

The Charlotte News

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It's back — Charlotte Tractor Parade

Scooter MacMillan
Editor

After a couple of years' hiatus, the Charlotte Tractor Parade returns 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 13.

The parade route is the same loop that was used when the parade was last held two years ago. The parade itself will be 1-1:30 p.m.

Those driving tractors in the parade will meet beforehand at Green Mountain Hay, just south of the intersection of Hinesburg Road and Spear Street, for a private farmers' appreciation lunch. When the parade starts, they will drive north on Spear Street to the intersection and head east on Hinesburg Road to Bean Road, where they will head south. At Prindle Road, the tractor drivers will head west back to Spear Street, then back north to the starting point.

This was the route that was planned for last year, but that parade was canceled because of heavy rain. It rained that weekend for a couple of days. Since the field where cars would have parked was already saturated from a summer of excessive rain, Carrie Spear said she called it off, worried about vehicles getting stuck and damage to that farm.

The parade was not held in 2022 because Spear took a year off to regroup after it had gotten so large.

She was joined in making a presentation to the selectboard at its Sept. 23 meeting by Terra Heilenbach, who Spear expects will take over the parade that she has — please pardon the expression — spearheaded for over 20 years and shepherded into becoming one of the most anticipated events on the Charlotte calendar.

Spear said in the parade's most recent incarnations they have had 60-80 tractors and drawn thousands of spectators.

Although the parade hasn't been held for two years, she said it didn't go away. The parade remained "in spirit because the subject never goes away."

Heilenbach called a few months ago, introduced herself and asked if the parade was going to happen. Spear said it would, if Heilenbach helped, and she agreed to.

"We're friends now," Spear said. She expects Heilenbach will take the parade over in the future and "take it to a new level, which is really 'a rush.'"

In her application asking for selectboard approval of the event, Spear had asked to have Spear Street closed from Prindle Road to the Hinesburg Road-Spear Street intersection 1-1:30 p.m. during the parade, but when chair Jim Faulkner expressed concerns about this, she said it didn't need to be closed.

The organizers expect there will be seven vendors or caterers at the parade. The center of activities will move south from the area of the intersection to Green Mountain Hay at 3278 Spear Street. There is a field behind the barnyard that has been dubbed the Field of Fun where primary non-parade festivities



The Charlotte News file photo

Paul Bourgeois of Pantown Road in Vergennes rides his tractor in the beginning of the Charlotte Tractor Parade in 2020. The center of activities has shifted north from the intersection of Spear Street and Hinesburg Road to a field at Green Mountain Hay at 3278 Spear Street.

will be held.

Spear recommends bringing chairs or blankets, but no pets. Handicapped and senior-citizen parking will be just north of the Field of Fun, and able-bodied spectator

parking is across Spear Street from Green Mountain Hay.

"It's just a day to relax and watch tractors come and go. And play in a big field," she said.

"It's just a day to relax and watch tractors come and go. And play in a big field,"

— Carrie Spear

A roadmap for voting in the 2024 election

Julia Streger
Contributor

Voting might feel like a daunting endeavor, especially for the first time. However, it is a relatively straightforward process. The following will offer step-by-step directions on how to cast an empowered vote in Charlotte.

How do I register to vote?

If you are 18 years of age or older, a United States citizen and a resident of Vermont, you are eligible to vote on Tuesday, Nov 5.

Registering to vote can be done online, by mail or in person. Vermont also offers same-day voter registration. If registering online or by mail, you must provide an acceptable form of ID. Registering in person is done at the Charlotte Town Clerk's office. Contact

VOTING continued on page 3

Future of proposed senior center crosswalk looks bright

Scooter MacMillan
Editor

Much of the talk at selectboard meetings is about town expenses and where funds will come from, but the Monday, Sept. 23, began with news of a different sort, news of something that wasn't going to cost the town anything — a crosswalk across Ferry Road from the senior center to the front of the post office.

Moe Harvey stood up during the public comments to say that he had talked with Steve Mack, owner of M T Line Striping, and they will work together to put in the crosswalk for free.

Harvey said he had heard the previous selectboard meeting

CROSSWALK continued on page 3

Clemmons Family Farm gets \$130K grant

Clemmons Family Farm
Contributed

Clemmons Family Farm is one of 112 organizations nationwide selected to receive an ArtsHERE grant of \$130,000 as part of a new program from the National Endowment for the Arts.

The grant comes in partnership with South Arts. Founded in 1975 to build on the South's unique heritage and enhance the public value of the arts, South Arts is one of six U.S. regional nonprofit arts service organizations working to increase access to creativity for all Americans.

The 112 organizations are recommended for non-matching grants of \$65,000 to \$130,000, totaling more than \$12.3 million. The grants support projects that will strengthen the organizations' capacity to sustain meaningful community engagement and increase arts participation for underserved groups and communities.

More than 4,000 organizations applied for ArtsHERE funding in late 2023 and early 2024. Applications were reviewed by multiple review panels based on criteria, including the applicant's organizational capacity and their capacity-building project, alignment with ArtsHERE's commitment to equity and engagement with historically underserved communities.

"Everyone should be able to live an artful life, and ArtsHERE is an important step in ensuring we are strengthening our nation's arts ecosystem to make this a reality," said Maria Rosario Jackson, chair of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Historically underserved groups and communities, whose opportunities to experience the arts have been limited by factors such as geography, race, ethnicity, economics or disability, frequently report lower rates of participation in arts activities than other groups do. ArtsHERE aims to address disparities in arts participation through grants that help organizations better



Photo by Brett Simison

Ethnomusicologist Damascus Kafumbe, a professor of music at Middlebury College, gives a music presentation at the Clemmons Farm.

serve and reach their communities.

In 2023, Clemmons Family Farm, a Vermont 501c3 nonprofit organization, purchased the historic 138-acre Clemmons Farm in Charlotte and began improving venues on the farm for artist studios, residencies, retreats, workshops, arts and culture programs. The grant will support overall marketing research, strategies and promotion of the Clemmons Farm to artists and scholars, who are on faculty at New England universities and who have expertise in African diaspora cultures and art, to use their sabbatical time for residence, retreats and workshops at the farm.

"This partnership supports the third prong of our organizational mission, which is to build a loving multicultural community around African American and

African Diaspora history, arts and culture," said Rev. Co'Relous Bryant, member of the Clemmons Family Farm's board of directors.

Susie Surkamer, president and CEO of South Arts, said, "The arts are essential to the fabric of our nation and, at the heart of this necessity, are the organizations and individuals who champion them."

In addition to grant awards, ArtsHERE recipients will also participate in quarterly peer-learning workshops, monthly cohort sessions and one-on-one meetings with technical assistance coaches and field experts.

As a pilot program, ArtsHERE will be documented and evaluated by the NEA to better understand the project activities supported by this program and how grantees approached the work. These insights may inform the future of ArtsHERE and similar funding programs in the future.

Clemmons Family Farm and the other selected organizations will receive funding to support their projects, which will take place between October 2024 through June 2026. For more information on all of the ArtsHERE recommended grants, visit artsHERE.org.



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To engage and inform Charlotte and nearby communities by:

- Publishing rigorous, in-depth reporting on town affairs.
- Providing a home for stories from our neighbors and friends.
- Reporting on how other towns have addressed challenges similar to our own.

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

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Send submissions, questions, photos, etc. to scooter@thecharlottenews.org.

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House razing



Photo by Juliann Phelps

Junior Lewis stands on the back of his dump truck as he prepares to take down and haul away the house at 213 Ferry Road, just west of the post office. A building to house designers is planned to take its place.

NEXT PUBLICATION DATES

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Oct. 11	Oct. 25
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Letters to the Editor

Bruce Roy for Chittenden Southeast district senator

To the Editor:

Who is Bruce Roy? A fair question as Bruce asks us to elect him to be our senator from the Chittenden Southeast district.

Bruce Roy graduated from the University of Vermont with a degree in mathematics, making him uniquely qualified for serving us in Montpelier. He understands the complexity of the numbers that are discussed and how they impact our property taxes, school budgets, the numerous climate change scenarios and the potential devastating impact on many people as they heat their homes or drive their vehicles. Fortunately, he can explain those numbers to us in clear terms so we can understand the financial impact they have.

Roy has had a distinguished 30-year career with both the VT Air Guard and with IBM. In both careers he rose through the ranks by leading others in a team effort to accomplish the mission they were given, realizing it takes a team effort to achieve change and accomplish goals.

He is also the guy who you'll see in his jeans and work shirt out mowing his lawn, visiting with neighbors and enjoying sunset views with his wife and family dog.

Roy is the dad taking his daughter off to college and getting her settled. You'll see him in local businesses and eating at local restaurants.

Yes, Roy is one of us, and he had been enjoying his retirement, but his sense of duty to others has awoken again. He sees a need to help his fellow Vermonters who are struggling financially due to Montpelier's heavy-handed control over our lives with onerous taxes, fees and regulations placed upon us.

He feels to have change and make progress, we need to have two-way conversations in Montpelier, something not possible with the super-majority governance we now have. We need a seat at the table in Montpelier to exchange ideas and evaluate problems and solutions for the benefit of all Vermonters.

Vermont has become very unaffordable and that can't change if we only keep raising more revenue, meaning taxes and fees. Continuing to do the same things, electing the same people and expecting different results is not working, just ask your wallet. We need new approaches, where we can save money.

Are there old programs that need to be retired, programs which we just can't afford? We need someone to ask the questions, help craft alternatives, offer new

ideas, keep us informed, and the answer is just down the road at your neighbor Bruce Roy's. Let's give him a nice indoor job this winter in Montpelier and a return to serving his fellow Vermonters.

John Marcotte
Williston

Gratitude for Sustainable Charlotte and talented, generous community

To the Editor:

Thank you, Sustainable Charlotte and all who volunteered skills, tools and patience at Saturday's Repair Cafe.

I had to wait for my helper and that hour was a happy Charlotte moment, catching up with folks I rarely see and meeting new ones.

I departed with a functioning sewing machine and a comforting feeling that we share this community with such caring, talented and generous people.

Elizabeth Bassett
Charlotte

School board announces beginning of search for new superintendent

To the Editor:

Earlier this year, the Champlain Valley

School District board announced the hiring of Adam Bunting as interim superintendent of our district for this school year. At the same time, we announced that we would conduct a thorough search for a permanent superintendent during the 2024-25 school year that included obtaining community input.

The board is pleased to announce that we have begun the process of identifying the next permanent superintendent of our district and extend an invitation to the community to get involved in the process. The search will be facilitated by the district's director of human resources. Information about how to get involved is included on our website at cvsdvt.org. Scroll down to the headline for the Superintendent Search.

Throughout the fall and early winter, we will provide the community with periodic updates on our progress. Thank you for your continued support of our schools.

Meghan Metzler and Keith Roberts

(Metzler is chair of the Champlain Valley School District board and Roberts is chair of the board's human resources committee.)

VOTING

Continued from page 1

Town Clerk Mary Mead at 802-425-3071.

If registering for the first time, you must take the Voter's Oath, one of the Green Mountain State's little quirks.

How can I vote by mail?

Once you have registered to vote, the next step is casting your ballot.

Absentee ballots for the general election will be mailed by Oct. 1 to all active registered voters. Also, you can request an early or absentee ballot by contacting your town clerk online, by snail mail or in person. First-time or unregistered voters can register and send an absentee ballot request at the same time.

The deadline for requests is 5 p.m. on the day before Election Day and the deadline for ballot submissions is before 7 p.m. on Election Day.

If you are sick or have a disability, you may request an absentee ballot be delivered to your home on Election Day. For more information, contact the town clerk or the Vermont Secretary of State's office or visit <https://tinyurl.com/57xjhr9>.

To request an absentee ballot, see mvp.vermont.gov.

How can I vote in-person?

Charlotte's polling place is at the town hall, 159 Ferry Road. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day.

Mail-in or early voting ballots are accepted at in-person ballot drop boxes across the state. You will find the local drop box located at the front door of the Charlotte Town Hall.

Polling and ballot drop box locations are

accessible via the Green Mountain Transit bus system. Visit ridegmt.com to find more information on bus routes and schedules.

Who are the local candidates?

Charlotte belongs to the Chittenden-Southeast State Senate District. Three seats are up for election and five candidates on the ballot: incumbents Thomas Chittenden (D), Virginia Lyons (D) and Kesha Ram Hinsdale (D), as well as challengers Bruce Roy (R) and Taylor Craven (I).

For House District Chittenden-5, incumbent Chea Waters Evans (D) is uncontested.

CCTV is hosting candidate forums prior to Nov. 5, which you can access at cctv.org/general. For more candidate events, visit action-circles.com/candidate-events/#Chittenden.

(Via the Community News Service, a University of Vermont journalism internship, on assignment for The Charlotte News.)

CROSSWALK

Continued from page 1

where the crosswalk was not approved. Chair Jim Faulkner was tasked with finding out specifically how much it would cost, although he was convinced that it wasn't going to be a huge sum, and to make sure the fire department and the post office were OK with the crosswalk.

"I feel pretty strongly that the town should be doing whatever it can to help the senior center people who have to cross the street back and forth because there's not enough parking there," Harvey said.

