at Shelburne Farms features stories, music, and an event about woodland wildlife. This family event is part of the Vermont Humanities programs and includes workshops and exhibits by cartoonists. The event is held at the Fletcher Free Library featuring panel discussions, Saturday, Oct. 15, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. A comics festival will take place at the library on the same day. Shelburne Orchards is pleased to welcome seniors to the orchard where they will receive a great discount on a half-bushel bag of apples. For more information, see shelburneorchards.com.

Seth Kelley/Monument Design
The Charlotte Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service opens its doors for an open house on Sunday, Oct. 9, from 2-4 p.m. at its station on Pelham Road. This is an opportunity for families to meet the members, see the trucks and equipment, learn about safety, smoke detectors and fire extinguishers, and attend activities. The Charlotte News will be screening movies at the Charlotte Fire Station, on Oct. 9 and Oct. 16, from 2-4 p.m., for an event called “Spotting Stuff.” This is a part of the Vermont Environmental Film Festival. The current film is “Preservation” which is a documentary about the success and challenges of protecting America’s national parks and forests.

Charlotte’s Heritage Film Series continues on Wednesday, Oct. 19, at 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Overlook Room at Ethan Allen Homestead, 1300 Ethan Allen Highway in Richmond. The series is free and open to the public; registration is encouraged. The series, “The Evolution of the Great American Park,” will screen “The Development of the National Forest System.” Attendees are encouraged to attend Film Series events online by going to tinyurl.com/3dc7fety system through the winter. More info and registration at tinyurl.com/3dc7fety. This series is made possible by the Vermont Humanities Foundation and the Ethan Allen Homestead.

Sourdough bread science is explored on Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the Charlotte Library with Karen Brown, Vermont’s Bread Baking Expert, and Kitchen, leads free Zoom classes on making sourdough bread. Participants will use ingredients grown at the Farm to make a vinegar infusion of herbs and vegetables. After steeping, the resulting liquid, called fire cider, is beneficial for the immune system. For more information, see tinyurl.com/3dc7fety.

Get your tickets early for this popular event at the Coach Barn at Shelburne Farms. Get up close to tractors, trucks and other farm machinery at Shelburne Farms. Pretend you’re a farmer as you climb behind the wheel. No machinery at Shelburne Farms. This event is best for adults and children old enough to be involved between decks. Free event. For more information, see shelburneorchards.com.

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**Spreading dominates selectboard meeting**

**Scooter MacMillan**

Editor

Spreading — it’s a perennial topic at Charlotte Selectboard meetings. And just like perennial plants, this discussion may go dormant, but it will sprout up again.

The subject of speeding and dangerous roads surfaced at the Monday, Sept. 26, selectboard meeting. As the meeting started there were around 20 people attending, either in-person or online, but 30 minutes in, when the public comments portion began, attendance had almost doubled. The overwhelming majority had come to comment on speeding.

Eric Finley told the board the town has been talking for two years about getting flashing lights, radar, speed studies, speed bumps, signs or something to get cars to slow down on Greenbush Road. The number of children living in the area has grown, including his own four children under 5 years old.

“When I drive into Shelburne, I know that if I go over the speed limit, I’m going to get pulled over,” Finley said. “In Charlotte, no one really cares because there’s no one checking the speed of anybody.”

“I get passed four days a week going 25. Finley said he has even been passed on my own road going 25 m/s.”

Carla Hunter, who also lives on Greenbush, came with a petition signed by 36 residents who live within less than a mile of each other. The petitioners implored the selectboard to do something to enforce speed limits on their street to protect other drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists.

“Past efforts in the town to study and calm traffic have been solely symbolic in nature and have failed to lead to enforcement of the 25-mile-an-hour speed limit and adherence to stop signs,” Hunter said, reading the petition.

Cars, trucks, buses and delivery vehicles regularly speed on Greenbush Road, sometimes going twice the 25 mph speed limit, Jessie Wegman wrote in a letter his wife Kyra Wegman read because he was out of town.

“I’ve often felt like I live next to an airstrip and not a country road,” Wegman wrote. “The problem is that Charlotte spends no money on law enforcement.”

He suggested the money saved on a police force might be invested in radar speed signs, speed tables or something that would reduce speeding.

Ken Spencer walks Greenbush Road picking up litter to Shelburne and to Ferrisburgh almost weekly. With speeding increasing, the Ferry Road to Shelburne “is now a very dangerous road,” he said.

“Maybe John McNeil was distracted by his beagle running across the road, or he was looking at the ferry, or he was looking at the ferry while he was walking his dog,” Spencer said.

Chair of the Charlotte Planning Commission

**Charlie Pughe**

On the Nov. 8 general election ballot, Charlotte residents are being asked to vote on a set of proposed updates to the Charlotte land-use regulations. These proposals were developed by the planning commission with input from residents, staff at the Chittenden Regional Planning Commission and the Charlotte Selectboard.

It’s important to understand the relationship between the town plan, land-use regulations and how these documents determine what can and cannot be built in Charlotte. The town plan is a policy document that sets forth a vision with goals and objectives for what residents want to see in Charlotte’s future in many dimensions, including land development, energy use, facilities, services and conserving natural resources and the open landscapes which are core values for residents. The land-use regulations is the main rule book that implements the goals and policies contained in the town plan. They also guide day-to-day enforcement and the zoning administrator’s decisions in issuing administrative permits for building projects.

Note if you’re just joining us: In December 2021, the selectboard combined the land-use permitting duties of the zoning board of adjustment and the planning commission into a single entity, the development review board. This change allowed the planning commission’s focus on planning work, including updates to land-use regulations and town plan. Currently, all proposed changes to the land-use regulations have to be approved by a majority vote of Charlotte residents.

Charlotte’s Town Plan was last updated in 2019. The plan and land-use regulations are living documents that need to be regularly reviewed and updated to stay current with modifications in state law, community values and changes in the community and environment: such as an aging population, reduced school enrollment, the need for more diverse housing options, a changing climate, etcetera. If we don’t update the land-use regulations, they risk becoming irrelevant and they become more difficult to apply to projects reviewed by the development review board.

On the warrant for your upcoming general election vote are four separate articles for proposed changes to Charlotte’s land-use regulations explained.
The sunken ferry is 63 feet x 23 feet and submerged in Lake Champlain, according to one of his essays collected in Around the World. Higbee waxes poetic about the flux of time, from Greek meaning ‘love of.’#

### Mountain magic
Photo by Louisa Schibli

### Letter to the Editor
To the Editor:

At the regular board meeting in November of last school year, Christina Dooly read a letter that was critical of certain administrators within our district. The letter outlined specific causes for her resignation and that of the other diversity, equity and inclusion coaches. Among those specific causes, she cited the administrators’ failure to equitably post the position, consistent with the Champlain Valley School District equity policy. Following that board meeting, Champlain Valley School District administrators caused public and workplace harm to Dooly and all of the diversity, equity and inclusion coaches.

At a grievance meeting that took place on March 8, 2022, members of the Champlain Valley School District board apologized for internal communications being reported to a district employee and subsequently printed in The Charlotte News. The internal communication between the coaches and the principals specifically named Deely and should have never been given to the press. The district has learned from these regrettable events and, going forward, will be better at preventing harm to students and employees.

The administration and the board are committed to ensuring that those who help the district identify equity policy violations will be protected from any forms of retaliation. With a new diversity, equity and inclusion director, Champlain Valley School District stands poised to solidify district-level procedures that support the equity policy. These procedures will be collaboratively written to serve the needs of the students, staff and community.

