallery

The smallest art gallery in Charlotte. Come by the circulation desk for a visit. Feel free to take a piece that you like, add a piece of your own artwork, or both. All media is welcome as long as it fits inside. Use your own materials or pick up the April Take & Make for supplies to make your own masterpiece. Thank you to Marcia Vogler for her help and inspiration.

### Book Chat

Fridays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Join Margaret Friday mornings (no book chat on July 29) on Zoom to discuss new books, old books and books we might have missed. Each week, Margaret selects a theme and highlights related titles from the library collection. Register at [bit.ly/3BtebDj](https://bit.ly/3BtebDj).

### Library contact information:

Margaret Woodruff, director  
Cheryl Sloan, youth services librarian  
Susanna Kahn, tech librarian  
Phone: 802-425-3864  
Email: [info@charlottepubliclibrary.org](mailto:info@charlottepubliclibrary.org)

## Classifieds

Reach your friends and neighbors for only \$12 per issue.

(Payment must be sent before issue date.)

Please limit your ad to 35 words or fewer and send it to

The Charlotte News Classifieds, P.O. Box 251, Charlotte, VT 05445 or email [ads@thecharlottenews.org](mailto:ads@thecharlottenews.org).

Need a fresh start to 2022? Let **Lafayette Painting** give your home a beautiful new look. Our painters can do a lot in a day. **LafayettePaintingInc.com** or call **802-863-5397** to hear about our winter discount.



**The Town of Charlotte**  
**MEETINGS**  
Visit [charlottevt.org](https://charlottevt.org)  
for more information.

### Monthly Meeting of the Trails Committee

Tuesday, August 2 at 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

### CEC Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, August 3, at 7 p.m.

### Planning Commission: Regular meeting.

Thursday, August 4 at 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

### Selectboard

Monday, August 8 6:30 p.m.

### Recreation Commission Meeting

Tuesday, August 9 at 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

### Planning Commission Public Hearing on draft updates to the Charlotte LURs

Tuesday, August 9 at 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

## NOW HIRING Seasonal Park Attendant

Mt. Philo State Park is hiring. Seasonal park attendant position available through October 31. Up to 40 hours per week. Pays 16.32 per hour. Work includes a mix of office work and grounds and facilities maintenance. Candidates must possess excellent customer service skills, be team-oriented, and enjoy the outdoors. Join our team at Vermont's most visited

State Park. Vermont State Parks strives to ensure a workplace that is welcoming, safe and inclusive for all. Apply online at [vtstateparks.com/employment.html](https://vtstateparks.com/employment.html).



WE HAVE MOVED!

Our office is now located at:

73 Charlotte Road  
Hinesburg, Vermont

Business Formation & Transactions  
Land Use Permitting  
Real Estate Transactions  
Wills & Trusts

Michael T. Russell  
(802) 264-4888

[peasemountainlaw.com](https://peasemountainlaw.com)  
[info@peasemountainlaw.com](mailto:info@peasemountainlaw.com)



## Senior Center News

# Stay cool with a variety of fun at the senior center



Lori York  
DIRECTOR

The summer heat has arrived and what better place to have some reprieve than spending the afternoon in the air-conditioned senior center playing board and card games, watching a movie or enjoying lunch and conversation?

Interested in receiving a weekly reminder about what is happening at the senior center? Sign up for the email newsletters at [charlotteseniorcentervt.org](http://charlotteseniorcentervt.org). The “Week Ahead” email is sent out on Friday mornings with activities, lunch menus and special programming for the upcoming week.

### Senior Art Show

Now accepting submissions for the Charlotte Senior Center September 2022 Senior Art Show!

Open to all artists, and skill levels, ages 50 and older. Entry deadline is Friday, August 19. Entries received after this date will be considered only if space is available.

Registration forms are available at the senior center and can be downloaded on the website at [charlotteseniorcentervt.org/events-2/art-exhibits/](http://charlotteseniorcentervt.org/events-2/art-exhibits/). For questions contact Judy Tuttle by email at [jtuttle@gmavt.net](mailto:jtuttle@gmavt.net) or by telephone at 802-425-2864.

