

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

Volume XIII, No. 6

July/August 2003

MOSTLY MARTHA

Joanne Bair

My interview with Martha was at "Hermit Ledge," her cottage in the woods. The cottage is perched on the side of a ledge on the hillside behind the Holden home on Templeton Road. This delightful retreat, with its serenity and simplicity, is much like Martha herself, reflecting the philosophy and spirituality she professes and enjoys discussing.

Martha Holden is our newest Selectboard member and a long term resident of East Montpelier. We first met as preschoolers when our families moved to Templeton Road in the late 1940s. Her early education was at the Morse School and East Montpelier Center School - two of our former one room schools. My own childhood memories of her are as someone

who was always ready for a new adventure, frequently searching and exploring new ideas, places, and things to do (often mischie-



vous), and definitely a rebel. Since her youth she has traveled and lived in many localities throughout the world. During her high school and college years she lived in Europe at two different times for over two years.

After graduating from Reed College in Oregon, and a year at University of Oregon Law School, she received a law degree from the University of Maine. She worked as a labor lawyer in Maine. While living in Okinawa with her former husband, Martha worked for the U.S. Air Force, doing primarily Family Law. In 1975 when they returned to the states from Okinawa, they traveled via the Trans-Siberian Railroad. After returning to California, she worked as a Deputy D.A., Federal Public

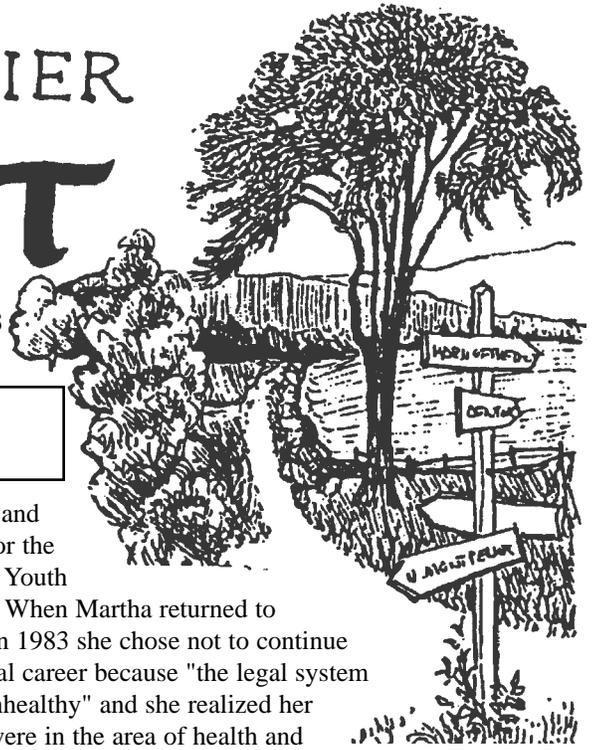
Defender, and attorney for the California Youth Authority. When Martha returned to Vermont in 1983 she chose not to continue with a legal career because "the legal system seemed unhealthy" and she realized her interests were in the area of health and healing. In the mid 90s she received a Masters Degree from Vermont College of Norwich University with a study in theology and social change. Today she can often be found writing, and has several manuscripts in process, fiction and non-fiction, all with a spiritual content.

Since her return to Vermont, Martha has worked in the area of spiritual healing. She has been trained in hospice care, which may contribute to the fact that she is comfortable working with the terminally ill and dying. Martha also does spiritual direction, mentoring and provides guidance and support for several members of the community. For several years she served as the church secretary for Christ Episcopal Church.

For a time, Martha worked at Rural Vermont, an advocacy group for small farms and sustainable agriculture, and was employed by Fairmont Farm. She still maintains her connection with Fairmont, with some of their heifers pastured on the Holden family land. She may be seen around town doing the daily heifer check with Donna Hall.

Martha feels that a searching spirituality is "the major part of my life." This spirituality, not necessarily religion, is apparent in many of her wide range of activities and talents. She spends a lot of time with those who are ill, hospitalized or dying. Her calming, caring and therapeutic presence in this area has been a great support for many individuals and families.

Martha is active and comfortable in the mainstream church, although she reached this point via an interest in New Age spiritualities and spiritual healing. She is now involved in Christ Episcopal Church and is licensed to take eucharist/communion to those confined to home, hospital or nursing home. She is also involved in the liturgical life of the church and has recently



TOP OF THE SIGNPOST

May is but a memory as I write this. I'd like to borrow a great idea from farmer and friend Joey Klein, writing in the quirky Vermont weather monthly, *The Barometer*. Joey declares that we need two Mays - one to get out and enjoy the exciting birth of Spring, the other to do the multitude of chores which cry for attention as soon as winter melts into the ground. I can subscribe to that completely, and this year I've observed that instead of two, we had about half a May! The rest was pure drizzle.

But perfect or not, May is a great time of year for

Vermonters. Every day something new bursts forth. Have you noticed that tulips and peonies and baby pigs don't care whether it rains or not. The compelling thrust to create new life gives not a hoot about the weather. It's we humans who prefer to work in sunny gardens, to explore wildflowers in dry woodlands and to hold neighborhood cookouts under warm skies. But wet or dry, warm or cold, I think May is my favorite month of the year. How about you? Do you suppose two Mays would mean twice as many black flies? Oh, no!

Jean Cate

"Thank you" to these loyal supporters.
The *Signpost* welcomes contributions. Any amount would be gratefully received, \$5, \$10, \$25, even \$50.