Rene Sanchez
Superintendent Champlain Valley School District

### Support local nonprofit reporting.
Scan this QR code with your phone camera and donate today.

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**NEXT PUBLICATION DATES**
October 22, 2022
Copy Deadline: Friday, Oct. 14
Ads Deadline: Friday, Oct. 14

November 3, 2022
Copy Deadline: Friday, Oct. 28
Ads Deadline: Friday, Oct. 28

**SEND YOUR CHARLOTTE NEWS TO:**
news@thecharlottenews.org

**From the cover**

Photo by Scooter MacMillan

Tom Bates, who lives on Wings Point, leads a group back in time when McNeil’s Ferry was a bustling center of travel and commerce in Charlotte.

Photo by Scooter MacMillan

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**Mission Statement**
For the members of The Charlotte News is:
- to publish rigorous, in-depth, fair reporting on topics affecting our readers.
- to source stories of interest from our neighbors and friends.

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**Editorial independence**
We are an independent newspaper with no political affiliation, and our content and opinions are not controlled or influenced by any organization or individual.

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**HISTORY**
One of his essays collected in Around the World, Higbee said, “McNeil’s was a household word, long to be remembered.”

Higbee waxes poetic about the flux of time, from Greek meaning ‘love of.’

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Rene Sanchez
Superintendent Champlain Valley School District
That’s something we have to coordinate with during drop off and pick up times in the whole school day, instead of just dropping the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 for the whole school day, instead of just having to sit back and smell the roses,” he said.

Although he’s stepping down, Fraser-Harris said he was willing to help with town events. During his tenure as chair, he’s been part of organizing at least 20 concerts, seven town parties, a new playground and yoga at the town beach, and the ice rink next to Charlotte Central School.

“I’m hoping to stay on, and I think I will stay on as a helper around town,” he said. “We’ll see what happens next summer with some of the events, the rink and that sort of thing.”

Bill Fraser-Harris moved to Charlotte in 1999, where his wife Eva Fraser-Harris lived. About six years after the move, he became a member of the rec commission.

Within a few months of joining the commission, he had become chair. The recreation commission was a good fit for Fraser-Harris, who was the athletic director at his college, the University of Swansea in South Wales.

“Squash, field hockey and rugby were his sports when he was younger. He was born in Canada and moved to England because his father was in the Royal Navy. Shortly after college he moved to the United States. He owned restaurants in Boulder Valley and Richmond.

As a sailor, an avid tennis and part-time pick-up player, Fraser describes himself as an outdoor person — and a community person.

“It’s been my heart and soul for the last few years, organizing beach music and the beach town parties, etcetera,” he said.

Greg Smith also resigned from the recreation commission but couldn’t be reached for comment.

At the Sept. 26 selectboard meeting chair Jim Faulkner brought up the idea of appointing a town special events coordinator to oversee things like the town party and the ice rink.

The board decided to wait on a decision about this until the recreation commission vacancies have been filled, and it has heard from the recommissioned and recreation director Nicole Conley.

SPEDDING
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

was hit by a vehicle several years ago while jogging at the intersection. He was also concerned about the speed of emergency vehicles returning to the fire and rescue station after emergency calls.

Kendal Frost lives nearby on Ferry Road and said she had felt safer jogging when she lived in Burlington than she does in Charlotte.

Julian Phelps said 10 years ago she had written a letter to the town about speeding. She also pointed out that, on every route entering Charlotte from a major road, the speed limit goes up 10 mph.

Board chair Jim Faulkner told the audience they had gotten the board’s attention. “We’re going to be hard pressed not to pay attention to this.”

The board agreed it would be on the agenda in two weeks. The next regularly scheduled selectboard meeting is Monday, Oct. 10.

Safety on Route 7

A request for a safety study of Route 7 had come before the selectboard at its previous meeting. Town administrator Dean Bloch said he planned to talk to the state to see about getting a study. He also plans to talk to the sheriff to see if they can provide more enforcement there.

Since it is a state highway, the town doesn’t have much authority and this is pretty much all it can do, Faulkner said.

Safety at Charlotte Central School

The board recently has been talking about what can be done to make Charlotte Central School safer from speeding vehicles.

Faulkner advocated for making the section of Hinesburg Road in front of the school into a school zone, which it is not now, and dropping the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 for the whole school day, instead of just during drop off and pick up times in the morning and afternoon.

“We are looking at the flashing lights. That’s something we have to coordinate with the neighbors as well,” he said.
standards for accessory dwelling units. For a
how the development review board reviews
re-use of historic structures.
within a required setback and the adaptive
additions to buildings that are built partly
for projects that serve the public, the ability
updates and new (or revised) definitions.
created up to 30 percent of their total floor area
as an accessory dwelling unit. We believe this
change creates increased equity because owner
property owners with very large homes and
those with smaller residences.
Article 4 would bring the land-use regulations fully into alignment with the
selectboard’s December 2021 decision to
create a development review board. This
mostly required a “search and replace”
operation in the entire land-use regulations
document to change all its references to the
zoning board and planning commission to
the development review board, which now
executes all key permitting roles which require a board decision. The resulting work
was thoroughly proofread to make sure
the resulting draft still makes sense. The
proposed changes also lay out the assigned
duties of the development review board.
Important: These articles will be printed on
a separate ballot from the Vermont general
election ballot which all registered voters
in Charlotte will receive in the mail. So,
you will need to obtain and vote this ballot separately from the one mailed to you via the
Vermont Secretary of State’s office. This is
similar to the separate vote that town clerk
Mary Mead is managing on a proposed bond
issue for the Chittenden Solid Waste District.
Your supplemental land-use regulations ballet can be requested by phone or in
person at town hall any time before Election
Day (Nov. 8). If you’re voting in person on Election Day, the land-use regulations ballet
will be available at town hall with the two
other ballets.
The planning commission understands
that these proposed changes are complex
and will work with all stakeholders to fully understand what’s being proposed here. To that end, your
town planner has prepared a “User’s Guide”
that explains the purpose, rationale
and effect of each amendment, if approved.
It’s intended to be read side-by-side with the
chart presenting these amendments. Both
documents, along with a full-text “redline”
version of the entire land-use regulations
with these proposed changes embedded as
markups, are posted to the town website at:
bit.ly/PC_draft_2022_LURs_amendments.
Copies of the amendments chart and
User’s Guide are available for inspection at
town hall during business hours and upon
request. Email town planner Larry Lewack at
townplanner@townofcharlotte.com if you’d
like to receive a copy in the mail or pick it
up at the town office during business hours.
If you have questions or comments for
the selectboard, you may also participate in
an informational session that will be offered on
Wednesday, Nov. 2, at 7 p.m. in-person at
town hall and online via Zoom. (The agenda
will be posted to the “meeting calendar and
agendas” page of the town website.)
The planning commission urges
everyone to learn more about these
proposals before you cast your votes. The
planning commission will be posting more
information in the next couple of weeks,
including a follow-up article in The Charlotte
News with questions and answers, and
posts to the Front Porch Forum. For more
information, see the project page on the
town website or contact the town planner
Larry Lewack at 802-425-3535 ext. 206 or
email at townplanner@townofcharlotte.com.

Opinion
Chances coming to share your vision for the school district

Bonnie Birdsell
Champlain Valley School District

What constitutes a “good” education? How important are athletics and extracurriculars to a child’s school experience? Who benefits from learning outdoors?

These and many more questions are on our mind as the Champlain Valley School District embarks on a seven-month journey to map out its vision and mission for the next five years.

The strategic planning process began last spring with the district’s administration and board of directors doing some preliminary work. Then lifted off in September with the initial meeting of the steering committee. The goal is to present a final plan to the school board for adoption in March 2023.

As it says on the strategic planning page of the district website: “A strategic plan is the vehicle that allows an organization to look at its future. Through visioning, developing a mission, examining core values, and setting achievable goals, the district moves toward the attainment of school improvement.”