Lori York, director of the Charlotte Senior Center, has said that they regularly have 60 people coming for lunch and various programs. Many of them, and senior center staff and volunteers, must park across the street in the town hall parking.

With Ferry Road busy with autos and big trucks, many have worried about how dangerous it is and hoped that a crosswalk would make it safer for

pedestrians.

Mack is also willing to paint the crosswalk as soon as possible. If the board approved the crosswalk that night, Harvey said, "I could probably get him to do it tomorrow."

York said she told Harvey, "Moe, you're my favorite person right now."

The board unanimously approved a motion for the installation of the crosswalk on the conditions that the town lawyer signs off on it and approval from the owner of the property where the post office is located.

This Monday, York said she had heard that the lawyer had sent a letter to the town saying that installing a crosswalk there would be fine.

On the list of York's favorite people, selectboard chair Jim Faulkner may be a close second. He has pushed for the crosswalk and has been anxious to get it approved and done.

It sounds like the crosswalk will be painted any day now. In fact, it may have gone in before this newspaper comes back from the printer.

Correction

The caption that ran with a photo of a Champlain Valley Union high football game in the Sept. 19 edition had an error. The photo was of Dylan Terricciano making an interception, not a reception.



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Environment

To Vermont faith groups, ‘climate crisis is a spiritual crisis’

Kate Kampner
Community News Service

Sam Swanson understands people can feel hopeless in preventing climate change. “You can feel the despair,” he said. “No one seems to be doing the things that need to be done.”

As a member of Vermont Interfaith Power and Light, he and colleagues are taking an approach to environmental advocacy they hope can provide a bit more hope — by looking at climate solutions through a religious and spiritual lens.

The group is a faith-based organization group that educates religious communities on the environmental movement. It provides spiritual comfort and material, like when members held an event last fall at Burlington’s Rock Point where they reflected on the recent floods through workshops and meditations for spiritual guidance. There, organization board president Ron McGarvey said, people could share in their pain — and their hope.

Faith leaders see that sense of resolve as another way to rally people to action.

“What drew me to this job is that climate change as an individual can feel overwhelming and abstract,” said Chelsea Steinauer-Scudder, the organization’s



coordinator. “This group is well equipped to look at climate change as a community.”

“Faith communities have a real power,” she said. “The climate crisis is a spiritual crisis.”

The group works with close to 90 congregations and religious organizations in Vermont and funds climate change protection and education for many of them. It can help churches pay for weatherization, heat pumps and other equipment, and in 2023 the organization gave more than 200 free energy assessments statewide.

“Faith communities in Vermont are respected voices,” McGarvey said. “They do their best to enact moral responsibility.”

In 2018, the group supported the Rev.



Photos by Liv Miller

Ascension Lutheran Church, surrounded by trees in South Burlington, has had a focus on faith-guided environmentalism.

Nancy Wright, former pastor at Ascension Lutheran Church in South Burlington, and Richard Butz, a congregant there, to co-author a pair of watershed care manuals with a religious and spiritual lens.

A grant from the New England Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church allowed the Care for Creation Committee of the church to roll out environmental education programs, like sending children in the Sunday school to the ECHO Leahy Center for Lake Champlain or working with the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum to take boat trips.

Butz found test tubes to give to families in the church and showed them how to test water near their homes. He would then look at the water and share his findings.

“All of us working with the environmental crisis are trying to phrase it as a moral and a spiritual issue,” Wright said. “We say we’re being refreshed all the time and renewed by nature and by deep spiritual practices.”

Why does Wright emphasize watershed education? “You can really see the influences of pollution, you can really talk about justice and it’s clear to people — it’s clearer than climate change,” she said.

Randy Kritkauskay is the president of Ecologia, an international nonprofit based in Middlebury that provides environmental education, spaces for discussion and initiatives for businesses, organizations and grassroots groups. He is also a member of the Potawatomi tribe. One of his biggest focuses is using Indigenous spiritual teachings to change people’s mindsets about environmentalism.

“How many times does Mother Earth need to send us a message of, ‘You can’t build right next to the creek or river and not expect Mother Nature to do what Mother Nature does,’ which is, assert her right to flow freely,” said Kritkauskay.

“It has driven home the message of Indigenous people that we need to look at Mother Nature as our co-equal and not some thing that we can dominate,” he said.

“It just doesn’t work.”

Kritkauskay said he often holds a lecture called “After the Floods,” which looks at the Potawatomi creation story to inspire people to be more reciprocal with nature. In the story, which takes place after the Earth has been flooded, a muskrat sacrifices himself to bring a clump of dirt back to the surface for his compatriots to rebuild the planet.

“Those who’ve come before us, other than human kin, have prepared a path, and the way we can respectfully engage is with reciprocity,” Kritkauskay said, explaining that people need to act selflessly to let those other species thrive.

“We all need to listen more intimately with what the natural world is telling us about how it works, not imposing our own constructs and our own assumptions,” he said. “It’s about listening, it’s about being respectful and about being humble before nature, which is our co-equal.”

Kritkauskay points to urban wilderness interfaces, a term used by the government and scientists to describe where land populated by humans and unoccupied wilderness meet. People in those zones tend to see wildfire burnings or crossovers from bears into their backyard. Kritkauskay said that as humans are negotiating with the natural world, the natural world is reoccupying it back.

“They were here before we were, and they finally figured out how to cohabit that space,” he said. “We have not, as humans, and that is what Indigenous people have learned and lived with for millennia.”

“We have just for so long felt that we dominate everything that, when we’re reminded that we don’t, it’s a shock,” he said.

Some Vermonters may want to get politically active or go to lectures to engage with the environment, but others might just want to go outside. Spirit in Nature, an interfaith sanctuary in Ripton,

Education

Open house chance for questions, observe some sports

Naomi Strada

(Summarized by Tom Scatchard)

On Tuesday, Sept. 24, Charlotte Central School held the annual open house. Educators were waiting throughout the building to greet students and parents and answer any questions.

The first few weeks of school were designed for students to become experts in their learning communities; and they were encouraged to guide their parents through their school environment. Soccer games and a track meet were a bonus so staff could cheer on their students and the community could see opportunities in which students participate.

After the open house, Charlotte Central School hosted local first responders for a training session. This exercise helped prepare local teams and mutual-aid departments with information about the school campus and the inner workings of the building. Not only did they hear about the protocols and practices in place for staff and students, but it is hoped this training will help first responders to be effective and efficient in case of an emergency.

First Lego League

The FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) LEGO League introduces science,

technology, engineering and math (STEM) to children in fourth-eighth grades through fun, hands-on learning. FIRST LEGO League participants gain real-world problem-solving experiences through a guided, global robotics program, helping students and teachers build a better future together. In FIRST LEGO League, students engage in hands-on STEM experiences, building confidence, growing their knowledge and developing learning habits.

Coaching for the FIRST LEGO League wstarted on Oct. 1. The team will practice on some Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-4:30 p.m., with the season culminating in a qualifying competition on Dec. 8 in Shelburne and a statewide competition on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025, in Essex. The Charlotte Central School team is allowed to have 20 members.

Access CVU

The fall and winter Access CVU catalog is available at cvsdvt.ce.eleyo.com. Classes are open for registration with 117 course offerings taught by 70 best-in-class and local instructors. Access CVU invites you to join our vibrant community of lifelong learners and connect with others through enrichment. Sessions are held during after-school hours at Champlain Valley Union High.

Questions about classes or to enroll via email and by phone, contact access@cvsdvt.org.



The Charlotte News file photo.

org or 802-482-7194.

Register early to reserve a spot as popular classes fill quickly.

New classes are added monthly. Join the Access CVU Newsletter and follow on Instagram @accesscvu. Be the first to know about new classes, promos and community news.

Got skills, talent, expertise and love to teach? Email access@cvsdvt.org.

Nex Trex Challenge

The Charlotte Central School student council is working with school families to collect 1,000 pounds of plastic through the Nex Trex Challenge. For those who would like to contribute plastic for this effort, contact Tom Scatchard at scatchardtom@gmail.com. This includes grocery bags, bread bags, produce bags and more. Check out the website for what is allowed nextrex.com/view/educate.

VT FAITH

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offers an array of paths to do just that by connecting nature with religion.

President Rob Slabaugh said Spirit in Nature looks at Christian, Quaker, Jewish, Indigenous and other spiritual beliefs and asks what they say about nature.

The group of volunteers takes quotes from religious texts, prints them on plywood boards and mounts those onto trees scattered across the paths. But the signs merely serve to guide, Slabaugh said, because it's nature that does the teaching.

"Humans are a part of nature. We need to start acting like that," Slabaugh said. "(The path) touches people, reminds people that we are a part of nature. We feel

that by touching people like that, we're motivating in a way that people will be more tuned in to what we need to do as humans."

He's felt that since the pandemic, more people have used the paths. They come out for events in the forested area, too, such as forest bathing — a type of therapy or meditation — yoga and poetry walks.

"It's clear that public awareness has increased over time," Slabaugh said of climate change and the movement to combat it. "I think Spirit in Nature has helped with being a supportive connection."

(Via Community News Service, a University of Vermont journalism internship.)



**Hooray!!!
Its back to
School time!**



54 FALLS ROAD | MON-FRI 10-5, SAT-SUN 10-4 | 802-985-3221

Five games down, three to go, CVU hangs on to No. 1

Scooter MacMillan
Editor

Over the last two weekends, Champlain Valley Union High has hung onto the No. 1 ranking in Division 1 football by keeping its win streak alive, going up 5-0 in the eight-game regular season.

One of the most remarkable things about the RedHawks' unbeaten streak is that it has scored on its first possession in all five games.

Champlain Valley 52, BFA-St. Albans 0

On Friday, Sept. 20, CVU traveled north to a game against Bellows Free Academy-St. Albans. After the Bobwhites received the opening kickoff and turned the ball over on downs, the Redhawks scored on their initial second down when senior Jacob Armstrong scored on a 35-yard pass from Orion Yates.

It appeared the Redhawks had stopped BFA-St. Albans after four downs on its second possession. Instead, a roughing the kicker penalty gave the Bobwhites another chance, but they couldn't capitalize.

With 5:37 left in the first quarter, senior running back Nolan Walpole took the ball in from 9 yards out to put the Redhawks ahead 14-0. With 13 seconds left in the first, Walpole scampered 36 yards to score again and give CVU the 21-0 lead it took into the second quarter.

Senior tight end George Taylor put CVU up by four touchdowns with just under 6 minutes left in the first half with a 13-yard run. Sophomore kicker Alex Jovell added 3 more on a 25-yard field goal to put the Redhawks up 31-0.

Less than two minutes into the second half, senior Billy Bates returned a kickoff 95 yards to give CVU a 38-0 advantage.

With 3:42 left in the third quarter, senior Dylan Frere snagged an interception for a pick six from the 35-yard line to make it 45-0.

Senior running back Daniel Tuiqere plowed over the goal line from the 1-yard line with 3:32 left in the game for CVU's final score in the 52-0 shutout of the Bobwhites on their home field.

Yates was pulled for most of the second half with the Redhawks dominating the

scoreboard, but that didn't mean he was pulled from the game. The sophomore quarterback stayed completely engaged in the action on the field, coaching seniors who replaced him at a position where they were less experienced. There was a level of maturity and cooperation as a team on the sidelines that should stand the Redhawks in good stead as the regular season transitions into playoff competition.

Yates said it "felt awesome" to see his teammates behind center for a change. Both Armstrong and Taylor got some time at quarterback.

Coach Rahn Fleming said that playing quarterback wasn't completely unique for the two. They played at quarterback on the junior varsity and have filled in at the position in practice on the scout team.

However, playing on the scout team is not the same as game experience, leading your own team's offense. As Fleming pointed out: "When you're playing for the scout team, you're running the other team's plays."

Sophomore D'Marcus Riggs even got some experience filling in for Yates as punter.

Special teams coach Sam Fontaine said he was pleased with how well Riggs performed under the pressure of actual game experience.

"This is a great win because, a lot of people that we don't usually get to see, we got to see play, do a lot of great things and test our depth," Fontaine said.

Champlain Valley 55, St. Johnsbury 6

The Redhawks returned to their home gridiron this past Saturday afternoon for a matchup with the St. Johnsbury Hilltoppers. Sept. 28 was the birthday of a trio of Redhawks — Bates, Armstrong and junior Dylan Terricciano — and CVU celebrated their natal anniversary in grand style.

Walpole started the festivities with a 33-yard run just over a minute into the contest, and once again the Redhawks were on the scoreboard on their first possession.

Then things turned alarming. CVU found itself in an unaccustomed position, when St. Johnsbury managed a drive that eventually resulted in a 13-yard scoring pass



Photo by Calvin Morse

Nolan Walpole gets blocking help from Stuart Allard this past Saturday, Sept. 28. Walpole finished the Redhawks' game against St. Johnsbury with 143 rushing yards and a touchdown.

from senior Carter Bunnell to junior Cole Lemieux.

Senior defensive back Lucas Almena-Lee managed to block the extra point attempt, so CVU was only up 7-6, an unfamiliar situation for the Redhawks so far this season.

Almost five minutes into the opening frame, Frere put CVU back into a more comfortable position with a 65-yard pass reception. Jovell added an extra point, and the rout was on.

Just over a minute later, Armstrong gave himself and his team a birthday present with a 30-yard pass reception to put the Redhawks up 21-6.