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Old Brick Church
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Sunday Services at 10:00 am
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Phone: 223-1232



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Rev. Susan Cooke Kittredge, Pastor
Rev. David W. Connor, Pastor
Worship - 9:30 am
child care is available
Phone: 229-9593



Crossroads Christian Church
Rev. Bob Walton, Pastor
Worship and Sunday School - 9:30 am
Phone: 476-4843 & 229-9389

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

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Jean Cate, Publisher

223-2951 {jwcate@sover.net}

Dave & Darlene Grundy, Copy Editors
476-4300 {ddgrundy@aol.com}

Margaret Richey, News Editor
454-7862 {margaret@richey.com}

Charlotte MacLeay, Business Manager
229-0404 {charlotte@macleay.com}

Dawn Anderson, Mailing
229-0606 {danderson@vmlink.net}

David Coburn, Layout/Design
223-6886 {dacoburn@adelphia.net}

Sylvia Tosi, Town Records
223-3313 {eastmont1@adelphia.net}

Janice Waterman, Features
223-5826 {gmnawaterman@cs.com}

Elaine Manghi, Photographer
229-5811 {maplenutbread@hotmail.com}

Janet MacLeod, Artist
223-2296 {janetmac@sover.net}

Rhoda & Rob Chickering, Organizations
229-5005 {rchic@sover.net}

Nancy Disenhaus, U-32
229-4320 {catehaus@together.net}

Ellen Knoedler, EMES
223-6931 {eknoedler@u32.org}

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Do you have a son or daughter going to college, a mom or dad who are now living in Florida? Would they like to stay in touch with what's happening in Town? Send the *Signpost*! Or maybe it's you who are headed elsewhere. Subscribe for yourself. New and renewal subscriptions are \$15.00 per year. Send payment with recipient's name and address to: PO Box 184, East Montpelier, VT 05651. Contributions should go to the same address. And we thank you!

entered a period of novitiate to see if she has a further spiritual calling within the Episcopal Church.

She has been willing to take on responsibilities or jobs that many of us usually prefer to leave to others. Her term as East Montpelier Zoning Administrator, and now on the Selectboard, are examples of this at the town level. Martha says that serving on the Selectboard is a chance for her to practice what she believes. In other words, she noted, we practice in life what we think we believe and value, yet sometimes we discover that our beliefs and values aren't what we thought they were. "It is when we are involved in new situations, or gain new perspectives on old situations that we find out where our values really lie."

She feels very fortunate to be serving in East Montpelier because the town has a tradition of open minds and "mutual tolerance and forbearance." This inclusivity and the desire to hear from differing points of view, Martha notes, is necessary for a healthy community. She hopes to "strengthen and bolster" this tradition, just as she welcomes her own opportunities to become more flexible with her ideas and values.

Martha follows a long family tradition of love of the outdoors and concern for the environment. She enjoys hiking, whether checking out the next mountain top or just "being in the woods with my dog." During the winter she often cross-country skis or snowshoes to visit neighbors. Whenever possible, she

supplements her meals with "wild crafting," the practice of finding edible wild foods, such as fiddleheads and wild leeks in the spring. She likes to share her first harvests with friends who also appreciate them. Her own search for harmony with the earth and creation contributes to the serenity and calm that one often feels in her presence.

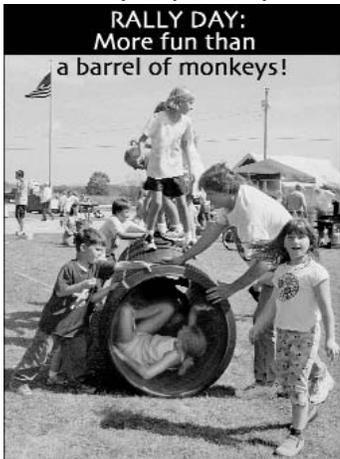
Martha lives a very simple life without feeling a need for many of the modern acquisitions that most of us think are necessary. Although she prefers to live without reference to a clock, she does have an answering machine and a computer. She told me that she is grateful for the space and freedom that her lifestyle allows. She added that it is wonderful to be living in the family home in which she and her siblings were raised. Martha also is pleased that her brother Spike and his wife Janet MacLeod have retired to their recently built home on Templeton Road.

Martha is indeed a unique individual. She noted at the end of our interview that "it takes every voice to make a true democracy." Her voice, as well as her caring and wise presence, will make a positive addition to our Selectboard.

Joanne and her husband Roy live on the Center Road farm founded by her ancestors in 1788. Their brick house was built in 1842 and she is the sixth generation on the farm.

RALLY DAY 2003— SEPTEMBER 13

Rally your friends and neighbors around and encourage them to put East Montpelier Rally Day on their calendars on September 13, 2003! Rally Day is a day for all townspeople to get together and enjoy our friendly community. The list of fun filled events is long:



- Games, art projects, and fire trucks for the kids
- Music and food for all to enjoy
- The Silent Auction to raise funds to get the *Signpost* delivered to your home
- A homespun parade and the Citizen of The Year celebration
- A Market featuring the talents of the town's farmers, cooks, and craftspeople
- Lots of other activities to put a smile on your face

We also have the best fireworks around and this year we're asking for donations to help offset the cost. So far, we've raised just over \$800. Please consider giving food, services, or sending a tax-deductible contribution to "East Montpelier Fireworks Fund" care of the Town Clerk's Office.

We could use your help in planning this great event:

- Are you good at making phone calls to potential donors for the Silent Auction?
- Would you like to set up posts and signs along the roadway, carry tables both inside and outside the school, prepare games for children of various ages, or clean up after the event?
- Or maybe you have some great ideas for new activities?

If you are interested in volunteering your time or items for the auction, please contact:

Jennifer Boyer 223-8926 <jboyer@adelphia.net>
Rachel Senechal 223-0539 <Senechal55@hotmail.com>
Deborah Fillion 229-1320 <fillion@madriver.com>

We'll work together to make Rally Day the best ever! See you there!