Champlain Valley School District values and invites all members of the community to participate in this process and to help identify our shared values and priorities. We hope to hear from folks who have students in our schools, as well as those who don’t. We also want to hear from students, employees, and local business and government leaders. Our plan for the next five years will be stronger and smarter with a diversity of voices working together on its development.

In years past, Champlain Valley School District has invited you to engage in the planning process. This time, we’re combining that work with the strategic planning process. Everything you share with us — whether through a survey or a community forum — will inform both the budget and the strategic plan.

We look forward to incorporating your ideas and suggestions into this exciting work.
Condolescence
Judith Haslam Cross
Judith Haslam Cross, 91, of Hanover, N.H., died peacefully at Kendall at Hanover, Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022. Judi was born on Dec. 23, 1931, in New York, N.Y., to Margaret and John Edwin Cummings Haslam. She attended school in Newfield, N.J., where she grew up and graduated from Williamstown College in 1952 with a B.A. in English. Judi was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Hobart and William Smith Colleges in 2000. She was a widow of William John Cross who died in 2003. They were married for 49 years. Judi was preceded in death by her childhood companion John H. Hatheway and her son John C. Cross. She is survived by her husband, Ynez Marjorie (Mitch) Landry; four children, Alexandra M. Kaplan of Charlotte, Vt., Tiffany C. Daly, four grandchildren; Cynthia Vernon, 2662 Greenbush Rd. $50,000 Aug. 18

Melvin Ira Kaplan
Melvin Ira Kaplan, 93, of Randolph Center, Vt., died peacefully at home on Sept. 25, 2022.

Opinion
Will accessory dwelling units mean more entry-level homes?

Where Do We Go From Here?
Peter Joslin
For the last three weeks I have attended the public hearings and selected board hearings on the proposed amendments to the land-use regulations.

Burd on selectboard’s Sept. 20 hearing on the proposed amendments, I had a good conversation with long-time life-long Charlotte who knows the town like the back of his farming hand. We talked about accessory dwelling units and findings for development of more modest homes in town.

He said nobody ever can live in Charlotte. I interpreted the meaning to the town is not responsible to guarantee housing for anyone, per se. I agreed, but said there are ways to make modest housing less expensive, especially in the village.

Present at the selectboard hearing were some residents, some town council members and development review board members. The most spirited discussion was around the proposed change to increase the square footage of accessory dwelling units. Currently, the size of an accessory dwelling unit is limited to 30% of the main structure or 500 square feet, whichever is larger. The proposed change is to increase from 1,000 square feet to 1,500 square feet. That’s an increase of 50%.

One of the major contrasts to the presentation by Taylor Newton, planning program manager at Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, on Sept. 16. His presentation included a review of the ordinance text and its changes to the land-use regulations, an audit of existing village district regulations and recommendations to implement land-use regulations to allow for greater diversity of housing in the village and to “create a multi-year work program for the town of Charlotte as a non-asset grant from the state to support a public engagement process and development of zoning regulation changes that will enable the creation of a diverse, walkable village district in a manner that is supported by the community.”

Taylor’s presentation was filled with positive steps the town can take to encourage modest growth and protect the things we value most.

My takeaway from his presentation should be used as a base for the proposed amendments on the land-use regulations is that changes intended to permit focused development are not in the best interest of this proposed change.

What does the town at large really want? I thought of the proposed accessory dwelling units change on another recent front-page article in The New York Times about the housing crisis: “Whatever Happened to the Starter Home?” by Emily Bader.

Bader said, “Nationwide, the small detached house has not vanished from new construction. Only about 8 percent of new single-family homes today are 1,400 square feet or less. In the 1940s, according to Corelogic, nearly 70 percent of new homes were that small.” “Those starter homes came in all kinks over the years: mill workers, cottages, shotgun homes, bungalows, ramblers, split-levels, two-bedroom tract houses. American families also found their start in brick row houses, cozy duplexes and triple-deckers.”

Many of us grew up in houses much smaller than what’s standard today. But things change, including the trend that bigger is better. The median house size has pretty much held flat from under 1,400 square feet to over 2,000 in the last 60 years, according to Corelogic. The median house size shrunk in the same period from about 3.6 to 2.1 in 2020.

The author concludes her article stating: “The simplest way to put entry-level housing on increasingly expensive land is to build a lot of small two- to two-three, four-room units on lots that for decades have been reserved for one home.” How might this translate in Charlotte?

Charlotte Property Transfers August 2022
Aug. 3 Amandra Blanchard to Peter Hydes, Kelly Chevroletauto, Satter Rd. 1.0 acres +/- w/dwelling $691,000
Aug. 4 Kennedy Snow Revoc, Living Trust to Nicholas M. & Julie S. Stephens,139 Poppie Dungeon Rd. 4.11 acres +/- w/dwelling $700,000
Aug. 5 Janet Briggs to CareerKing Revocable Trust, 6233 Mount Philo Rd. 5.81 acres +/- w/dwelling $790,000
Aug. 6 Clark H. Wilsand 3rd to Tony Cartier, 1879 Hinesburg Rd. 153.57 acres +/- land only $800,000
Aug. 9 Christopher Walsh & Sarah Hassay to John & Maria Balczuk, 2374 Speakman Lane 1.40 acres +/- w/dwelling $425,000
Aug. 10 TD Bank, N.A. to Jonathan Landry, 390 Sanctuary Lane 2.97 acres +/- w/dwelling $1,300,000
Aug. 11 Abigail Fouquet Revocable Trust to Andrew & Katharine See, 95 Orchard Rd. 5.50 acres +/- w/dwelling $850,000
Aug. 16 Dale & Vanessa Knowles to Nathan Moses & Krista Buckley, 104.46 acres +/- 1324 Ferry Rd. w/dwelling $865,000
Aug. 17 Whit’s Beginnings LLC to B & L Williamson Family Trust, 3.0 acres +/- 2666 Greenwich Rd. $550,000
Aug. 18 Alexander & Susan Sewell to Frederick Nelson & Regina Cocco, 7.10 acres 546 Guinea Rd. w/dwelling $605,000
Aug. 20 Michael & Carrie Spear to Mark & Molla Vaida, 65.2 acres 3400 Lake Rd. land only $1,000,000
Aug. 19 Ian Finnstreet & Stephanie Hawkins to Will Lenzener, 11.24 acres 912 Lake Rd. land only $350,000
Aug. 30 John Berino to Charles Thomas III & Daniel Tempest, 5.01 acres 215 Long Road w/dwelling $625,000

This information was supplied by Jay Struassner and Nancy Warren. For listings call Sothebys International Real Estate.
**Food Shelf News**

**Bold ideas and incremental actions needed to end hunger**

During Hunger Action Month in September, the White House hosted the Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health. The first such conference in 50 years, it established goals to end hunger in the United States by 2030, including expansion of SNAP (the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), reinstatement of the child tax credit and provision of school meals for every child.

The need for these bold actions was underscored by a recent joint University of Vermont and University of Maine study of almost 1,000 people in the northeast that described a high prevalence of food insecurity. Two out of five Vermonters responding reported difficulty putting food on the table; this figure likely reflects inflationary pressures as well as slow recovery from the huge surge in food insecurity noted during the height of COVID.

Here in Charlotte, incremental actions help fuel the bold vision of ending hunger. The Charlotte Food Shelf continues to provide nourishing food and assistance for fuel and electricity to all community members in need.

We are grateful for donations from Michael and Janet Yantachka, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish, E. Kiley, Arlene Marks, the Proutt Family Fund of the Vermont Community Foundation and the Hannaford Fight Hunger Bag Program.

Rich harvests have allowed vegetable donations from Alex Ford and Kim Shifrin, Arlene and Steve Marks, and Katie at Head over Fields Farm who gave a generous donation of organic vegetables from their Grow a Row for Others initiative.