Armstrong unwrapped another scoring present with a pass from Yates that made the score 28-6 just over 15 seconds into the second quarter.

At the 10:22 mark, Frere returned a kick from 65 yards out. After the extra point, CVU had added to its lead to make it 35-6.

Bates took a pass for a 30-yard score to add another seven points midway into the second quarter.

Armstrong continued his birthday celebration with his third touchdown of the game on a 7-yard reception at 9:05.

After Yates bolted 60 yards to score on a quarterback keeper with 2:46 left in the third period, and Jovell had a rare extra point miss, CVU's scoring ended for the afternoon with the Redhawks ahead 55-6.

At that point, the CVU coaches were sending in lots of players who don't normally get many opportunities to have some game-day experience.

"We got everybody in, and that was by design," Fleming said, clearly pleased. Besides the pleasure of seeing some less-used players enjoy some time in a game, he reveled in the opportunity to make his team's talent deeper.

"Injuries can come any time," he said. "You don't like to say it, but you're one twisted ankle away from needing your No. 2 to be your No. 1, always, at every position."

Next up for Champlain Valley: No. 3 Middlebury Union visits Hinesburg this Saturday, Oct. 5. The starting time has been changed to 10:30 a.m.

Sports

Three generations, more than 60 years of gridiron glory

Scooter MacMillan
Editor

When the Champlain Valley Union High football team played at Bellows Free Academy-St. Albans on Friday, Sept. 20, there was at least one person in the Bobwhites' stands whose loyalties might have been divided.

Don Allard grew up in St. Albans and was part of a BFA-St. Albans team many consider one of the best high school teams in Vermont history, going undefeated in 1958 and 1959 and winning two consecutive state championships.

However, his grandson, junior Stuart Allard of Charlotte, plays linebacker and tight end for the CVU Redhawks.

After more than 60 years with deep ties to BFA-St. Albans, Don Allard said his loyalty was "kind of neutral."

Don Allard said he played on a Bobwhite team with a lot of good athletes, but one of his teammates stands out in the minds of many who remember those days — Ollie Dunlap.

Dunlap "is regarded as one of the best, if not the premier running back in the state's history, leading BFA-St. Albans to state football titles in his junior and senior years," said Dave Allard.

The 6-foot-3-inch, 215-pound halfback ran the 100-yard dash in 10 seconds flat, Don Allard said.

BFA-St. Albans' football team was coached by Bob White, whose coaching prowess is memorialized in the school's mascot. The school had a 31-game winning streak, which is pretty remarkable considering it was just a seven-game season, with no playoffs, in those days.

Old timers will tell you that this Bobwhites team "always won by 30-0 because we had the great Ollie Dunlap," Don Allard said.

His son Dave Allard said that Dunlap attracted national attention. Although his father was a great football player, he didn't get that kind of press.

Michigan State came to a St. Albans' game to scout Dunlap, Dave Allard said. They were impressed, but they also noticed a tight end named Don Allard. Michigan State decided to offer scholarships to both players.

When Don Allard was growing up, his family didn't have much money. He was the oldest of nine children, raised in what he called "a five-room shack."

The kitchen light was a bare bulb hanging from an electric cord.

When they went to Michigan State as freshmen, Don Allard traveled with Ollie Dunlap's family. His parents couldn't afford to take him back and forth, so he traveled back home by getting rides with other students who lived in the Northeast, and his parents would pick him up at their homes.

But Don Allard doesn't see his family's economic status as a drawback. "Being poor was not a negative experience. Going through that transition can be good for you, if you treat it right," he said.

Although he might have been a bit intimidated before he got to the Michigan

State campus about his lack of skills and coaching, Don Allard said he quickly got over that. He was strong and fast. He was 5 foot 10 inches, weighed 210 pounds and could clean jerk 315 pounds and bench press 335 pounds, which was pretty good in 1959 when most teams were not doing weight training.

Dunlap only lasted for one quarter at Michigan State because of academic issues, but he went on to play for minor-league professional football team the Toronto Rifles and was a member of the Washington Redskins practice squad.

"He later mentored youth and boxers in the Washington, D.C., area, including Olympic and world champion Sugar Ray Leonard," Dave Allard said. Dunlap was inducted into the Washington (D.C.) Boxing Hall of Fame and the Vermont Principals Association Hall of Fame in 2013 and was awarded a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from the U.S. Congress.

Don Allard had really good football seasons for two years at Michigan State, but in the spring season of his sophomore year, he suffered a serious neck injury.

He didn't go back to school for a couple of years, while he worked for the railroad. Don Allard said he was attracted by the allure of making some relatively good money.

He did go back to finish his degree.

Don Allard was surprised to get a letter from the Dallas Cowboys asking him to come for a tryout. Assuming they hadn't heard about his injury, he didn't go.

He returned to Vermont and took a job teaching and coaching at BFA-St. Albans. He was told him he could either be a wrestling coach or a hockey coach, two sports he had no experience in.

"I can't skate," Don Allard said, so he took the wrestling gig.

Using the skills he learned in football, but particularly aggressiveness, he coached BFA-St. Albans to four state wrestling championships.

Dave Allard also experienced some gridiron glory of his own. He went to Rice and then to Trinity College, a Division 3 school.



Courtesy photo

From left, Dave, Don and Stuart Allard. Redhawks linebacker Stuart says he is inspired by his father's and grandfather's football legacy.

"I looked at some bigger schools, but I wanted to play as a freshman," Dave Allard said.

During his four years, the Bantams only lost four games.

After college, Dave Allard tried out at an NFL combine. The original 80 athletes were cut down to 12 players, and he made the cut. When the second cut was made to four players, he didn't make it that far.

In the 1990s, with no Internet and no way to understand what opportunities were available, that was as far as he pursued professional football.

Stuart Allard didn't start playing football until his freshman year, but he caught on quickly. Playing as a linebacker and on special teams, the neophyte footballer was called up from the junior varsity in his first season for the 2022 for the

playoffs. It was a wonderful time to join the Redhawks' varsity as CVU won its first state championship.

Stuart Allard hasn't regretted the decision to take up football since. The junior would love to play in college.

"Whether it's Division 1 or Division 3, it doesn't matter to me. I just want to keep playing," he said. "I'd like to follow in the footsteps of my grandfather and my dad."

Stuart Allard said he believes he's one of the best linebackers in the state, and he would like to see his name on the Vermont All Stars' first team at the end of the season.

And, of course, win another state championship.



Rec inspect



Photo by Scooter MacMillan

From left, members of the recreation commission — Maura O’dea-Wygmans, Sy Koerner and chair Julian Phelps — and rec director Zac Farnham-Haskell stopped by the town beach restrooms on Sept. 19 to see how things looked after the new septic tank was installed. They seemed to be pleased but concerned about the condition of the roof.

Storm damage help

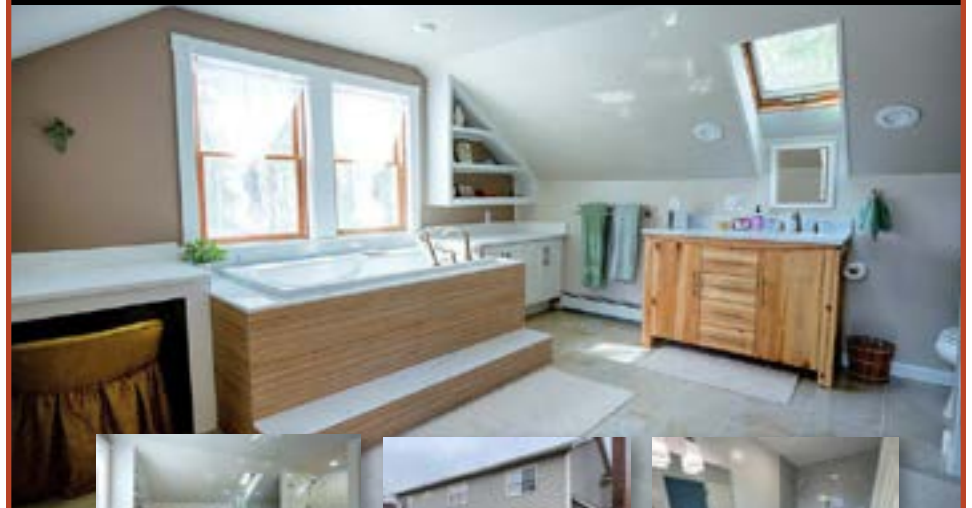


Photo by Scooter MacMillan

Stephanie, who asked that her last name not be used because she is not authorized to talk to the media, said people are steadily continuing to visit the FEMA Disaster Recovery Center in the Hinesburg Town Hall. Although the announced date for the center to close is Oct. 21, it may stay open longer, but if you suffered damage in the July 10-11 storm it would be wise not to wait. The temporary center is open every day, including Saturdays and Sundays, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., or you can call 800-621-3362. Besides getting people registered for FEMA assistance, she said they have seen people who have registered, but who have questions. Although you can get help with damage to your home, most of what they are seeing in this area is people seeking help with their driveways or private roads.



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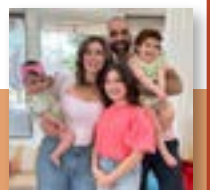


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Hi! Neighbor

Jonathan Silverman works for creativity for everyone

Phyl Newbeck
Contributor

Jonathan Silverman's passion for art is contagious. He started teaching 45 years ago and recently retired after 25 years at St. Michael's College. In 2018, he was named Vermont Art Educator of the Year. That award is usually given to elementary, middle or high school teachers, but Silverman received it for his work in training art educators who went on to teach at those levels.

Silverman got his master's degree in counseling, and for a time, he worked as a high school guidance counselor. His love of art led him to become an administrator at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. From there, he returned to the University of Vermont where he had done his undergraduate work. He received his doctorate in education, which led to a tenured position at St. Mike's where he chaired the education department and taught courses on the creative process, integrated curriculum and aesthetic-holistic learning.

Silverman has a particular interest in environmental art. He and a colleague led student trips to Wales where they looked at environmental projects with what he describes as an aesthetic lens. "It's hard for me to separate the idea of nature and art," he said.

With a student he co-wrote a paper on creating a curriculum for sustainability for Vermont's public schools.

Silverman is currently on the staff of the Shelburne Craft School. He is a ceramicist but is not currently teaching that art form.

"With ceramics I'm constantly interacting with and creating forms and space," he said.

Silverman's artistic talent goes beyond his ceramics. He sings in the local Aurora Chorus and with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra.

Although Silverman makes functional pieces, his preference is sculpture and form.

"I had a studio before I became an educator," he said. "I was a decent artist but a crappy salesperson."

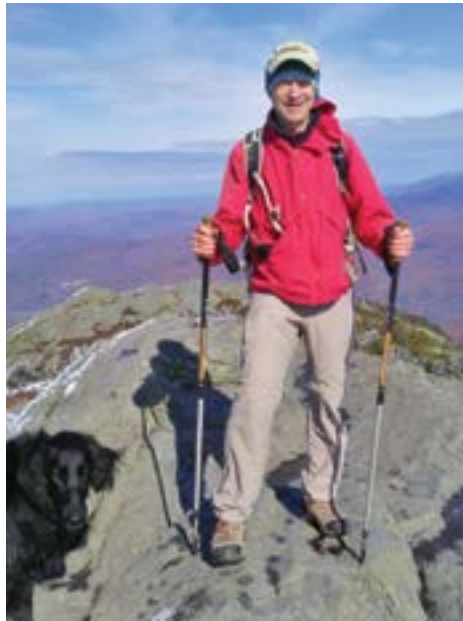
These days there is less need to worry about selling pieces to put food on the table so Silverman is happy to be able to create what he wants.

Silverman's work has an international flair. In addition to the trips to Wales, he brought his St. Michael's students to Italy and Greece. Last November, he took students from Shelburne Craft School to Japan and will do so again this year. In 2019, he was invited to be a visiting professor at Doshisha University in Kyoto.

For the last quarter century, Silverman has been a member of the International Society for Education Through Art and has enjoyed going to international conferences and meeting artists from across the globe. Laughing that his sixth-grade self with poor grades in English would have been horrified at this career move, Silverman was named co-editor of the organization's International Journal for Art Education, sharing the job with two women from Hungary and Japan.

"I love it," he said. "The goal is to make the articles accessible to an international audience where English is a second or third language."

When Silverman returned to Vermont in



Photos by Jonathan Silverman
Jonathan Silverman climbs Camel's Hump at least once a month.



Jonathan Silverman enjoys the creative process.

1991 for his doctoral program, he looked for a small house with a garden and found a home in Charlotte. For at least a decade he has been on the board of trustees of the library and has chaired the board for eight of those years.

Silverman leads tours at Shelburne Farms and walking tours in Vermont with Country Walkers. Hiking is a passion, and he summits Camel's Hump at least once a month.

"That's my meditation," he said. "I really enjoy that journey. I can be at the base in 35 minutes and home in time to work in the studio in the afternoon or connect with friends."

He has also done treks in the Pyrenees and Dolomites, and with a college buddy he has summited all 46 of the 4,000-foot peaks in the Adirondacks.

"I love being in the moment and the impromptu of teaching," Silverman said. "My challenge has always been to bring the classroom alive."

