Sunday, July 31, 5-8 p.m.
VT Fresh Network
info or to register, see colchestertri.

Swim (or kayak), bike and run to
Sunday, July 31, 8-11 a.m.
burlingtongemandmineralclub.org.

A fish pond for all ages at the
features exhibits, dealers, jewelry,
Organized by the Burlington Gem
a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday, July 30 & 31, 10

Clemmons Family Farm. Participants
Artist Harlan Mack co-creates a
Placemaking workshop
or shine; bring blankets or chairs.

join forces on an outdoor sculpture

to this celebration of local farmers,
Limited advance tickets are available
the Coach Barn at Shelburne Farms.
Vermont Fresh Network is held at
when doors open at 5 p.m. to pick

The Vergennes City Band entertains

Music and silent auction. Please, no
dogs. Rain or shine. For more info or

Red Hot Juba performs at Owl's Head
stars. Tickets and more info at

Local vendors, food trucks, and live
by and about women at the Essex

Film festival
chairs. Tickets and more info at

Librarians, librarians, librarians...who
plunge into the world of books.

Open Farm Week: CR - Lamplight Farm
Vermont Open Farm Week
com/4chenbr8 or at the door.
VT). Tickets available at tinyurl.

The Green Mountain Chorus
Quartet will present a classical
program at the beach on

The Vermont Symphony Orchestra
Music at the

Charlotte Beach

for updates.
permitting; call 802-343-4350

Please send event listings, especially
thecharlottenews.org at least three
weeks in advance.

Calendar by Mary Landon.

Introductory-level outdoor yoga at

Museum yoga

Toyota on Websterville Road. The event will run July 31 to August 1.

Champlain Philharmonic Orchestra
at thepointtopoint.org.

Champlain Philharmonic

gathers at the State House lawn in
Montpelier to welcome the racers

Point to Point

August, in Websterville, an area
presented at multiple times in

The Quarry Project
oldest and deepest granite quarries
in the country. The Quarry Project,

Performances Aug. 5-21
The Quarry Project

Imagining a dance of life with
Imagine seeing a dance/theater

The Old Lantern venue on Greenbush

Quartet will present a classical
program at the beach on

 Charlotte sailing

Photo by Louisa Schibli
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 “updated successfully,” all for $543. I dialed and after three tries, and found a number to call to cancel the contract, if possible. I searched the email instructing me to type in the amount to be refunded. So, I typed in $543, and pressed “enter.”

Immediatly 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; 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-

PBS at Shelburne Museum appraised as a success

Julianne 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 Charlotteans 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,

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 cleaning 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.
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 find very appealing. 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, South Hero and Stowe. 200 square feet in Hinesburg, so this is a big deal for Charlotte, said Asquith. Suggested was an allowance of 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 changes to the land-use regulations 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 maximum places he hopes to see from this change are for homes to become more affordable and for older residents to be able to sell off a piece of land, an older couple, who may not require as much space as they once did, could move into their accessory dwelling unit. They could also make extra money by renting the primary dwelling unit and the land for other mortgage.

People also like the idea of making it easier for multiple generations of a family to live together. A recent amendment that will be presented at the upcoming meeting, covering several areas of the town land-use regulations, includes 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, where people get waivers for nonconforming structures and lowering the property size requirement for new construction.

The mission of The Charlotte News is:

• Before publishing any obituary, we will need proper verification of death.
• All published letters and opinion pieces will be clearly disclosed.
• While letters or opinion pieces may endorse candidates or call for public office, the paper always remains objective and impartial in such matters.
• All submissions are subject to accuracy, grammar, and consistency with our publishing style.
• Letters to the editor, opinion pieces and obituaries should adhere to the following guidelines: note that information is subject to editing. The News strives to stay clear of conflicts of interest. Letters to the editor, opinion pieces and letters to the editor will be clearly disclosed.

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The Charlotte News strives to stay clear of conflicts of interest. Articles and letters to the editor will be clearly disclosed.
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, $695,249, 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 email or direct from a company name you are urged to contact, pretending to be me had called him and asked him to cancel the UPS delivery. He said he’d do that right away. I also called the owner, my story and asked the owner if he’d installed into my computer, had transferred funds from my own expense account into the checking account.

For this scam and consumer transactions generally, you can apply the SLOW method to disrupt the unpredictable reaction response by substituting a planned strategy to help you take steps to verify.

- 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.

- Log the contact—write down the information of the phone, or email 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.

- 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.

- 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: 1-800-649-2429 and 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 continue to be 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. Not before photographing the UPS package label with its tracking number, which I sent to “Steve.” I also expected 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 been a scam, even though “Steve” seemed so intelligent and so nice.