Suzanne Ferland harvested a friend’s garden and brought a bushel of tomatoes. Swiss chard, peppers, cucumbers and squash. Stewart’s Bakery has delivered a variety of rolls and delicious bread which are appreciated. Many thanks to all our community supporters.

The Kids Winter Clothes Project is helping to outfit 14 young people for the coming snow season. Special thanks to Tai Denman as well as all the parents and Grange members who make up our closet to provide warm clothes for the winter ahead.

As we look forward to winter, we thank snowmobile club Shelburne Charlotte Association of Travelers and its parent organization, the Chittenden County Snowmobile Association, and the Vermont Association of Snowmobile Travelers for their donation honoring Chittenden county landowners who provide access over their land for snowmobile enthusiasts. We appreciate their generosity.

Our wish list in preparation for winter includes creamed and other soup, crackers, instant mashed potatoes, canned corn, tuna, pasta. For all those with small flocks of hens, we would be happy to receive egg donations in any amount. Please call 802-425-3252 for drop-off information.

As we look forward to winter’s joys, economic challenges are also anticipated. Please know that help is available to residents of Charlotte and North Ferrisburgh if you or someone you know is facing utility shut-off or an unexpected hardship. Simply call 802-425-3252 or fill out a request form. Request forms are available during food shelf open hours or on the website at charlotteucc.org/copy-of-charlotte-food-shelf-1. All requests and grants are kept private.

John Sayles, of the nonprofit Vermont Food Bank, cites donations, advocacy and voluntourism as critical to the fight against hunger. The food shelf has volunteer openings in food distribution, tech support and recycling. Champlain Valley Union High School students can earn credits for graduation through volunteer participation in an upcoming food drive sponsored by Dormer Dreams. More information is available by calling Jari Chevalier, local Dormer Dreams coordinator at 802-557-1373.

The Charlotte Food Shelf is open for food distribution from 4-6 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Our address is 403 Church Hill Road, in back of the Congregational Church in Charlotte.

Curbside delivery continues and masking is encouraged during the ongoing pandemic. For emergency food, please call John at 802-425-3130. If you cannot come to the food shelf due to COVID symptoms or seek further information about the food shelf, please call 802-425-3252.

Monetary donations are appreciated, tax deductible, and can be addressed to: Charlotte Food Shelf, Inc., P.O. Box 83, Charlotte VT 05445.

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**New reason to smile:**

**One appointment = One new crown**

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**Charlotte Townwide Reappraisal Information**

The Town of Charlotte has contracted with New England Municipal Resource Center (NEMRC) to complete a town wide reappraisal for the 2023 Grand List. The purpose of the reappraisal is to update all property data and calculate new Fair Market Values reflected as of 4/1/2023.

Beginning in October, NEMRC staff will be doing a full Town-wide review of all properties. The review process will include an actual physical visit to each property. The review will be to verify and correct the physical data, new exterior photos and a driveway review of the information.

The properties will be reviewed by road. Prior to the review, all property owners will receive a yellow postcard in the mail letting you know that the NEMRC staff will be working on certain roads within a few weeks of the mailing. Please call or email the Charlotte Assessor’s office if you have any questions or concerns; please make contact either via email or voicemail at the following:

E-mail: assessor@townofcharlotte.com
Phone: (802)425-3533, Ext 210

Please leave a message and I will get back to you within a few days.

Thank you,

John D. Kerr, Charlotte Assessor
Bob Haven spent most of his professional life in technology but when that career ended, he looked for another way to use his problem-solving skills. The result was Safe Haven Honey, a business that keeps his mind sharp while providing sweet sustenance for himself and others.

Haven launched the business 12 years ago when he purchased his first bees. He currently has 12 hives, the largest of which has over 100,000 bees. His wife Connie helps with the financial end of the business and some of the marketing, but Haven said she’s not overly comfortable around the apiary.

Beekeeping has a variety of challenges, but for Haven the biggest problem is the mites. “You have to evaluate the hives every four weeks or so,” he said. “Four days after the queen lays an egg it becomes larva and that’s when the mite attaches itself.”

Checking to see if there are mites is a process which requires the bees to be taken out of the hive, but Haven stresses that they are not injured during the testing. The bees can only be removed when the queen isn’t present, and testing should only be done if there is exposed larva. Haven shakes a few bees into a jar with a mesh cover and puts in a few spoonfuls of powdered sugar. He rolls the jar gently for a minute and lets it sit for another minute. The sugar is emptied into a pan and sprayed with water while the bees are returned to the hive. If there are more than three red dots, the hive has to be treated for mites.

Raising bees also means contending with issues much larger than mites. For several years, one or more bears pushed over some hives but didn’t cause much damage. This spring, however, a bear was significantly more destructive, leading Haven to install an electric fence which required moving the bees. “A hive can weigh more than 160 pounds,” Haven said, adding that the weight is the least of the problems. “Bees don’t like too much attention,” he said, “and in their own way, they’ll let you know.”

Most of Haven’s sales are by word of mouth and he has many repeat customers who get discounts when they bring back the glass jars. He also sells to Philo Ridge Farm and Foam Brewery. In addition to honey, he markets what are basically beekeeper starter kits called nucleus colonies which he also uses to replenish his hives after winter die-offs.

“I think part of the reason I became a beekeeper is it keeps my mind going with problem solving,” Haven said. “You have to do inspections every couple of weeks and do tests and evaluate the progress.”

Haven has set up an old table and chair so he can watch the hives with a cup of tea or a cold brew in the summer. “I still enjoy watching the bees,” he said. “I still go up there and just hang out with them.”

Hi Neighbor!

Phyl Newbeck
Contributor

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Travel support for rural Vermont cancer patients

From left, Sarah Lemnah, Cancer Patient Support Foundation executive director receives a check from Kathryn Lagerstedt of NorthCountry Federal Credit Union.

Cancer Patient Support Foundation

Each year hundreds of rural Vermont cancer patients struggle with the cost of transportation to access life-saving treatment. This year, with the rising cost of gas, many Vermonters delayed treatment simply due to their inability to afford the transportation to get to the hospital.

For the second year, NorthCountry Federal Credit Union stepped in to address this rising issue. In 2021, NorthCountry Federal Credit Union awarded $15,000, double their donation from 2021, to the NorthCountry Federal Credit Union Rural Transportation Fund. This year, NorthCountry Federal Credit Union awarded $15,000, double their donation from 2021, to support rural Vermont cancer patients.

"Part of bettering our communities is bettering the lives of those who live within them," says Kathryn Lagerstedt, senior vice president of strategic engagement at NorthCountry Federal Credit Union. "This donation is an extension of the notion that no one fights alone, and we hope this fund can offer some relief to patients during a difficult time.

"The most heartbreakening stories that I hear are patients saying they delayed treatment because of the cost of traveling back and forth to the hospital was too great," said Sarah Lemnah, executive director of Cancer Patient Support Foundation. "The NorthCountry Federal Credit Union Rural Transportation Fund allows the Cancer Patient Support Foundation to better support rural Vermonters, so transportation is not a hurdle for treatment."

The Cancer Patient Support Foundation supports over 500 local cancer patients each year, removing barriers to treatment and helping them meet their basic needs. For 20 years, Cancer Patient Support Foundation has been the only local statewide fund supporting patients and their families. Nearly 11,000 families have received over $2.8 million since the organization’s inception. Each year nearly $160,000 is awarded.

For more information on how you can support Vermont cancer patients go to cpsfvt.org.

Valley Players present radio play version of ‘The Great Gatsby’

Ruth Ann Pattee Valley Players

The Valley Players will present The Great Gatsby: A Live Radio Play Oct. 7-23 at the Valley Players Theater, 4254 Main Street in Winooski at 7 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays.