It helps that Silverman believes that everyone is capable of creativity.

"The more they explore the creative process, the more they will be able to nourish a sense of discovery and interact with life's challenges," he said.

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Our Local Feast

A few secrets of making a great apple crisp revealed

Dorothy Grover-Read
Contributor

The good news is that this year's apple harvest is abundant and delicious. Our orchards have rebounded from the sad season last year after the late frost destroyed much of the crop, and we have local apples of all flavors, sizes and colors this year. It is prime apple-picking time, wonderful weather, and we have quite a few orchards in our county from which to choose.

Much to the delight of locals as well as our fall-foliage tourists, there will be apple festivals, bake sales, apple cider donuts and cider at all the farm stands and markets and specials on our restaurant menus.

I picked apples with my grandchildren this past week. Picking is always fairly quick and easy, and before you know it, you end up with a very large sack of fruit. In fact, one can get carried away and end up with a sea of red on the kitchen counter. Pie? Muffins? Dumplings?

We've eaten a lot of these tasty fruits straight up, but apple dishes this week included applesauce for the freezer and everyone's favorite, apple crisp.

There are few desserts that start the mouthwatering as quickly as the aroma and appearance of apple crisp. The site, the smell, the texture of the crispy top. Enticing. But, there are little tricks and a few secret



Photos by Dorothy Grover-Read

Whether making apple pie, crisp or even applesauce, it's best to use a variety. A little sweet, a little tart, and you'll end up with a more well-rounded and interesting flavor.

ingredients that ensure a tasty treat.

This is really simple to make. We've added ginger here in three ways, and it is a really delightful companion to the apples. You'll use one bowl, one wooden spoon (or the bowl of your mixer), and you'll mix all the filling ingredients right in the pan. Everything is tossed in all at once, nothing could be simpler, but you will have to wait a while for it to cook.

Remember, everyone loves the crispy topping best and there's some who will swipe some of it when no one is looking, so you



Ginger Apple Crisp is always a crowd pleaser. Simple to make, but full of flavor and memories for many. Yes, the plate is shaped like an apple. Who can resist?

may have to post a guard until it cools.

Apple ginger crisp

Preheat your oven to 350 degrees.

Place the filling ingredients in a buttered 11-by-9-inch baking dish, such as a glass Pyrex you probably got from your mother and forgot to return.

About three pounds of apples, around 2 quarts, peeled, cored and sliced. (Secret No. 1: Use a mix of apples, not one variety. You'll want both sweet and tart, and all should be firm. This time around, I used gala, granny Smith, cortland and fortune. The variety of apples will make for a more complex and well-rounded apple flavor.)

1/2 cup white sugar
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon ground ginger
1/3 cup crystalized ginger, minced
1-inch knob of fresh ginger, grated
Zest of one lemon

Juice of half a lemon (a couple of tablespoons)

2 tablespoon all-purpose flour
1 tablespoon vanilla extract (Secret No.

2: Most apple crisp recipes do not include vanilla, but in my book, it is essential.)

A few cranberries if you have them on hand are optional.

1/2 teaspoon salt (Secret No. 3: The salt enhances the sweet and brings out the apple flavor.)

Mix everything together; your fingers work best here.

In the bowl of your stand mixer or a large bowl using a wooden spoon, combine the following filling ingredients:

- 1 cup of old-fashioned oats
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 3/4 cups white sugar
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- large pinch of salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 2 sticks of unsalted butter, softened.

Combine until it is a big mass resembling cookie-dough, then clump on top of the apple mixture, trying to cover most of them, but you may have a few holes and cracks. Depending on the pan you use, you could have some left over.

(Secret No. 4: The clumps of topping will create the texture you want, think little clumps of cookie dough. Many recipes call for mixing the topping until it is like coarse meal and sprinkling it over the fruit. However, your crisp might not crisp if you use that method.)

Bake at 350 degrees for about an hour to



Pink applesauce can be made quickly using an old-fashioned food mill, or with just a bit more effort, a modern food processor. Just a couple of ingredients, and it freezes well.

80 minutes, check at 50 minutes and turn in the oven for even browning. The crisp is done when the topping is lightly browned and the filling bubbling through the holes.

The difficult part of this recipe is waiting for the crisp to cool to warm before digging in. Serve as is, or with a scoop of vanilla or cinnamon ice cream.

Harvest blush apple crisp

Add a cup of finely chopped Vermont cranberries. Pretty, with blush smears and a tiny bit of tartness.

Apple rum crisp

You can also use rum instead of the vanilla extract, half apples and half pears.

Strawberry rhubarb crisp

For the filling, use 1 quart of 1/2-inch slices of rhubarb,

1 quart of strawberries, cleaned and sliced,
1/2 cup of white sugar, 1/4 cup cornstarch, a pinch of salt, zest and juice of a lemon and 2 teaspoons vanilla. This is tart. You can add a bit more sugar if you like sweeter.

The easiest pink applesauce

For this recipe, an old-fashioned, low-tech food mill works best because you won't have to peel or core the apples, the little machine will do the work for you. Plus, since you are cooking the apples in their skins, the sauce will turn pink. A food mill is worth having in the kitchen, the original food processor. They are still available in most hardware stores.


Quarter a variety of apples and cut into chunks. No need to peel and core. If you do not have a food mill, you will have to peel and core them before cooking.

You'll want about a quart and a half of cut-up apples. Place in a pot with a half cup of apple cider, or water, and a pinch of salt. Bring to a boil, cover and let steam until the apples are very tender and coming apart from their skins.


Remove from the heat and use a slotted spoon to scoop the apples into the food mill and process by turning the handle forwards a few times, then backwards once or twice. Keep filling until you've loaded all the apples. If no food mill, use a food processor or potato masher.

Add a splash of vanilla extract. If you like your applesauce tart, you are done. However, you can add a bit of sugar or honey if you want it sweeter.


This freezes beautifully.




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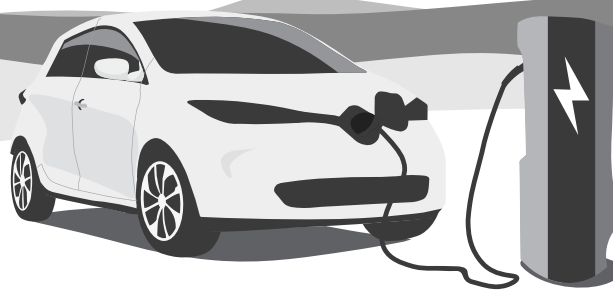
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Outdoors

September was good month for Mt. Philo raptor watching

Hank Kaestner
Contributor

Each fall, Mt. Philo attracts many migrating hawks and eagles, as they fly south for the winter. Local bird watchers have observed this phenomenon for many years.

More recently, the observation point has changed from the top parking lot overlook to the North Vista trail farther down the mountain.

“Mt. Philo is renowned as one of the best hawkwatching sites in Vermont,” according to the Mt. Philo State Park’s website at <https://tinyurl.com/e32vt9n3>. The mountain holds the state record for the largest number of migrating raptors seen in a single day (3,688). The best times for watching there are the second and third weeks of September. The website has a list of birds seen there ranked from common to rare.

Liz Lackey ran the count again this year, driving from her home in Stowe each day

from Sept. 10-21, in order to be in place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., when most raptors would be in the sky.

This year Hannah Verity, the park’s manager, took a strong interest in the birds of the park and decided to post Verity’s raptor count on the notice board at the park’s entrance. This led to an increased interest in park visitors to this hawk migration “hot spot.”

Note the count of bald eagles — 149 birds. Of course, broad-winged hawks have always been September’s most common hawk, as they migrate southward on their way to South America to spend the winter. There were over 4,600 this year.

Some fly all the way to Bolivia. This is probably why they are the earliest hawk migrant — they have the furthest to go.

Red-tailed hawks are a common Charlotte breeding hawk. They are not as common in September, but will be observed in larger numbers later in the fall. They winter in the southeastern United States.



Photo by Hank Kaestner

A board on the entrance booth at Mt. Philo kept a tally of the birds seen during September this year.



Photo by Tom Kaestner

One of three red-tailed hawks seen this September. They’re common in Vermont, and there should be more later in the fall as they make their way to the southeastern United States.



Photo by Tom Kaestner

A merlin falcon seen at Mt. Philo this September.

Grapes of path



Photo by Alexandra Lehmann

A picture harvested while biking on the town trail of grapes ripe with autumnal lusciousness.

GREAT HOMESHARE OPPORTUNITIES

North Ferrisburgh: Elderly couple, one with memory loss, seeks short-term home share while their adult children are traveling this winter. Need help with trash/recycling, shoveling snow, daily checking ins and a protective presence. Large private room, ample closet space and private bathroom. Shared kitchen. Beautiful rural setting 10 minutes from Mt. Philo. Option for longer term stay if arrangement suits everyone! Rent is negotiable.

Ferrisburgh: Elderly woman seeks homeshare in small one-story home close to Basin Harbor. Enjoy a quiet setting with a friendly Vermonter who enjoys TV, knitting, sharing meals. Assistance with household maintenance, light cleaning, snow shoveling, companionship. \$200/month includes utilities.



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Commentary

A vision of healthy and abundant wildlife habitat in Charlotte

Charlotte Conservation Commission
Contributed

While Charlotte has made great strides to conserve farmland through land trusts, our town has a lot of work left to do to protect vital forest land. Tackling the climate and biodiversity crises will depend on our forests. We need the mitigating effects of mature forest blocks to absorb carbon dioxide, filter air and water pollutants and protect us from floods. Better protection of forests will not only benefit biodiversity, but ultimately all of us. Forests are integral to Vermonters' way of life.

Every Charlotte Town Plan, past and present, has clearly stated Charlotters' desire to maintain the rural character of our town and protect its open landscape and natural areas. This desire is also plain to see from recent workshops and meetings for the Charlotte Village Planning Project. Despite this desire, our Rural District has become more fragmented and sprawling each decade, carved into 5-acre lots along our rural roads while our villages remain largely unchanged.

To reduce sprawl and fragmentation, Charlotters have voted to adopt land-use regulations that help protect habitat blocks, corridors and other Areas of High

Public Value. Even with these efforts, our town commissions and review boards have found it challenging to apply these regulations. Mapping these areas is essential. That's why the Charlotte Conservation Commission is actively engaged in the process of finding resources to update our maps.

We can make it easier for boards to apply our regulations and avoid costly court challenges. We need to swap out ambiguous words like "should" or "may" for words like "shall" or "must." Successful regulations need to be clear, specific and consistent to be enforceable, legally defensible and fair to applicants.

We are now at a crossroads. With growing development pressure and legislation that moves planning authority away from municipalities, it is time to meet the moment and update our land-use regulations. Charlotters need regulations that will actually protect the fields and forests that our flora and fauna depend on and that make our town unique.

Our current 5-acre zoning has led to sprawl and fragmentation. Nearby towns have adopted stronger regulations to preserve the rural character, open landscape and natural areas that Vermonters value. Charlotte can do that too, but successful regulations will need



View of Charlotte from Mt. Philo.

Photo by Lee Krohn

broad support.

To kickstart this important conversation, the Charlotte Conservation Commission has proposed updates to the regulations

that reflect the policies in our voter-approved Town Plan. The commission crafted the updates after reading through regulations in nearby towns and guidance from regional and state partners like the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Vermont Natural Resources Council and the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission. The commission has met with the planning commission but needs your support to keep this conversation moving forward.

Please join us in this conversation and help us ensure our town's forests and wildlife habitat are healthy and abundant for years to come. Share your support for Charlotte's conservation vision at public meetings, with the planning commission, on Front Porch Forum and other social media channels, or by email to conservation@townofcharlotte.com.

(The members of the Charlotte Conservation Commission are Maggie Citarella, Maggie Korey, Susan Blood, Pete Demick, Claudia Mucklow, Sharon Mount, Dave McNally and Nate Caress.)

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Shelburne Farms gets \$500,000 to restore iconic Farm Barn

National award to protect and preserve the historic barn at heart of nonprofit's activities.

Elizabeth Davis
Contributor

Shelburne Farms has been awarded a Save America's Treasures grant of \$500,000 to help protect and preserve the historic Farm Barn, including restoring its beautiful stone courtyard walls.

With the work made possible by this grant, Shelburne Farms' signature barn will continue to safely welcome the public to the nonprofit's learning campus and the many education programs that begin at the Farm Barn's doors.

"Shelburne Farms is recognized as an outstanding historic model farm and country estate with a significant pastoral landscape graced by monumental buildings. We applaud Shelburne Farms for the tireless efforts to ensure its preservation and accessibility to the public," said Laura Trieschmann, Vermont's State Historic Preservation Officer.

Completed in 1890, the Farm Barn is one of the original four principal buildings on the farm and long served as its agricultural hub.

In the early 1990s the nonprofit raised the funds needed to transform the building into its education and administrative hub, including

the McClure Center for School Programs, Children's Farmyard, cheesemaking and other farm operations.

"The Farm Barn really is at the center of everything we do," said Alec Webb, president of Shelburne Farms. "This project will ensure that this amazing building continues to support our education and visitor programs."

The Farm Barn is a contributing structure to the 2001 designation of Shelburne Farms as a National Historic Landmark District, as were the Breeding Barn and Coach Barn, both of which also received Save America's Treasures Grants in recent years. Work on the Farm Barn is planned to begin in spring 2025.

