

EAST MONTPELIER Signpost

Volume 6, No. 2

November/December, 1995

A Gallery of Service - Lawrie Morrison

Who could you talk to if you needed someone with a practical outlook and a can-do attitude? Where would you go to talk to someone who knows the ins and outs of design and installation of a new kitchen or bath? The answer to both these questions? Lawrie Morrison of the Gallery of Cabinets on Route 2 in East Montpelier.

Lawrie's personal history is the start of his practical point of view. His grandparents moved to West Barnet in 1901, bought land, and farmed to make a living. Lawrie was born on a side-hill farm in Peacham, Vermont, in 1943. Perhaps his association with kitchens began here, since he was born on the dining room table. He was named after a great-uncle who was involved in the early development of the x-ray.

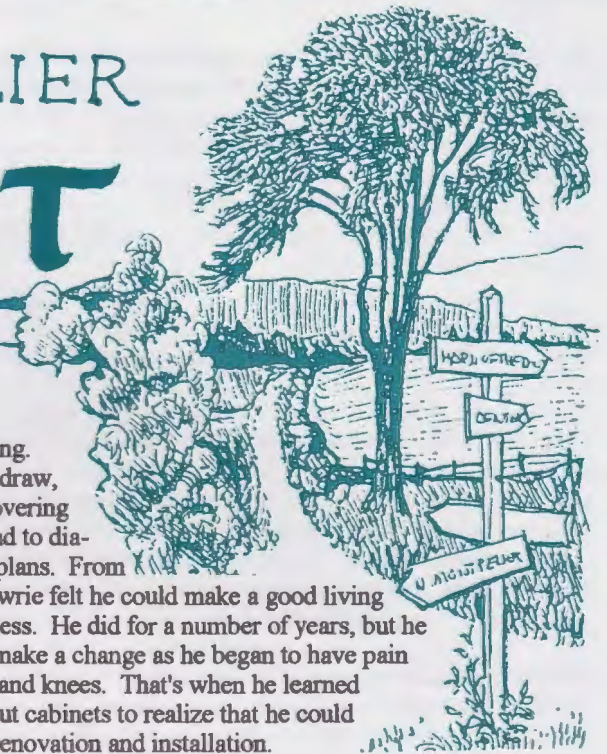
Lawrie attended West Barnet School and Peacham Academy. He might have stayed in West Barnet if farms were not declining, or if other employment was closer than the larger towns of Wells River and St. Johnsbury. Instead, with encouragement from his experience at St. Johnsbury Trade School and the results of an aptitude test, he joined the Air Force and was a jet engine mechanic in the 1960s. Lawrie returned to Vermont to live in Williamstown and has lived in East Montpelier with his wife, Mary, since 1974. He can chronicle the additions made to his home and business in a way that shows the growth of his experience and expertise. Over the years, Lawrie has learned about many aspects of interior home improvement. His initial entry into the business was working in

floor covering. He liked to draw, and floor covering meant he had to diagram floor plans. From the first, Lawrie felt he could make a good living in the business. He did for a number of years, but he decided to make a change as he began to have pain in his back and knees. That's when he learned enough about cabinets to realize that he could work with renovation and installation.

Starting on a shoestring, Lawrie began the long, slow process of building up a business. He studied independently, subscribed to trade magazines, read books, and used the services of national organizations that offered support with tutorials. For a short time, Lawrie worked for an interior supply and installation company. He passed up a chance to buy into a partnership; what he enjoys is being his own employer, able to meet his own high standards. Throughout his career in the business, Lawrie's seen the ups and downs of the Vermont economy. He's seen record sales in the mid-80s when people bought despite the high interest rates, to being almost scuttled in the late 80s. He's seen a time when he spent a little more than he should have to create an inventory, only to have the manufacturer of that inventory go bankrupt. He has weathered economic storms with a live and learn motto.

One of the things Lawrie has learned is that interior improvement hinges on planning. There are few jobs without glitches, and so planning is very important. Lawrie follows a process in renovating that pays attention to planning. Beginning with measurements of the room to be redone, he interviews a client for wants and needs. This might include collecting pictures of what a client has in mind. The client might be interested in just having cabinets removed and replaced. Or a client may be interested in redesigning the kitchen to change the concept of the room. A client then makes a visit to the showroom, which was added to his home in 1984, to look at products and talk about pricing. Finally comes a fine-tuning of the project after a look at the budget. Lawrie prices in the middle, allowing leeway for up and down movement when making final choices.