RALLY DAY FIREWORKS UPDATE

Donations received to date include:

- 1 Small Blue Peony @ \$5.50
- 2 Dragon Eggs with Salute @ \$13.95
- 8 Golden Spider with Red Pistil @ \$21.80
- 1 Strobing Willow with Whistles @ \$36.45
- 2 Purple Crown Chrysanthemum @ \$47.75
- 3 Coconut Tree with Golden Tail @ \$59.20

Plus 3 Business Sponsors and donations to help buy food for hungry volunteers. Send your tax-deductible contributions to:

"East Montpelier Fireworks Fund"
c/o Town Clerk, P.O. Box 157
East Montpelier, VT 05651

Information sheets and donor forms are available from the Town Clerk.

Many thanks to these recent contributors:

Stephen & Lisa Pratt Judith Hinds
Conrad & Anne Ormsbee

Business Sponsors

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LIBRARY NEWS

KELLOGG-HUBBARD LIBRARY

VanGo Bookmobile Returns

With the loss of Wheels Transportation, the popular VanGo bookmobile was temporarily grounded. However, the company that provides school bus service to the area has taken over the contract, and the VanGo will be back on the road beginning June 16th. The Bookmobile stops in East Montpelier on Fridays, from 10:00am -11:15am at the Four Corners School and from 11:30am -12:30pm in the parking lot across from the Old Brick Church on VT14. If you live near Calais, it will also be at the Maple Corner Store on Mondays, from 10:00am to 11:00am. Bring the whole family! For more information call Mary Jane Manahan of the Kellogg-Hubbard at 223-3338 or Dan Greene of U-32 at 229-0321.

Read a Good Book Lately? Sometimes the library shelves can be overwhelming when you're just looking for a good book. Stop at our "Recommended" table near the Kellogg-Hubbard main desk. You'll find a notebook to which anyone can add a recommendation, and an ever-changing display of books that your fellow readers have loved.

Audio Books and Videos If you're traveling this summer, don't forget the Kellogg-Hubbard's large collection of books on tape and CD, for both adults and children. There's nothing like them to make the miles fly by on a long trip. And for vacation weeks, the library has a growing collection of videos which include how-to, fitness, travel, documentaries, and many PBS and BBC productions.

Summer Fun for School-Age Children To sign up your child for any program, call 223-4665.

Monday, June 16th: Registration begins for the Vermont Summer Reading Program. The theme this year is "Summer Feast." Bring your child to pick up a summer reading record and a schedule of summer library activities. If you can't make it on that day, you can sign up anytime through the summer.

Thursday, June 19th 6:30 pm: Visit the VanGo Bookmobile at the Library, and sign up for the Summer Reading Program. Refreshments!

Tuesday, June 24th 1 pm: Make a "no cook dessert pizza." We even supply the yummy ingredients!

Summer Hours for Area Libraries

This may be the summer you take advantage of the smorgasbord of summer activities offered by our local libraries. There's a lot going on at the Kellogg-Hubbard Library in Montpelier. If you and your family haven't yet gotten your free Kellogg-Hubbard library card, summer is the time to do it! Call 223-3338 for more information. Their children's programs sound like a lot of fun.

If you're looking for other library options consider a trip over to the Cutler Memorial Library in Plainfield. They're offering a family-based evening program every Tuesday night at 6:30 and welcome any interested East Montpelier residents. You can call the library (454-8504) or the Plainfield Town Clerk (454-8461) for more information or schedules.

The Aldrich Library in Barre has a full summer program of books, crafts, and food running June 23-August 15. You can call them for details (476-7550). In addition, they are presenting the Red Wing Puppet Theater on July 17 at 2:00. The Aldrich is also offering children free lunch and activities every day Monday through Friday this summer! This is sponsored by the Vermont Campaign to End Childhood Hunger.

Many people carry several library cards!

Thursday, July 3rd from 1-3 pm: Lawn Party Luau, with family fun, games, refreshments, sand, wading pools and music. Stay to watch the parade!

Tuesday, July 8th 1 pm: Make a chef's apron and enjoy a vegetable carving demonstration.

Thursday, July 17th 6:30 pm: Create a marshmallow critter!

Tuesday, July 22 1 pm: Make "Wombat Stew," a fruit trifle, with our resident chefs.

Thursday, August 7th 1-3 pm: (rain date Friday, August 8th.) Tie dye on the lawn. Bring t-shirts, socks, pillow cases, or anything else you'd like to dye. We'll supply dye and buckets. Wear protective clothing for this messy activity!

Thursday, August 21st 6:30 pm: Make a food magnet.

Summer Fun for Pre-Schoolers Beginning Tuesday, June 23

Storytime will bring your pre-schooler the magic of stories at the Kellogg-Hubbard on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; 10:30 am. Siblings are welcome to come along. Summer storytime ends Wednesday, July 30.

— Please sign up in advance for all events! —



EMES KINDERGARTEN POEM CORNER

OUBLECK
messy, mushy, squishy
squeeze it, play with it
feel it
slimy, slushy, watery
oobleck is fun!

HAPPY
Happy eating
Happy playing
Happy stories
Happy school
Happy class
Happy bunnies
Happy circus
Happy Winnie and Pogo
Happy

TOWN DOINGS

FOUR CORNERS SCHOOLHOUSE ASSOCIATION

Rachel Senechal, President

April 29, 2003

- > Annual Meeting. Marion Codling and Donna Hall are leaving at end of three year term. Becky Crandell was re-elected. Marion Codling will continue as Clerk until a replacement is found. Will endeavor to find town residents to fill vacancies.

May 14, 2003

- > Discussed plans for Rally Day. Theme will be Alumni of FCSH.
- > Rachel Senechal presented Marion Codling with a framed Certificate of Appreciation for her several years as clerk/treasurer. Marion received a photo and cards of the FCSH from Elaine Manghi, flowers from Becky Crandell, pickles and jelly from Paul Cate and words of appreciation from all present. Among the notables attending this recognition of Marion's service were Wes Cate, former President of the FCSH, State Representative Tony Klein, Selectboard member Martha Holden, and EMES School Principal Carol Randall. The award was followed by cake, coffee and tea planned by Diana Fielder.

