

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

Volume VII, No. 3

January/February, 1997

THE SHAPIROS: BUILDERS OF COMMUNITY

When Andy and Carolyn Shapiro heard that U-32 was considering renting portable classrooms to ease a space crunch, they didn't just grumble about the expense and the ugliness. To these folks, this cried out as a project that needed to be done; and doing projects and building buildings is what the Shapiros do. Andy's always keen to demonstrate energy efficiency in public buildings, and Carolyn is always eager for a community to organize. They proposed a community building project to construct two new classrooms at U-32, they worked tirelessly and never stopped smiling, and by August, with the help of 300 volunteers, the building was a reality!

I've known Andy and Carolyn Shapiro for most of the eight years they've lived in East Montpelier, but until we sat down to prepare for this article, I'd never really heard the story of their lives. What a story! The Shapiros have lived in so many places and done so many things that at first glance their story appears to be a collage of wild adventures.

As they talked about their experiences, an intricate pattern began to emerge, creating a rich fabric like the Hmong tapestries that Carolyn often shares with us. Let's look closely at this fabric; what common threads do we see? A sense of community. The importance of the arts. Respect for others. Cross-cultural awareness. Environmentalism. Love of nature. Self-realization. Commitment to education. Openness to adven-



ture. Unlimited possibilities!

Carolyn was born in Nebraska, grew up in Ames, Iowa, stopped briefly in Chicago, and ended up in Long Beach, California, where her dad was an industrial arts professor. After high school she attended the University of California at Berkeley in the early 60's. Characteristically, Carolyn was analytical about the Berkeley scene: she thought the issues raised by the protestors were important, but she did not like the hatred and confrontation she saw.

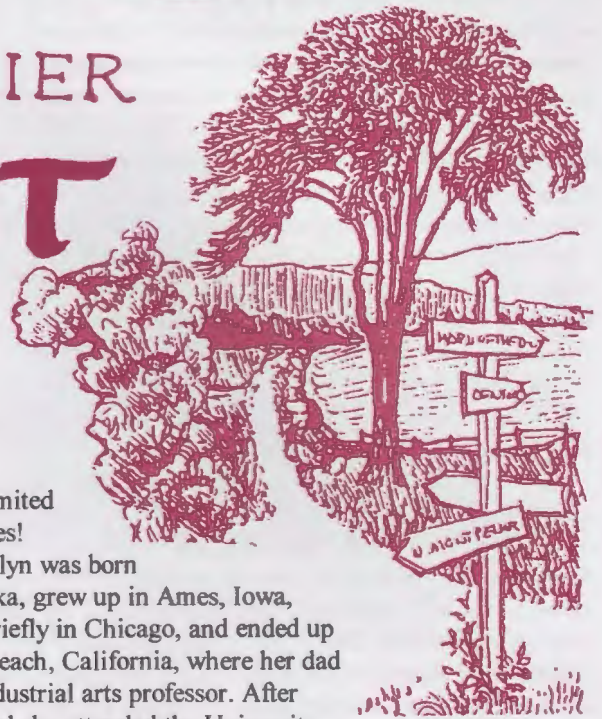
She took off on a cross-country ramble, the first of many, wandering with a friend and selling jewelry she had made, looking for a community that was positive and constructive. Carolyn's recollections of the neighborhood in Ames, Iowa, where she grew up—a real neighborhood where kids were safe and free to explore, where her parents were involved with community gardens and people had great togetherness—have influenced her search for a sense of belonging ever since.

Eventually her wandering took her to Massachusetts, where her travelling buddy's brother was building a house with the help of some friends, including a fellow named Andy Shapiro. While he worked on the farmhouse, Andy was living in a dome made of recycled checkbook cover material! The couple linked up twenty-five years ago to build a spiral teepee house made of old recycled barn lumber, and they've been building ever since.

