



EAST MONTPELIER Signpost

Volume XXIII—Number One

September/October 2012

Rowdy & ‘Rusty’ Rally Day Planned for Sept. 8

by Lisa Helme, Rally Day Committee Member



Rally Day 2012, marking the twenty-fourth annual celebration of East Montpelier, will feature a special performance by entertainer, comedic artist, actor, producer, writer, musician, and master of duct tape—Rusty DeWees as “The Logger.” The evening will end with a literal bang as our neighbors at Northstar Fireworks once again bring us a spectacular light-up-the-sky display.

Thanks to the financial support of NorthCountry Federal Credit Union, there is no charge to attend the performance of “The

Continued on page 9



Road Names: A Hot Topic

Our request for stories about the road names in East Montpelier (see page 10 for road map) drew many stories as well as general information about how roads have been named over time. It turns out that many roads did not have names before the 1970s, though some did, mostly through general use. Some, like Center Road, had been referred to by name since early times. Others became known by the name of the prominent farm on that road. As Austin Cleaves remarked, “Until the town started to grow, those who used the roads were local people who were familiar with where they were going and didn’t really need road names.” The roads had been given numbers by the state Department of Transportation, but those weren’t really used by the residents.

Andy Christiansen told us, “Prior to the renaming of the roads, our address was simply East Montpelier, and there were no road names. When I was in college, I impressed my college friends by first telling them my address was: ‘Andy Christiansen, East Montpelier, VT.’ and later, ‘Christiansen Estates, 4500 (made up number) Christiansen Boulevard, East Montpelier, VT.’ It was good for a disbelieving chuckle until they realized that the address worked and I was actually receiving their mail.”

In 1973 a Bicentennial Committee was formed. They took on many tasks to celebrate the country’s two-hundredth

IN THIS ISSUE

2 — Financing our Future

3 — Local Food

6 — Town Weathervane

10 — Hearings on New Town Plan

Continued on page 4

Signpost Volunteers

Ted Allen: Mailing

229-5819 tedallen05602@comcast.net

Terry J. Allen: Layout & Photography

229-0303 tallen@igc.org

Jennifer Boyer: Webmaster

223-8926 vtpots@gmail.com

Rhoda Carroll: Copy Editor

229-0037 rhoda@rhodacarroll.com

Charlie Catlin: Records Editor

229-4273 shcharlie@hotmail.com

Rhoda Chickering: Town Records

229-5005 rhoderchick@myfairpoint.net

Rob Chickering: Business Manager

272-7328 rchickering2009@gmail.com

Robin Gannon: EMES Reporter

rgannon@u32.org

Lori Martin Buley: Design/Administrative

229-0950 lorianne.m@comcast.net

Carol McKenna: Proofreader

229-6001 cmckenna1000@yahoo.com

Edie Miller: Organizations/Coordination

229-0677 signpostteam@comcast.net

Carolyn Pastore: Copy Editor

223-7463 cwpas44@yahoo.com

Barbara Ploof: Copy/Administrative

223-6934 signpostbcg@hotmail.com

Michelle Singer: Copy Editor

223-6186 jmsinger98@hotmail.com

Wendy Soliday: Features Editor

229-9594 wsoliday@aol.com

Printed by L. Brown and Sons Printing

476-3164

**EAST MONTPELIER
SIGNPOST**

Published six times a year.

Mailed free of charge
to all residents of
East Montpelier.

PO Box 184

East Montpelier, VT 05651

Top of the Signpost

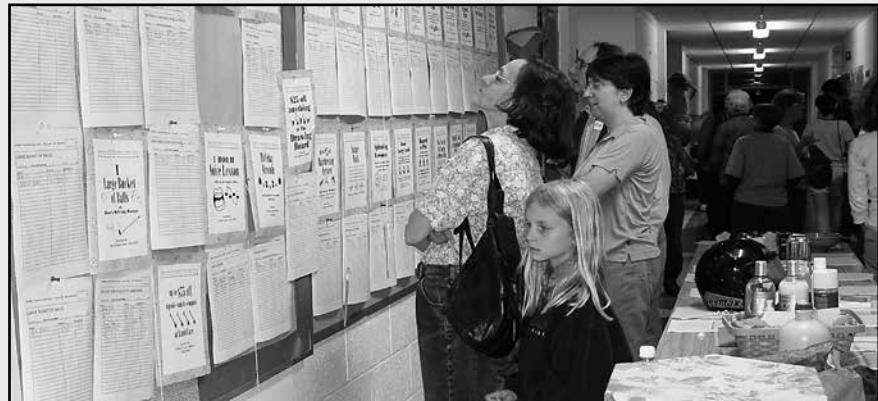
by Burr Morse

Even though I've been a resident of East Montpelier for sixty of my sixty-four years, I sometimes feel like a gol-derned interloper. You see, I spent my first four years on Robinson Hill up in Calais, and to this day, my heart still claims that place. Every once in a while a wistful feeling will lead me up County Road to Calais and its hundred plus miles of back roads. A few evenings ago I jumped in th'ancient Honda but for some reason headed toward Calais by way of Cummings Road to North Street extension. When I got to that beautiful Sparrow Farm vista to the west, my plans changed..."gotta spend this evening right here in East Montpelier," I thought.

My itinerary then took me right on Haggett Road to the back side of Sodom Pond. Out of Sodom Pond's natural wonderland, my view opened to the east and the magnificent mountains there. Still marveling, my eyes suddenly focused straight ahead on the fertile mid-summer corn fields that mark one of Vermont's most active agricultural towns. I turned right on Dodge Road, past the big farm, and slowly returned to Morse Farm and its south-facing splendor. "Such diversity and a great night t'boot," I thought just before sleep. Yup, there's lots of room for Calais in my heart, but bed never felt better than right here in East Montpelier. Home.

—Burr Morse is a seventh generation Vermonter who operates the Morse Farm and Sugar Shack on the County Road

The Signpost: Financing our Future



The Signpost Auction: RIP

TERRY J. ALLEN

This year we lost a major source of funding for the *Signpost*. The Rally Day Silent Auction won't happen on September 8 because we had no volunteer able to organize it. With our current bank balance of \$4,524.86, we will be able to produce and mail only four more issues of the *Signpost*.

Since all *Signpost* staff members are volunteers, our costs are few, and our finances are very simple. Each issue costs us about \$1,050 to print and mail to 1,075 homes and a few

subscribers. Six issues plus post office box rental and postage-due cost us \$7,231 in the current year.