The show will be styled as a 1940s live radio broadcast, with an ensemble of six actors bringing to life more than two dozen characters from the novel. Sound effects will be created live on stage and the show will be punctuated by 40s-era commercials.

The show was adapted for the stage by Joe Landy and draws from F. Scott Fitzgerald’s beloved classic, telling the story of triumph and tragedy that reflects the decadence of the Jazz Age and the perils of the American Dream.

The cast includes Aric Brown (Middlesex) as Jay Gatsby; Sarah Deboutre (Waterbury) as Daisy Buchanan and others; Tom Jaques (Barre) as Tom Buchanan and others; David Rapp (Montpelier) as Nick Carraway; and Charlotte Robinson and Marci Robinson (both of Warren) playing multiple roles.

"The audience can expect to be swept back into the golden age of radio," said Sanborn. "Don’t miss your chance to experience what it was like to be in a 1940s studio audience."

Tickets are available in advance with a credit card from valleyplayers.com or by reservation by calling 802-581-1674. For reservations, cash or check is preferred.

NOTICE OF VACANCIES ON TOWN BOARDS AND OF TOWN OFFICIAL POSITIONS SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

The following boards and positions currently have unfilled seats:

- Recreation Commission (2 seats; terms ending April 30, 2024)
- Conservation Commission (1 seat; term ending April 30, 2024)
- Charlotte Park & Wildlife Refuge Oversight Committee (1 seat; term ending April 30, 2025)
- Clean Water Advisory Committee of Chittenden Regional Planning Commission (1 seat; term ending June 30, 2023)
- Chittenden Solid Waste District, Alternate Representative (1 seat; term ending on May 31, 2024)

If you have interest in serving the Town by participating in any of these capacities please send a short statement explaining your interest and any relevant background information to Dean Bloch, Town Administrator at dean@townofcharlotte.com. If you have questions, please e-mail or call 425-3071 ext. 5, or stop by Town Hall.

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Redhawks football and girls soccer teams keep winning

Scooter MaxMillan  
Editor

Girls soccer

CVU 5, St. Johnsbury 0
The Champlain Valley Union girls soccer team’s winning ways continue.

The Redhawks are undefeated so far this year. At 6-0-1, the 1-1 tie against Burr & Burton Academy in its second game of the season is the only game CVU didn’t win outright.

With the 5-0 home shutout of the Hilltoppers, the Redhawks’ match up at Colchester this Wednesday, Oct. 12, at 7 p.m. looms even larger with Clamps undefeated and a 7-0 record unabated by any ties.

But before that, the Redhawks will need to get past Mount Mansfield (6-1-1) this coming Saturday, Oct. 8, at 12:30 p.m. at CVU. They already defeated Mount Mansfield in an away game to give the Cougars its loan loss of the season.

In Monday’s game, junior Chlo Pecor gushed St. Johnsbury Academy for an amazing four goals to effectively seal the win, but Lily O’Brien, also a junior, contributed as well with a goal of her own.

CVU 4, Burlington 1
By the second half, the Redhawks had gotten over any intimidation about playing on the road at Burlington High School on Saturday, Oct. 1, putting up a win 4-1.

Saturday’s game was a nail-biter up until halftime, with the Redhawks and the Hilltoppers, the Redhawks’ matchup at Burlington High School on Sept. 23.

Williams called the win over the Wolves “a tremendous high school soccer game.”

He had high praise for this team’s play, especially in the second half and the overtime. “I’m so impressed with their relentless play and resilience. I have never seen a game tied at the final second like this one,” Williams said.

As the final seconds of regulation ticked down, Klein made a huge hustle to keep the ball in the Redhawks’ possession and fed it to Pecor. Pecor drove hard to 18 yards out where she was dragged down with 2 seconds remaining.

This resulted in a CVU penalty kick, which Pecor drove home to force overtime.

The Redhawks continued to press in overtime. Stella Dooley was awarded a free kick which the passed to Klein, who knocked it home for the win.

“It was a great team win, and the kind of game that you will never forget,” the coach said.

Football
CVU 5, Hartford 19
For three quarters, the Redhawks’ football game against Hartford High was a great gridiron contest — for a viewer who didn’t have strong loyalty for either team.

For most of the game, it was an exciting back-and-forth affair with Champlain Valley getting ahead and then Hartford storming back to keep it close.

It wasn’t until the fourth quarter that the Redhawks took a decisive lead. Coach Rahn Fleming said it was the kind of game that will age a football coach.

“I started the game at 63. I’m pretty sure I finished it at 70 or so,” Fleming said. “But a win, even a close win, is like the Fountain of Youth. It brings back the energy.”

The game started slowly with the Redhawks getting a touchdown to take the lead, but Hartford responded with a TD of its own. CVU retained a 3-6 lead off the Hurricanes’ missed extra point. This is where the score stood when the first quarter ended and for most of the second quarter.

The second quarter was another defensive struggle, until just before the half, when backup junior quarterback Ollie CHeer connected with Alex Provost, who worked his special brand of magic to make two defenders miss and find the endzone.

Provost’s performance on that play is typical of how he plays. Fleming said, “He runs precise routes. He would battle anybody for the ball and come down with it.”

Whatever sense of confidence CVU might have felt, coming out of the break with a 14-6 lead, was immediately challenged as the Hurricanes started the third quarter with an opening kickoff return to pull back within a point.

“Our guys showed a terrific amount of character in the face of the kind of letdown and disappointment that giving away an opening touchdown on the kickoff can bring,” the coach said. “That was a backbreaking play that did not break their backs.”

The CVU squad’s numbers are so few that giving away the game is not an option. Fleming compared the two players’ instinctive knowledge of what the other is going to do to Tom Brady and Rob Gronkowski.

“You can’t teach it,” said Fleming. “Max always knows almost exactly where Alex is going to be, and Alex knows within a yard or two where Max is going to throw the ball.”

So, in two plays the two longtime teammates, both seniors, had gone 70 yards to the end zone.

Shortly after, CVU was marching to the goal, but was stopped by a penalty. The extra 5 yards it made it too long to go for it on fourth down, so junior kicker Aidan Morris came on for a field goal attempt. Morris’ kick was true, giving the Redhawks a 12-point lead and the coach a chance to breathe a little easier in the contest’s closing minutes.
The perfect blend of luxury & New England charm

488 GUINEA ROAD | CHARLOTTE, VT

This Charlotte estate is nestled on 20 acres of sprawling countryside. Upon entering, the wood-inlaid compass rose in the formal front hall points you to true north and guides you to multiple living areas. Exquisite details can be found throughout with beautiful Brazilian cherry flooring, Cavendish Marble, Sapele wood, beautiful millwork, and numerous built-ins just to name a few. Whether enjoying sun-filled days in the sunroom boasting three walls of European style windows or enjoying sunset views off the back deck this home is one not to miss. The kitchen is perfect for the chef in your household with custom center island and high-end appliances with easy breakfast nook that leads out to expansive deck with outdoor fireplace, pizza oven and grill. The pièce de résistance is without a doubt the 1000 sf den that is distinguished by the large trusses and Sapele-trimmed ceiling. This room also includes a gorgeous stone topped wet bar, private bath, and hidden cupula (just look up). A heated three car garage is perfect in the winter. In addition to the main house, there is also a separate carriage barn with two heated bays and finished living space above with a bathroom. A gazebo with views of Camel’s Hump, extensive gardens and granite cobblestones lines the driveway. No detail has been overlooked in this stunning property.