### Activities

#### Movie afternoons

##### Wednesdays in August 1 p.m.

The listing of movies for the month is posted at the Charlotte Senior Center. Sign up to receive the Week Ahead email newsletter at [charlotteseniorcentervt.org](http://charlotteseniorcentervt.org) and you will receive notification on Fridays for the upcoming movie.

#### Shape note singing

##### Sunday, Aug. 7, 1-3 p.m.

This traditional, a cappella, four-part harmony has been called “full-body, shout-it-out singing” and is also known as Sacred Harp (1750–1850). Open to newcomers and experienced singers. No performances and no auditions; a “good voice” is not required. Songbooks are provided. Stop by to listen or sing, and leave whenever you wish. Questions? Email Kerry Cullinan at [kclynxvt@gmail.com](mailto:kclynxvt@gmail.com). It’s free and no registration is required.

#### Kayak trips for women

##### Friday, Aug. 12

Kayak trips for active women who share a love for exploring local lakes, ponds and rivers. Weather permitting, the kayak trips will happen on the second and fourth Friday mornings throughout the summer and early fall. To register your interest, email Susan

Hyde at [susanfosterhyde@gmail.com](mailto:susanfosterhyde@gmail.com) to be placed on a master list of paddlers. An email will be sent to the master list regarding the details of the specific kayak trips. Cost: Free. Registration required.

#### Coffee and Canvas

##### Friday, Aug. 19, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Unlike traditional paint and sips, Coffee and Canvas with Sherry Senior will allow you to explore and create your own unique painting of water scenes. But don’t worry — there will be plenty of water inspiration including images with boats and landscapes with the lake and ocean. No prior painting experience needed. All materials included. Class limit of 12. Cost: \$25. Registration open and register by Monday, Aug. 15.

#### Word games

##### Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m.

Do you enjoy playing Scrabble but don’t have anyone to play with? How about Bananagrams or Boggle? Join this group at a new day and time for word games at the senior center. Some games are available, but also feel free to bring your own word games. Questions? Please call Lin Kalsen at 608-345-9321 or email [lin.linkalsen7@gmail.com](mailto:lin.linkalsen7@gmail.com).

#### Canasta

##### Fridays at 1 p.m.

Canasta is a form of rummy using two full decks in which players or partnerships try to meld groups of three or more cards of the same rank and score bonuses for seven-card melds. If you are interested in joining this new group that’s forming or if you have questions, contact Sally Brody 786-779-2324.

### Community health

#### Red Cross blood drive

##### Thursday, Aug. 4, 2-7 p.m.

Please consider donating blood. The Red Cross is experiencing the worst blood shortage in over a decade. Call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: CHARLOTTE to schedule an appointment.

#### COVID-19 vaccine clinic

##### Tuesday, Aug. 9, 12:30-4:30 p.m.

Free Garnet Healthcare walk-in COVID-19 vaccine clinic. No appointment necessary. Vaccines and boosters are available for Moderna (ages 6 months-5 years); Pediatric Pfizer (ages 5-11); Adult Pfizer (12+); and Adult Moderna (18+).

#### Cooling Centers

The Charlotte Senior Center and Charlotte Library are designated cooling centers with air-conditioned facilities to cool down during hot weather. Community cooling centers help provide temporary relief and are especially helpful when the National Weather Service issues a Heat Advisory or Excessive Heat Warning. During a heat advisory or excessive heat warning, notices will be placed in Front Porch Forum in addition to notices on social



Photo by Lori York

Wednesday lunch provided by The Residence at Shelburne Bay. From left: Sarah Dickinson and Chef Arnd Sievers

media and the senior center and library websites.

### Exercise classes

The senior center offers daily exercise programs for a wide range of fitness and activity levels. A complete list of exercise programs and class descriptions is on the website [charlotteseniorcentervt.org](http://charlotteseniorcentervt.org).

### Volunteer opportunities

The Charlotte Senior Center would not be able to provide the wide variety of programming without the support of dedicated volunteers. There are many opportunities to volunteer at the senior center ranging from welcoming and registering visitors as a reception desk host to helping out with the weekly lunch teams. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Kerrie Pughe at [kpughe@charlotteseniorcentervt.org](mailto:kpughe@charlotteseniorcentervt.org).

### Meals

Menus are posted on the website: [charlotteseniorcentervt.org](http://charlotteseniorcentervt.org).