In the past 12 months our revenues were: advertising: \$980; subscriptions, \$90; contributions, \$685; Town Meeting potluck surplus, \$75; interest, \$22; Rally Day Silent Auction, \$3,563.

We need your help. Please send us ideas for fundraising. And how about volunteering to head up a Silent Auction at a later date?

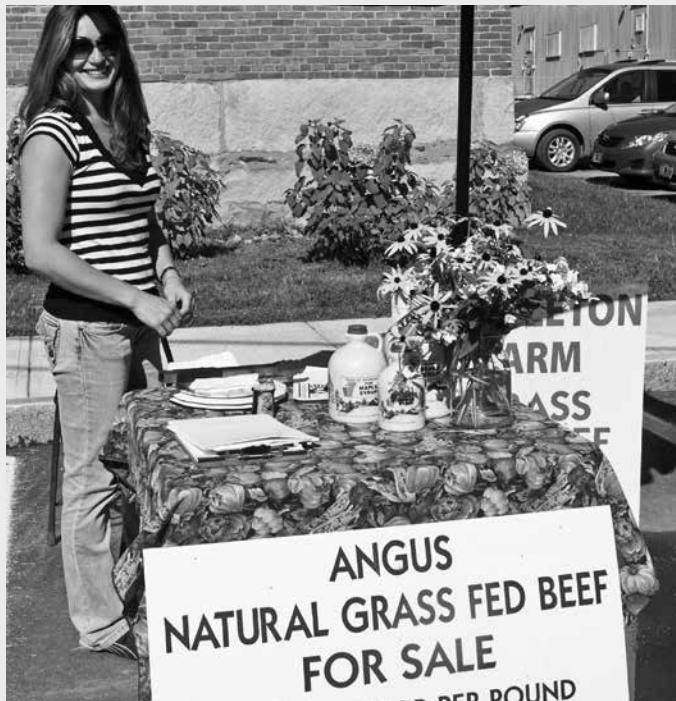
—Rob Chickering, Business Manager

Local Food

Last spring, the Four Corners School House Board called together all East Montpelier residents who are involved in producing food for local sale. Out of that meeting was born the East Montpelier Food Producers Network, a group of your neighbors who are raising a wide variety of foods right here in town.

One of the goals of the East Montpelier Energy Committee is to increase the amount of food produced and consumed locally. Local food has many advantages including being fresher, eliminating the cost of long distance transportation, and spurring the local economy. The Energy Committee encourages residents to grow more of their own food. But if time or other circumstances prevent that, here is a way to purchase local food for your family while supporting local folks.

If you are a producer who would like to be included on the list, contact Dave Grundy at 476-4300 or ddgrundy@comcast.net. The list of local producers can be found on the *Signpost* website at emsignpost.com.



TERRY ALLEN

East Montpelier Fire District No. I

by Steve Gilman, Chair

In accordance with the membership's affirmative vote, the one-time \$20 assessment billings have been mailed to all connected customers of Crystal Springs. The funds will allow the Fire District to open a local bank account and secure short-term financing to cover invoices from the engineering firm conducting the water system feasibility study. Now this very important work can finally begin. Engineer billings must be paid by the Fire District first and then submitted to the State of Vermont for reimbursement from our loan funds. This process is similar to how schools and municipalities operate. If anyone has questions on this or any Fire District business, please do not hesitate contacting any Prudential Committee member (Steve Gilman 223-0803, Ed Burgess 522-7789, or Rubin Bennett 223-7695).

The Fire District meets the second Wednesday of every month in the community room at the Emergency Services Facility in East Montpelier Village. All are welcome and encouraged to attend these open public meetings. We wish to thank everyone who has supported or contributed to our volunteer work on this project.

EMES Update

This autumn East Montpelier voters will consider a revised, scaled-down bond issue proposal for renovations and improvements to the East Montpelier Elementary School (EMES). Voting will take place on Presidential Election Day, November 6, 2012.

The major revisions to the original \$10.6-million plan voted down in May are elimination of a new gym, smaller administration space, and foregoing improvements to the upper parking lot. In creating a pared-down proposal, the School Board has talked to many voters and analyzed the surveys submitted by 124 citizens. Flor Diaz-Smith, chair of the EMES Facilities Committee, noted that while the majority of survey respondents supported the individual components of the original plan, many felt the price tag was simply too high. As the *Signpost* goes to press, the Facilities Committee is awaiting recalculations of cost so it can shape a final design and have a recommendation to the board on August 20.

There will be several opportunities to get involved and learn about next steps. The first community meeting will take place on September 18; the second, on October 2; and a formal public hearing will take place on October 29. All meetings will start at 6 p.m. and be held at EMES. The vote will be on Election Day November 6.

The Facilities Committee meets the first and third Monday of the month at 5 p.m. at EMES. East Montpelier citizens are encouraged to attend. Visit the blog for updates, meeting minutes, and to post comments. <http://emesfacilities.blogspot.com/>

Thank you *Signpost* supporters

Contributions are always welcome. Please mail them to:
PO Box 184, East Montpelier, VT 05651

Abby Bruce, Linda Ormsbee



MICHELLE SINGER

Jaden, Ruby, and Hazel Singer standing next to the last cherry tree on Cherry Tree Hill Road.

birthday and among them was the job of putting up road signs at every intersection. When roads had no commonly used name, they chose a name of historical significance. Norma Raymond, the sole remaining member of that committee, wrote, "I remember John Holden, Allan Couch, Florence Coutant, Peg Sibley, and myself and maybe one or two others." In the town records is a copy of a letter from Alan Couch to the Vermont Institutional Industries in Windsor ordering 81 signposts on July 30, 1975. The road names were filed with the State Library.

After the Bicentennial, as new roads were established, the residents on a road were asked to choose its name. If they didn't, the town came up with one. So, when the E-911 system was being established in the early 1990s, William Bryant, then town administrator, was able to report to the Vermont State Police that most roads had already been named. A few private roads and new roads were given names to comply with the E-911 effort.

Below are the stories people sent in to the *Signpost* about their roads. As some have noted, stories were gleaned from hearsay and memories as well as

from historical research. If you know something more or different about any of these road names, please let us know, and we'll print your comments in the next issue.