The Save America's Treasures grant is from the Historic Preservation Fund, administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. It is a dollar-for-dollar matching grant that requires Shelburne Farms to secure an additional \$500,000 in private charitable investment.

Shelburne Farms is an education nonprofit on a mission to inspire and cultivate learning for a sustainable future, with the belief that transformative learning experiences sow the seeds for a thriving and more just world. Shelburne Farms seeks to create the space, spark the conversations and share the stories to inspire educators, students and learners of all ages to build a better future for everyone. To learn more or to make a donation visit shelburnefarms.org.



Photo by Thomas Marr

The Farm Barn was built in 1890 and became the agricultural hub of Shelburne Farms.



Photo by Jared Vincent

Since the early 1990s the Farm Barn has been Shelburne Farms' education and administrative hub.

Changing of the garden



Photo by Scooter MacMillan

One of the surest signs of the changing of the seasons is the changing of the World War I monument garden at the corner of Ferry Road and Greenbush Road. The garden has been transformed from a formal garden to a plethora of pumpkins.

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Gardening

Plant cover crops for sustainability, garden stability

Bonnie Kirn Donahue
University of Vermont Extension

Rather than leaving a field or patch of soil open over the winter, consider cover crops. A cover crop is basically a temporary seeding of an area that would otherwise have exposed soil. The crop is a placeholder for future crops that will be grown there.

There are lots of reasons to use cover crops. First, soil is stabilized during transition times, preventing erosion and soil movement that may occur when not vegetated.

Second, vegetating exposed areas prevents rain and stormwater runoff from depositing soil particles and nutrients into nearby rivers and streams. The cover crops help to absorb and capture water, and help hold nutrients in the soil.

Third, cover crops are typically meant to be annual or one-season crops. Once the crop is no longer needed, it can be tilled back into the soil, which will provide organic matter and nutrients to the soil as it decays.

There are many species that can be used as cover crops. What is important is to keep in mind the purpose of the cover crop, the timing of planting and what your

soil needs.

Cover crops also can be used when planting seed mixes with slower-growing seed species. Native, pollinator-seed mixes often need a cover crop, which will provide quick establishment and erosion control while the native species become established.

If you are seeding an area in the spring, using oats (*Avena sativa*) works well as it grows quickly in warm weather, and it will be killed by frost in the fall. For planting in late summer or fall, winter or cereal rye (*Secale cereale*) is recommended because it grows well in cold conditions.

Annual rye (*Lolium perenne* ssp. *multiflorum*) is often already included in seed mixes for lawns. It establishes quickly and creates great (temporary) cover while the other grass seeds are getting established.

Be careful though as planting too much annual rye or letting it grow too tall can smother the seed that you actually want to grow. Make sure to follow the manufacturer's seed rate recommendations, and mow the grass when it grows taller than 8 inches.

For areas where you just need temporary cover, you could use one of the grass or grain species listed above, or you could

plant other species that have other useful features.

Hairy vetch (*Vicia villosa*), red clover (*Trifolium pratense*) and winter peas (*Pisum sativum*) are species that fix nitrogen, boosting soil health. Both species flower profusely, so they offer food for pollinators while planted.

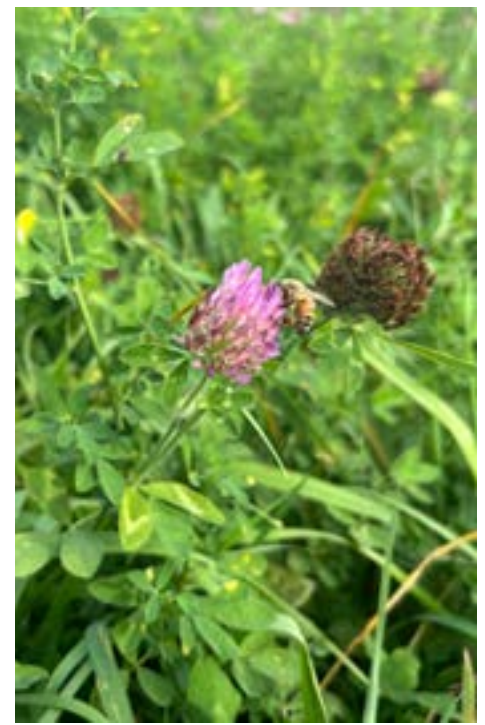
Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*) and buckwheat (*Fagopyrum esculentum*) are also great multipurpose cover crops that produce flowers that attract pollinators, establish quickly and suppress weeds.

If you have compacted soils, consider using a brassica cover crop such as tillage radish. Its hearty taproots will break up the soil and improve soil aeration.

To determine the quantity of seed needed, you will need to know the size of the area you want covered. Then, look for the seed rate on seed manufacturers' bags or websites to calculate how much seed you need. You might need to do some conversions, so keep a calculator handy.

Cover crops are an excellent way to give back to the soil and environment around us. Give it a try this season and see how you feel about it.

(Bonnie Kirn Donahue is a University of Vermont Extension master gardener and landscape architect from central Vermont.)



Photos by Bonnie Kirn Donahue
Red clover, a good source of food for bees and other pollinators, also boosts soil health by fixing nitrogen.

Weed's in the Garden

With brink of fall, it's a good time for gathering seeds

Joan Weed
Contributor

Have you noticed the light is changing and the sun has moved a good way to the south?

Mornings are chilly and the welcome sunlight is not as strong as it was a month ago. Foliage is drying and coloring up.

It's time to save any seeds for the next season before they drop and sow themselves. Seed from vegetables and flowers can be gathered now. You'll want to look for mature and dry seeds no matter which category of plants you choose.

Some seeds are apt to be propelled a distance into the garden with the slightest disturbance from us, the wind or a creature. Others simply fall out of a dry pod when gathering. Thus, time to act for these is now. One way to gather these active seeds is to cover with a paper or fine-mesh bag before fully ripened.

When you hear rattling in the bag, carefully remove it and package the collected seeds in either envelopes or small jars. I found some mini Ziplock storage bags in the bead department of the craft store. Lifetime supply for little money. Hint: Carry some with you for gathering seeds while out in the garden or away from home. Some of the ones treated this way are annual poppies, columbine, lobelias (red and blue), penstemon, Siberian iris, phlox.

Other seeds must dry on their plants or vines such as beans or peas. It's a Zen-like chore removing bean and pea seeds from pods that can be very satisfying. If you should need to gather seeds before fully ripe because of weather or life circumstances, try letting them dry in a basket with a tight weave or in paper bags. They might be at the stage where they can fully ripen off the plant.

Being completely dry before storage is key. Mold will form if any dampness is present. In the spring, soaking overnight might hasten germination. Some very hard-shelled seeds might need nicking with a knife to allow moisture in.

Garlic and potato starts for next season are not seeds but parts of actual fruits. Always choose the plumpest and most

promising of tubers or bulbs. Same is true of flowers or other vegetables. You'll want to preserve and pass on only the most promising seeds. The potatoes should be stored in sand in a cool dark place and cut into pieces including an eye in the spring when planting. You'll want to set aside garlic in a cool dark place also, even when tempted to use the best. Break the head into cloves for planting. I plant mine in the fall when other bulbs are put in the ground. I don't mulch, but it can be done. After a few years, you will have a collection of the best and most adaptable for your growing region.

Saving seeds from tomatoes and cucumbers has an added process which is not as difficult as it sounds. Choose a favorite open pollinated specimen (not a hybrid) and squeeze or spoon the seeds and gel into a glass or jar. Add water and stir. The gel will initially cling to the seeds but, after a few days, will begin to ferment, thus being removable from the actual seed which will sink to the bottom. Don't hurry this. Carefully pour off the water and any debris.

Dry the seeds with paper towel or lay on a paper plate. Allow to fully dry for a few days. Seeds might stick but just scrape them off and if completely dry store in envelopes and place in a jar. I suggest keeping on a nearby windowsill so you can monitor progress. Peppers can just be dried without any processing but air-drying.

Squashes, pumpkins and melons are easy to collect but also need to be completely dry for storage. All of these cucurbits cross pollinate very easily, so unless you grow only one kind or isolate or protect from insect pollination, you never know what you'll get. It's possible to prevent cross-pollination but lots of extra work. Of course, if you're aiming for the world record largest pumpkin, it might be worth it.

One reason I suggest jars for storage is that mice have decimated my collection many times. After you've taken all this care, you don't want to sacrifice your seeds.

Some vegetables are biennials, which means they put out a root or vegetable the first year and then send up a seed stalk



Adobe stock photo

or pod the second. Radishes, turnips, rutabagas, broccoli, cauliflower and cabbage are included. Since the plants will freeze here in Vermont, you'd have to harvest, overwinter in soil or sand and replant to continue growth next spring. Rutabagas and turnips are the only ones which might survive winter outdoors.

To check the viability of your saved seeds or even store-bought seeds, moisten a square of paper towel. Place a small amount of your seed for testing on the towel. Fold and place in a jar or plastic bag. After a few days check to see if any have germinated. Going by percentages, if none or only a couple have germinated, don't waste your energy. However, if more than half have germinated, plant accordingly. Most seeds have a viability of three to five years if stored correctly. Parsley and allium family seeds are short-lived and need renewal yearly.

Another reason to save seeds, besides self-sufficiency, is for sharing with friends. Some families have saved their favorite tomato, garlic, bean or potato for generations. This is how we are able to have heirlooms.

Perhaps you'll save something that was the star of your garden this season?



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BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Gardening

Controlling magnolia scale infestations is challenging



Photo by Anika Adams

The magnolia scale adults are shiny brown, elliptical and convex, and can grow to half an inch in length.

Ann Hazelrigg
University of Vermont Extension

Magnolia scale (*Neolecanium cornuparvum*) is a soft scale insect that attacks only magnolia trees, including the popular star magnolia (*Magnolia stellata*) and saucer magnolia (*Magnolia x soulangiana*).

There are two types of scale insects, soft scales and armored scales. All scale insects have “piercing sucking” mouthparts that remove sap from their hosts.

Soft scales are usually larger than the armored scale, are often covered by a waxy secretion and produce a sticky substance called honeydew, a nice name for the excrement of the pest. Armored scales have a hard protective covering and do not produce honeydew.

The magnolia scale adults are shiny brown, elliptical and convex, and can grow to half an inch in length. They can often be mistaken for plant buds. Infestations are often detected when gardeners note that their magnolia tree’s bark and leaves are blackened. The black mold, called sooty mold, grows on the honeydew of the pest and does not really harm the tree other than decreasing the amount of sun the leaves receive.

Honeydew and sooty mold can stain lawn furniture under an infested tree, and the sugars in honeydew can attract wasps and ants. When populations are high, scale feeding can cause yellowing of the leaves, twig dieback and overall decline in the health of the magnolia.

By early to midsummer, the scale females turn brown-purple in color and develop a white, waxy coating that disappears in late summer. They continue to enlarge through July and give birth to the “crawler” or nymph stage in late summer (late August) into early fall (through September) depending on temperatures.

After producing the crawlers, the female dies, although the scale covering may remain on the tree. The time to treat the infestation is when the crawlers are active from late August through September, since this stage is the most vulnerable to insecticides.

Adult scales are typically protected from chemicals due to their waxy coating. The crawlers can be treated organically with horticultural oil or insecticidal soap.

Thorough coverage with these products is critical since they need to contact the crawler to kill them. Multiple applications may be necessary because these materials do not have any residual activity.

Always consult the label of the product you are using for timing of additional sprays. The crawler stage will continue to remain active until they settle on a feeding site on the branches where they remain for the winter. There is only one generation of this pest each year.

Controlling scale infestations can be challenging. Scout your trees every summer and fall to control emerging infestations. Keep trees in good vigor through proper watering, mulching and pruning of dead or infested branches since stressed trees can be more prone to attack by scale.

Over-fertilization can promote the build-up of scale populations so avoid excess nitrogen. If the scale insects are limited to a couple of branches, prune out those branches and destroy them to eliminate the infestation.

Organic dormant oil sprays can be applied to the overwintering insects in early spring before the buds open. In severe infestations, it may take a few years of fall applications for the crawler stage and dormant sprays to clean up the population.

(Ann Hazelrigg is the University of Vermont Extension plant pathologist and director of the school’s plant diagnostic clinic.)

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Gardening

Leave the seed heads be

Amy Simone
University of Vermont Extension

Autumn colors have started to paint the landscape. As beautiful as those reds, oranges and yellows are, many gardeners tend to focus too much on the formerly green perennials that are now a crispy brown.

What may seem ugly to you, however, is a happy winter home for a beneficial insect or food for an overwintering bird. Therefore, try your best to only remove what is really necessary.

Wait for a few hard frosts to occur and then assess the plants in your yard. Perennials with foliage that is browned or blackened, like peonies, daylilies and speedwell should be removed. Hosta plants should be cut back and all foliage removed to avoid harboring slug eggs over the winter.

In the vegetable garden, clean up can be thorough. Pests that plagued your crops this year may overwinter in the plant debris so clean that out. Likewise, pull weeds now before they become established.

Diseased perennials are the last category of plants to remove. Bee balm and phlox are often victims of powdery mildew. Even if they were not afflicted this year, cutting them back will help avoid that next season.

