

NOVEMBER 30, 2015

# TURTLE TRACKS

A WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER FOR THE VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL COMMUNITY

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**December 2nd**  
Chagas Modeling  
Common Hour

**December 3rd**  
Sibling Shadow Day

**December 5th**  
SATs

**December 12th**  
ACTs

## Seeking Hosts for Visiting Students from Our Sister School in February *by Ben Wang*

High school students from our sister school in China, Huasheng High, are planning to visit Vermont from the afternoon of Monday, February 1st through the morning of Thursday, February 4th.

We are in the early stages of planning, and we are looking for host families to help us welcome them! Please let us know if you are interested in exploring this possibility by [clicking here](#).

Thanks!



## Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf Donation Totals *by Kent Vaccaro*

The week before Thanksgiving, the Food for All! Research & Service class ran a food drive. We collected over 360 lbs of food and donated it to the Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf last Friday before break. The Grey team brought in a whopping 156.4 lbs of food, but they were just pipped out by the Green team who brought in 157.4 lbs of food, exactly one pound more (beating grey even with all the encouragement I gave grey....you let me down)!

With a few last-minute Friday morning donations, our total school collection came to over 360 lbs of food to the food shelf; this was in good timing, as a record number of people were served at the food shelf a few days prior, speaking to the ever growing number of hungry people in our area.

Thanks everyone for a terrific food drive, and congrats Green Team!



# Common Hour with Outright Vermont

by Sheridan Dodds

For the November 11th Common Hour, our GSA (Gay-Straight Alliance) presented about LG-BTQ+ awareness. Our GSA was joined by Dana from Outright Vermont. They opened with a “stand up-if” activity, wherein Dana asked people to stand up if a question or statement applied to them, such as, “Stand up if you’ve ever been told to act more like a girl.” After that, Dana presented us with a “genderbread” activity, showing the four different ways people express their sexuality and gender, and showed that they could have no correlation to each other. Next, we split into advisories and were given sheets with different situations, which we discussed in smaller groups. The scenarios regarded homophobic statements that we may hear in schools or our communities, and how to react to them.



## Brundibar Auditions This Saturday

The work of Burlington artist Trish Denton, a guest of VCS teacher Heather Win’s after school drama workshop, was recently [discussed on KidsVT](#) for her efforts working with Theatre Kavanah to bring the children’s opera *Brundibar* to the Burlington City Hall Auditorium in March.

Auditions for the production are taking place this Saturday, December 5th, from 10am-2pm and Sunday the 6th from 2-6pm at Burlington City Hall. All kids aged 8-14 are invited to audition, as well as interested adults for the solo and ensemble roles.

You can also follow the progress of the production on [Facebook](#) and [Theatre Kavanah’s website](#).



*Trish Denton*

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