BOULDER RIDGE ROAD

When developer Doug Hill created our little subdivision off Towne Hill Road in 2003, the name Pine Hill Road appeared on an early survey. It was easy to understand this choice of road name as the hillside was thick with pine trees. My wife, Rhoda, and I found a little clearing on one of the lots and thought it would make a good house site. By the time we closed on the purchase of the land, the road was under construction and all six lots had clearings as a majority of the pine trees had been logged.

The removal of many of the trees, however, was not a factor in the decision to rename our road.

The town already had a road named Pine Ridge Road. In addition to finding a lot of pine trees on the land, the developer also discovered a lot of boulders and hence that name seemed appropriate.

—Rob Chickering

CENTER ROAD

In 1787 and 1788, Parley Davis and his uncle Jacob Davis were directed by the proprietors of the town of Montpelier (which included East Montpelier until 1849) to plan and build roads for the new town. One road (now upper Main Street) went up the hill and along past the site of Parley's home where in 1787 he had made the first pitch in what is now East Montpelier Center.

The 1796 March meeting, one of many held to organize the Town of Montpelier, voted that the place for future public buildings would be on four acres of Parley Davis' land, not far from his barn, "in the Centre of the town." No public building was ever built, but the road was referred to as the Montpelier Center Road, and became part of the early stage (a mail delivery route) road to Newport.

—Anne Ormsbee

CHERRY TREE HILL ROAD

I will tell you what I was told a long while ago. Someone (maybe Mary or Paul Andrews) said that there used to be cherry trees, black cherries I believe, all along the road. I was told by someone else that Dean & Marjorie Davis used to ride their horses along Cherry Tree Hill. When the power lines were put in (or upgraded) the power company cut the cherry trees and left the elms. The elms, of course, died of the Dutch Elm Disease.

According to Norma Raymond, the Bicentennial Committee wanted to change the name to Quaker Road, because the Quaker cemetery is near it and the Quaker meeting house and some early settlers who were Quakers lived on the road. However, Paul Andrews, Charlie Parker, and others were adamant that the name stay Cherry Tree Hill.

—Nancy Bisson

Cherry Tree Hill Road (continued)

Now, we have lots of apples, blueberries, and even elderberries, but only a single cherry. According to my neighbor, Stanley Pierce, the cherry trees were already gone by the time he built his house there in 1970. He thinks the original cherry trees were part of a large farm on the road.

—Michelle Singer

CHICKERING ROAD

In spring of 1964 Martin Johnson took me out to meet George Knight who had a house, barn, and 250 acres for sale. It was at the end of a mile-long dirt road with grass growing up the middle. George kept the gutters clean and occasionally smoothed it with a grader pulled behind a 1942 Army jeep. Jo and I bought it for \$17,500 and moved in with Alan, Susan, Peri, and Nancy that summer.

In 1977, Jo and I moved out of state and rented our house to the Rowlands. A short while later the Selectboard named the roads, and we learned Chickering was chosen. We called John Hall, a friend then on the Board, and said it should be named Knight Road because he had put it in and maintained it. John said the sign was already up and our name was on the map so it could not be changed.

—Art Chickering

COBURN ROAD

Coburn Road was named for Larned Coburn who came to East Montpelier from Cabot in 1812 after his father died leaving a large family. He lived with an Allen family until coming of age, and then married their daughter Louisa. They built the house by the Winooski in the 1830s and had the covered bridge that bears the Coburn name constructed around 1850.

Larned was my great, great grandfather and the great, great, grandfather of Bev Lavin—my neighbor. Larned and Louisa's daughter, Caroline, married into the Hollister family from which Olivia Gay of Calais is descended. Larned's parents, Joseph Coburn and Mary Larned, came from Charlton, MA, in the 1790s and settled in Cabot. It is a tangled web of inter-relationships among those of us who have been here since the beginning. I am connected in some way to the Davis, Hollister, Clark, Doty, Ellis, Keith, Corlis, Allen, Morse, Cutler, and Cate families, and probably others. Olivia Gay and I have five relationships going back into the 1600s. If one stays in the same area long enough, one becomes an artifact.

— Dave Coburn

COUNTY ROAD

The County Road was described by Parley Davis as a road from Montpelier village to Greensboro Mills. It began at Montpelier Academy (intersection of Spring and Main Streets) and ran nearly a straight course through East Montpelier, Calais, and Woodbury. Surveyed in 1810, it was called the "new County Road or West County Road." It was laid out four rods wide instead of the usual three. It became a stage route to Hardwick and was sometimes called the Calais Stage Road. It veered onto Cummings Road but the current road is principally the same as it was in earlier days. One can see that County Roads got their names because they passed through more than one town.

A note about the term "Calais Stage": a stage brought mail from the Montpelier Post Office to Maple Corner and Adamant

and back again. At first a horse-drawn wagon with space for mail, baggage, and perhaps a passenger or two, it was operated by private contract with the post office. Later mail was delivered mail to private residences along the route.

—Anne Ormsbee

CUMMINGS ROAD

When I first knew of this road in 1952, it was nothing more than a horse-and-buggy path, not plowed in winter and very muddy in spring. The only part used was a 500-foot stretch leading to the Cummings farm. The road could just as well have been named Cutler Road, since the Cutlers lived on Cummings farmland in the late 1700s.



TERRY ALLEN

Sidney Morse, my grandfather, moved to East Montpelier in 1943. He added more and more land to his farm on the County Road until it stretched from the Center Road to North Street.

One field bordering North Street measured more than a mile around. I know that because I used to cut, rake, and bale hay there. We used the road to get big loads of hay down to the County Road.

When Grampa retired he sold building lots up that way and now there are twelve residences, making the road a much-traveled thoroughfare. After Sid's death some townspeople wanted to re-name the road Sidney Morse Road in his honor, but we, in the family, thought the road should remain Cummings Road due to its history.

—Elliott Morse

DAGGETT ROAD

Daggett Road was named as part of the effort in the 1970s to name all roads in town. The Carroll Coburn family lived on the road at the time but the road through the Coburn Bridge already bore the Coburn name. Mr. Coburn suggested the road be named for the Daggetts since they had built the house in which he lived. When it was first laid out, Daggett Road continued easterly from the Coburn house to connect with Coburn and Cate Roads at the site of the Cate Bridge.