Remember to put any diseased plant parts in the garbage or bury them but not in the compost, unless your compost pile is active and reaches temperatures above 131 degrees Fahrenheit for at least four hours. Be sure to clean your tools and gloves after handling them.

Beyond that, many perennials can — and should — be left standing in your landscape. Low-growing evergreen or semi-evergreen perennials like hardy geraniums, heucheras, moss phlox, dianthus and hellebores should not be cut back.

Marginally hardy perennials such as garden mums and anise hyssop also will be better protected if left standing during the winter. The plants will collect leaves and snow, providing them with insulation and moisture.

What else should you leave in place? Plants that will provide winter interest such as ornamental grasses. They will flutter in the late fall breeze and then offer three-dimensional beauty to your snow-covered landscape. The grasses can be cut down in the spring once new growth appears.

Keep any cut or broken stems in the flower bed to provide a winter habitat for beneficial insects. Hollow stems offer a place for native bees to nest and other insects to lay their eggs.

Flowering perennials such as black-eyed Susan, purple coneflower, Joe-pye weed and stonecrop contain seeds that can sustain overwintering birds. In addition, leaving these plants standing allows them to catch leaves, giving them extra insulation.

Speaking of leaves, don't be in such a hurry to rake them up and put them in the compost pile. Leaves are an excellent



Photos by Amy Simone

The seed heads of flowering perennials such as the coneflower are a good source of food for overwintering birds.



Plants such as this bee balm with powdery mildew should be cut down and disposed of in the garbage.



Bumblebee queens are important pollinators, so consider leaving leaves in flower beds for them to nest under during the winter when cleaning up the yard in the fall.

insulator on your flower beds, or they can be mulched on the grass with a mower. They are also important habitat for woolly bear caterpillars and provide protection for the bumblebee queen who burrows into the soil under a cover of leaves.

As you gaze out at your “messy” fall landscape, know how much the birds, bees and beneficials appreciate you.

(Amy Simone is a University of Vermont Extension master gardener from South Burlington.)

On Books

Hard-to-put-down-no-matter-what-is-going-on-nearby reads

Katherine Arthaud
Contributor

A beautiful late summer afternoon, and as I look out over goldenrod and purple loosestrife (I know, I know it's on the Vermont Noxious Weed Quarantine list, but I think it's pretty.), out toward trees tinged ever so slightly with bronze, I am thinking, what books should I tell about this week?

I know I've mentioned Kristin Hannah before. She's a big favorite with historical fiction lovers. I recently read one of her lesser-known novels: "Magic Hour," published in 2006. I'd never heard of it, but the other day my friend Cindie handed it to me on the tennis court and said, "Here. You've got to read this. It's so good. I couldn't put it down." And how could I refuse? I tossed it in my tennis bag with my sneakers and started it that night.

Hannah is a prolific writer, with 22 novels to her name. You may remember me writing about "The Women" (about a combat nurse in Vietnam) and "Winter Garden" (two sisters unraveling the mystery of their Russian-born mother). I find her work is dependable; it guarantees a good yarn. I haven't been disappointed yet.

Born in 1960 in California, Hannah graduated from the University of Washington with a degree in communication. Then, after working at an advertising agency in Seattle, she attended the University of Puget Sound law school. She practiced law in Seattle for a few years, then became a full-time writer. Her first novel was written with her mother, who was dying of cancer at the time, but this book was never published. Hannah now lives with her husband and son on Bainbridge Island, a city-island in Puget Sound.

"Magic Hour" takes place in the author's own stomping ground, in a town called Rain Valley, "tucked between the wilds of the Olympic National Forest and the roaring gray surf of the Pacific Ocean ... the last bastion of civilization before the start of the deep woods," and centers

around the surprising discovery of a little girl in a tree, right outside of Swain's drugstore, in front of Lulu's hair salon.

"It was Mrs. Grimm who noticed the girl," Earl Huff, one of the town's older cops, tells police chief Ellie Barton. "I was getting my hair cut — and don't say 'What hair?' He turned slowly and pointed. 'When she climbed up that there tree, we called you.'"

So begins the gripping story of the mystery of the origins and identity of this speechless, dirt-encrusted, beautiful (underneath all the grime), extraordinary 6-year-old feral child — a story that involves numerous interlacing lives and relationships, and that highlights the ingrown, close-knit complexities of growing up, staying in and returning to a small town. Besides the strange story of the wild child herself is the story of two semi-estranged sisters: Ellie, police chief, and Julia, a prominent child psychologist returning to Rain Valley after a bizarre, career-upending scandal.

"Magic Hour" begins with a frontispiece from a nursery favorite, Margery Williams' "The Velveteen Rabbit, which beautifully conveys and auguries the deepening warmth and trust that wavers and builds between its principal characters.

Cindie was right. This was a hard book to put down. I recommend it if you want a good, hard-to-put-down-no-matter-what-is-going-on-around-you read.

Though two people have told me they struggled with this book, I adored "Tell Me Everything," Elizabeth Strout's newest novel, which, like much of her recent work, takes place in Maine. In it we meet some familiar Strout characters, such as Olive Kitteridge, who is now 90 years old and living in the retirement community called the Maple Tree Apartments. This is one of my favorites by Strout, and I am an ardent fan of all her books, which tend to be as slow-moving, unflowery and restrained as the Yankees she writes about. Like many of her other novels, "Tell Me Everything" is spare, moving and oddly poetic.

But this novel had a bit more

excitement folded into it than some of her others. A murder investigation, actually — which involves town lawyer Bob Burgess, an old friend of Olive, when he agrees to defend Matthew Beach, "a fellow who could not remotely organize himself," accused of murdering his mother.

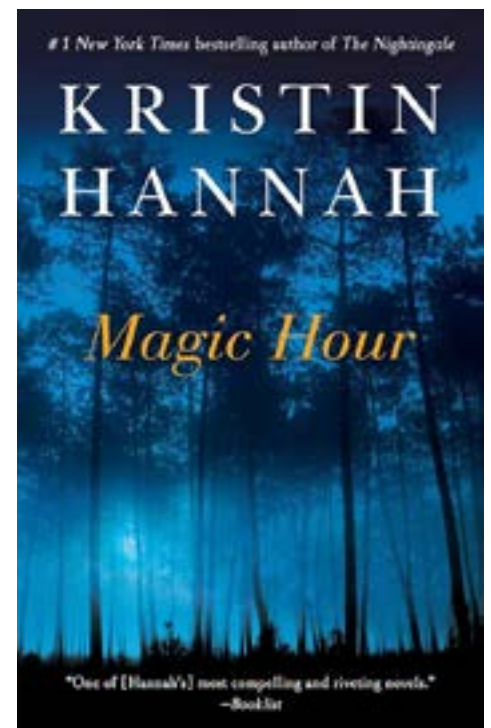
"This is the story of Bob Burgess," the novel begins, "a tall, heavyset man who lives in the town of Crosby, Maine, and he is 65 years old at the time that we are speaking of him. Bob has a big heart, but he does not know that about himself; like many of us, he does not know himself as well as he assumes to, and he would never believe he had anything worthy in his life to document. But he does; we all do."

I love the way this author writes. I want to save it, savor it, sink into it, swim in it, bask in it, reread it over and over. So uneffusive, spacious and thoughtful, filled with silences ... New England-y and deep as the sea.

But this story is about more than Bob Burgess. It's also about Olive Kitteridge and her friend Isabelle, who almost moves, and Bob's brother Jim and his wife who is dying, and their son Larry and his wife, and Mrs. Hasselbeck, to whom Bob takes groceries, and Matthew Beach, who either did or did not murder his mother, and his sister Diana, who was a peculiar child who later became a high school guidance counselor, and Bob's wife Margaret, a Unitarian Universalist minister who Olive doesn't particularly care for, and more.

An important and recurring thread is the relationship that develops between the rather curmudgeonly Olive Kitteridge and the writer Lucy Barton, which commences one day after a thought takes hold of the former "on one of those days in October, and she pondered it for almost a week before she called Bob Burgess. 'I have a story to tell that writer Lucy Barton. I wish you would have her come visit me.'"

The two cautiously share stories about people and things that have happened. Simple stories. Yet stories hinting of



mystery, hidden depth and human eccentricity. The unusual friendship between the two is artfully developed: tender, testy, testing and true.

Also beautifully rendered is the friendship between Lucy Barton and Bob Burgess, both of whom are married (to other people) but who have a surprising affinity for one another. They find acceptance and nourishment on their walks along the river. Achingly tender.

Though not a page-turner in the usual sense of the word, I couldn't put this book down. The New York Times Book Review puts it well: "Strout works in the realm of everyday speech, conjuring repetitions, gaps and awkwardness with plain language and forthright diction, yet at the same time unleashing a tidal urgency that seems to come out of nowhere even as it operates in plain sight."

So true. Highly, highly recommend. Along with all Strout's other books.

Happy reading, everyone.



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Calendar

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Coffee & muffins happy hour

Friday, Oct. 4, 8:30-10 a.m.

Free coffee and muffins happy hour Friday, Oct. 4, 8:30-10 a.m. Free iced coffee, hot coffee, tea and homemade muffins at the Charlotte Grange, 2858 Spear St. All are welcome.

'The Mousetrap'

Fridays-Sundays, Oct. 4-20

The Valley Players present Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap," Fridays-Sundays, Oct. 4-20, at the Valley Players Theater, 4254 Main Street (Route 100), Waitsfield. Part murder mystery and part psychological thriller, show times are Friday & Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at theaterengine.com. Please note, this play contains mature themes and may not be suitable for children under 13. For more information, go to valleyplayers.com.

Carving workshop

Saturday, Oct. 5, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Green Mountain Woodcarvers will be carving in the workshop at Birds of Vermont Museum in Huntington. Stop in to watch a wood carver at work, ask a question or learn about this carving club. Carvers are always happy to explain how they carve and to share their expertise with others. Included with museum admission (free for members).

CVU class of 1974 reunion

Saturday, Oct. 5, 7-10 p.m.

The Champlain Valley Union High class of 1974 will celebrate its reunion at the Eagles Club on Shelburne Road with food and music from the Hitmen. For info or reservations call Kirk Smith at 802-578-5964 or email cvu74reunion@gmail.com.

Lewis Creek Association party

Sunday, Oct. 6, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Lewis Creek Association will celebrate the lives and work of Marty Illick and Terry Dinnan with a day-long celebration at Cota Field, States Prison Hollow Road, in Starksboro. From 9-11 a.m., Vermont master naturalists will lead several field trips. Registration required at lewis creek.org. From 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., there will be lunch (lunch and refreshments provided or bring a picnic) and remarks at Cota Field. From 1-4 p.m., there will be activities for children and outings with local experts on history, wildlife, geology and other natural history topics. No registration required for outings for identification of aquatic wildlife in Lewis Creek with Declan McCabe and a visit to a gravel pit to discuss the geological history of the area with Craig Heindel. It's free. For more details: lewis creek.org.

Line dancing class

Wednesday, Oct. 9, 7-8 p.m.

Line dancing will be taught by Andrea Warren, owner of Good Time Line Dancing, at the Grange Hall. This hour class is for beginners. The lesson will start with an easy-to-follow warm-up dance, followed by two absolute-beginner



Photo by Wayne Fawbush

A scene from 'The Mousetrap' at the Valley Players Theater in Waitsfield, which runs weekends Oct. 4-20.

dances taught in small segments building up to doing the whole dance together at the end. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/5n96ps4t> to reserve a spot. Suggested donation is \$5-20 per person. All ages welcome. Refreshments will be available. The next two classes will be 7-8 p.m., Nov. 6 and Dec. 4.

Arch on Mount Philo

Friday, Oct. 11, 5 p.m.

The Flynn Theater will sponsor a performance art piece on top of Mount Philo, featuring ice, stone and fire, accompanied by a choir of local community members. In Arch, two performers build a freestanding structure out of concrete and ice blocks, accompanied by music. The performances of this American premiere will feature a volunteer chorus of 100 Vermonters. There will also be a performance of Arch at the Flynn on Oct. 6 at 5 p.m. Both performances are free. For more info: flynnvt.org.

The Big Sit

Sunday, Oct. 13, all day

See how many birds we can identify — but only from a 17-foot diameter circle outdoors at the Birds of Vermont Museum in Huntington between sunrise and sunset. This is a great long-running community science project. Pledges and donations welcome. Call or email to ask about joining the observation team. There will be observing from dawn to dusk (only some observers stay the whole time). The museum is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Car show & fall festival

Sunday, Oct. 13, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Middlebury holds its third annual Car Show & Fall Festival on Sunday, Oct. 13. Main Street will close to welcome 75 classic cars and trucks, including food trucks, over 50 vendors, live music and raffle drawings. This event is fun for the whole family and free. More at addisoncounty.com/middleburycarfest.

Forests & Fairy Tales

Sunday, Oct. 13, 4 p.m.