#### Monday lunches

Served weekly. Lunch is served 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. No registration required. Suggested lunch donation: \$5.

#### Wednesday lunch

##### Aug. 17, noon.

Chef Arnd from the Residence at Shelburne Bay will provide lunch at the senior center on Wednesday, Aug. 17 at noon.

Suggested lunch donation: \$5. Registration required by noon on Monday, Aug. 15.

### Men’s breakfast

#### Thursday, Aug. 11, 7-9:30 a.m.

The guest speaker for this month’s breakfast will be Andrea Rogers, founder and prior executive director of the Flynn Center. Suggested breakfast donation of \$6. Registration required by Tuesday, Aug. 9, by contacting Tim McCullough at [cubnut5@aol.com](mailto:cubnut5@aol.com).

### Weekly Age Well Grab & Go meals

Pick up on Thursdays 10-11 a.m. at the Charlotte Senior Center. July menus are posted on the Charlotte Senior Center website at [charlotteseniorcentervt.org](http://charlotteseniorcentervt.org). Pre-register by Monday for the Thursday meal. It’s free but registration is required. To register, contact Kerrie Pughe at 802-425-6345 or [kpughe@charlotteseniorcentervt.org](mailto:kpughe@charlotteseniorcentervt.org).

### Senior Center contact info

Lori York, director, [lyork@charlotteseniorcentervt.org](mailto:lyork@charlotteseniorcentervt.org)  
Kerrie Pughe, coordinator, [kpughe@charlotteseniorcentervt.org](mailto:kpughe@charlotteseniorcentervt.org)  
212 Ferry Road, Charlotte  
802-425-6345  
[charlotteseniorcentervt.org](http://charlotteseniorcentervt.org)  
Follow the senior center on Facebook or Instagram at [charlotteseniorcentervt.org](http://charlotteseniorcentervt.org).

# Bring your watermelon smile to the cool senior center

Susan Ohanian  
Contributor

Remember: The Charlotte Senior Center is an official cooling center for the town. On Mondays, you are welcome to come in to enjoy good food and good conversation along with escape from the heat.

Think about this: If you’d come volunteer, you’d be doing your good deeds in a nice, cool place.

**Monday, Aug. 1, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. or until the food is gone**

#### Monday Munch

Caprese BLT sandwich, roasted tomato soup, fruit salad and homemade dessert. Register for Thursday’s Grab & Go Meal at 802-425-6345 or [kpughe@charlotteseniorcentervt.org](mailto:kpughe@charlotteseniorcentervt.org).

#### Thursday, Aug. 4

##### Grab & Go Meal, pick up: 10-11 a.m.

Meatballs in marinara sauce with parmesan cheese, penne pasta, mixed-blend vegetables, dinner roll with butter, vanilla



fluff with cream and milk. Meal provided by Age Well at no charge.

##### Aug. 8, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

#### Monday Munch

Ham salad, corn salad, watermelon and homemade dessert.

##### Thursday, Aug. 11, 7-9 a.m.

Men’s breakfast with program.

### Grab & Go Meal, pick up: 10-11 a.m.

Chicken-n-biscuit, chicken in gravy, red mashed potatoes, diced carrots with dill, biscuit, pound cake with strawberries and cream, and milk. Registration required by the prior Monday. Meals provided by Age Well.

It’s no surprise that the red, white and green tricolors of the BLT Caprese sandwich are the same colors as the Italian flag. The island of Capri has been synonymous with glamor since it was the playground of the Roman Emperor Augustus. Centuries later, such writers as George Bernard Shaw, D. H. Lawrence and Graham Greene visited, as did film icons Greta Garbo, Grace Kelly and Elizabeth Taylor.

Just off the coast of Capri, the Blue Grotto offers legends of mermaids singing and the presence of ghosts. These days, tour boats with singing guides seem to have crowded out the mermaids. Check it out: [youtube.com/watch?v=D2J4ws4QC8E](https://youtube.com/watch?v=D2J4ws4QC8E).

As you think about that watermelon on Aug. 8, remember Mark Twain’s advice: “When one has tasted watermelon, he knows what the angels eat.”

Enrico Caruso was a bit more prosaic: “Watermelon — it’s a good fruit. You eat, you drink, you wash your face.”