Lawrie feels Vermonters are realistic people. They will look to get a good price, and are educated and frugal. They will spend money for what they want. And so Lawrie works to make the sale with a



plan that is comfortable for the customer. Lawrie doesn't reach for the stars, but he is an optimist. And he plans for the future.

His attention to the planning gives Lawrie the satisfaction of knowing a job will be well done. He enjoys working with a client all the way through the process, especially when he sees the satisfaction that his client gets or when he gets a pat on the back from a customer. Even with planning, Lawrie knows that in business you may get someone you can't please. However, Lawrie enjoys working not only with his clients but also for his clients.

This attitude toward quality service led Lawrie to learn about an area of the business that looked scary at first--computers. Lawrie knew that his three sons, the youngest of whom, Chris, is in the business, were all learning about computers in the elementary school. He knew that he had to get in on computers to keep up with the profession. In the early 1980s, he attended trade shows that featured building trades programs, and he began experimenting with Computer Assisted Drafting (CAD) programs in 1985. Once the initial floor plan has been programmed, CAD programs allow for 3-D and elevation views.

Lawrie uses the superior visuals of computers. The CAD drawings help clients see what they have chosen. Sometimes customers have a difficult time grasping a floor plan; the computer pictures are invaluable in exciting people so they can see what the finished project will be like. Cabinet manufacturers have programs that allow a designer to find all the parts and pieces easily and quickly. Once the many manufacturers coordinate the use of programs, Lawrie can see the day coming when he will be able to have his computer plug into a factory computer, eliminating mistakes and giving quicker service.

Lawrie likes the idea of few mistakes and quality service. He remembers when he was home on the farm. If something didn't happen, it was your own fault. Lawrie knows that if he tells someone he'll do something, he'll do it, if at all possible. His return customers recommend him, and Lawrie feels that word of mouth is about as good advertising as you can get. Keeping up with the latest in technology and insisting on quality workmanship give the Gallery of Cabinets a reputation of which Lawrie is proud.

Written by Barbara Dall who lives on Dodge Road and teaches at Community College of Vermont.

Top of the Signpost

Tonight as I was driving south on my road from a meeting in Calais, I was reminded as I am every time I drive this road of the separateness and independence of each of our small towns. Calais allows a 50 mile speed limit on its portion of the County Road, while the same paved road is posted at 40 miles an hour as soon as one crosses into East Montpelier. Why is this so? Surely the driving conditions are identical north and south of that line, but our two towns have different perceptions of what is safe for our drivers and our townspeople. Good!

This minor declaration of independence illustrates a real tenet of how we live and govern ourselves. At the very time that we mourn the flight of local authority to state and federal rule-making, we should be paying attention to the many local decisions that are still ours to make. Yes, we still set the speed limits on our roads and also determine what should be paved and what should remain narrow, tree-shaded and beautiful. We pattern our schools on our image of what is appropriate, useful, and important for our children to learn. We develop those amenities in our towns which we consider will make life better for our townspeople: recreation space and activities, for example, and trails to hike, ride horseback, or ski. Perhaps most important in the long view is our independence in making plans for the future of our towns. Have you observed, as I have, that every single town in Vermont has its own personality, style and hopes for the future? I'm sure that this is why planning commissions were first created many years ago. It is their mission to **keep** each town separate and different. They are supposed to be the "thinkers and dreamers" among us. They measure the vision of the townspeople and from that vision they create a plan which will, in so far as possible, carry out that vision.

The thinkers, dreamers and planners of past years have already created an East Montpelier town plan. It took months and years, and it involved hundreds of people in town. Now it is our job to make that plan work. This independence to design our town's future depends on each of us as town citizens. The framework is there. A considerable pool of talent is right here within our borders. Can we get them together? Do we have the energy, imagination and commitment to carry out our vision of the town's future? The answer to that question will say far, far more about what makes our town different and unique than a 40 mile-an-hour speed limit or a network of trails.

Jean Cate

GOODBY AND HELLO

Every reader of the *Signpost* can be grateful to Janice Waterman for five years of service. As she leaves the staff, we thank her for hours and hours spent contacting subjects for our profiles, getting authors, keeping them all on schedule, condensing minutes from hundreds of meetings, and baking great cookies for our meetings. Taking her place starting with this issue is Margaret Milne Richey. Margaret has lived in North Montpelier for nearly ten years, but her roots in town go back at least to 1850 when her Hollister great grandparents built the house on the pond where she and her husband Alban (who has authored two stories for us) now live. You'll be hearing from Margaret.