MLS#4914979

Education

Charlotte Central School: ‘The heart of the community’

Naomi Stroud
(Condensed by Tom Scatchard)

Charlotte Central School recently held its 2022-2023 school year Open House for the community. Many families and caregivers participated in the event and were able to connect with the various educational teams.

One guest said the school “feels like the heart of our community, and the children are our hope for the future.” That sentiment will be a mantra to sustain the school community this year.

Throughout the school there have been many displays of learning. From curious to concept maps; perception seals to graphing and reading strategies; from identifying examples of direct and indirect characterization in a novel to identifying cell parts and function — and even a unit on failure and success. In addition to the learning, Charlotte Central School students dressed up and smiled brightly for picture day, and families began to trickle in for parent conferences.

Earlier in September the school practiced a fire drill, and the entire school was masterful at listening to directions and learning what to do if a fire alarm goes off in school. October is Fire Safety Month and Charlotte Central School will be working with the local fire department to provide additional learning for staying safe at school and home.

Additional routines, such as bus safety and securing the building in a lockdown will be practiced in the coming weeks. Whenever possible, the practices are announced ahead of time to teachers, and instruction is given to students in a manner that is developmentally appropriate.

Students have recently participated in bus evacuation drills. Dianna Fletcher, Charlotte Central School lead bus driver, led each class through the drill and discussed the importance of safety with them. Students will also review universal expectations for behavior on buses, including the ways in which they take care of themselves, others and place while on the bus.

The first lockdown drill of the year was also held recently. During the drill, teachers led students through developmentally appropriate conversations about what it means to stay safe during one of these drills. The intention was for the experience to be a low-pressure learning opportunity, and every classroom did an excellent job following directions.

Basketball coaches needed

Charlotte Central School has open positions for the upcoming basketball season. The Girls B Team (6th-8th grade) and the Boys B Team (6th-8th grade) have coaching vacancies. The season officially begins Nov. 14 and runs through the middle of February.

Charlotte Central School hopes to find enthusiastic coaches who are willing to teach and guide middle schoolers into becoming better basketball players, as well as teaching life skills of being part of a team.

Anyone interested in the position can contact athletic director Nicky Eldron Nehltoner at cvsdvt.org.

Environment

Free weatherization supplies to keep Charlotters warm this winter

Marissa Green
Charlotte Weatherization Project

The Charlotte Energy Committee is continuing the Charlotte Weatherization Project this year to connect low-to moderate income Charlotters with no-cost weatherization materials and energy efficiency programs designed to help reduce their home’s energy consumption.

High energy bills make life more difficult. For some families, heating costs make it hard to meet their basic needs such as food, housing, and child care; that is why access to weatherization can make a big difference for some of Charlotte’s families. Did you know weatherization reduces energy consumption by 15 to 30 percent on average?

It is good for your wallet and good for the planet. It’s a win-win! Sealing up your home for the winter saves you money, conserves energy, improves your indoor environment and supports community resilience.

The Charlotte Weatherization Project is offering the following materials at no charge: plastic window insulation, rubber window seals, door sweeps, threshold rubber seals, pipe insulation, outlet and light switch cover gaskets, foam, caulk and low-flow shower heads. It also has application guns for caulk and foam available to borrow. More materials are available, just ask for what you need.

Supplies are easy to order by emailing Marissa at CharlotteWeatherization@gmail.com. Due to the pandemic, we are offering free contact-less drop off of materials right to your door. If you are interested in taking your home to the next level this winter, please check out these resources:

• The Charlotte Library has a thermal camera you can borrow to find enthusiastic coaches who are willing to teach and guide middle schoolers into becoming better basketball players, as well as teaching life skills of being part of a team.

• Button Up Vermont offers free home energy consultations to identify areas where your home is losing energy and learn how you can seal up and save money. Sign up at buttonupvermont.org/visit or by calling 888-921-5990.

• Efficiency Vermont (efficiencyvermont.com) offers a multitude of home energy efficiency programs, rebates and instructional videos.

The Charlotte Weatherization Project is supported by a grant to the Charlotte Energy Committee from the Vermont Council on Rural Development’s Climate Catalysts Innovation Fund to supply local families in need with materials to button up this winter.
Outdoors

True natives to the rescue

Elizabeth Bassett
Contributor

I consider myself fairly tuned in to the natural world and its vulnerabilities. So, I was surprised recently when I learned some disconcerting facts from Heather McCargo, founder of the Wild Seed Project, when she spoke about native plants at Philo Ridge Farm.

Consider the many pollinator gardens in our community, both public and private. Thoughtful gardeners have installed native gardens to support species diversity and pollinators. But it’s possible that some of these projects may not be supporting the birds, bees, butterflies and native plants they are intended to help. Here’s the story.

Native plants and animals have co-evolved over time to provide for one another’s needs: plants feed insects and birds in exchange for pollination and seed distribution. With wind, bird or insect at work, plants are cross-fertilized. Their offspring can develop new characteristics including responses to stresses like heat, drought, excessive rain, cold or pollution. As native plants evolve, this genetic diversity is an asset and is a species’ resiliency. The nursery industry has developed its stock, some derived from natives, for consistency and reliability. Garden plants are better behaved than their wild cousins; they flower longer, may have bigger and more colorful blooms, and generally don’t spread uncontrollably. Yet, swaths of identical plants lack resiliency and may not be feeding our pollinators.

McCargo cited a researcher who measured the nectar produced by two native plants, great blue lobelia and cardinal flower. Each day the PhD student used a syringe to extract and weigh this nutritious food for hummingbirds, whose long, thin beaks are a perfect match for the shape of these blossoms. She also measured nectar from a hybrid cross of the two plants. The hybrid produced only 10 percent of the nectar of the native species.

“The well-intentioned flowers are literally starving the hummingbirds,” McCargo said, “since the birds are having to work just as hard or harder to find a fraction of the nectar in the hybrids.”

How do we know what we are putting in our gardens? Start by reading labels. Cultivars are human-manipulated species, generally identified by single quotations after the species name, such as Echinacea purpurea ‘Magnus,’ “Magnus” being generally identified by single quotations after the species name, such as Echinacea purpurea ‘Magnus,’ “Magnus” being a cultivar of the native purple coneflower.

Agriculture

Field day for farmers in Franklin

Susan Brouillette
University of Vermont Extension

A field day will be held on Oct. 20 at the Rolland Farm in Franklin for farmers interested in hearing the latest about soil health, cover crops and related topics.

The University of Vermont Extension Northwest Crops and Soils Program is hosting the 2022 fall farm meeting in collaboration with the Franklin Grand Isle Farmer’s Watershed Association and Friends of Northern Lake Champlain. It will run from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., followed by a free lunch and tour of Due North Vineyards, also in Franklin.

The agenda includes project updates from the three host organizations along with discussions on corn harvesting, planting cover crops, grassland manure injection, precision sustainable agriculture and the state of soil health in Vermont. Farmers will receive an update on Lake Carmi and hear from several state agencies about their programs.