Henry David Thoreau’s good watermelon advice: “I know of no more agreeable and nutritious food at this season than bread and butter and melons, and you need not be afraid of eating too much of the latter.”

For some old-time fun, here’s Tennessee Ernie Ford bringing us the very tasty “Watermelon Song”: [youtube.com/watch?v=b3VSMqVIRXA](https://youtube.com/watch?v=b3VSMqVIRXA).

National Book Award for Poetry awardee Terrance Hayes wrote a sonnet that repeats this line 14 times: “We sliced the watermelon into smiles.”

Go ahead: Say it out loud 14 times. Then bring your smile to the Charlotte Senior Center.



# Calendar of Events

Calendar by Mary Landon.

Please send event listings, especially for Charlotte events, to [calendar@thecharlottenews.org](mailto:calendar@thecharlottenews.org) at least three weeks in advance.

## Museum yoga

**Thursday, July 28, 5-7 p.m.**

Introductory-level outdoor yoga at Shelburne Museum, which includes some meditation time within the display of vibrant quilts by Maria Shell. Bring a mat. Register at [shelburnemuseum.org](http://shelburnemuseum.org). Repeats Thursday, Aug. 18.

## Theatre on the lawn

**Friday, July 29, 2-4 p.m.**

All are invited to a free production of *The Music Man* by the Very Merry Theatre Teen Group at the Charlotte Library lawn. Bring low lawn chairs or blankets.

## Creating bonsai

**Saturday, July 30, 9:30 a.m. or 1 p.m.**

Jeff Nottonson leads workshops at Horsford Gardens and Nursery in the unique art of bonsai. Participants will work on a dwarf juniper. Registration includes plant and supplies. Bring pruning shears if you have them; also for sale on site. To register, email [jsnottonson@gmail.com](mailto:jsnottonson@gmail.com).

## Arts and music fest

**Saturday, July 30, noon-10 p.m.**

The Cabot Village Common is the center of this annual event featuring craft vendors, art, live music, food trucks, exhibits and live theater. Rain or shine; bring blankets or chairs. More info and tickets at [cabotarts.org](http://cabotarts.org).

## Placemaking workshop

**Saturday, July 30, 2-3:30 p.m.**

Artist Harlan Mack co-creates a family-friendly gathering space at the Clemmons Family Farm. Participants join forces on an outdoor sculpture made with found objects. Event is free but requires pre-registration due to limited size. For more info, see [tinyurl.com/yckhv3d4](http://tinyurl.com/yckhv3d4).

## Gem and fossil show

**Saturday & Sunday, July 30 & 31, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.**

Organized by the Burlington Gem and Mineral Club, this show features exhibits, dealers, jewelry, a silent auction and raffle and a fish pond for all ages at the Champlain Valley Exposition in Essex Junction. For more info, see [burlingtongemandmineralclub.org](http://burlingtongemandmineralclub.org).

## Colchester triathlon

**Sunday, July 31, 8-11 a.m.**

Swim (or kayak), bike and run to challenge your endurance at this event held at Bayside Park. For more info or to register, see [colchestertri.com](http://colchestertri.com).

## VT Fresh Network

**Sunday, July 31, 5-8 p.m.**

The annual forum and dinner of the

## Music at the Charlotte Beach

The Vermont Symphony Orchestra Quartet will present a classical program at the beach on Wednesday, Aug. 3, at 6 p.m. The Green Mountain Chorus (right) will perform on Aug. 17. Bring the family and a picnic (no dogs) starting at 5 p.m. Free with season or day parking pass; donations encouraged. Weather permitting; call 802-343-4350 for updates.



Vermont Fresh Network is held at the Coach Barn at Shelburne Farms. Limited advance tickets are available to this celebration of local farmers, growers, chefs and the great food that results. Taste Vermont products and beverages at the grazing dinner. Music and silent auction. Please, no dogs. Rain or shine. For more info or to purchase tickets, see [vermontfresh.net](http://vermontfresh.net).

## Vergennes band concert

**Monday, Aug. 1, 7-8:30 p.m.**

The Vergennes City Band entertains from the bandstand in the park. Bring chairs or blankets and a late picnic dinner. Repeats Aug. 8.