How did Andy end up in that dome in Massachusetts? He grew up in Alexandria, Virginia, a Washington, D.C. suburb, and put in a year and a half at Antioch College in Ohio. He developed a strong interest in architecture, and left because Antioch had no program in the field. He joined a group of architecture-school drop-outs who were pushing the fringe of experimental architecture. Called the "Ant Farm," the group specialized in experimental design: inflatable buildings, domes, and conceptual art. Eventually Andy took his dome, with a frame of electrical conduit and a skin of recycled plastic fabric, to Massachusetts to help build a house for his friend. And Carolyn showed up to help!

For the next 10 years the pair moved every two years, as

(Continued on page 2)



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Andy pursued his interest in affordable and environmentally friendly housing. They lived in Vermont, Maryland, California, and Montana, where Andy worked for the National Center for Appropriate Technology, one of the pioneer organizations promoting environmental awareness and energy conservation.

While they were living in Butte, Carolyn, unable to find a job in her fields (teaching or art) created work for herself. She organized two of the primary ethnic groups (Italian and Serbian) to re-create the old neighborhood community dinners. The Serbian dinner was so successful, they ended up seating 1,000 people, with high school drill teams serving and the National Guard commandeered to man the rotisseries! Carolyn remembers her days in Montana as an intensely vivid experience of community. After that, organizing work crews among 300 volunteers to build the U-32 classrooms was a piece of cake!

Wanderlust overtook the Shapiros again, as they followed an offshoot of the Appropriate Technology folks to Vermont. They stayed here briefly that time, just long enough to have their daughter Sarah (now a junior at U-32) before Andy was called to a solar consulting job in Rhode Island. He designed a solar greenhouse for Brown University, and when they asked him to teach courses there, he decided it was time to enroll as an undergraduate; so Andy finished his BA in engineering at Brown while teaching. He also wrote a book on solar greenhouses. Carolyn took courses at the Rhode Island School of Design and followed her interest in folk art through her work with the Rhode Island Council of the Arts.

Providence was a multi-cultural environment, and the Shapiros' strong love of cultural diversity was nourished there. They stayed in Rhode Island for a record eight years before the lure of a safe place to raise Sarah brought them to Vermont.

"By the time I turn 40, I want to be working on a house for myself," said Andy; and on the day of his fortieth birthday, the Shapiros' friends helped them pack their belongings for the move to East Montpelier. For the next year they camped, living in tents, the garage, and partially-completed rooms as they built their solar home on Gould Hill Road. The house incorporates many energy efficient technologies gleaned from Andy's experiences as a consultant. With plenty of insulation and thermal storage, the house is cozy all winter long. The greenhouse, made of recycled materials, supplies tomatoes and peppers the week before Thanksgiving!

Carolyn took over the ELF environmental program at East Montpelier Elementary School, adding her own slant: instead of the natural science curriculum, she presented an environmental/recycling series and a program linking different cultures to their environments. She helped organize a project that took schoolchildren onto the town trails for a year, with seasonal brochures written and illustrated by the kids. (These are still available at the town clerk's office.) She did free-lance illustrating, designed a travelling exhibit for the Boston Science Museum, and then took a job with Vermont College in the MFA in Visual Arts program. She also continues her own art work. Andy continues his work as energy consultant with his own company, Energy Balance Inc.

Both Shapiros talk about their extraordinary work with modesty, and are already looking to the future. Carolyn wants

TOP OF THE SIGNPOST:

I'd love to know how the *Signpost* is received in each of your homes. Do you sit down and read it on the spot? Throw it in the wastebasket? Post it on your frig? Readdress it to a family member no longer living in town? Do you notice whether it arrives on time—just before the first of the month printed on the first page? I will never know your personal responses, just as you never really know what goes on behind the scenes in the process of creating each issue that you receive. If you think that the team that builds your *Signpost* has it all down to a science, with a precise schedule of what happens when and who does it, you would be amazed at what really happens.