Registration and lunch are free but preregistration is required by Oct. 18 at 2022fallfarmmeeting.eventbrite.com. Certified crop adviser, water quality and custom applicator credits will be available. To request a disability-related accommodation to participate, contact Susan Brouillette at 802-524-6501, ext. 432, no later than today, Oct. 6.
A new series. So far, there’s nothing close. The last season is finished and I’m trolling for willing to wade with them through their invested and engaged in their stories and it (most have, it’s been out for a while) that been telling people who have not yet seen Netflix series “Ozark.” It is (though dark had I not gotten myself immersed in the kitchen and tennis is not happening. But I dogs are leaving footprints all over the here, but today, not even a little bit. The rain is dripping on the picnic table

Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

These hybrids or clones are readily available to gardeners:

- Is it enough to shop at a local, reputable and perhaps organic nursery or plant store?
- Not always. Gardeners must understand labels and thus the characteristics of their purchases. Where can one source true native plants or seeds for our region?
- Both Wild Seed Project, a non-profit based in Maine, and Northeast Pollinator in Fairfax, Vt., encourage us to re-wild, introducing true natives to our landscapes. Both websites, northeastpollinator.com and wildseedproject.net, are excellent sources of instruction, research articles, staff writings and links to publications. Wild Seed sells ethically sourced seeds and Northeast Pollinator sells plants both by mail and at their garden in Fairfax. Two Wild Seed Project buckets inform and encourage home gardeners: Native Groundcovers for Northeast Landscape and Native Trees for Northeast Landscape, both for sale on the websites.
- Given that lawn mowing using gasoline power is polluting and prevents existing native plants from setting seed, transitioning even a small patch of lawn to native plants is a win-win. Natives don’t need or like rich soil so planting on former lawn — there are instructions on the websites for how best to get rid of same — will likely make for happier natives than converting a garden that has been nurtured and enriched over the years. As with any planting endeavor, the better the soil preparation, the more successful the planting will be.


Begin planning now for next spring. Reading both of these websites is a great indoor activity on cold gray days. Sowing seeds at home is a late-fall project. Small plastic or clay pots will remain outdoors all winter subject to the same freeze and thaw cycles that will pertain once the natives are planted in the earth. The seeds will germinate in spring and should spend the summer being watered regularly but not transplanted until fertilized. Only in the cooler days of next fall, when rain is more likely, are individual plants put into suitable ground. Each and every one of us, even those with only a window box or container garden, can make a difference to pollinators, whose labors are necessary for everything we eat. Start by reading and getting inspired. Both websites are rich and generous resources for home gardeners. Happy planning!
Enjoy autumn’s bounty with seasonal recipes

French Apple Cake
(from 277 Milk Street)

Edited for space
8 Tbsp. salted butter (plus more for pan)
1/4 teaspoon ground allspice
1 1/2 pounds Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored, cut into 1/4” slices
1 pound Bruehlin or golden delicious apples peeled, cored and cut into 1/4” slices
3/4 cup sugar, divided
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
2 tablespoons apple brandy or Calvados (I used Nick’s Dead Bird Brandy)
2 1/2 cup all-purpose flour, more for pan
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon ground allspice

Heat oven to 375 degrees. Coat a 9-inch baking pan with butter; dust with flour.

To 1 lb. skillet, brown butter by swirling for 1-3 minutes. Pour into small bowl and add allspice. In same skillet, add apples, sugar and salt. Cook stirring till moisture has evaporated (12-15 minutes). Add brandy, cook for 30-60 seconds. Transfer to plate to cool and refrigerate 15-20 minutes.

In large bowl whisk eggs, vanilla, 9 tablespoons sugar. Gradually whisk in browned butter. Combine all with flour and baking powder. Add the cooled apples and fold until evenly coated. Transfer to prepared pan. After spreading sprinkle with remaining sugar.

Bake until deeply browned, 35-40 minutes. Let cool completely before slicing. About 2 hours.

Enjoy Vermont’s famous autumn colors and abundance.

Calendar of Events

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collinbranley@lakefrontpainting.com | www.LakeFrontPainting.com

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French Apple Cake

8 Tbsp. salted butter (plus more for pan)
1/4 teaspoon ground allspice
1 1/2 pounds Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored, cut into 1/4” slices
1 pound Bruehlin or golden delicious apples peeled, cored and cut into 1/4” slices
3/4 cup sugar, divided
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
2 tablespoons apple brandy or Calvados (I used Nick’s Dead Bird Brandy)
2 1/2 cup all-purpose flour, more for pan
1 teaspoon baking powder
2 large eggs
2 teaspoons vanilla extract

Heat oven to 375 degrees. Coat a 9-inch baking pan with butter; dust with flour.

To 1 lb. skillet, brown butter by swirling for 1-3 minutes. Pour into small bowl and add allspice. In same skillet, add apples, sugar and salt. Cook stirring till moisture has evaporated (12-15 minutes). Add brandy, cook for 30-60 seconds. Transfer to plate to cool and refrigerate 15-20 minutes.

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Calendar of Events

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Join the post-pandemic library re-opening celebration

Due to pandemic concerns, our library re-opening dedication was put on hold. Two and a half years after we opened our new library space, we can finally celebrate. Please join us Saturday, Oct. 8, from 2-4 p.m. for library tours and seasonal refreshments. All ages welcome.

We are also delighted to join in Charlotte Halloween festivities yet again. Stop by the library porch to admire the pumpkin display on the town green and to pick up a treat or two on Monday, Oct. 31, from 5-7 p.m.

Book chat on the porch
Wednesdays, 3 p.m.
Meet on the library porch 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. Please check library calendar for dates.

Short story selections
First and Third Thursdays, 3 p.m.
Join Library Director Margaret Woodruff 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. We meet the first and third Thursdays of each month. Co-sponsored by the Charlotte Senior Center.

Book chat
Fridays, 9:30 a.m.

Children and family programs
Preschool story time
Tuesdays, 10 a.m.
Come to the Charlotte Library for preschool stories, crafts and activities. No registration required. Ages 2 and over.

Kindergarten-first grade story time
Tuesdays, 3 p.m.
Please call the Charlotte Library to register for this event.

Preschool free play
Wednesdays, 10 a.m.
Play in the preschool area enables children to explore and make sense of the world around them, as well as to use and develop their imagination and creativity. Exploring the sensory table, sorting, playing with blocks and play dough are a few of the open-ended projects planned for Monday morning play-based learning on the Charlotte Library porch. Ages 3 and 4.

Adult Programs
Stillwater Meditation
Saturdays, Oct. 1-Nov. 19, 9 a.m.
Gather together for eight weeks this fall as the light changes to explore poetry and meditation as sacred community. Respect for all beings and faiths is a foundational quality of this time together. Beginning and experienced meditators are welcome. Come to one, many, or all meetings. Free.

Repair Cafe at the Charlotte Congregational Church
Saturday, Oct. 8, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Get your broken stuff fixed. Sustainable Charlotte, the Charlotte Library and the Grange will be hosting the next Repair Cafe at the Charlotte Congregational Church Vestry. Register at sustainablecharlottevt.org/events/repair-cafe.

Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Wednesday, Oct. 12, 1 p.m.
Back by popular demand. You will not want to miss this presentation if you or someone you know is experiencing vision loss. Join Dan Norris, director of adult services at the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, for this hour-long interactive presentation. Dan will share the variety of large-print, digital and audio resources that are available to help you to access print and how you can access these resources through smart devices like an iPad or smart phone. Less high tech solutions include large-print books and audiobooks that can be obtained through a branch of the state library system by way of your local library. This nonprofit organization that can also help you to get magnifiers or teach you how to use smart devices to access print.

Wednesday, Oct. 12, 7 p.m.
Film showing and discussion: "Migration"
Experience the arduous journey Dukha reindeer herders embark on each year traveling through Mongolia’s pristine wilderness to reach their summer encampment. Join director Kate Carey for a conversation about her filmmaking after the showing. “To the Dukhas of Mongolia, reindeer are the core of their existence. They are ridden, packed with goods, milked and, when needed, honored and sacrificed for food,” said Ruth Swemmerf of Sustainable Charlotte, who is co-sponsor of this event. Registration is required and here it is: bit.ly/3BtebDj.

One-on-one tech help sessions
Thursdays, Oct. 13, 20, 1-2:30 p.m.