—Dave Coburn

DERONDE ROAD

We bought our land from Madeline DeRonde who lived in the gray stone house on the corner of this road and Barnes Road. It became a town road around 1992-93 when there were four houses on the road. We were supposed to name the road ourselves but couldn't come to a consensus so the town named it for us!

—Carol Pierce

DODGE ROAD

Dodge Road was probably named for Solomon Dodge, East Montpelier's first resident. His house was up near the pines on what is now Fairmont Farm, between Dodge Road and Lyle Young Road. If you walk on the East Montpelier trail north from Dodge Road, you will see a boulder where the trail opens out into the field. A plaque will soon be placed on this boulder indicating the location of the Solomon Dodge dwelling.

—Austin Cleaves

GALLISON HILL ROAD

The farm we bought on Towne Hill was at one time owned by the Gallisons. Gallison Hill Road starts in Montpelier and used to go straight through Schoolhouse Road. The paved road off Towne Hill (now the top of Gallison Hill Road) was put through a pasture of the farm owned by Annie Miles after or at the time U-32 was built.

—Norma Raymond
Continued on page 7

Town Offices

PO Box 157, East Montpelier, VT 05651
Phone: 802-223-3313
Office Hours: Mon–Thurs 9 AM–5 PM
Friday 9 AM–12 PM

Town Clerk: Terri Conti
eastmonttct@comcast.net

Town Treasurer: Don Welch
eastmontrr@comcast.net

Town Administrator: Bruce Johnson
eastmontadmin@comcast.net

Zoning Administrator: Dina Bookmyer-Baker
eastmontza@comcast.net

Collector of Delinquent Taxes: Karen Gramer
karengramer@comcast.net

Fire Permits: EMFD 225-6247

First Constable/Animal Control Officer:
Sandy Conti 479-3169

2nd Constable: Paul Haynes 223-1651

Listers: Rob Chickering, Putnam Clayton, Ross Hazel
223-3313 x206, eastmontstr@comcast.net

Health Officer: Dave Grundy 476-4300

Service Officer: Rachael Grossman
223-3177

Selectboard

Bruce Johnson, Chair
savage1@pshift.com

Carl Etnier Steve Sparrow
Seth Gardner Casey Northrup

Planning Commission

Rick Hopkins, Chair, 229-4375

Development Review Board

Richard Curtis, Chair
rcurtis841@comcast.net

U-32 Jr./Sr. High School

Ginny Burley gburley@u32.org
Emily Goyette egoyette@u32.org

Elementary School

Rubin Bennett, Chair
rbennett@thatitguy.com

Andrea Colnes Priscilla Gilbert
Stephen Looke Flor Diaz-Smith

State Representative

Tony Klein, 793-6032
twk@tonyklein.com

Town WeatherVane

MILESTONES

Births

- Jayden Joseph Cane, son, born May 1, 2012, to Teena & Timothy Cane
- Caleb William Pecor, son, born May 8, 2012, to Rebecca Pedriani & John Pecor
- Donato Conrad Edson, son, born June 5, 2012, to Heather Munzberg-Edson & Thomas Quias Edson
- Ester Ray Heinz, daughter, born June 6, 2012, to Jessica Lynne & Phillip Allen Heinz
- Luella Jane Worth, daughter, born June 8, 2012, to Kacie Winters Cordia-Worth & Justin Riley Worth

Marriages

- Scott Harvey Doner & Christina Nicole Sheehan, June 2, 2012

Deaths

- Richard Charles Crutchfield died May 29, 2012
- James Roy Hudson died June 3, 2012, husband of Gretchen Roberts
- Norman Leo Ferland died June 12, 2012
- Terry R. Murphy died July 15, 2012, husband of Reeva Sullivan Murphy and father of Cornelius, Laura, and Nina
- Marion Elsie Tredeau died July 19, 2012, mother of Meredith Tredeau

Property transfers

- Catherine Rice to Catherine Rice, Sheila Emerson & Heather Bolduc, single family home & 9 acres, Towne Hill Rd.
- Dale Phillips, Trustee, to Dale Phillips 10.1 acres & single family dwelling, Cutler Heights Rd.
- Amy Hayden to Harold Hayden Jr., 8.68 acres & single family dwelling, County Rd.

• Harold Hayden Jr. to Joan Polyasko, 8.68 acres & single family dwelling, County Rd.

• Phillip & Roberta Bushey to Phillip Bushey, Roberta Bushey, Kathy Andrus, & Pamela Adams, single family dwelling, Horn of the Moon Rd.

• John Riley to Ellen Riley 182 acres & single family dwelling, Foster Rd.

• Ellen Riley to Foster Road, LLC, 27.6 acres, Foster Rd.

• Ellen Riley to Jersey Ledges, LLC, 154 acres & single family dwelling, Foster Rd.

• Tamara Chaplin to Richard & Susan Riley, 0.46 acres & single family dwelling, Center Rd.

• Barbara & James Eniti to Rodney & Donna Nobrega, easement, Old Farm Rd.

• Robert & Cheryl Banfield to Roy Gibson, Trustee, 0.69 acres & single family dwelling, Maplewood Rd.

• Allan Lane, Edward Lane, & Vickie Adams to Jason & Ashley Felch, 1 acre & single family dwelling, County Rd.

• Jean Boucher to Lynda Downing, Donald Boucher, Randy Boucher, & Todd Boucher, 2.41 acres & single family dwelling, Maplewood Rd.

• Jason & Rachel Giroux to Renee Esposito, 1 acre and single family dwelling, Fair Rd.

• Kim Nadeau to The Shank-Nadeau Family 2012 Trust, 7 acres, Center Rd

Town Boards and Committees

To make space for all the stories on road names contributed by townspeople, we are not printing town meeting minutes in this issue. They can be found online at emsignpost.com.

Water, Water Everywhere

Want to know more about East Montpelier groundwater? The Vermont Geological Survey has completed geologic and groundwater resource mapping and will present its maps and findings at a public meeting co-sponsored by East Montpelier's Planning Commission and Selectboard on Thursday, September 13, at 7:00 p.m. in the East Montpelier Elementary School gymnasium.

East Montpelier was selected by the State of Vermont for a state-federal grant to map our groundwater; East Montpelier contributed "seed money" to the project. A group of volunteers helped gather information during 2011 by doing GPS readings and wellhead tag readings of East Montpelier private wells. This data provided necessary information in developing the maps of East Montpelier's groundwater.