SELECTBOARD

Allan Couch (Chair), Edie Miller, Frank Pratt

July 26, 1995

- Met with Sheriff Don Edson to discuss the status of the recently begun traffic patrol program. There have been a number of tickets written on each shift. The Selectboard agreed to ask the Road Department to install additional signs as recommended.
- Discussed possibilities for repair to municipal building back roof.
- Authorized Chairman to sign a proposal with Overhead Door Co. for replacement of two garage doors for \$3,320.
- Approved liquor license application from Pamela Backus (dba as East Montpelier U-Save) in building belonging to Tom Rus on Route 14.
- East Montpelier and Calais are working

on Enhanced 9-1-1 emergency dispatching and locatable addresses. A joint meeting will be scheduled.

August 9, 1995

- In his monthly road report, foreman Mike Garand said there was minimal damage from recent heavy rains. There has been a recall on the Caterpillar loader because of a problem with the brakes. Mike has contacted the Vermont Local Roads Program concerning safety issues with the use of wooden signposts.
- Norman Rice as agent for Peter Duhamel presented a revised subdivision plan. The previous reference to "future road location" has been removed. The Selectboard asked that a draft letter-of-approval and conditions be drafted for their review and further discussion.

- Don Donnelly discussed his concerns about the Board of Adjustment's granting of approval for Larry Brown's 15,000 square foot building. The BOA used regulations for "light industry." Mr. Donnelly was encouraged to express his concerns about appropriate uses to the Planning Commission which is working on proposed revisions to the zoning ordinance.
- The Board endorsed the Central Vermont Economic Initiative and named Stuart Friedman and Bill Bryant to the implementation task force.

August 23, 1995

- Gary Champy of the Dept. of Environmental Conservation discussed the process for formation of fire districts for water systems. The owners of Crystal Springs Water Co. had enquired about creating a fire district.
- Collector of Delinquent Taxes Norma Raymond reported the amount of delinquent taxes outstanding is just over \$57,000.
- Draft letter-of-approval for the right-of-way request of Peter Duhamel for a three lot subdivision was reviewed and approved.

September 13, 1995

- Discussed with Tree Warden Paul Cate tree planting on Town roads rights-of-way. Agreed to adopt a policy to encourage property owners to plant trees outside the Town right-of-way for health of the trees and more efficient road maintenance. Bill Bryant was asked to draft such a policy.
- Jonathan Winston is the Town's contact for the Emergency 9-1-1 Board. He reported on the status of the program. The assignment of locatable addressing throughout the town needs to be made.
- Approval was granted the Fire Department for a coin drop Saturday, October 7.

REAPPRAISAL IS BEHIND US!!!

With the distribution of the Grand List, it is fair to say that the Town's reappraisal is completed. The Selectboard asked us to publish their letter to the listers Steve Sinclair, Jim Goodall, and Rosey Cueto.

Dear Steve, Jim and Rosey:

The Selectboard would like to thank Steve for his thoughtful memo of August 18th concerning the reappraisal and future concerns for the efficient operation of the Lister's Office in East Montpelier.

We agree that the reappraisal went remarkably well. The fact that most of the work was done in-house saved East Montpelier taxpayers upwards of \$30,000. The job of Lister is a thankless task in any year, but is particularly difficult during a reappraisal, when many taxpayers mistakenly blame rising taxes on the reappraisal rather than on rising budgets.

The Selectboard would like to second Steve's commendation of Rosey Cueto for his extra efforts and time commitment, without which the Town would likely have had to contract the reappraisal out for considerably more money, but little difference in quality of results.

We realize that the day is coming that the Listers will need some assistance to run the office. As Steve noted, this may either be a part-time secretary or a contracted professional appraiser. In the meantime, both the Selectboard and citizens of East Montpelier appreciate your efforts and the resulting savings to the Town's operating budget.

Please let us know whenever you would like to discuss the future of the Lister's Office further.

Sincerely,
Allan Couch
Selectboard Chairman

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chair: Richard Curtis

August 17, 1995

- Preliminary plat review of John Connor was approved subject to clarification of lot frontage on Cherry Tree Hill Road.

September 7, 1995

- The Pratt subdivision preliminary plat review was approved contingent on State clarifying issues concerning the proximity



of the lots to the public water supply.