Search for FCSH Alumni

If you attended the Four Corners Schoolhouse, be sure to come to the Alumni Event on Rally Day, September 13! Bring your stories, tales of woe, memories of a favorite teacher, walking to school in the snow ...

A great opportunity to meet fellow alumni.

GREENHOUSE WORKSHOP

Lydia Faesey presented a workshop on building an inexpensive greenhouse on May 3, 2003, at her home on Kelton Rd. The workshop was sponsored by the Four Corners Schoolhouse Association.



Poplar saplings and flexible greenhouse covering can make an inexpensive house for early greens.



Photos by Rachel Senechal

MARION CODLING HONORED

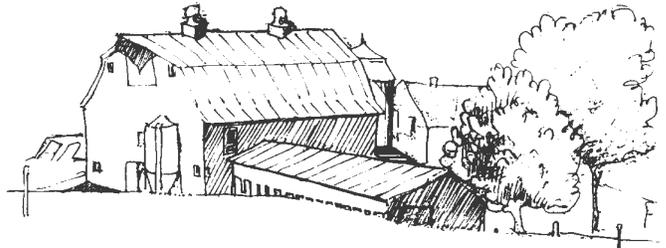
On May 14, 2003, Marion Codling was honored for her many years of service as board member of the Four Corners Schoolhouse Association. Marion is not your run of the mill board member. She likes to wear several "hats" at one time. Currently, she is interim clerk/treasurer and historian. A few years back, she was also the scheduler, snow-shoveler, part-time janitor, bookseller, supplies-shopper, building-monitor for various events and a whole lot more. There is so much that Marion did, and probably still does, that we never hear about because Marion just completes the task and tells no one.

When Marion decided to relinquish her many duties as a member of the board of directors, we were devastated. The meetings just wouldn't be the same without her. But we found a way to keep Marion tied to us. Marion is our Board Historian. Did you know that Marion can tell you how many fireworks were displayed at Northstar's first Rally Day?

Marion's appreciation and knowledge of the Four Corners Schoolhouse is unrivaled. Her organization of the monthly meetings will be sorely missed. Marion's perspective on life has been a great asset to the make-up of the board. She is warm, friendly and has a great sense of humor. We know that it will take more than one person to fill Marion's shoes. Fortunately, she is staying on the Board until we find a new clerk and a new treasurer.

A quote by Becky Crandell sums up how we all feel, "Marion, you're my hero."

Rachel Senechal



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THE TOWN WEATHERVANE



Selectboard

*Edie Miller, Chair,
Martha Holden, Tom Brazier*

April 7, 2003

- > Heidimarie Heiss (Art teacher from EMES) presented information about Kids First Culture Project. Children are creating a design on a muslin flag representing their interests.
- > Michelle McFadden of EMES discussed proposed access and traffic flow for parking lot, school bus driveway and parent drop-off. Will return when further information is available.
- > Discussed salt shed design. Will be purchasing property for \$3,500 from Mr. Witham.
- > Approved the Vermont Municipal Equipment Loan application.
- > Road Foreman Mike Garand received approval to rent excavator from May 15 to June 15 to perform ditching and maintenance tasks.
- > Approved access permit application for Gregory Farnum (Brazier Road) with conditions as stipulated by Road Foreman.
- > Appointed Richard Curtis to three year term on Board of Adjustment.
- > Agreed to support Plainfield Health Center in their application to be a Federally Qualified Health Center.
- > Marlene Betit reported that Jamie Shanley of Trails Committee has requested barrier across trail on Dodge Road to eliminate ATV traffic which is tearing up the trail.

April 21, 2003 Town Plan Public Hearing and Selectboard Meeting

- > Discussion and comments from public. Comments were taped.
- > Approved Diana Chace as Zoning Administrator for one year.
- > Changed meeting time from 6:30 pm to 7:00 pm.
- > Access permit for Richard Desmarais off Gray Road approved with stipulations and conditions as outlined by Road Foreman.
- > Appointed Terri Conti to three-year term on Recreation Board, Tim Meehan as Animal Control Officer

and Rachel Senechal as Rally Day Co-chair.

May 5, 2003

- > Approved Access Permit for Judith Hunter off Gray Road with conditions stated by Road Foreman.
- > Approved bid of David Hudson for surveying Brazier Road.
- > Authorized Road Foreman Garand to bid up to \$13,000 for an excavator at State Auction.
- > Discussed speed limits.
- > Met with Planning Commission members regarding Town Plan. Made suggestions.

Planning Commission

Carol Welch, Chair

April 3, 2003

- > Hearing to determine if Donald Cote shall be granted permit amendment for as-built storage building #3 on US2. Approved final site plan.
- > Approved application of Josephine Spilka to operate practice of Chinese medicine at her residence at 1765 North St. Approved as home occupation.
- > Spoke with Diana Chace, candidate for Zoning Administrator. Voted to ask her to accept position.
- > Agreed to meet first and third Wednesday of each month.

April 17, 2003

- > Approved proposed change of use and sign for retail operation of Vermont State Surplus Property, retail division, located at 50 Packard Road.
- > Approved application of Joyce Wheeler to change her current Registered Daycare to Licensed Daycare in her home at 1205 Towne Hill Road. Voted to approve the daycare as a home occupation.
- > Approved sketch plan of Anthony Cassani to subdivide site on US2, with addition of measurements and abutters to site plan.
- > Approved new 3' x 4' sign for Casey Northrup.

May 1, 2003

- > Approved signs for Harry Morse.

May 21, 2003

- > Working meeting on Town Plan.

Board of Adjustment

Jeff Cueto, Chair

March 10, 2003

- > Hearing on Harry and Elizabeth Morse's request to move an interior wall and roof over the entrance. This is a change in the original application and would not change the footprint of the building. Voted to amend original Conditional Use Permit to include expansion of retail area by 32 sq. ft. and add stoop area under existing overhang.