The meeting will be rich with information about what is under the ground in East Montpelier. There will be several different maps showing significant underground geologic features and their relationship to groundwater as well as discussion about the data. There will also be discussion about groundwater yield and potential groundwater vulnerability. **Please put this date on your calendar!**

HAMMETT HILL ROAD

The road is obviously named for the people we bought the farm from in 1939 and whose family had owned this property since the late 1790s. Interestingly, the Hammetts were beer barons in Philadelphia, and our place was like a second home to them.

—Andy Christiansen

HORN OF THE MOON ROAD

I have found two references telling the story of the naming of our road: *Trips Down Memory Lane* by Jennie H. Gladding (1955) relates, "Perhaps you have wondered about the name of this little locality (Horn of the Moon). As you can see, the two roads meet at both ends of a crescent shaped piece of land. An old Indian who lived in the valley below owned a cow who strayed away and became lost in the wooded hills. He searched and searched, finally finding her here. When asked where she was, he replied, 'On the horn of the moon', and the name has stuck." *Across the Onion* by Ellen C. Hill and Marilyn S. Blackwell (1983), p. 8, tells a similar story.

—Gladys Cote

LYLE YOUNG ROAD

Lyle Young would turn over in his grave if he knew a road was named after him. He was one of those people who didn't want any recognition. He was a town lister for over 40 years and was one of the original directors of the Washington Electric Coop. Lyle was born at the old farm that is now part of Fairmont Farm. His father and grandfather were born there as well. He was a direct descendent of Solomon Dodge. Lyle was married to Kate Foster, and they had one son who was killed in World War II. I visited the farm and worked there summers when growing up. That's when I decided I wanted to go into farming, and Lyle Young, my great-uncle, arranged for me to have the farm when he was gone.

—Austin Cleaves

MARKHAM ROAD

My memory is that all the roads around us were named by the Bicentennial Committee. Most roads were named for early settlers. There were some incongruities that raised a few eyebrows as I recall. For example, Markham Road where Elaine Manghi lives was named after good friends of ours from Connecticut, Fred and Muriel Markham, who bought the Gallison Farm in the early 1960s. They were relative newcomers and it was only a vacation home.

—Andy Christiansen



TERRY J. ALLEN

MINISTER ROAD

When I went to the Town Clerk's office to check on the history of the name of our road, Minister Road, I found an 1858 map on the wall with Minister Road on it. This name was derived from a custom of that time whereby towns set aside and worked plots of land for the support of the local minister. The farmers would grow a crop on these parcels and when the crop sold, the proceeds were given to the local minister for living expenses. According to the 1786 survey map of town land divisions, there were two such plots in East Montpelier.

When we bought our property in 1998, which is off of Brazier Road, it had a road-sized path through the woods that appeared to have been cleared and ditched at one time. It was hard to recognize it as a road. Most people would balk at driving a four-wheel drive vehicle down it, much less call it a road. We didn't even know the "road" had a name. So when we were told all roads needed to have a street name and

number for E-911 purposes, we requested one from the Town. We were given our current address, which is 101 Minister Road. We figured someone just came up with the name off the top of his/her head. We certainly didn't know there was a story behind it, dating back to the 1700s.

Austin Cleaves told me his great aunt, Kate Foster, wife of Lyle Young, was born in a house on this road. We can see where the farmstead was located. It has a beautiful view to the east, and there are lilac bushes and rhubarb plants in evidence, leading one to surmise where the house was set. There is also evidence of a pine tree plantation that borders our land and goes down to the homestead area. The roadway continues past the old homestead and comes out on the Towne Hill Road extension and it is a well-used snowmobile trail.

—Charlie Catlin

MUGFORD ROAD

By coincidence I learned about the name of my road when I needed some help, and a man named Craig kindly volunteered to help me. When he came to my home I learned that his last name is Mugford and his grandparents were Elmer and Pearl Mugford who owned a farm here where Sandy Pines is now. The farmhouse was across the road and this was his pastureland. When milk prices were low he sold the land and went into the granite business. The farm buildings are gone, but the concrete platform beyond the fireworks store was part of the granite operation.

—Jewel Love

PARTRIDGE RUN

We named our road Partridge Run because there were plenty of partridge (grouse) running along it. Once we named it, the numbers dwindled. Coincidence?

—Shawn Davidian

PERKINS ROAD

According to one couple who has lived there for a few decades, Perkins Road

Continued on page 8

used to be called Gould Hill Road. That must have been confusing, because back then the road that is now called Sparrow Farm Road was also called Gould Hill Road. Essentially Gould Hill Road ran up the hill from Elm Street and ended in a T, with both directions called Gould Hill Rd. It's no wonder that emergency services pushed for consistent road names and clear street signs.

The naming of Perkins Road is a story of small town politics. I'll go ahead and give away the ending—the fire department won. Local firefighters were familiar with the Perkins property at the end of the road, specifically with the pond (we call it the pretty pond, for obvious reasons). Henry and Arlene Perkins happily obliged a request to evaluate whether their pond could be used as a water source in the event of a nearby fire. They even allowed the firefighters to practice dousing their house.

When the big effort to name and mark the roads in East Montpelier was undertaken, the fire department wanted to formalize the street name to what they had been calling it: Perkins Road. But the town committee that was formed to name roads preferred Dillon Road.

Accordingly, the first street sign posted read "Dillon Road." But that sign (somewhat) mysteriously disappeared just a few days later. And the vertical green street sign that was installed a few years later indicates that Sparrow Farm Road lies to the right at the T at the top of Gould Hill Road, but gives no indication of the name of the road to the left. Perkins Road is labeled only with a series of small hand-made signs that wear out and are occasionally replaced.

But the official town map now shows Perkins Road as the official street name and Dillon Road is down the hill a short way. Once every year or two, there is a misdelivery of mail, and we receive a magazine or letter here at 170 Dillon Road that is addressed to our neighbors at 170 Perkins Road. Knowing the history of the street names, that mistake seems a little more logical now.

—Lori Martin Buley

POWDER HORN GLEN ROAD

Here's the story I heard about naming Powder Horn Glen: After we bought our land and built our house, there was a dispute about the property line on one side. So my husband, Harold, did some research and in the course of that met Ashley Hudson, who developed Powder Horn Glen. Ashley told him that a different name had been considered, but when



Montpelier. John Putnam is buried in the East Montpelier Village Cemetery.