► A request by Emile Gosselin for commercial building permit was approved. A 26x30 foot building at Green Valley Campground will replace two smaller buildings on the site.

► John Graves' request for change-of-use of garage on Route 2 near the junction of Routes 2 and 14 for auto repair concentrating on repair of electronic systems was approved.

September 21, 1995

► Reviewed the proposed changes in the East Montpelier Zoning regulations. Members felt such review would be completed in time for public hearings before town meeting in March.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Chair: Jeff Cueto

► No meetings were held in August or September.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Jan Aldrich (Chair), Jim Hiner, Paul White, Sue Stephen, Nancy Thomas

July 25, 1995

► Lighting retrofit contract had been signed for \$12,795 (\$1,760 lower than the original).

► Head cook's time increased to eight hours. No assistant cook this year.

► Accepted bid from Booth Brothers for milk.

► Voted that any non-residents of East Montpelier come before the Board if they wanted to use any part of the building.

August 21, 1995

► Discussion of uses for \$28,000 Title I monies if the grant is approved. Voted to apply funds to pay for the classroom aides already hired, the same amount to be returned to the general fund.

September 7, 1995

► Signed the Municipal Bond Refunding Agreement. Savings in FY1996, 1997, and 1998 on the building loan with bonds reduced by a rebate of \$3,029.

► Approved the Special Education Contract for the 1995-1996 school year.

► Approved hiring Cliff King to do the improvements to five classrooms for \$12,050.

► Approved hiring Cliff King to replace 13 window sills in the old classrooms for \$1,050.

► Accepted Richard Green's bid of \$32 a ton for wood chips.

► Laura Johnson reported on fire and reduced hot lunch data since FY 1989 and on electricity expenses the last two years.

FOUR CORNER SCHOOLHOUSE ASSOCIATION

► There will be a Hallowe'en Party for pre-school and elementary school children on Tuesday, October 31st, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Plans have been made for games, a Spook House, and refreshments. There is a 25 cent charge. Come and enjoy. Phone Marion Codling (223-2058) for use of building.

Search for Pre-School Children

In order to predict future class sizes for kindergarten, an annual search is done for pre-school children. Marcia Pauly is in charge of the project. Please call her with names of children who are ages birth to five and not yet in school. Parents' names, addresses, and phone numbers are helpful. Marcia can be reached at 223-7936.

FIRE AND RESCUE

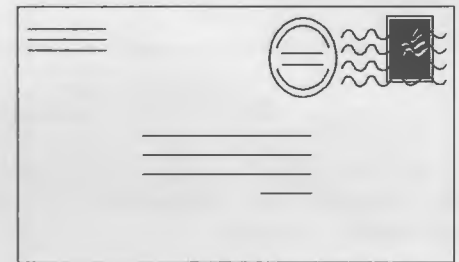
Jon Winston (Chief)

The East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD) has been having a busy year. Our emergency responses, fire calls and medical emergencies are currently at last year's rate - averaging four calls a week. The EMFD has spent considerable time training on our new engine - 6E4. We are thrilled to have this new truck - it is everything we had hoped it would be.

This month we visited the Calais and East Montpelier Elementary Schools and were able to use the "house of hazards" trailer for our fire prevention program. This is a new program offered in Vermont, and we were one of the first communities to take advantage of it. The program was well received by both staff and students.

The EMFD meets every Tuesday evening at 7 pm at the Templeton Road station. We are looking for new members. If you've ever wondered, ever wanted to be, or are newly curious about the fire and emergency medical services, please stop by. Undoubtedly, membership does require a great commitment and a good deal of work, however the rewards are tremendous. Stop by and say hi, and check out YOUR fire department.

The East Montpelier Fire Department Auxiliary has new cookbooks for sale at \$5.00 each. They can be purchased at many local businesses as well as from any member of the Fire Department or Auxiliary. Support your good cooking local Fire Department!



Stamp Collecting

Stamp collecting is great fun. Children can purchase new stamps or collect them from their own mails at home. Here are some simple steps for removing stamps from envelopes.

- ☉ Tear or cut off the area of the envelope that contains the stamp.
- ☉ Float stamp face up in a small dish of lukewarm water.
- ☉ Gently peel the paper from the stamp (not the stamp from the paper) using your fingers. If they don't come apart easily, let them float a little longer.
- ☉ To dry, place stamp between paper towels with a book on top.

