



D.I.Y. Newsletter

(DO IT YOURSELF)

SPRING ISSUE • 2019



Providing essential supports to people with intellectual disabilities and autism,
building a community where everyone participates and belongs.

Spring at CCS

We hope you're having a great spring season. In this edition of the DIY newsletter meet Scott's pets, take a cruise to the Panama Canal, read about the Night to Shine event, and much more. New additions to DIY are always welcome. If you would like to submit an article, send an email to jcampbell@ccs-vt.org or join the newsletter group that meets every Wednesday at 9:30 am at the Brownell Library in Essex.

*Sincerely,
Julie Campbell, Editor*



Jordan Tells A Story....An Interview with Jordan By Julie

Can you tell me about your job reading to preschoolers? I've been going to the Frog & Toad Child Care Center every Monday for 2 years.

How do you like reading to preschoolers? It's fun. I look forward to it.

How many kids do you read to and what are their ages? The kids are 4 years old. There are about 10-12 kids in a group.

Are the preschoolers ready for you when you arrive? Yes, they sit in a circle and take off their shoes. I read to them for about 15 minutes.

How do you choose which book to read? I go to the Williston Library and pick out books about animals. I practice reading the book out loud before I go to the daycare. The kids like pictures and no more than 1 or 2 sentences on a page. I go around the group and show them the pictures when I read to them.

Do they have a favorite book they like you to read? There's a book about a penguin and a crab. They start out as enemies but become friends. The kids ask for that book a lot.

Do you have a favorite book? I like the Nancy Drew series.



**Dave—catching some shade
at Wal-Mart**

Champlain Voices Update

by Emily A, Champlain Voices Co-Facilitator



Hasan & Kristi

Kristi and Hasan

Every year Green Mountain Self Advocates asks local groups to determine their 'Advocate and Ally of the Year.' These awards are presented at the annual Voices and Choices Conference which took place on April 29-30 in Burlington. The advocates voted Hasan Ko as 'Advocate of the Year' and Kristi Kenney as 'Ally of the Year.' Good Work!

President Hasan and Vice President Mark led a successful work shop at Voices and Choices called "Dancing with your agency: Who gets to lead?"



Champlain Voices is happy to announce its 4 goals for 2019:

Sharing Awareness Goal:

People with Disabilities can do anything

Learning Goal:

Understanding how Facilitated Communication works

Community Service:

Move the "Advocate In-Service" idea forward

Fun Goal:

Advocacy Picnic Party



More to come about these goals in the next newsletter.



Jessica's Pet Corner

Meet Scott's Pets

by Jessica & Kristi - Photos by Scott

Scott has a Siberian Husky named Willow who came from Moonlight Kennels in Highgate, VT. Willow is about nine years old. She has a special talent. She tries to say "hello" when she comes down the stairs to greet people.

Scott also has a cat named Mullein. He is under two years old and is a great mouser. Mullein is from the Addison County Human Society.

Willow and Mullein both get lots of treats and presents for Christmas.



DIY Art Gallery



Flower by Brittany



Spring by April



Butterfly by April



Ann enjoying the spring sun at Airport Park in Colchester



Panama Canal

A Vacation Interview with Michelle Paya

By Andy Photos by Michelle

Where did you go on your vacation?

I went on a cruise to the Panama Canal. On a second cruise, we visited different countries: Cabo, Mexico; Acapulco, Mexico; Nicaragua; Columbia; Costa Rica; Panama; and Guatemala.

How were the flights and your cruise trips?

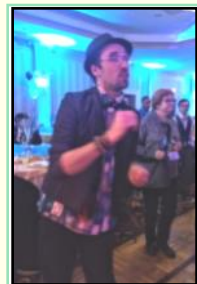
The flight to Los Angeles, CA was long. The cruises were relaxing. It was a once in a lifetime experience. It was very cool....lots of history.

What did you do?

On the ship, I sunbathed, relaxed and saw lots of shows. On a smaller boat, we went whale watching and saw a very large whale. At a fishing village, we saw wild sea lions. The fisherman gave them scraps after cleaning the fish. The sea lions took rides on the back of the boat! In Costa Rica we saw beautiful waterfalls.



Waterfall in Costa Rica



Forest

Night to Shine by Dawn Photos by Lucy

On February 8, 2019, I went to the Night to Shine prom with my friends. My sister-in-law dropped me off at the Double Tree hotel where the event was being held. When I entered the hotel, my buddy greeted me. After my coat was taken, my hair was curled and sprayed with silver glitter. I had makeup applied which included lip gloss and blush. My buddy and I went down the hall on the red carpet while my name was being announced. My picture was taken in front of a Night to Shine banner.



Scott with his Buddy

I had two limo rides, both with a police escort. After my limo rides, I had popcorn and listened to music. When dinner was announced everyone went to the buffet supper. The buffet included: mac and cheese, chicken, potatoes, rolls and salad. I sat with several Camp Thorpe people at the dinner. Everyone at my table had fun.

Top Hat Entertainment performed at the dance. I saw a lot of people I knew and I met a new friend. I danced with several friends. Snacks were available including popcorn, cotton candy and snow cones. After dancing all of us were crowned king and queen. Pictures were taken of me with my buddy and friends. One picture was taken of me with a Camp Thorpe cabinmate. Another picture was of me with my buddy and sister-in-law. After all the fun, my sister-in-law drove me home. I plan to go back for more fun next year!



Dawn & Greg

Upcoming CCS Events

May Days Lake Monster Baseball

Buy your ticket thru the link in May & CCS gets \$3 back
Game date is July 7th at 5 pm

CCS will be closed on:

May 27, 2019
(Memorial Day Holiday)

CCS will be closed on:

July 4, 2019
(Independence Day Holiday)

Agency Picnic

July 18th
Airport Park, Colchester

Staff Anniversaries & Milestones

The following employees celebrated years of service this quarter. Congratulations and **thank you** for your dedication.

One Year: Cindy Pebler, Melina Rivera, Wayne Smith, Judy Ververs, Lance McGrath and Jason Lach

Two Years: Aya Kuku, Jessica Gratton and Tricia Barringer

Three Years: Julie Campbell and Jak Mahan-Tenney

Four Years: Liz Underwood

Five Years: George Ellwood

Six Years: Patty Davis

Eight Years: Marie Greeno

TWELVE Years: Michelle Paya

FOURTEEN Years: Beth Sightler and Bruce McKenzie

Welcome to.... Torin Kearns, Matthew Robinson, Tiernan Smith, Heather Cobden, David Crouse and Stefanie Whalen





Champlain Community Services Inc.

512 Troy Avenue
Colchester, VT 05446

Our Mission & Vision:

Champlain Community Services provides essential supports to people with intellectual disabilities and autism, building a community where everyone participates and belongs.

CCS is in its 52nd year of serving our community, and offers coordinated one-to-one supported employment, home & shared living, school-to-career transition, and community supports.



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Submit your stories, photos, ideas to:
jcampbell@ccs-vt.org

DIY c/o Champlain Community Services

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