—Marjorie St.John

Putnam Road (continued)

We used to call Putnam Road the lower road. It was used to haul granite from Adamant to Barre. In the spring, vehicles got in mud right up to their axles. Some roads were "improved" by pulling the stones from stone walls into the mud to make a firmer surface.

—Austin Cleaves

QUAKER ROAD

Two dozen lonesome gravestones mark the Quaker Cemetery at the top of the hill where Quaker Road becomes Cherry Tree Hill Road. From roughly 1795 to 1840 the Society of Friends was a vital part of East Montpelier's religious life. The first Quaker settlement in Washington County is believed to have been on Cherry Tree Hill Road, but the Quaker meeting house (now long fallen apart) is said to have stood closer to the top of Quaker Hill.

It's not hard to imagine Friends gathering for meeting and looking out over the beautiful valley as they quietly contemplated their lives. Originally designated "Town Road #25" and then called "Eddie Clark's Hill" for Mr. Clark's auto repair shop at the base of the hill, Quaker Road got its current name in the early 1970s when our bicentennial committee decided to name roads in connection with people, places, and events from our town history.

The names Quaker Road, Quaker Hill Road, and Quaker Hill seem to be used interchangeably, without any confusion, by our townspeople.

—Rhoda Carroll

the digging for the road was done an old-fashioned powder horn was found. Thus our road was named. I'm not sure where Ashley got "Glen" from, since the dictionary defines it as "a small narrow secluded valley." Maybe Ashley just thought Powder Horn Glen Road sounded good.

—Carolyn Pastore

PUTNAM ROAD

I believe Putnam Road was named for John Putnam, a soldier of the Revolutionary War. Information about him is in Ellen Hill's book *Revolutionary War Soldiers of East Montpelier*, written in 1975. The book states that John's daughter Sarah married Samuel Dudley II and were the parents of Charles F. Dudley, the father of Charles Putnam Dudley, the storekeeper in East

TEMPLETON ROAD

Templeton Road was named in the 1950s, I think, at my mother's instigation. I remember her settling on what the name should be. Could it be possible that she was a little cross at having it known as the "cross" road? The next one south was never known as the Barnes Road: it was Barnes Cross Road (or Crossroad, probably).

—Martha Holden

Logger." However, tickets are needed due to limited seating and may be picked up from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Fire Station and from 2:00-2:45 p.m. at the elementary school. Pick-up is just one ticket per person. Seventy-five tickets will be distributed at each time.

Rally Day events get under way at 9 a.m. at East Village (corner of Routes 2 and 14). The Old Brick Church will sponsor a morning café and local producers and artisans will showcase their wares on the new village green. River walks led by Charles Johnson and Nona Estrin will start from the Fire Station. A children's park will include a bouncy house, touch-a-truck, and more.

Morning activities will conclude with a firehouse barbecue from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. If you love barbecued chicken and want to make sure you don't miss an excellent lunch, be sure to purchase tickets in advance at the firehouse or call 223-5586. However, walk-ups are encouraged. There also will be plenty of burgers and hot dogs.

We move to the elementary school in the afternoon. Young and old are invited to decorate their bikes at the Four Corners Schoolhouse at 2:00 p.m. preceding the parade, which gets under way at 2:45, and includes the surprise recognition of our Citizen of the Year. Afterward the playground will be open, with bouncy house and games available for the young and young-at-heart. From 4:00-5:00 p.m. in front of EMES the Historical Society will unveil a plaque to honor the first citizens of our community; their descendants still live here 224 years later. Teens and adults will enjoy a unique opportunity to experience safe and fun one-on-one combat while pedestal jousting from 3:30-6:00 p.m. Come cheer on your family and friends. The jousting ring and morning children's bouncy house are provided thanks to the generous support of Washington Electric Co-op.

Before our evening entertainment, everyone is invited to participate in a community picnic from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Bring your blanket, yard chairs, and coolers filled with your family's food and drinks so we can enjoy relaxing and eating together at the biggest picnic of the year!



DJ MONTAGUE

Jason Wong, Thomas Swenson, John Palmer, and Jim Carian set up fireworks.



Rally Day concludes with fireworks at 9:00 p.m., generously provided by Northstar Fireworks owners Dave and Deedee Swenson. Many thanks to the Northstar employees who volunteer their time several days in advance to set up for the program. If you see them working in the field across from EMES, show your appreciation by stopping by and offering them thanks, lunch, or snacks.

The Rally Day committee thanks all of the people who volunteer their time and resources to provide this great community event. For more information, please contact the following organizers:

- **East Village activities:** Jean Vissering, 223-3262
- **Kids activities and parade:** Becky Brown, 229-9010
- **Rusty DeWees show & pedestal jousting:** Lisa Helme, 229-9480

See back page for details for:

MORNING EVENTS & LUNCH at East Village
AFTERNOON & EVENING at the Elementary School

Paulie's Recipe: Pumpkin Time Is Coming

Paulie's comment: These are good ways to use your garden produce.

Pumpkin Relish - Dora Converse

6 lbs. pumpkin
5 lbs. sugar
2 oranges
2 lemons
Grind oranges and lemons, peel and all.
Peel the pumpkin.
Cook slow 3 hours.
Stir often. Seal at once.