At 3 a.m., too anxious to sleep, I got on my computer and checked my checking account at People’s where there was a deposit for $54,390; as a then looked up the websites of the UPS and the Vermont State Police. The UPS package was picked up by noon the next day, so it seemed likely that I could cancel the delivery to Moon. I called UPS, and the night girl 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 track 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.

“Okay, 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 expense 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 50 dollars; then I asked 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 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.

Crystal Baldwin
Consumer Assistance Program

The University of Vermont and the Vermont Institute of Technology for the spring semester.

Around Town

Congratulations Cole Rehkugler of Charlotte was named to the dean’s list at Rochester Institute of Technology.
Charlotte Fire Department doesn’t use foam with PFAS

To the Editor:
I would like to clear up some misconceptions from 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 (meter-solutions.com/en/class-a-foam/phos-check-wd881) which is a forestry service approved Class A foam. It is a surfactant, equivalent to Dvsn 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. MSDS 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-suppression). 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 quicker knockdown with less time and water.

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 was out when we arrived; the Verlo substation was on the verge of melting and did not have to be turned off. This line supplies many customers in Charlotte and on surrounding areas 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 all year, and good weather is a great time to plan ahead. Make sure you have a charged cell phone, 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: greaternaturepower.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 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.

Stay safe and have a great summer season.
Glen 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 recycling capacity by 40 percent and recycle black plastic and smaller plastic parts like snack-off pack 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 no longer in line with the desperate need of modernizing. Both for the sake of the people who work there, and for folks like me, who are working tirelessly 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 me and in my opinion.

Lisa Bergström
Burlington

Thanks to library book sale buyers, donors and volunteers

To the Editor:
Thanks to all who enjoyed the recent Charlotte Fire Department’s annual book sale on the parking lot. It was a hot day; the sun shone brightly and there were plenty of good reads for all ages and interests. The sale is a Little Ice Cream for providing cooling relief and to the School House volunteers and 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.

For Vermont State Senate
Thomas Chittenden
(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
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.

And his wife are raising their family in South Burlington. He is a very involved parent and role model who understands the trials and rewards 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.

Waters Evans in the Democratic primary for the Chittenden-5 seat in the Vermont House of Representatives.

I know that she will serve our community well.

Rich Sicotte
Charlotte

Politicians should not decide curriculum for our children

To the Editor:


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 policies 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.)

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 Frasser-Harris, chair of the recreation commission.

Getting pumped

Photo by Suzy Hodgson

Re-elect Representative Mike Yantachka for Charlotte-Hinesburg

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

Past for by Mike Yantachka for State Representative, 303 Natures Way, Charlotte, VT 802-233-6238

www.MikeYantachka.com
Farm Night: Regenerative agriculture and stunning view

By 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 Shrubbly — 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 would be a malthouse expansion as well as a farm project manager. "We are adding value by practicing regenerative agriculture and are hoping to create models to export to 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 eye 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 ingredients, to brew a completely locally-sourced pale ale called “For You.”

Hunter said the expansion of the malthouse includes 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.

Alexandra and Vivian Phelps enjoyed playing at Earthkeep’s 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 dum pump station at each marina. The app also allows the user to log pumpouts, create a list of favorite sewage disposal stations and report any 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 Boating 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.
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 comeback 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 Shriners’ 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.

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.
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 abortion providers and gynecologists from out-of-state legal, financial or professional persecution. Vermont needs to stand firm with legislative vigilance in protecting Vermont obstetricians someone calls home. We also need to be prepared for decision time, we need to enshrine in our Vermont Constitution.

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/country 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 turmoil 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 affordability 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 supported forested 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 fix 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.

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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 re-elected, it will be returning to voters 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 break of the Chittenden 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 districts, working with 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 resources.

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 understand it in 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 decisions that occur 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 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 who distribute 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 fuels.
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, water treatment.
5. Ensure the clean energy development program is replenished and directed to encourage the use of solar and renewable energy development, build the Property Assessed Clean Energy program for dedicated loan programs, support the use of the incentives in No. 4 above.

What small-scale agricultural 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 enterprises, 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 those 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 barns 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 scrimp. 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 how we can preserve our open spaces and forests (which
CANDIDATES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9
is important in combating 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 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 high income. 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 agroforestry 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) to access less-expensive local housing is now a 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 Vermontier 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, daycare 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 Shed) and I think there are a lot more exciting possibilities.
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 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’re to take a tank test 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 District 6 Representative

Do you approve of the way the districts were reapportioned? Do you think the representation of smaller towns like Charlotte were improved by this reapportioning of districts or why?