April 28, 2003

- > Held public hearing to determine if Allan Hedding shall be granted change-of-use to operate auto sales at the property of Thomas Rus on VT14N. Voted to ratify prior conditions with exception to increase number of vehicles to 35, change the hours and state that repairs and maintenance be done inside.
- > Introduced new Zoning Administrator, Diana Chace and new member Richard Curtis, Jr.

May 12, 2003

- > Hearing on request of Marlene Betit and Kenneth Lorden to build addition on house at 1475 Horn of the Moon Rd. Would have a 45 ft. setback instead of 75 ft. setback. Voted to grant variance.
- > Hearing on request of Marilyn and Edward Blackwell to extend garage at 3770 Center Road. Would have 35 ft. setback. Approved
- > Hearing on request of Paul Shper to build addition on business at 3070 US2 in Residential Zone C, requiring a 50 ft. setback. Would have 32 ft. front setback. Variance granted.



Elementary School

*Jan Aldrich, Chair
Joe Buley, Julia Haynes
Robert Rikken, Nancy Thomas*

[Nancy Thomas has resigned from the Board. A replacement will be appointed by the Selectboard by July 1.]

March 6, 2003

- > Welcomed new board members, Julia Haynes and Joe Buley.
- > Re-elected Jan Aldrich as Chairperson, Nancy Thomas as Vice-Chairperson and elected Joe Buley Clerk.
- > Board meetings will be changed to first Tuesday of each month.
- > Nicole Bourassa of Community Connections did a sustainability presentation. Program has three goals: improve academic performance, reduce risky behaviors and expand use of school building for community.
- > Michelle McFadden reported on Capital Improvement Committee. Committee will be compiling comments on plans to improve pedestrian and traffic flow.
- > Reviewed Board goals. Will revise budget development process to include long-term planning. Second new goal is to be informed of student progress and respond to assessment data.
- > Accepted Marcia Pauly's letter of retirement for the end of school year with great regret.

March 19, 2003

- > Meeting held after Washington Central Supervisory Union full Board meeting. Discussion with Ray Proulx on long term financial planning.

April 3, 2003

- > Carol Randall presented summary of School's Continuous Improvement Plan started in 1997. Three broad goals are: students to achieve in all areas, enrich experiences of all children and provide safe and respectful environment.
- > Bob Rikken reported on subcommittee on communications. Staff and community members are invited to be on this

committee. Want to make Board accessible to staff and community. He reported the staff appreciates Board support in getting mobile lab. Staff will participate in workshop to learn how to use this technology resource.
>Carol Randall reported that 27 or 28 students are anticipated to enter kindergarten in the fall.

U-32 Jr. Sr. High School

*Tony Klein, Chair
Ginny Burley
East Montpelier Members*

[Tony Klein has resigned from the Board and as the Chair, effective July 1. A replacement will be appointed by the Selectboard by that date.]

March 19, 2003

- > Voted to take \$2,500 from fund balance for installation of automatic ADA door opener.
- > Dot Blake distributed copies of Dept. Review responses to trimester surveys. She recommended trimester framework continue and scheduling issues be addressed and implemented before next school year.

April 2, 2003

- > Dot Blake reported U-32's one act play won first place in regional competition.
- > Jon Winston reported he has ordered two two-passenger and four four-passenger electric cars for U-32 use free of charge. Program sponsored by Daimler-Chrysler and offered to schools, municipalities and other non-profit organizations.
- > Voted to approve continuation of trimester schedule.
- > Kyle Magida is coordinating requested open forum between board members and students.

April 16, 2003

- > Welcomed Tanya Ashford as new Recording Secretary.
- > Trip to France with 22 students and one to Costa Rica with 16 students have departed.
- > U-32's Division II Champion Boys' Basketball and Football teams were

recognized by Gov. Douglas at the Vermont Statehouse.
> Discussed Student Community Outreach Project (SCOP).
> Approved U-32 2003-2004 Calendar and set graduation date for June 18th, 2004.
> Approved tuition waivers for two foreign exchange students: Jose Sosa Cevallos from Ecuador to live with Harvey/Wollaeger family in Calais, and Marilyn Ibarra from Venezuela to live with the Hall family in East Montpelier.

May 7, 2003

- > Dot Blake reported on successful SCOP day. About 200 high school students did community service work in various off-campus workplaces.
- > Jon Winston reported that punch list has been completed. Have started on warranty items.
- > Voted to approve resolution for Teacher Appreciation Day. Board invited to join faculty at a breakfast buffet.
- > Approved tuition waivers for two foreign exchange students: Elina Ylonen from Finland to live with Bob and Cheryl Clark of Berlin, and Maria Elena Briga from Italy to live with August Burns and Eliot Burg of Middlesex.

May 13, 2003

- > Voted to offer one-year contract to Mark C. Moody as Assistant Principal for the middle level.

**EMES Board Members
Contact Information**

Jan Aldrich
229-0406 {Janice-Aldrich@hotmail.com}
Joe Buley
223-7970 {jbuleyjr@adelphia.net}
Julia Haynes
223-1651 {julia@vsha.org}
Robert Rikken
223-4262 {rrikken@adelphia.net}