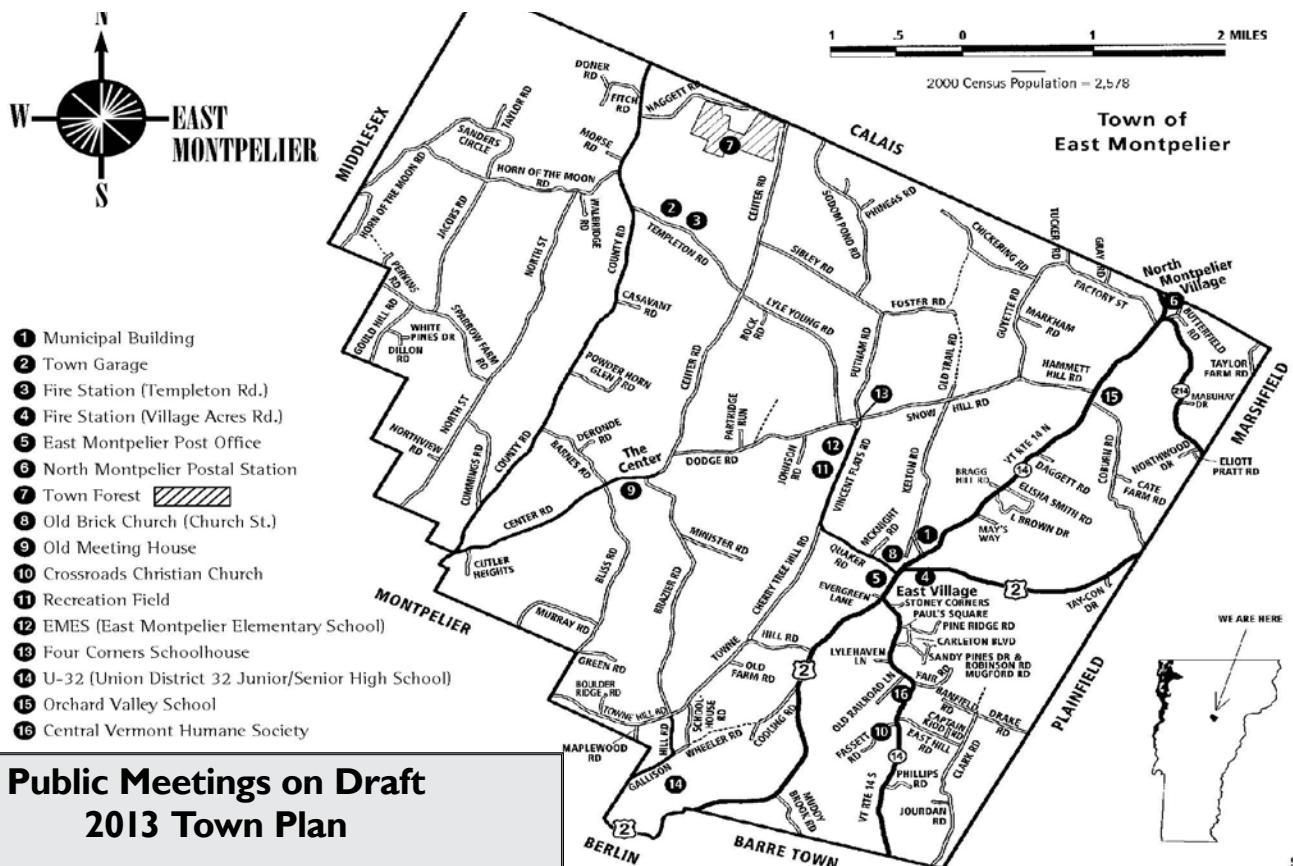
Mother's Cabbage Salad - Carrie Sibley

2 eggs well beaten
1/2 cup vinegar
Mix 3 small tablespoons sugar, a little mustard and 1/2 teaspoon salt. Add to other ingredients.
Cook in double boiler. When cold pour over 1/2 cabbage cut fine.
Whipped cream may be added to this dressing if one likes it.

—from the Community Cookbook of the Friendly Circle, North Montpelier



ROAD MAP



Public Meetings on Draft 2013 Town Plan

The Planning Commission has spent the past year rewriting several chapters with help from many town officials, committee members, and individuals. Now it is important that we hear from the public. The Town Plan reflects who we are (our values and goals for the future), provides general direction, and recommends actions that will enable residents to realize their expectations for the quality of life in their community.

The plan establishes a framework for town officials as they develop and administer zoning and subdivision bylaws and create capital and operating budgets. It also furnishes information for state reviewers in the Act 250 process.

The Planning Commission will host two public meetings on September 20 and October 4 (7:00 p.m. at the Fire Station) for public review and comment on the Preliminary Draft 2013 Town Plan.

Public comment on the Preliminary Draft Town Plan will be taken until October 18, 2012. After that date, the Planning Commission will begin finalizing the Town Plan. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the Final Draft Town Plan in late 2012 or early 2013.

For more information on the draft plan or to make comments on the document, contact Chair Rick Hopkins (229-4375); Vice-Chair Jean Vissering (223-3262, jeanviss@attglobal.net); or any of the nine members of the East Montpelier Planning Commission.

East Montpelier Planning Commission Public Meetings Preliminary Draft 2013 Town Plan*

Meeting #1: Thursday, September 20, 2012 7:00 p.m. EM Fire Station

This meeting will focus on Community and Municipal Resources and Public Services.

Chapters: Townspeople, Recreation, Trails, Economic Development, Historic Resources, Town Government and Finance, Education, Energy, Transportation, Social Services, Police, Fire and Ambulance, and Solid Waste

Meeting #2: Thursday, October 4, 2012 7:00 p.m. EM Fire Station

This meeting will focus on Land Use and Natural Resources. Chapters: Land Use Patterns and Zoning, Housing, Villages and Growth Centers, Agriculture, Wastewater Disposal, Forest Resources, Earth Resources, Wetlands and Water Resources, Wildlife, Scenic Resources, and Water Supplies

*The Preliminary Draft 2013 Town Plan is on the Signpost website (emsignpost.com) and at the Town Office

ADULT MENTORS WANTED! Girls/Boys First Mentoring seeks adults to serve as healthy role models for our community based mentoring program. Training and ongoing support provided. For more information, check out our website: www.communityconnections.us/ProgramInfo/girlsboyz/GirlsBoyz.html or call Wendy Freundlich, Program Coordinator, at 229-4798.



(802) 476-3811
info@cvhumane.com
www.cvhumane.com

Tuesday - Friday: 1pm - 6pm Saturday: 11am - 4pm
1589 VT Route 14S East Montpelier, VT 05651



OIL &
PROPANE
DELIVERY,
SALES &
SERVICE

Locally Owned & Operated
Now Supplying Premium Heating Oil

Route 14, East Montpelier, Vermont 05651
Ph: 802-223-0126 • Cell: 802-792-0010
Email: energy@vtshut.com

Oil & Propane Delivery • Air Conditioning • Installation • Service

Casey J. Northrup
Owner, ASE Master Certified

KC's Performance Auto Care

- Auto Repair
- Used Cars
- Performance Parts
- Accessories

4423 US Route 2
E Montpelier, VT 05651
Phone/Fax
802-224-7170
kcsautovt@yahoo.com

TEL. (802) 223-7191
NIGHTS (802) 229-2728
CELL (802) 249-8402



BLAKE – LOSO
Finest in North Carolina Used Cars
And Trucks
Rt. 14, EAST MONTPELIER, VT 05651
DEDICATED SALES & SERVICE

RICHARD "DICK" BLAKE
OWNER

TRUE SOUTHERN CARS
A SPECIALTY

Maple Creemees All Year Long

We ship
anywhere

"A quality fam-
ily farm shop"

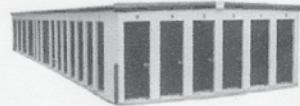
802-223-5757



Vermont
handicrafts
Gifts
Vermont
cheese
Mail-order
maple products

1 mile north of E. Montpelier village on Rt. 14 (follow signs)

K & A LEASING



**44 Storage Units
Assorted Sizes
5 x 5 to 10 x 30**

Call us for your storage needs

802-224-7170

Locally owned & operated on Rt. 2 in E. Montpelier

Insurance Agency of New England, Inc.