Burlington-based pianist Claire Black will perform Forests & Fairy Tales, a program of Romantic and 20th-century works for solo piano, featuring Waldszenen (Forest Scenes), Op. 82, by Robert Schumann; V mlhách (In the Mists) by Leoš Janáček; Märchenbilder (Fairy Tale Pictures), Op. 3, by Erich Wolfgang Korngold; and Impromptu, Op. 24 No. 3, Eros, by Sergei Bortkiewicz at Charlotte Congregational Church. Suggested donation \$20. Audience contributions, after expenses, will be split equally between New Community Project (to support weekly food shares) and Joint Urban Ministry Project (to fund bus vouchers).

Age Well luncheon

Tuesday, Oct. 15, 11:30 a.m.

St. Catherine of Siena and Age Well are offering luncheon on Oct. 15 for anyone 60 or older in the St Catherine of Siena Parish Hall 72 Church Street in Shelburne. The check-in time is 11:30 a.m., and the meal will be served at noon. There is a \$5 suggested donation. The menu is lasagna roll ups with sweet Italian sausage and marinara sauce, parmesan cheese, spinach salad with Italian dressing, dinner roll, applesauce, pumpkin cake and milk. There will be entertainment by Gerry Ortego on guitar. You must register by Wednesday, Oct. 9 at 802-662-5283 or kbatres@agewellvt.org.

Matching short story to art

Friday, Oct. 18, 6-7 p.m.

A lecture on The Celestial Railroad: Nathaniel Hawthorne and American Art at the Shelburne Museum will look at Hawthorne's short story "The Celestial Railroad." Published in 1843, the story offers a skeptical view of the era's new means of transport. With a demon manning the engine, and a reassuring conductor named Mr. Smooth-It-Away describing the sights, the train sets out from the City of Destruction, across the Valley of Despond, on its way to the Celestial City. In this illustrated

lecture by Alexander Nemerov, one of America's leading art historians, learn how Hawthorne's views match — and do not match — the visions of the railroad in the paintings of American artists of his era. Nemerov is a professor at Stanford University.

Craft fair & raffle

Saturday, Oct. 19

St. Peter's Church in Vergennes will host a craft fair, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Parish Hall (85 South Maple St.). The craft fair will also include a raffle, bake sale and luncheon. Crafters will sell a variety of handcrafted items including jams, jellies, hats, mittens, sweaters, soaps, candles, jewelry, knitted and quilted items, wood toys and ornaments. The bake sale will include appetizers, pies, breads and a variety of treats that will tempt your taste buds. Enjoy a lunch while visiting with friends. This is a fundraiser to support the St. Peter's Cemetery Association's quest to repair stones and do other work in the cemetery.

'Groomed'

Tuesday, Oct. 22, 7 p.m.

The play "Groomed" will be performed in the Shelburne Town Hall 7 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 22. Actor and playwright Patrick Sandford has performed this play over 90 times in the United Kingdom and elsewhere. Three narratives of a betrayed schoolboy, a Japanese soldier and the inventor of the saxophone show how a story can save your life. "Groomed" won three Outstanding Theatre awards at the Brighton Festival Fringe, was performed at the Vatican in 2023 and for a month at the Soho Theatre in London.

Spirits of Rokeby

Friday & Saturday, Oct. 25 & 26

Rokeby Museum is presenting a new production inspired by the spiritualist history at the museum. Ticket holders will gather for a drink and a short talk on Victorian Spiritualism before entering the historic home, where actors will guide them through participatory dramatization, recreating séances based on historical transcripts and other accounts. Friday performances are every 45 minutes starting at 5 p.m. and Saturday's start at 4 p.m. The production imagines a visit to Rokeby by Achsa Sprague, Vermont native and nationally known medium. \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Available at <https://tinyurl.com/59vpcr75>.

October bird monitoring walk

Saturday, Oct. 26, 8-9 a.m.

All birders (current, experienced, newbie and would-be) are welcome. Join the Birds of Vermont Museum's monthly monitoring walk outdoors on the museum's trails in forest and meadow. Most fun for adults and older children. Bring your own binoculars and dress for the weather. Tick repellent and water bottles are recommended. Suggested donation \$10-\$15. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/pxxvux58>.

Community Roundup

Applications open for Climate Catalysts Innovation Fund

The Vermont Council on Rural Development is taking applications for the fourth competitive round of the Climate Catalysts Innovation Fund.

The fund is supporting innovators in developing solutions that move Vermont closer to its climate and energy goals. The first three rounds provided grants to 68 local innovators totaling over \$200,000. A diversity of projects have been funded including support for a floodplain public food forest, frontline emergency preparedness kits, climate economy workforce training, e-bikes at local libraries, solar with back-up battery storage for a library community hub and more.

“This fund has provided leverage for 68 community projects to move from an ambitious idea to an implemented climate-based solution in their community,” said program manager Laura Cavin Bailey.

Grants will range from \$500-\$4,000 and be awarded based on demonstrating a mix of addressing Vermonters in need, innovation, resilience, collaboration and replicability. Eligible applicants include municipalities, town committees, schools, businesses and non-profit organizations.

Applications will remain open until 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 28.

Learn more at vtrural.org/climate-economy/climate-catalysts-innovation-fund and contact laura@vtrural.org or 802-234-1646 with questions.

Red Cross needs blood donors now to help combat critical need

The American Red Cross continues to amplify the ongoing critical need for blood and platelets to keep the blood supply stable as fall begins. Donors of all blood types, especially those with type O blood, those giving platelets and those who have

never given before, are needed now.

Only three out of 100 Americans donate blood. With the blood supply still at critical levels, every single donation is key to making sure all patients relying on lifesaving transfusions, including car accident victims and those living with sickle cell disease, get the care they need.

Fall into donating blood or platelets. Make an appointment to give now by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App. In thanks, those who come to give by Sept. 30 will receive a \$15 e-gift card to a merchant of choice. See RedCrossBlood.org/Fall for details.

Those who come to give Oct. 1-31 will receive a \$10 Amazon.com Gift Card by email, plus be automatically entered for a chance to win one of three \$5,000 gift cards. For full details, visit RedCrossBlood.org/Treat.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities in Chittenden County:

Colchester

Oct. 4: noon-5:30 p.m., Saint Michaels College Dion Student Center, Winooski Park

Oct. 15: 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Our Lady of Grace Church, 784 Main St.

Jericho

Oct. 10: 1 p.m.-6 p.m., Catalyst Church on Raceway, 100 Raceway Road

Richmond

Oct. 9: noon-6 p.m., Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church, 64 W Main Street

South Burlington

Oct. 3: 1 p.m.-5:30 p.m., University of Vermont Orthopedics and Rehabilitation, 192 Tilley Drive

Oct. 5: 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Chamberlin School, 262 White St.



Late the lilacs bloomed



Photo by Elizabeth Bassett

A pitcher of lilacs that are pretty as a picture. Fall lilac blooms are rare but not unprecedented, a nice little blush heralding the autumnal chromaticity.

CALENDAR Continued from page 20

Tree ID for birders

Sunday, Oct. 27, 10 a.m.-noon

Have you ever noticed a bird, then wondered what kind of tree it was in, or why it was there? Take a walk at the Birds of Vermont Museum to explore tree identification with forester Kathleen Stutzman. Open to folks with any and all levels of familiarity with trees or birds. Suggested donation \$10-\$30. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/ytwuhmmb>.

Coffee & muffins happy hour

Friday, Nov. 1, 8:30-10 a.m.

Free coffee and muffins happy hour on

Friday, Nov. 1, 8:30-10 a.m. Free iced coffee, hot coffee, tea and homemade muffins at the Charlotte Grange, 2858 Spear St. All are welcome.

Clothing drive for migrant farmworkers Saturday-Wednesday, Nov. 2-6

The Charlotte Grange is holding a clothing drive for local migrant farmworkers. Some specific clothes being sought for donation include machine-washable, hoodie sweatshirts, pants (denim, canvas), work clothes, vests (fleece or heavy cloth), jackets, thermal underwear. Please: No button-down shirts, polo shirts or wool items of any kind. For information call 802-355-1478.

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 Contact ads@TheCharlotteNews.org

Library News

Wednesday participants reconstructed digestive system

Margaret Woodruff
Director

Thank you to Jan Schwarz for leading the Sept. 25 session of our new after-school program. Our hearty participants reconstructed the digestive system using ziploc bags and bananas. See below for details about upcoming Wildcard adventures.

Drop-in dyeing

Saturday, Oct. 5, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Join Susanna Kahn for an introduction to natural dyeing. Kitchen scraps and plants from the yard create surprising colors. We will dye an item together and review the dyeing process and other plant material and food waste that can be used. Dye a piece provided by the library or bring your own small, pre-washed, all-natural fiber item.

First library scanning day

Saturday, Oct. 19

Do you have old photos of people and places in Charlotte? The Charlotte Library would like to add to its digital collection of Charlotte historic photos and documents. People and resources will be available for scanning and documenting up to 10 photos per person. For more information or sign up for a time slot on Oct. 19, contact the Charlotte Library at info@charlottepubliclibrary.org or call 802-425-3864. If you have other non-Charlotte-related photos to scan, let us know. We would be happy to include you in the event or make alternate arrangements. To see what is already in the library's digital collection, go to charlottetvhistoryonline.omeka.net.

After-school book lovers club

Tuesdays, Oct. 15-Nov. 19, 3-4 p.m.

Do you enjoy reading and talking about books? Ride the bus to the Charlotte Library and enjoy an afternoon of book sharing and crafts every Tuesday after school. Grades 1-3, registration required. Contact Cheryl at youth@charlottepubliclibrary.org.

Wildcard Wednesdays

Wednesdays, thru Nov. 20, 2-3:30 p.m.

Who knows what Wednesday will bring? Science sessions? Crafts and games? Sign up and show up on Wednesdays to join in

the fun activities for kids fourth grade and up. For registration information, contact the library at info@charlottepubliclibrary.org. On Oct. 9 the program will be Scribblebots. Join tech librarian Susanna Kahn to design, build and test a drawing robot.

Programs for kids

Monthly Babytime

Saturday, Sept. 7, 10 a.m.

You're invited to an unstructured hour for parents, caregivers and babies to play, explore books and chat in the young children's area. Ages birth to 18 months.

Preschool story time

Tuesdays & Fridays, 10 a.m.

Come to the library for preschool stories, crafts and activities. No registration required. Age 2 and over.

Preschool free play

Wednesdays, 10 a.m.

Play in the preschool years enables children to explore and make sense of the world around them, as well as to use and develop their imagination. Explore the sensory table, sorting, playing with blocks, playdoh — these are a few of the open-ended projects planned for Wednesday morning play-based learning at the Charlotte Library.

Babytime

Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.

You're invited to an unstructured hour for parents, caregivers and babies to play, explore books and chat in the young children's area. Ages birth to 18 months.

Let's Lego

Saturdays, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Drop-in for Lego free play. We'll have loads of Lego bricks out, along with some books and prompts for inspiration. For all ages. Please note: Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

Programs for adults

Stillwater meditation

Saturdays, 9 a.m.

Poetry and meditation are offered freely and in person to the Charlotte community.

Come for quiet reflection, contemplation and gentle meditation instruction. Respect for all beings and faiths is a foundational quality of our time together. Beginning and experienced meditators are welcome.

Lynn Cummings gallery talk

Wednesday, Oct. 9, 5:30 p.m.

Lynn Cummings, who has taught various art classes at Charlotte Senior Center since 2010, will talk about her students' and her artworks which will be on display through October. You will see watercolors, acrylics and several types of collages. She will focus on the fun and exciting process of creating one-of-a-kind collage papers, then tearing them into pieces to create unique acrylic printed collages.

Spanish conversation group

Wednesday, Oct. 9, 7:30 p.m.

Vengan a disfrutar conversación casual y nuevos amigos en la biblioteca. Un grupo de conversar es una oportunidad de practicar su español o compartir con el grupo. Speakers of all levels and ages, including beginners, are welcome. We'll plan to chat, relax, listen to music and enjoy some snacks while we explore the beautiful and useful Spanish language.

'How to Love a Forest' talk

Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m.

"How to Love a Forest" by Ethan Tapper walks us through the fragile and resilient community that is a forest, introducing us to wolf trees and spring ephemerals, to the cryptic creatures of the rhizosphere and the necrosphere. It helps us reimagine what forests are and what it means to care for them. This world, Tapper writes, is degraded both by people who do too much and by those who do nothing. He writes that we must take action to protect ecosystems and that the actions we must take will often be counterintuitive, uncomfortable, even heartbreaking. Tapper is the former Chittenden County Forester. In this role, he received was named the American Tree Farm Systems National Outstanding Inspector of the Year in 2024. He left this role to start his own consulting forestry business, Bear Island Forestry, this year.

Short story selections

Wednesday, Oct. 16, 1 p.m.

Join library director Margaret Woodruff to share and discuss short stories old and new. Group meets the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Join Zoom meeting at <https://tinyurl.com/9c398wyy>.

Migratory bird walk for all ages

Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2 p.m.

Birds are on the wing, traveling thousands of miles of flyways, each fall. Join master birder Hank Kaestner at the town beach for a discovery walk of bird migration and the birds that migrate through our region. Wear appropriate footwear and clothing for the weather. For registration information, contact the library at info@charlottepubliclibrary.org.

Thursday night book club

Thursday, Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m.