TOWN DOINGS

MILESTONES

Land Transfers

- > Margaret Ellen Brown, Estate of, to Thomas D. Webster, 3.5 acres & dwelling, Upper North St.
- > Glen G. & Esther C. Goodall, Nancy G. Boucher & Susan G. Lightsey, 0.82 acre & dwelling to Coleman & Jody M. Parker, Maplewood Rd.
- > Ann F. Smith to Judson H. Lightsey, Jr., Trustee of Lightsey-Boucher Trust, 2.7 acres & dwelling, Maplewood Rd.
- > Howard E. Stone Jr. and Susanne R. Stone to Daniel J. & Flor Diaz Smith, 200 acres & dwelling, Horn of the Moon Rd.
- > Kevin D. North to Clifford & Abigail M. Hickman, 1.1 acre & dwelling, US2, village.
- > Norman L. & Carla J. Messier to Kelly A. Bevins & David L. Fournier, 1.08 acre and dwelling, US2.
- > Beatrice F. Lessard to Susan J. Janawicz, 3.69 acres & dwelling/shop, US2.
- > Laura Medalie to Laura Medalie & David A. Kissner, 3.5 acres & dwelling, Barnes Rd.
- > Edwin P. Clark, Estate of, to Linda L. Royce, 0.35 acre, Quaker Hill Rd.
- > Charlene C. Allard to Charlene C. & Wilfred P. Allard, 21.5 acres & dwelling, VT214.
- > Joseph A. Cerasoli Jr. to James M. & Sheila LaPerle, easement, US2.
- > Abigail D. Faulkner & Hobart G. Guion, Jr. to Abigail D. Faulkner & Hobart G. Guion, Jr., 33.65 acres &

- dwelling, Kelton Rd.
- > Jon B. Dunkling and Karen M. Dunkling to Karen M. Dunkling, 5.1 acres & dwelling, Vincent Flats Rd.
- > Holly Ann Wood Edwards to David Bradstreet & Ann L. Wiggins, 2 acres & dwelling, Putnam Rd.
- > John E. & Grace I. Mekkelson to Grace I. Mekkelsen, corrective deed, 113 acres, US2.

Births

- > Kilee Elaine Rolland, March 6, 2003, daughter of Nancy Lynn & Ty Christopher Rolland.
- > Jacob Gibson McCoy, March 7, 2003, son of Margaret & Patrick Whitney McCoy.
- > Bailey Elizabeth Morse, March 20, 2003, daughter of Samantha Jean MacDonald & Michael David Morse.
- > Jordan Tate Pryce, April 17, 2003, daughter of Tonia Jean & Derek Tate Pryce.
- > Nicholas Scott Buck, April 29, 2003, son of Niki Marie Doe and Scott Charles Buck.

Marriage

- > Michael Gene Metcalf to Melissa Sue Leach, April 12, 2003.

Deaths

- > Everett Bissell, March 29, 2003, spouse of Mabel Bissell and father of Elaine Goodall.
- > Nellie A. Wedge, April 6, 2003.

CEMETERY COMMISSION

Pauline Coburn, Chair

March 12, 2003

- > Fences at Village and Doty cemeteries were not completed last fall due to inclement weather.
- > Began review of Cemetery rules.
- > Elliott Morse provided list of tasks to be done.
- > Voted to order signs for Cutler, Cate, East Village, Quaker and Tinkham cemeteries.
- > Voted to pay VFW \$100 to help defray cost of placing flags on veterans' graves.

April 29, 2003

- > Cedar braces for Village fence have been ordered.
- > Continued review of Cemetery rules.
- > Elliott Morse plans to place signs at cemetery entrances reminding families that artificial flowers are not permitted in the cemeteries.

NEW ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Hi! I'm pleased to be the new East Montpelier Zoning Administrator and I'd like everyone to know that you can find me in the town office Tuesdays and Thursdays between 3:00 and 5:00. I'm often there other times, as well. Please stop by and see me if you have any questions about zoning. If you are planning a building project, please apply for your permit at least 8 weeks before you plan to begin. It sometimes takes a little time for the permit to make its way through the process, and I don't like for anyone's project to be delayed.

Enjoy the building season!

Diana Chace

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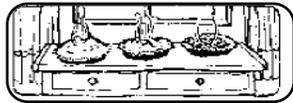
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LOOKING BACKWARDS



CHOCOLATE STEAMED PUDDING - ESTHER GALLISON

1 egg	½ cup sugar
1 tbs. melted butter	1 heaping tbs. cocoa
½ teaspoon vanilla	½ cup sweet milk
1 heaping cup flour sifted twice	1 teaspoon cream tartar
½ teaspoon soda	½ teaspoon baking powder.

Steam one hour. Serve with any sauce desired.

Esther and Raymond Gallison lived on Markham Road in the house where our roving photographer, Elaine Manghi now lives.

The *Community Cook Book* was "sponsored" in the early 1940s by The Friendly Circle.

RECIPES FROM THE COMMUNITY COOK BOOK

"Taste-Tested" with hints and up-date as needed
by *Paulie Coburn*

Paulie's Comments

Combine all ingredients in a mixing bowl. Put the batter in a greased 13-ounce coffee can. Cover with aluminum foil and secure with a rubber band or piece of string. Steam over simmering water in a covered kettle for one hour. Use a small can or some device to hold the coffee can off the bottom of the kettle. Or do as I did and use a pasta cooker.

Historical Society

by *Anne Ormsbee, Treasurer*

During the April meeting, memories of life at home in East Montpelier were shared, as members read diaries, ledgers, letters, and even entries from a family Bible. Hilari Farrington and Elaine Manghi read a Civil War letter in which the writer described his longing for a box from home and the goodies it might contain. We heard that 19th and early 20th century townspeople often kept only a terse record of the weather and daily activities. Even the Hurricane of 1938 didn't elicit much written comment in one diary.

At the meeting in May, Mo Cerutti, Anne Ormsbee, & Dave Coburn discussed the Nye family and the Nye organ company. In the 1840s, brothers Ezekiel and George Nye started manufacturing reed organs, called melodeons and seraphenes, in a small shop at one end of the woolen factory in North Montpelier, where they had also been making violins. In 1840, they built a shop on a site which backed up to the Kingsbury Branch, thus providing access for a two and a half foot waterwheel at 6 horsepower. At the height of production, 1859-1860, the factory produced 36 instruments valued at \$3960. The business closed

in 1888. George Pray tore down the shop in 1895 and built a store on the site.