P.O. Box 1 Village Acres • East Montpelier, VT 05651
P: 802-229-4177 • F: 802-229-4199
Toll Free: 877-448-1553 • www.iangoine.com
Auto • Home • Business • Life • Health



Custom Designed & Handcrafted
Specializing in Energy Efficient Homes
Committed to Local Natural Resources

Traditional Vermont
Homes & Outbuildings

Call for a free consultation
Winterwood Timber Frames, LLC
Andy Harper
802-353-6111
Winterwoodtimber@gmail.com
Winterwoodtimberframes.com

Maple Syrup • Vermont Products • Country Store
Corporate Gifts • Woodshed Theatre • Folk Art

MORSE FARM
MAPLE SUGARWORKS

Thanks a lot for your continued support!

1168 COUNTY ROAD, MONTPELIER, VT 05602
1-800-242-2740 • WWW.MORSEFARM.COM



Free Estimates
Fully Insured
Quality Work
Patrick McCoy
249-3003
P.W. McCoy Corp
964 Bliss Road
E. Montpelier, VT 05651

✓ **Driveways:** Installing New or Resurfacing (Slate and Gravel); Ditching and Culvert Work; Plowing
✓ **Lawns:** Grading, Seeding and Mulching for New or Existing Sites
✓ **Land Improvement:** Rototilling; Bushhogging; and Trail Work
✓ **Dump Truck:** Delivery of Topsoil, Manure, Compost, Gravel, Slate
✓ **Excavation:** Site Work for Sonotube and Floating Slabs; Digging Underground Utility Lines; and Much More!

East Montpelier *Signpost*
PO Box 184
East Montpelier, Vermont 05651
Return Service Requested

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 61
Montpelier, VT

www.emsignpost.com

- Up-to-date calendar listings
- *Signpost* archive
- Organizations in town

Volume XXIII—Number One
September/October 2012

Printed on recycled paper with soy-based ink

CALENDAR & NOTICES

IMPORTANT DATES

Mon. Sept. 3: Labor Day, Town Office closed

Wed. Oct. 31: Voter Registration deadline

Tues. Nov. 6: General Election, polls open at EMES 7a.m.-7p.m.

Thurs. Nov. 15: Property tax installment by 5p.m. to avoid 1% interest

Thurs. & Fri. Nov. 22, 23: Thanksgiving Holiday, Town Office closed

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat. Sept. 8: 9 a.m. til dark, RALLY DAY

Thurs. Sept. 13: 7p.m., public hearing on EM Ground Water Study, EMES

Tues. Sept. 18: 6p.m. community meeting on EMES facilities proposal, EMES

Thurs. Sept. 20: 7p.m. public hearing on revised Town Plan, EM Fire Station

Tues. Oct. 2: 6 p.m. community meeting on EMES facilities proposal, EMES

Thurs. Oct. 4: 7 p.m. public hearing on revised Town Plan, EM Fire Station

Mon. Oct. 29: 6 p.m. public hearing, EMES facilities bond proposal, EMES

Deadline for Next Issue: Oct 1, 2012

to Barbara Ploof: 223-6934, signpostbcp@hotmail.com

RALLY DAY Sept. 8

MORNING EVENTS & LUNCH, *East Village*

9:00–11:00 Morning Café — *Old Brick Church (small fee)*

9:00–10:30 River Walk — An easy stroll. Meet at *Fire Station*

9:00–11:30 Children's Park — At the Fire Station Field

10:00–Noon Farmer's Market — *Local produce and crafts on the Green*

10:30–11:30 Free Tickets for Rusty DeWees Show — *Fire House Information Table*

11:30–1:00 Firehouse Barbecue — *pre-purchase for chicken; dogs and burgers for all, Fire Station*

AFTERNOON & EVENING, *Elementary School*

2:00–2:45 Free Tickets for Rusty DeWees Show — *Information Table near EMES front entrance*

2:00–2:45 Bike Decorating for the Parade — *Four Corners Schoolhouse*

2:45–3:30 Home Grown Parade — *Short and very sweet*

3:30–5:30 Fun Activities — *Games and open playground for the kid in all!*

3:30–6:00 Pedestal Jousting — *Bouncy House meets contact sport!*

4:00–5:00 First Settlers Dedication Ceremony — *In front of EMES*

5:30–6:30 Community Picnic — *Biggest picnic of the year!*

7:00–8:30 Rusty DeWees Comedy Show — *Live family-friendly entertainment for all ages*

9:00 Fireworks Display by Northstar

Selectboard	1st & 3rd Mon	6:30 p.m.	Town Office Building
Planning Commission (PC)	1st & 3rd Thurs	7:00 p.m.	Town Office Building
Development Review Board (DRB)	1st & 3rd Tues	7:00 p.m.	Town Office Building
U-32 School Board	1st & 3rd Wed	6:00 p.m.	U-32 School
Elementary School Board (EMES)	3rd Mon	6:30 p.m.	Elementary School
East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD)	Every Tues	7:00 p.m.	EMFD Community Room
East Montpelier Fire District #1	2nd Wed	7:00 p.m.	EMFD Community Room
Recreation Board	2nd Mon	7:15 p.m.	Elementary School
Conservation Fund Advisory Committee	as needed	7:30 p.m.	Town Office Building
East Montpelier Historical Society	3rd Tues	7:00/6:00 p.m.	Four Corners Schoolhouse/E. Calais
Four Corners Schoolhouse Association	2nd Wed	7:00 p.m.	Four Corners School
EMES Parent Teacher Neighbor Org. (PTNO)	2nd Wed	6:30 p.m.	Elementary School, Art Room