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 of about 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 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. 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 for the purposes of 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 Dobb’s 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 bill to encourage the 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 effort to craft the best Clean Heat Standard Bill that 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 levered $11 million in matching funds to employ over 1,800 workers.

The agriculture 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 firearms 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 sides of victims. It should not be in the hands of civilians any more than a RPG (rocket-propelled grenade) or a hand grenade should. 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.
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 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. In Waitsfield, a couple is preparing 10 acres of land for eight building lots which will utilize a community wastewater system. In Waitsfield, a couple is preparing 10 acres of land for eight building lots which will utilize a community wastewater system. In Waitsfield, a couple is preparing 10 acres of land for eight building lots which will utilize a community wastewater system. In Waitsfield, a couple is preparing 10 acres of land for eight building lots which will utilize a community wastewater system.

In Charlotte, a couple is planning a small house on only 0.8 acres of land. The article states, “The minimum of five acres for a house in Charlotte 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 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 Lesser, 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 consider tapping into this resource?” The current Charlotte Town Plan, under section 1.2 states, “Charlotte continues to consider tapping into this resource?” The current Charlotte Town Plan, under section 1.2 states, “Charlotte continues to consider tapping into this resource?” The current Charlotte Town Plan, under section 1.2 states, “Charlotte continues to consider tapping into this resource?”

The Charlotte 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.)

Opinion

Photo by David McBee

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.
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 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 has been a great addition to the 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 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:

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PAID FOR BY THOMAS CHITTENDEN FOR STATE SENATE
The history of Charlotte District Schools: School No. 6

In the days of the one-room schools, the parents and students were expected to shoulder the burden of hiring and boarding the teacher, and heating and maintaining the school.

The school year was divided up into terms, with the most heavily attended being the winter term when farm chores for most students was reduced. The district could assess a local district school tax on its residents based on the town Grand List or use a portion of the public funds set aside for education from the town’s general fund. If a school district decided to schedule only one term, the cost was lower.

A look at the 1869 map of the district shows the nearest neighbors of School No. 6.

James Farrell, a farm laborer, lived with his young family of eight children on the corner of what is now Old Town Trail (interestingly, this now-private road used to be a public road that connected on a straight line with One Mile Road).

John Hazard had a farm of 290 acres with a tenant house for his laborers. Then the school building, followed by farmer Ebenezer Ward, with his 100-acre farm and six children.

Farmer Alanson Kennedy, with one school-age daughter, had a house at the intersection. Across the road were farmers Daniel Chapman Palmer and Midas Prindle.

Midas was most often the “go to” when the building needed repairs. Midas was a staunch supporter of the school, serving on its board and often moderating their meetings.

The only dwellings standing today are the Midas Prindle and Ebenezer Ward houses.

Trying to find competent young teachers was occasionally difficult. After World War I, the state and the University of Vermont promised to pay the tuition for any person who wished to pursue a teaching career, with the proviso that the individual was required to remain in the state as an active teacher for five years.

Florence Poole, daughter of Aubrey and Frederica (Rotax) Poole, took advantage of the program and began teaching at the Kingsland School (No. 6) in 1928. She married Frederick H. Horsford in 1931 and raised one daughter. With an education career serving our local schools spanning almost 50 years, it looks like the state made a wise investment. Referred to in The Charlotte News as a “Charlotte icon,” Florence died in 2008 at age 98.

Like Florence, a sizeable majority of those who signed up for this program remained lifelong Vermonters.

School No. 6, referred to most often in the 20th century as the Kingsland School after the family who lived on the farm at that time, was located north of the intersection of Route 7 (Ethan Allen Highway) and State Park Road. The building was moved south of the State Park Road intersection after the school districts consolidated into Charlotte Central School and was first a business owned by Guy Cheng in the early 1990s, before finally being incorporated into a private residence.

(For more about the history of Charlotte’s schoolhouses, you can check out our library’s website charlottepubliclibrary.org. In the middle of the bar at the top of the homepage, hover over “AT THE LIBRARY.” On the drop-down menu, hover over “SPECIAL COLLECTIONS.” On the drop-down menu here, click on “LOCAL HISTORY & GENEALOGY.” Scroll down to “Presentations” and click “read it” next to “Jenny Cole’s Charlotte Schoolhouse Story Walk.”

Providing high-end restoration, repair and refit service for wood and fiberglass boats.