The Nyes' musical legacy extended beyond the factory, as George and Ezekiel played their violins at church and social gatherings. Ezekiel's daughter Ellen became a gifted pianist, and the three Nyes played as the Nye Orchestra. After Ellen was married in 1893 to Albert Gray, a widower with five children, she formed the Gray Orchestra, consisting of the five Gray children and Ellen, and they performed frequently, including at the Dudley Music Conventions. Ellen continued to teach until well into her 80s and died in 1940.

Where are the Nye organs now? We know of one: a Nye seraphene in the Old Brick Church, a gift from T. Raymond Clark and his cousin Carroll Coburn. They obtained the organ from the estate of a Clough family in Calais and gave it to the church in honor of their mothers Julia and Belle Hollister.

One more Nye legacy: George Nye's son, William, operated the Nye Store located near the "singing bridge" from the 1870's until his death in 1925. William was also postmaster until 1900. He built a house opposite the woolen mill and served in the Legislature 1894-1895.

The Historical Society will hold a joint meeting with Calais in July. There is no meeting in August but we will reconvene for the annual meeting and program on September 15 at the Four Corners School.

SPECIAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

The Calais Historical Society invites everyone to attend a joint meeting of the East Montpelier and Calais Historical Societies on Monday, July 7. A talk about Lovell Kelton, framer of the Old Meeting House in East Montpelier Center and the Old West Church in Calais, will be given by Priscilla Backman, his descendant.

Kelton was a notable figure in local history, designing and building many other structures in this area. He is also the ancestor of several local families.

The talk will be preceded by a potluck dinner at the Old Meeting House Parish House at 6 pm. Everyone is welcome to both the potluck (please bring food to share) and the talk. For more information about the meeting or about Kelton, call Peter Harvey of the Calais Historical Society at 229-4026.

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IN SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

BATTERED WOMEN'S SERVICES AND SHELTER

Each year many non-profit organizations ask our town to give them financial support. A group of local folks are appointed by our Selectboard to review these requests and make recommendations as to which groups we want to support and the level of funding we will offer. These are the groups you vote for at town meeting.

The Battered Women's Services and Shelter (BWSS) is one of a dozen or so organizations we support as a town. So, what is it they do for us? More than 4,000 Washington county people participated in one or more of their services during the last year. Some of those certainly came from East Montpelier. Here's a look at what the BWSS has to offer :

SHELTER: Women and their children fleeing domestic abuse are offered respite from violence in a safe home-like environment. Families are provided information about domestic violence and community resources, referrals and advocacy to social services and courts.

24-HOUR HOT LINE (223-0855): Staff and trained volunteers maintain a 24-hour hotline to offer support, intervention, and information for victims of domestic violence.

COURT EDUCATION PROGRAM: Provides an advocate to be present at hearings.

SUPPORT GROUPS: Provide both day and evening groups.

VIOLENCE-FREE RELATIONSHIP: This program is offered to middle and high school students. One is available at U-32.

WOW!
Thank You's go out to everyone who helped make Green Up Day 2003 a huge success! We had well over 100 people drop off collected trash at the elementary school, more participation than ever before. We filled two town trucks to near overflowing with trash and recyclables from our roadsides. After compiling reports of where folks worked, I estimate that together we Greened Up about 70% of our total town road mileage! Thanks for your part in this wonderful accomplishment.

Bill Merrylees

EAST MONTPELIER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The EMFD is a pretty busy organization. Since January 1, it has responded to 103 calls. Training is an ongoing function and, in April, five officers attended a safety officer's course in Essex, Vermont. Later on that month, EMFD members took a six hour Hazardous Awareness Course at U-32 high school. These days, hazardous material is an increasing threat; special knowledge is needed in order to be prepared for "hazmat" incidents. The department was again represented at the annual Dabble Days at U-32, on April 12.

Coming events for the EMFD include Washington County Field Days in July and Rally Day in September. They hope to have a "hazmat/smoke" trailer at one or both events.

The EMFD annual meeting and elections took place in May with the officers treating all members to a great barbecue. The elected officers are: Ty Rolland, President; Greg Pelchuck, Vice President; Toby Talbot, Treasurer; Bill George, Administrative Assistant; Forest Davis, Secretary; Robin Copping, Chaplain; and Tom Brazier, Chief. The Board of Directors includes the above officers and Rick Barstow and John Boucher. Bill Amell and John Boucher were elected Officers in Training; Robin Copping and Bill George were elected Safety Officers.

A large majority of the fire calls recently were chimney fires, grass fires, carbon monoxide detector alarms. EMFD encourages all residents to have a smoke detector and a carbon monoxide detector on all floors of your home. Check batteries regularly and change them twice each year. This simple act could save your life.

The Department wishes to thank the community for its continued support. Stay safe this summer!

Robin Copping



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FRESH FROM THE FARM — THREE SEASONS OF GOOD THINGS

Jessie Taylor



Spring is the busiest season for Legare's Farm Market. Closed for the winter, the doors reopen in late April and preparations for the spring season get under way. The May day I was there it was gray and rainy, yet the colors in the full greenhouse were so vibrant that they almost shimmered: geraniums, pansies, petunia, alyssum, hanging planters of fuchsias and verbena, and much more all lined up awaiting a plot of their own. There is something about a greenhouse bursting with bloom that warms the soul, especially after the long winter and ongoing wet spring that we have all endured!

Merrill Legare owns three farm markets in the area, one of which is in East Montpelier on Route 2 heading for Plainfield. Merrill bought the property in 1993, removed a small shed and constructed the existing building. US2 is one of the only east/west roads in the state and thus, between the local traffic and those who are passing through, there is a healthy customer base for the store. The building is long and low with a greenhouse on one side and a market store on the other. In the warmth of the spring the greenhouse sides are rolled up letting the fragrant smell of the hothouse pour out into the parking lot. The walls of the market are glass overhead doors and they too are raised to present the wares inside. The roadside sign announces that Legare's is once again in full swing!