For further information on stamp collecting, contact Linda A. Kirkpatrick, Postmaster, East Montpelier. (223-2832)



★ If you get your mail in Plainfield, Adamant, North Montpelier, or Barre, you may notice that this issue doesn't bear the first class postage which yours has in the past. We tried the first class experiment to compensate for late deliveries to those post offices. Let us know whether your paper is delivered promptly by bulk mail.

MILESTONES (Received by the Town Clerk by September 30, 1995)

BIRTHS

- ♥ Taran Elizabeth Bell; daughter born June 1, 1995, to Leslie & Douglas Bell. (correction of last issue).
- ♥ Ethan Blaine McSheffrey; son born August 2, 1995, to Debra & Richard W. McSheffrey.

MARRIAGES

- ♥ John Chandler DuPere to Barbara Jean Schneider, June 4, 1995. (correction of last issue)
- ♥ Marcel R. LaPerle to Joanne C. Boyd; June 3, 1995.
- ♥ Bruce Allen Mekkelson to Laurie Ann Tosi; June 17, 1995.
- ♥ Paul H. Brosseay to Gail E. Benda; July 8, 1995.
- ♥ Dennis L. McHugh to Freda G. Messier; July 21, 1995.
- ♥ Timothy C.R. Frost to Melissa DePaul, July 27, 1995.
- ♥ Sean Edward Hoar to Nancy Elaine Brazier; July 29, 1995.
- ♥ Kevin J. Hall to Tawnya R. Johnson; August 5, 1995.
- ♥ Donald D. DeForge to Lily A. Mertz; August 6, 1995.
- ♥ Benjamin Joseph Miller to Linda I-Li Lin; August 13, 1995.

PASSINGS

- Paul Howard LeFevre; died August 15, 1995. Husband of Geraldine LeFevre.

LAND TRANSFERS

- Gerald M. Hawkins, Estate to Stephen M. Aldenton & Margaret A. Duganski; 45.3 acres on Route 14 North.
- Northfield Savings Bank to Dan L., David, & Joyce A. Cheney; 20.0 acres with two mobile homes on North Street.
- Jan C. Otto to Fairmont Farms, Inc.; 7.94 acres on Vincent Flats Road.
- First Vermont Bank & Trust Co. to Stephen Ribolini & Alan Lendway; 1.5

acres with apartment house on Route 2 East.

- Robert LaClair to Stephen J. Craddock; ½ interest in 1.5 acres with garage on Route 14 South.
- Virginia Cole to Michael T. Bender & Marcia Jaquith; 5 acres with dwelling on North Street.
- Thomas Sette, Jr. to Paul & Suzanne Gruhler; 16 acres on North Street.
- John F. Chapple, III to Casella Waste Management, Inc.; 73.44 acres on Route 2.
- Sandy F. Conti to Sandy F. Conti & Teresa Codling; 2 acres with mobile home on Route 14 South.
- Town of East Montpelier to Richard & Mary Tousignant; 10.3 acres (gravel pit) off Route 14 South.
- Conrad H. & Ann M. Ormsbee to Margaret Jean Ormsbee; 10.11 acres on Center Road.
- Margaret Jean Ormsbee to Linda & Michael Wark & Margaret Jean Ormsbee; 11.5 acres with dwelling on Center Road.
- Northfield Savings Bank to Mark K. & Kelly A. Codling; 10.1 acres with mobile home on North Street.
- Arthur W. & Joanne N. Chickering to Arthur W. & Joanne N. Chickering; 12 acres on Chickering Road (Quitclaim Deed).
- William Robert Connors & Eveleen C. Cecchini to Jason M. & Martha H. Groton; 0.97 acres with dwelling on Charlton Blvd.
- Jan C. Otto to Stephen B. & Lisa J. Pratt; 10.1 acres on Route 2.
- Bonnie MacNaughton to Marc D. Eagle & Shari J. Young; 5.6 acres with house on Country Club Road.
- Frederick C. & Nancy S. Strong to Frederick C. Strong, Trustee of Frederick C. Strong Trust; 97+ acres with dwelling on Center Road.
- Richard M. & Mary A. Tousignant to Richard & Catherine M. West; easement off Route 14 South.
- Doris Tumulty to Richard & Catherine M. West; 5.0 acres on Route 14 South.
- James G. Grundy to James G. Grundy & Sharon Gouveis; 17.4 acres with dwelling on Clark Road.
- William K. & Ruth K. Porter to Robert K. Porter; 7.17 acres with building on Haggatt Road.
- Lawrence E., Jr. & Sandra L. Loso to Peter A. & Jane M. Burroughs; 0.59 acres with dwelling on Route 14 North.
- Kathy M. Plante to Sterry Leno II; 2.7

acres with dwelling on Sanders Circle.