It's Maine, 1789, in "Frozen River." When the Kennebec River freezes, entombing a man in the ice, Martha Ballard is summoned to examine the body and determine cause of death. As a midwife and healer, she is privy to much of what goes on behind closed doors in Hallowell. Her diary is a record of every birth and death, crime and debacle that unfolds in the close-knit community. Martha is forced to investigate the shocking murder on her own. Copies available at the circulation desk. Join on Zoom at <https://tinyurl.com/49awjb8j>.

Mystery book group

Monday, Oct. 28, 10 a.m.

It's Sept. 29, 1913, and the steamship Dresden is halfway between Belgium and England in "The Mysterious Case of Rudolf Diesel." On board is one of the most famous men in the world, Rudolf Diesel, whose new internal combustion engine is on the verge of revolutionizing global industry forever. But Diesel never arrives at his destination. He vanishes during the night and headlines around the world wonder if it was an accident, suicide or murder. Copies available at the library circulation desk.

Solutions to community's hard questions

Tuesday, Oct. 29, 7 p.m.

A talk about how to get the most out of town meeting, selectboard meetings and other community-based discussions and debates. Susan Clark leads a workshop on making our local conversations more inclusive, productive and empowered. Learn about why things often go wrong and gain a powerful tool that can help groups work towards outcomes that honor diverging viewpoints. Clark is a facilitator, educator and the co-author of "Slow Democracy: Rediscovering Community, Bringing Decision Making Back Home." She is also town moderator of Middlesex. The workshop co-sponsored by the Social Justice Ministry and the Charlotte Library. RSVP appreciated but not required at <https://tinyurl.com/mvv446yr>.

Library contact information:

Margaret Woodruff, director
Cheryl Sloan, youth services librarian
Susanna Kahn, tech librarian
Phone: 802-425-3864
Email: info@charlottepubliclibrary.org
For the latest information about programs, books and activity kits, sign up for the newsletter at <https://tinyurl.com/n5usd25r>.
The Charlotte Library Board of Trustees meets the first Thursday of each month at 6 p.m., unless otherwise rescheduled following the Opening Meeting Law. The next scheduled board meeting is at 6 p.m. tonight, Thursday, Oct. 3. Contact the library or visit the library website (charlottepubliclibrary.org) for more information.



Celebrate!

Share your loved one's milestone with an ad in The Charlotte News for only \$89.

Go to charlottenews.org/advertise and select "Advertise a Celebration".

Contact ads@thecharlottenews.org with any questions.

Senior Center News

Essex Art League exhibit comes to senior center

Lori York
Director

A full schedule of presentations, programming and workshops are lined up for October. Check out the Essex Art League exhibit, learn about the Rokeby Museum and anti-slavery advocacy in Vermont, watch a presentation about underwater photography, join a book discussion or watch a documentary followed by a discussion around migrating birds.

Community

October art exhibit

For the month of October, the Essex Art League will exhibit artwork at the senior center. The Essex Art League's mission is to have an exchange of ideas among Vermont visual artists and to educate and encourage each other through monthly speakers, weekly plein air sessions, exhibitions and social events.

Anti-slavery movement in Vermont Tuesday, Oct. 8, 1 p.m.

Lindsay Varner, executive director of Rokeby Museum in Ferrisburgh, will give a talk called The Robinson Family and Anti-Slavery Advocacy in Vermont and share Rokeby's abolitionist history and stories of the Freedom Seekers who sought self-emancipation on the Underground Railroad. The Robinson family lived at Rokeby from 1793 to 1961. The second generation consisted of abolitionists who were active in the national and state anti-slavery movement. The family's anti-slavery documents were saved by the family and are part of the museum's collection. Free. To register, call 802-425-6345.

Underwater photography after COVID Thursday, Oct. 10, 1 p.m.

Veteran scuba diving instructor and underwater photographer Jim Squires of Charlotte will share images of his underwater travels following the pandemic. Take a dive with this award-winning photographer without even getting wet. Free. To register, call 802-425-6345.

'Flyways' documentary with Hank Kaestner Tuesday, Oct. 15, 1 p.m.

Shorebirds embark on epic migrations each year along ancient, often uncharted routes called flyways. "Flyways," a new documentary, explores a global conservation effort led by bird experts and citizen scientists working to understand and protect these migratory shorebirds. After the documentary Hank Kaestner, who leads the senior center birding trips, will lead a discussion around bird migration. Free. To register, call 802-425-6345.

'Gather' book discussion Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1 p.m.

Ron Miller leads an informal discussion of "Gather" by Kenneth M. Cadow at the Charlotte Senior Center. This program is open to all ages and focuses on the connections across generations. Miller is a historian and educator at the University of Vermont. Free. To register, call 802-425-6345.

Red Cross Blood Drive Thursday, Oct. 17, 1:30- 6:30 p.m.

Please consider donating blood. The

Red Cross is experiencing the worst blood shortage in over a decade. Call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: CHARLOTTE to schedule an appointment.

Death Café Wednesday, Oct. 23, 4-5 p.m.

Join this group on the fourth Wednesday of the month as they come together in human fellowship to celebrate life by voicing concerns, share questions, ideas and stories around death and dying. These are not always easy conversations. But when we share, heart to heart, we build community and experience a special joy that enhances our lives. Please register to attend. Looking forward to sharing the journey and building community together. Free, but registration required by calling 802-425-6345.

Exercise

Bone Builders Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m., & Fridays, 11 a.m.-noon

RSVP Bone Builders, a program of United Way of Northwest Vermont, is a no-impact, weight-training program designed to prevent and even reverse the negative effects of osteoporosis in older adults. Bone Builders consists of a warm-up, balance exercises, arm and leg exercises, and a cool down with stretching. Free. No registration required, but there is paperwork to complete for the RSVP Bone Builders program.

Chair yoga Wednesdays, Oct. 16-Nov. 20, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Join Lynn Alpeter, former co-owner of Yoga Roots and yoga teacher, for a gentle and accessible Chair Yoga class designed to help you connect with your breath, move your body, and lift your mood. Whether you're new to yoga or looking for a more supportive practice, this class is perfect for anyone seeking to increase flexibility, balance, and relaxation. Cost: \$60 for the 6-week series. To register, call 802-425-6345.

Tai Chi for arthritis Thursdays, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

The benefits of a tai chi practice include reduced pain and stiffness and improved muscle strength and joint flexibility. Through learning the tai chi movements and practicing regularly, many have found significant relief from arthritis symptoms. The instructor is a certified instructor who has studied with the founder of the Tai Chi for Arthritis Association. Questions? Email belizahammer@hotmail.com. \$10 a class. No registration required.

Programs

Birding trip Wednesday, Oct. 16, 9 a.m. departure

There is a wide range of birding habitats in Chittenden County. Join avid bird watcher Hank Kaestner and learn to identify the various bird species and habitats right here in Vermont. Free. Registration required. To register, call 802-425-6345.

Shanghai mahjong Tuesdays, 12:45-3:45 p.m.

Whether you are new to or experienced in the Shanghai style of Mahjong, you are



Photos by Lori York

A full crowd for the Monday lunch on Sept. 16. The senior center serves lunch to almost 70 people each week.



Local artist, Ginny Joyner, leads a monthly workshop at the senior center. She will offer a beginner watercolor workshop on painting leaves 1-3 p.m., Friday, Oct. 11.

welcome to join this informal get-together. For questions email Nan Mason: anne.mason@uvm.edu. Free. No registration required.

Take better iPhone photos Wednesday, Oct. 16, 1-2 p.m.

This hands-on class will cover the basics on how to adjust camera settings, use focus and exposure controls and think about lighting and composition to take great pictures. Bring your iPhone. This class will be led by Susanna Kahn, technology librarian. Free. Registration is required as space is limited. To register, call 802-425-6345.

Trivia fun Thursday, Oct. 10, 2:30-4 p.m.

You don't need to know all the answers yourself because the group will break into teams. Put on your thinking caps and have a good time. This will be a fun afternoon with refreshments and lots of laughter. Cost: Free. No registration required.

Leaf watercolor workshop Friday, Oct. 11, 1-3 p.m.

If you've always wanted to try watercolor but were too intimidated, this is the class for you. Join Ginny Joyner as you learn how to paint leaves. Bring some leaves from home and we'll paint a montage of Fall shapes using resist and earthy colors. For more information check out Joyner's website: ginnyjoyner.com. Cost: \$40 plus \$6 supply fee, which is paid to the instructor. Registration and payment required by Oct. 8.

To register, call 802-425-6345.

Meals

Menus are posted on the website at charlotteseniorcentervt.org.

Monday lunches

Served weekly at 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. or until the food runs out. Suggested lunch donation \$5. No registration required.

Senior center info:

The senior center offers programs for adults 50 and older from Charlotte and surrounding communities. Priority is given to seniors, but programs are open to adults of all ages. Programs include weekly lunches, daily exercise classes and many opportunities to connect through board and card games and art and language programming. Interested in receiving a weekly reminder about what is happening? Sign up for the email newsletters at charlotteseniorcentervt.org. The "Week Ahead" email is sent out on Friday mornings with activities, lunch menus and special programs for the upcoming week.

Lori York, director, lyork@charlotteseniorcentervt.org
Tracy Brown, coordinator, tbrown@charlotteseniorcentervt.org
212 Ferry Road, Charlotte
802-425-6345
charlotteseniorcentervt.org
Follow the senior center on Facebook or Instagram at charlotteseniorcentervt.

Write Ingredients

Monday Munch inspires pretzel historical reflections

Susan Ohanian
Contributor

In the paper of “all the news that’s fit to print,” we read that two pretzels unearthed during a dig on the banks of the Danube in Regensburg could be more than 300 years old. They are quite similar to the food we eat today.

Dorothee Ott, spokeswoman for the Bavarian Office for Historical Conservation, said the pretzel fragments went on display at the Regensburg Historical Museum.

The pretzels were badly burned, which, the archaeologists say, is why they survived all this time. The archaeologists believe the burned pretzels were discarded from a bakery. “Archaeologists find 300-year-old pretzels (No sign of the beer),” *New York Times*, March 12, 2015.

Not to worry: While celebrating Oktoberfest at the Charlotte Senior Center, the pretzels you’ll eat will neither be burned nor bakery discards. However, being pretzels, they do have interesting stories to tell.

It’s odd to think of an item like the pretzel having great religious symbolism, but Wikipedia provides a very interesting history of the pretzel, including religious iconography.

Periodically, from 1896 onwards, a group from The Women’s Christian Tolerance Union stated their opposition to “the insidious inroads of root beer into Christian families.” They regarded this apparently harmless beverage as “the devil’s plan to induce people into alcoholic drink without knowing it.”

In 1901, an Ithica blacksmith, fumbling in the dark for a bottle of root beer, drank a bottle of iodine instead. After rescuers managed to save his life, he said, “It tasted



Adobe stock photo

like root beer.”

Root beer is the only soft drink that people still brew at home. On Christmas Eve, 1988, the *New York Times* published Russell Baker’s “What is Christmas without homemade root beer?” Baker describes how, having loved this root beer holiday tradition so much as a child, he decided one Christmas he must make it for his own children. The story ends with the sound of those home-brewed root beer bottles exploding.

As the story goes, Philadelphia pharmacist Charles Elmer Hires first tasted root beer, a traditional American beverage dating back to the colonial era, while on his honeymoon in 1875. He developed his own recipe and at the Philadelphia Centennial

Exposition in 1876, hoping to build a customer base, he gave away free glasses, which he claimed purified the blood and made rosy cheeks.

Hires was a teetotaler, and he wanted to call the beverage “root tea.” However, because he wanted to market the product to Pennsylvania coal miners, he called it “root beer” instead.

That Philadelphia Centennial Exhibit, officially the International Exhibition of Arts, Manufactures and Products of the Soil and Mine, really was something. Lasting from May 10 to Nov. 10, 1876, it was the first world’s fair held in the United States.

Officially the International Exhibition of Arts, Manufactures and Products of the Soil and Mine, it featured Thomas Edison’s

automatic telegraph system and introduced these consumer products:

- Alexander Graham Bell’s telephone
- The Sholes and Glidden typewriter (also known as the Remington No. 1)
- Heinz Ketchup
- Wallace-Farmer Electric Dynamo, precursor to electric light
- Kudzu erosion-control plant species
- Hires Root Beer.

The right arm and torch of the Statue of Liberty were showcased at the exposition. For a fee of 50 cents, visitors could climb the ladder to the balcony. The money raised was used to fund the pedestal for the statue.

Memorial Hall at the Exhibition became the prototype for other museums such as the Art Institute of Chicago (1892-1893), the Milwaukee Public Museum (1893-1897), the Brooklyn Museum (1893-1924) and the Detroit Institute of Art (1920-1927). Libraries such as the Library of Congress, the New York Public Library and the Free Library of Philadelphia also emulated its form. It was also the architectural inspiration for the German capitol, the Reichstag building in Berlin.

All are welcome to enjoy Monday Munch at the Charlotte Senior Center on Ferry Road. No reservations are needed. There is no charge, but a \$5 donation is appreciated.

**Monday Munch, Oct. 7, Oktoberfest
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

The menu is bratwurst with sauerkraut, German potato salad, soft pretzel bites with beer cheese, apple crisp with ice cream and root beer.

**Monday Munch, Oct. 14
11:30 am-12:30 p.m.**

Fall harvest soup (vegetarian), salad, bread and beverage.

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