Regina Badore 1956 daughter of Domina and Lea Aube.
As temperature rises, need for food shelf donations, too

Maj Eiseleger 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 Weezer Foundation, Deborah Cook and Beth Merritt for charitable donations, and to Jen and Jorden Wilson, 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 NO5 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 are 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

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 Woodstock to continue acting with Sarah Caldwell’s opera company. This will be the fifteenth year Woody Keppel has been the artistic director for Woodstock Opera House.

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

“That started the idea of being a performer, not just as Woodhead, but as Woody,” said Keppel.

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

On their way to perform at the Montreal Jazz Festival, the two stopped in New Orleans and did an impromptu performance on stage.

“Woodhead jumps on a runaway tractor to 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 of bringing people together may sound trite, but he is committed to that cause.

“My 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.

“The arrest of the two bravest 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.

“People want and need something to believe in the simplicity and fun of Woodhead.”
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 “Wildlife” by Michael Murphy, I dreamed 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 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 rollover 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 wondertment 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 part-time camper 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 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 chummy black feet to glide into the spread of decoys.

It could have been that very first buck that walked near the tree that stood 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.)
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 removable 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 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.)
Join the Very Merry Theatre Teen Group
"The Music Man"

Library programs for all ages
"The Music Man"

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 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.

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/3M6KhXh. Co-sponsored by the Charlotte Senior Center.

Library book discussion: "Waiting for Teddy Williams"
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 stories 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 they sometimes do come true. Copies available at the library circulation desk. Register for the Zoom link: bit.ly/3k8KnaD.

Charlie Cart salsa stories
Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2 p.m.
What to do with all 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/3MBdMc.

Library contact information:
Margaret Woodruff, director
Cheryl Sloan, youth services librarian
Susanna Kahn, tech librarian
Phone: 802-425-3864
Email: info@charlottenews.org

The Charlotte News Classifieds, P.O. Box 251, Charlotte, VT 05445
Visit charlottevt.org

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Library News

Create a mural depicting sustainable living in 2030

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

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 vstateparks.com/employment.html.

The Town of Charlotte
MEETINGS
Visit charlottetv.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 Committee 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.

The Charlotte News  •  July 28, 2022  •  19

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Tuesday, August 9 at 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Stay cool with a variety of fun at the senior center

Hyde at 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 sip, 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.

Word games
Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m.
Do you enjoy playing Scrabble but don’t have anyone to play with? Would you like to try a game of Free Garnet Healthcare walk-in clinic.

COVID-19 vaccine clinic
Tuesday, Aug. 9, 12:30-4:30 p.m.
Free Garnet Healthcare walk-in clinic. Please consider donating blood. The Charlotte Senior Center and Charlotte Community Cooling Centers

Pfizer (12+); and Adult Moderna (18+).

Vaccines and boosters are necessary. Vaccines and boosters are available for Moderna (ages 6 months & up); 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 beneficial when the National Weather Service issues a Heat Advisory or Excessive Heat Warning. During a heat advisory or excessive heat warning, notification will be placed in Front Porch Forum in addition to notices on social 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 charlotteseniorcenter.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 to being a reception desk host to helping out with weekly lunch teams. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Kerrie Pughe at kpughe@charlotteseniorcenter.org.

Meals
Menus are posted on the website: charlotteseniorcenter.org.

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

Men’s breakfast
Aug. 17, noon.
Chef Amid from the Residence at Shelburne Bay will provide a continental breakfast buffet at the senior center on Wednesday, Aug. 17 at noon.

Photo by Lori York

Bring your watermelon smile to the cool senior center

Susan Urhian
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 environment.

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

Men’s breakfast
Ham sandwich, corn salad, watermelon and homemade dessert.

Thursday, Aug. 11, 7-9 a.m.
Men’s breakfast with program.

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 Williams’ 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.”

Photo by Lori York

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Photo by Lori York
Calendar of Events

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.

Creating bonsai
Saturday, July 30, 9:30 a.m. or 1 p.m. Jeff Notteson leads workshops at Hordford 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 jnnottson@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.

Piacemaking 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/ydy3v3d4.

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.

Colchester triathlon
Sunday, July 31, 8-11 a.m. Swin (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.

VT Fresh Network
Sunday, July 31, 5-8 p.m. The annual forum and dinner of the 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.

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.

Fiddling family fun
Friday, Aug. 5, 6-8:30 p.m. The Gwinner 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.

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 6. Lawn chairs and blankets encouraged. Rain date Friday, Aug. 10. Tickets and more info at essexexperience.com.

Wolfgart auto show
Fri.-Sun., Aug 5-7, all day Wolfgart 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 wolfgart.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 Westervelt, an area of Barre. More info and tickets at 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.

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/m5t5e2z3w.

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