Betty Fortin is the East Montpelier Market's new manager. She has been with Legare's for five years and has just stepped into the role of manager. A Vermonter, she grew up in southern Vermont and has been living in East Montpelier for twenty years. When asked what is the favorite part of her job she says it's a toss-up between the people and the flowers. A van arrives daily, at least, from the home farm delivering flats and flats of fresh blooms as well as vegetables and herbs. The flowers are all grown on the home farm in Calais. Planted in early February, they are then transplanted a few weeks later and are ready for Mother's Day in May. Betty is supported by a staff consisting of Jeanne Christie, a full time "right arm" who tends the greenhouse, and three part timers.

The greenhouse is but half of Legare's. The other half is the market portion. There are large bins of potatoes, onions, fresh produce, homemade dressings, pickles and relish. Pies, baked on the premises, homemade fudge, locally baked cookies and breads are just a few of the treats to be found. There are bags of nuts, raisins, dried fruits and more. All this in addition to the daily needed items of milk, cheese and eggs. It is indeed a one-stop shop of beauty for the soul and nourishment for the body.

After the rush of spring planting, flowers then give way to garden produce. Peas, lettuce, and spinach lead the way, soon to be followed by the famous Legare strawberry run. When asked about the lingering rain this spring and its effect on the strawberries Merrill replied that the strawberries look great. They are basically a weed and so with the rain they are growing well. Followed with a little bit of sunshine he predicted that it should be a good year. As the summer progresses the produce increases

- beans, cucumbers, tomatoes, broccoli, and so on. The market is a veritable salad bowl of freshly grown produce.

Sweet corn is another one of Legare's top sellers. Merrill recalls that as an eleven-year-old child in Groton he planted an acre of sweet corn and half an acre of peas, tended it and sold the resulting vegetables beside the road. With a grin he says "That's how it all started." Yet, he adds "had you told me that I was going to earn my living growing flowers and vegetables I wouldn't have believed you!" At the time he was just trying to earn some spending money along with collecting bottles by the road and tapping 25 maples in the spring. As an adult when Legare bought the eighty-acre Calais property in 1966 he was a logger. He logged the timber off the wooded portion of the property and also planted an acre of corn in one of the fields, just as he had done years before. Selling that corn on a roadside table was the beginning. Since then he's been one of the leading produce farmers in the area. Ninety percent of all the fruits and vegetables sold at the three Legare Markets are grown at the home



Merrill Legare — Betty Fortin — Jeanne Christie.

farm. Surplus vegetables are also distributed locally with some even going to Boston.

The summer salad bowl at Legare's slowly gives way to the fall harvest. Squash, pumpkins, local apples and hardy mums add autumn color to the market. It is a sign that yet another lush growing season is waning. The Market was open year round for several years. However, the length of our winters proved too difficult, and it is now a three season operation. Thus, Christmas trees, also grown on the home farm, usher in the last of the Legare Market's seasons. Brightly decorated wreaths adorn the now closed glass doors and the greenhouse once again has its sides unfurled. The scent of flowers has been overpowered by balsam perfume. Shortly after Christmas the Market will be closed until the spring bloom of next year.

Jessie Taylor lives with her two sons Zack, five, and Robin, three, on Chickering Road. They have a dog, a cat, two horses and chickens. They're happily home-schooling and growing.

COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR

Please note, there have been several schedule changes.

Selectboard	1st & 3rd Monday	7:00	Town Office
Planning Commission (PC)	1st & 3rd Wednesday	7:00	Town Office
Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA)	2nd & 4th Monday	7:30	Town Office
Conservation Fund Advisory Comm.	2nd Thursday	7:30	Town Office
U-32 Board	1st & 3rd Wednesday	6:30	U-32 High School
Elementary School Board (EMES)	1st Tuesday	6:30	Elementary School
Recreation Board	3rd Monday	6:30	Town Office
Revolving Loan Committee	2nd Wednesday (no meeting in July)	6:30	Town Office
Volunteer Fire Department	Every Tuesday	7:00	Fire Station, Templeton Rd.
Four Corners Schoolhouse Assoc.	2nd Wednesday	7:00	Four Corners Schoolhouse

EAST MONTPELIER TOWN OFFICE

PO Box 157, East Montpelier, Vt 05651
Office Hours: M-Th 9:00-5:00 F 9:00-Noon
Phone: 802-223-3313

Clerk-Treasurer - Sylvia Tosi

email: eastmontp1@adelphia.net

Asst. Clerk-Treasurer - Terri Conti

email: eastmontp2@adelphia.net

Asst. Clerk - Ginger Hopkins

Town Administrator - Marlene Betit

email: eastmontpe@adelphia.net

(M-Tu 9:00-5:00, W 9:00-12:00)

Chief Lister - Rosie Cueto

(M-F 9:00-11:30)

Zoning Administrator - Diana Chace

(Tu & Th 3:00-5:00)

email: eastmontp3@adelphia.net

EVENTS CALENDAR

July 1	New Schoolboard members appointed to fill unexpired terms.		
July 7	Historical Society - Joint Meeting with Calais Society	6:00 pm	Old Meeting House
August 1	Deadline for material for the Sep/Oct <i>Signpost</i>		
August 27	First day of school		EMES
August 27	First day of school for grades 10 - 12		U-32
August 28	First day of school for grades 7-9		U-32
September 13	Rally Day - Mark your calendars	All day	All over town
Lots of summer events at the area libraries —check Page 4 for the particulars.			



Make time to enjoy the summer!



Deadline for next issue: August 1 to Dave & Darlene Grundy, 476-4300 {ddgrundy@aol.com}

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Inside: Martha and
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