One-on-one tech help sessions
Thursdays, Oct. 13, 20, 1-2:30 p.m.
Email: news@thecharlottenews.org
Reach your friends and neighbors for only $2.95 per issue. (Payment must be sent before issue date.) Please limit your ad to 35 words or fewer and send it to The Charlotte News Classifieds, P.O. Box 251, Charlotte, VT 05445 or email ads@thecharlottenews.org.
October is a full month with hikes scheduled, a birding trip and the return of the AARP Safe Drivers program. There are several language, exercise and painting classes along with a new ukulele class. There will also be an interactive presentation by the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, for this hour-long interactive presentation. Dan will share the variety of large print, digital and audio resources that are available to help access print and how to access these resources through smart phones, like an iPhone or smartphone. No cost but register by Tuesday, Oct. 11.

Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Wednesday, Oct. 12, 1 p.m.
Back by popular demand. You will not want to miss this presentation if you or someone you love is experiencing vision loss. Join Dan Norris, director of adult services at the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, for this hour-long interactive presentation. Dan will share the variety of large print, digital and audio resources that are available to help access print and how to access these resources through smart phones, like an iPhone or smartphone. No cost but register by Tuesday, Oct. 11.

Niquette Bay State Park
Wednesday, Oct. 12
Join Mike Yantachka for this fall hike and enjoy all the vibrant colors of autumn. This trail is a 2.4-mile loop, with good views of Lake Champlain. Bring water and a snack. Meet at the senior center at 8:45 a.m. This trail is a 2.4-mile loop, and enjoy all the vibrant colors of autumn.

Dragoon Vermont
Wednesday, Oct. 19, 1 p.m.
In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness month, join Dragonheart Vermont’s executive director Nina Akinson and board chair Pat King for an overview of the Lake Champlain Dragon Boat Festival, benefiting local cancer survivors. They will share stories from the Club Crew World Championships, and what it is like to compete representing Dragonheart Vermont and the United States. No cost but register by Tuesday, Oct. 18.

Birding expedition
Wednesday, Oct. 19, 9:00 a.m. departure.
Please meet at the center 10 minutes prior to the 9 a.m. departure to carpool to the location for bird-watching with Hank Kaestner. Group size is limited. To register for the birding trip, email csc@charlotteseniorcenter.org or call 802-425-6345. No cost but registration is required.

New Classes and Programs
AARP Smart Driver course
Wednesday, Oct. 19, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
The AARP Smart Driver course is designed for drivers age 50 and older, will help with refreshing driving skills, and may even help save money on auto insurance. Members can take the course at a discounted rate. Please plan to bring lunch. Register early as class size is limited to 15. Checks should be made out to AARP. The cost is $25 or $20 for AARP members. Register by Monday, Oct. 17.

Coffee & Canvas - autumn inspiration
Friday, Oct. 21, 10:30 a.m.-noon.
Unlike traditional paint and sip, Coffee & Canvas will allow for exploring and creating a unique painting. But don’t worry — there will be plenty of autumn inspiration from landscapes to still life objects from nature. No prior painting experience needed. All materials are included. The cost is $25. Register by Wednesday, Oct. 19.

Meditation
Friday, Fridays, 8-9 a.m.
Mediation is an easy-to-learn practice that reduces anxiety, stress, pain and depression. Charlie Nardozzi will lead the class in techniques to quiet the body and mind by doing simple breathing exercises and a seated, eyes-closed guided meditation. All are welcome, no experience necessary. The cost is $10/class. No registration required.

Italian for Total Beginners
Fridays, 10-11 a.m., Oct. 21-Nov. 18
Dreaming of traveling to Italy and ordering a morning cappuccino in a sun-drenched piazza? Interested in learning Italian but have never tried? This class is for you. Now is the time to begin your study of Italian with instructor Nicole Librandi. The cost for the five-week class is $50. Register by Friday, Oct. 14.

Ukeule
Fridays, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, 11, Dec. 2 and 9, 1-2 p.m.
Interested in learning to play the ukulele? Ukuleles are easy to learn, even if you have no musical background. This group is for anyone who already plays and just wants to play in a group, as well as beginners interested in learning. Join John Creech for this fun and easy-going ukulele class on Friday afternoons at the senior center. Bring a ukulele, along with an electronic clip-on tuner, and the curiosity for learning something new. If there is interest, there will be a performance at the end of this 6-week class. The cost for the six-week class is $75. Register by Friday, Oct. 14.

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.

October and pumpkins inspire the poet and chef in us
Susan Ohranian
Contributor
I’m so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers. — Anne of Green Gables, L. M. Montgomery
If you’re a fan of Sandra Boynton’s calendars, you’ll know that October is filled with remarkable days, starting with National Homemade Cookies Day and ending with Magic Day (also known as Halloween). Monday, Oct. 17, happens to be “Wear Something Guindy Day,” but you are welcome to wear your Charlotte Senior Center wearing whatever you like.
On Monday, Oct. 31, children from the Charlotte Children’s Center will show off their Halloween finery, and we suspect some adults will, too.
October is, of course, pumpkin month, and from John Greenleaf Whittier to David McCord, poets love pumpkins. Cooks love pumpkins, too. From Julia Child’s Aunt Helen’s fluffy pumpkin pie to Gordon Ramsay’s pumpkin risotto to Chef John’s pumpkin pancakes to the Charlotte Senior Center’s celebrated pumpkin squares, pumpkin offers great variety.
Nutritionists are also fans of pumpkin. The orange color tells us that pumpkins are filled with the antioxidant beta-carotene, which converts in our bodies to Vitamin A. Pumpkins are also high in fiber, potassium and Vitamin C.
There isn’t room to list all the famous singers who have offered a memorable version of “Autumn Leaves,” but none can top Nat King Cole. Enjoy the song here: youtube.com/watch?v=3giP3o9p6HUQ and come enjoy a meal at the Charlotte Senior Center.

Monday Munch
Oct. 10, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., or until the food is gone
Fall harvest soup, green salad, oatmeal carameltas. Register for Thursday Grub & Go Meal: Call or email: 802-425-6345 or kerriepughe@charlotteseniorcenter.org.

Thursday, Oct. 13 7-9 a.m.
Men’s breakfast
Check the Charlotte Senior Center website for the program at charlotteseniorcenter.org.

Grub & Go Meal, Pick up: 10-11 a.m.
Mexican feast with frosted pumpkin squares.

November, December
Katie Franko participates in a Coffee & Canvas painting workshop.

Write Ingredients
Carrots, wheat bread with butter, strawberry shortcake with cream and milk. Registration required by the prior Monday. Thursday meals are provided by Age Well at no cost but they appreciate donations.

Monday Munch
Oct. 17, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., or until the food is gone
Mexican feast with frosted pumpkin squares.

Tuesday, Oct. 20
Grub & Go Meal, pick up: 10-11 a.m.
Pork cutlet, brown gravy, mashed potatoes, diced beets, mini wheat hamburger roll with butter, watermelon and milk. Registration required by the prior Monday. Please remember that from baking pies to washing dishes to handing out all those Grub & Go meals, a lot of volunteer work goes into providing food at the Charlotte Senior Center. Please share your time and talents with others in a place filled with laughter and good cheer.
Calendar of Events

Open house at Charlotte fire station
Sunday, Oct. 9, 2-4 p.m.

The Charlotte Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service opens its doors to the community. There will be discussions on home safety, smoke detectors and fire extinguishers, and activities for kids. Meet the members, see the trucks and equipment, and visit the table of baked goods.

Future classes, see citymarket.coop/calendar.

Olmsted and America's urban parks
Wednesday, Oct. 19, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Eight-part series, exploring the roles of design and beauty. This film is about landscape designer Frederick Law Olmsted may also be screened from home on the same day at adfilmseries.org. Movie is free, and is introduced by Greg De Vries of Charlotte's Heritage Landscapes. For more info, see adfilmseries.org.

Find more events on our website charlottenewsvt.org/category/local-events