- Cheryl Potter to John P. & Patricia A. Connor; 10.4 acres on corner of Towne Hill Road and Cherry Tree Hill Road.
- Dorothy J. Sparrow, Philip L. Sparrow & Roger B. Leland, Trustees of the Dorothy J. Sparrow Living Trust to U.S. Rural Economic and Community Development & Vermont Housing and Conservation Board; conservation easement to 144.6 acres on Jacobs Road.
- U.S. Rural Economic and Community Development to Vermont Housing and Conservation Board; conservation easement to 143.4 acres on Gould Hill Road.
- Vermont Housing and Conservation Board to Vermont Land Trust, Inc. & Vermont Housing and Conservation Board; conservation easement to 143.4 acres on Gould Hill Road.
- Dorothy J. Sparrow, Philip L. Sparrow & Roger B. Leland, Trustees of the Dorothy J. Sparrow Living Trust to Vermont Land Trust, Inc.; 163.9 acres with dwelling on North Street and Gould Hill Road.
- Dorothy J. Sparrow, Philip L. Sparrow & Roger B. Leland, Trustees of the Dorothy J. Sparrow Living Trust to Vermont Land Trust, Inc., Vermont Housing and Conservation Board & Town of East Montpelier; access easement - one-rod wide trail to 161.4 acres on North Street and Gould Hill Road.
- Vermont Land Trust, Inc. to Vermont Land Trust, Inc., Vermont Housing and Conservation Board & Town of East Montpelier; access easement - one-rod wide trails on North Street and Gould Hill Road.
- Vermont Land Trust, Inc. to Diana F. Chace; 161.4 acres with dwelling on North Street and Gould Hill Road

CHURCH CHIMES Old Brick Church Old Meeting House

Old Brick Church welcomes all in the community to its 11:00 a.m. Sunday morning services, as well as other activities, such as the Community Koffee Klatsch on the first Monday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

NOT QUITE A WASHOUT - RALLY DAY 1995

Did we make a mistake in announcing a rain date for Rally Day? Our other mistake was believing the weather report (it promised that Saturday would clear). Who do you trust? What we did know for sure was that dozens of workers simply couldn't do their jobs on Sunday, so we went ahead on Saturday and you know the rest.

Most of the Rally Day events were moved right into the schoolhouse. Some very wet races were run in the rain, as was the bike tour, but inside the school a happy crowd visited the Town Fair, bid in the *Signpost* auction, watched Michael Keene's impromptu town stories in motion, shared Memory Hour, and ate Fire Department goodies. By afternoon the rain let up, allowing more than eighty hikers to enjoy the surprises along the trail of the Magic Hike. The baked bean supper was sold out, and the gym was filled for the evening's Variety Show. The seventh year Rally Day started in a downpour and ended with applause.

Thanks are due for all the volunteers who made it happen. *Signpost* readers will be happy to know that the Auction was the biggest ever, earning over \$1800 to keep the paper coming.

Rally Day 1996 will be held on Saturday, September 7, RAIN OR SHINE.

Thank You to all the Donors to the Signpost Silent Auction at Rally Day!

Chris Abrams and Nona Estrin
Annis Acres (George and Patty Annis)
Joyce Bean
Horn of the Moon Cafe (Gary Beardsworth)
Ben and Jerry's Homemade
Karen Blosser
Thistle Hill Pottery (Jennifer Boyer)
Bragg Farm Sugar House and Gift Shop
Laurie Brewster
The Drawing Board (Ray and Jody Brown)
Hannah Burley, Jordan Kane & Megan Somers
Gimmy Callan
Carver Family Tree Farm
Jean Cate
Paul & Sandal Cate
MaryAnne & Joe Cerasoli
Sandie Chaloux
Pat McKee
Chapell Family
Andy Christiansen and Jennifer Zollner
Janet and Stephen Connor
Al and Nancy Couch
Jan's Beauty Boutique (Jan Crossan)
Rich Czaplinski