## Music on the farm

**Tuesday, Aug. 2, 6-8 p.m.**

Red Hot Juba performs at Owl's Head Blueberry Farm in Richmond. Come when doors open at 5 p.m. to pick and stay for the music. Minimum 2-quart purchase per adult. Bring food, beverages and blankets, but no dogs. Same set-up, with different music on Aug. 4, 9 and 11. Weather dependent. For more info, see [owlsheadfarm.com](http://owlsheadfarm.com).

## Fiddling family fun

**Friday, Aug. 5, 6-8:30 p.m.**

The Gawler Family Band from Maine performs at Bread and Butter Farm in Shelburne. Gates open at 5 p.m. for picnicking or food from the Blank Page Cafe. The fiddling family plays rain or shine. Bring blankets or low chairs. Tickets and more info at [breadandbutterfarm.com](http://breadandbutterfarm.com).

## Film festival

**Friday, Aug. 5, 8 p.m.**

Lunafest is a traveling film festival showcasing award-winning short films by and about women at the Essex Experience in Essex. All proceeds benefit Vermont Works for Women. Local vendors, food trucks, and live music begin at 5:30, screenings begin at 8. Lawn chairs and blankets encouraged. Rain date Friday, Aug. 19. Tickets and more info at

[essexexperience.com](http://essexexperience.com).

## Wolfsgart auto show

**Fri.-Sun., Aug 5-7, all day**

Wolfsgart is an automobile and motorcycle show at the Champlain Valley Expo in Essex Jct. On display are classic and modern, German and European vehicles and bikes in a judged competition. More info at [wolfsgart.com/schedule/](http://wolfsgart.com/schedule/).

## The Quarry Project

**Performances Aug. 5-21**

Imagine seeing a dance/theater performance that was specifically created to be performed at the Wells Lamson quarry, one of the oldest and deepest granite quarries in the country. The Quarry Project, in the works for six years, will be presented at multiple times in August, in Websterville, an area of Barre. More info and tickets at [thequarryproject2022.com](http://thequarryproject2022.com).

## Point to Point

**Saturday, Aug. 6, all day**

This event for cyclists or runners raises funds for the Vermont Food Bank. Many different course lengths. Starting at 12:30 p.m., the community gathers at the State House lawn in Montpelier to welcome the racers while enjoying music, food trucks, games and the community. More info at [thepointtopoint.org](http://thepointtopoint.org).

## Champlain Philharmonic

**Saturday, Aug. 6, 7 p.m.**

A free concert is coming up at Lincoln Peak Vineyard in New Haven. The Champlain Philharmonic Orchestra performs popular and classical favorites. Bring seating and a picnic. Gates open at 6 p.m. Pre-register online for limited spaces at [tinyurl.com/44ejhc38](http://tinyurl.com/44ejhc38).

## Herb farm tour

**Sunday, Aug. 7, 2 p.m.**

Come to Farm Craft VT in Shelburne during Open Farm Week for a walking tour of their fields and production process. Learn about their products, taste their honey and learn about the

seed to soap story. Repeats Saturday, Aug. 13. More info at [farmcraftvt.com](http://farmcraftvt.com).

## Diamonds and denim

**Sunday, Aug. 7, 6 p.m.**

The Old Lantern venue on Greenbush Road hosts a special evening with the Charlotte Shelburne Hinesburg Rotary Club's Casino Night. The event features favorite casino games, music, raffle prizes and food. It will benefit the Farm Share Fund of Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont (NOFA-VT). Tickets available at [tinyurl.com/4chenbr8](http://tinyurl.com/4chenbr8) or at the door.

## Vermont Open Farm Week

**Sun., Aug. 7-Sun., Aug. 14**

During the week, you can meet local farmers, hear their stories, learn about their animals and sample their products. Some of the participating local farms are Adam's Berry Farm, Golden Apple Family Farm, Last Resort Farm, Philo Ridge Farm, Sweet Roots Farm, Farm Craft VT and Head Over Fields. For specific events and times, see [tinyurl.com/mt52ez3w](http://tinyurl.com/mt52ez3w).

Visit The Charlotte News website for more events  
[charlottenewsvt.org/  
category/local-events/](http://charlottenewsvt.org/category/local-events/)

PRESORTED STANDARD

U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
MAILED FROM  
ZIP CODE 05482  
PERMIT NO. 9