Danforth's Sugarhouse
Mary Rose Dougherty
Dudley's General Store
Ella Emerson
Nona Estrin
Cow and Lizard (Lucy & Joseph Ferrada)
Bruce and Claudia Fitch and Family
Ruth Frost
Mark Galbo
Hallmark Farm (The Hall Family)
Michael Harris
Carol Hass, of Razzmatazz
Hawkins Brothers
Heidmarie Heiss-Holmes
Ellen Hill
Martha Holden
Charles Johnson
Catamount Nursery (Steve & Laurie Justis)
Bill Kelly
Andrew Kline, of After Image Photography
George Landry
Sandy and Patty LaPerle
Legare's Market
Wally MacNow, of Camsco Music

Mekkelsen Trailer Sales and Rental
Celina Moore
Morse Farm Sugar Shack
Marion Palmer
Robin's Peach Tree (Robin Blanchard)
Delia Robinson
Linda Royce
Sign Here, Inc. (Cheryl Rus)
Rachel Senechal
The Country Store (The Shouldice Family)
Capital Market (The Sikora Family)
Barbara and Sam Starr
Loring and Barbara Starr, & Sam and Alice Dworkin
Mary Stone
Sylvia Tosi
Uiton's Muffler
Vermont Business Equipment (Todd Fitch)
Jean Vissering
Doris Washburn
Washington Electric Co-op
Fran Weinbaum
Cate Farm (Richard Wiswall)
Carroll Witham

AND to the Auction Volunteers:

Ann Carter, Janet & Stephen Connor & Chris, Stephen and Sarah Connor, Becky Crandell, Sam & Barbara Starr, Loring Starr & Sam & Alice Dworkin, Jean Vissering.

Thank you all!

Everybody's Business - Addendum

Surveying

Norman Rice - Dunroven Associates

Glass engraving and Fine Arts Painting

Joan Kirby. - Kirby Glass

Translating

Judith Rosch Hinds. - French to English

Folk music CDs and tapes by mail order

Wally MacNow - Camsco Music

Camping and hiking trips

Scott Sayers - White Mountain Camping & Hiking

Restaurants

Edwin and Rhonda Beardsworth - Horn of the Moon Cafe
Montpelier.

THANK YOU!

Richard & Esther Hill
H. Roger & Genevieve Chapell
Marion Codling
Robert & Judith Nist
Frederick & Ruth Hyde
Ellen Hill
Roger & Geneva Thivierge
Elizabeth Blouin

Your generous support is always a welcome sign of appreciation to those of us who put together the *Signpost*.

TOWN SERVICE IS A TAXING JOB - EARLE ELLINGWOOD

We can be proud to live in a community that has maintained a friendly, rural agricultural character. While sitting right on the edge of growth centers, the Town has also been able to develop an excellent school system, a sound tax base and a good town plan that is user friendly. This in large part is due to the participation and commitment of time and expertise of a dedicated group of citizens. One of these individuals is Earle Ellingwood. WHO IS EARLE ELLINGWOOD?



Earle is a person who takes a great deal of pride in being a fourth generation Central Vermonter (his great grandparents were born in Middlesex.) Born in Montpelier on July 11, 1933, he attended local schools. After graduation in 1950, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served in the Korean War as a gunner on B-27s with 13 combat missions to his credit.

Following military service Earle went on to Babson College and obtained a B.S. in Accounting. He married and settled on Bliss Road where he has lived for the past 35 years. Three children — Brian, Karen and Diane — were raised here and graduated from U-32.

Earle first served the Town as a lister from 1965 to 1993. A lister is that unwelcome guest who shows up at the most undesirable time, evenings and Saturdays, interrupting free time and infringing on our privacy so that a necessary evil can occur — taxes! The job doesn't end with the property evaluation. Other fringe benefits include never-ending paperwork, telephone calls at inconvenient times and long hours spent on appeals. All of which is to develop a sound tax base that is fair to all concerned.

In 1976 Mr. Ellingwood was appointed to the Board of Adjustment and is still providing his services. He chaired the Board from 1977 through 1979 and again from 1989 to 1991. Members and applicants would tell you he demonstrates a thorough understanding of the zoning ordinance and the ability to listen carefully to both sides, as well as a sense of fair play as far as property rights are concerned. His experience as a lister provides a good working knowledge of the properties and geography of East Montpelier. He can be depended upon to make level-headed decisions without getting caught up in the emotions of the moment. His distinction as

the longest serving member of the Board may be proof of his dedication to the Town.

Over the past 25 years, Earle has served on the East Montpelier Town Forest Committee and as treasurer of the Middlesex Center Cemetery Commission. For several years he was member and treasurer of the Old Meeting House. As you might expect it was not enough for Earle to simply be a member of any organization without offering his services. If there is work to be done it is usually Earle who gets things organized and works until the job is finished.

He was employed at National Life Insurance Company for 29 years and was Assistant Controller when he took early retirement in 1988. After learning to bake his own bread from scratch, stenciling the living room walls and remodeling the kitchen, not to mention driving his neighbors crazy, retirement no longer looked good to Earle.

So after taking several state appraisal courses he rejoined the workforce. For the past seven years he has worked for the Vermont Appraisal Company. His new career involves town reappraisals for Grand List purposes, hearing grievances and making adjustments for such towns as Montpelier, Randolph, Woodbury, East Montpelier, and Waitsfield. Can you think of a better way to make enemies? However, it would be hard to find anyone who doesn't respect his work.

Enough of the factual background. There is another side to Earle. In his spare time he enjoys woodworking, tending apple trees, hunting, fishing and most any outdoor sport. Earle is an A#1 avid dancer and enjoys the company of his friend, Louise Groleau. Keep your eyes open, you may see the two of them on the dance floor. He has a camp on East Long Pond in Woodbury where he spends a great deal of time. Snowmobiling is high on his list of favorite pastimes. As a member of the East Montpelier Gully Jumpers he is jointly in charge of grooming trails.

A description wouldn't be complete without adding the fact that he is a cantankerous old Vermonter and a spinner of tales. The only thing more enjoyable than pulling a practical joke on his flatlander friends is spending time with his four-year-old redheaded granddaughter, Arielle Brianna Ellingwood.

*by Dick Casavant and Louise Eldred,
old friends from East Montpelier.*

K I D C A R E

Registered day care with openings for all ages.
Open Mon. - Fri. 7am-5pm
Located on Fair Road (dead end)
Just off Rt. 14 in East Montpelier on bus route
Come visit us or call Lynn at 479-0875



COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR

Selectboard	2nd & 4th Wednesday	7:15	Town Office
Planning Commission	1st & 3rd Thursday	7:00	Town Office
Zoning Board of Adjustment	2nd & 4th Monday	7:30	Town Office
Conservation Fund Advisory Comm.	2nd Thursday	7:30	Town Office
Volunteer Fire Department	Every Tuesday	7:00	Fire Station, Templeton Rd.
U-32 School Board	2nd & 4th Tuesday	7:30	U-32
Elementary School Board	1st Thursday	6:30	Elementary School
Town Clerk's Office Hours	Monday-Thursday: 9-5, Friday: 9-12		Town Office
Zoning Administrator	Tuesday & Thursday	1:00-2:30	Town Office
Four Corners Schoolhouse Ass'n	3rd Wednesday	7:30	Four Corners Schoolhouse

Meeting times are subject to change

EVENTS CALENDAR

Friday & Saturday, November 3 & 4	Fall Plays	U-32, 7:30 pm
Friday, November 13	Town Taxes Due	Town Office
Friday, December 1	Holiday Fair	EMES, 4:30 - 8:00
Wednesday, December 13	High School Holiday Concert	U-32, 7:30 pm
Thursday, December 14	Jr. High Holiday Concert	U-32, 7:30 pm

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

Published six times a year; mailed without charge to all residents of East Montpelier.
Subscriptions mailed out of town for \$10 a year. Business card ads: \$15/issue or \$75/year.

Jean Cate, Publisher, 223-2951
David Coburn, Copy Editor, 223-6886
Anne Sherman, Business Manager, 223-2693

Kevin Wood, Layout/Design, 223-3714
Ginger Hopkins, Photographer, 229-4375

Janet MacLeod, Artist
Sylvia Tosi, Town Records, 223-3240
Margaret Richey, News Editor, 454-7862

Printed on Recycled Paper with Soybased Ink

East Montpelier Signpost
RFD 1, Box 80
East Montpelier, Vermont 05651
Address Correction Requested
Return Postage Guaranteed

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
L. Brown and Sons, Inc.

Volume 6, No.2: November/December, 1995

INSIDE:

HOME
IMPROVEMENT
STAFF CHANGES
RALLY DAY
REVIEW
LISTING/TAXING