In seven years of building *Signposts*, I have evolved what I call: **Fundamental Laws For Small Community Newspapers Created On An Infrequent Schedule By Volunteers:**

- Town events are usually scheduled on rather short notice.
- Minutes are often written up at the last possible moment.
- Answering machines can play telephone tag endlessly.
- Computers are clever but require brains and experience behind them.
- Meetings attended by 6 out of 7 team members are a miracle.
- We all have private lives.

To illustrate the last point, the issue before this one was created in the midst of a family crisis in which Loring Starr dealt with the serious illness and death of her father-in-law. Dave Coburn put in many hours doing the layout for her. By pure chance he already had the format in his computer since his printer had pinch-hit for hers during a previous glitch. Dave's layout was slick as could be, and I'll bet nobody even guessed it was done by different hands. And as for this issue, the whole team is pinch-hitting for Margaret while she recovers from knee replacement surgery. I think it worked, Margaret! Get well fast.

Jean Cate

to work with the schools to develop programs to stretch the kids' horizons, and hopes that the energy of the volunteers can continue with greater community involvement with U-32. (She'd also love to do a mural somewhere!) Andy is thinking of other ways to use the energy shown by the volunteers, and challenges everyone to think the same way. What else can we do? What other projects are out there waiting to be done? The possibilities are endless!

Ginny Burley is a school volunteer extraordinaire, is a member of the U-32 school board, and works part-time as a home visitor for the Family Center.



THE TOWN WEATHERVANE



SELECTBOARD

Frank Pratt, (Ch.), Tom Brazier, Edie Miller

Sept. 11, 1996

- Approved Mike Garand's monthly road report. Discussed and approved purchase of scarifier blade for the grader.
- Tom LoPizzo from VLCT reviewed health insurance options for town employees, and will meet at a later time with them to review their choices.
- Several state officials were present to summarize ongoing discussions about forming a municipal fire district when Crystal Springs gets out of the water business. Atty. Paul Guiliani noted that fire districts are units of Vermont municipal government and discussed the process of forming them. Selectboard will take part in future public meetings.
- Contract signed for repairs to Coburn covered bridge (\$30,400, 90% paid by State).
- Authorized Town Attorney to act as Agent in signing loan documents for Fairmont Farm Community Development Grant/Loan.

Sept. 25, 1996

- Selectboard has visited Springfield's sludge composting facility, in connection with Montpelier's proposed facility at Packard Industrial Park.
- Appointed John S. Hall to fill vacancy on Elementary School Board through Town Meeting.
- Agreed to settle the zoning appeal of Arthur and Lisa Rice to Environmental Court, on Town Attorney's advice.

Sept. 30, 1996

- Met with Montpelier city officials to discuss sludge composting facility.

Oct. 9, 1996

- After reviewing bids, awarded auditing contract as recommended by Town Auditors. Outside audit is required by Vt. Community Development Program for loan to Fairmont Farm.

➤ Town has received maps and computer data files from Microdata, Inc. for new addressing under E-911 project. Will be reviewed by Bill Bryant, Rosie Cueto, Town Clerk and E-911 committee. Discussed and voted to ask Post Office to approve "last line identity" so mail can be delivered if Zip Code is OK but town name is wrong.

- Town sold 1984 pickup and 1983 dump truck at State auction. The \$6,900 return will go into the equipment fund voted at Town Meeting, to purchase a 1985 Chevrolet Blazer for \$3,500.
- Discussed with Richard Casavant his proposed two-lot subdivision off Fair Rd. After discussion, approved right-of-way to second lot as future possible public street.
- Received copies of draft Zoning Ordinance Amendments. Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing Oct. 17.
- Sheriff's Department asked to schedule additional patrols in Gallison Hill area.

Oct. 21, 1996

- Met again with Montpelier representatives to discuss sludge composting facility.

Oct. 23, 1996

- Discussion of accidents at the intersection of Towne Hill, Gallison Hill and Brazier Roads. Recommended that edges be mowed further back and mailboxes be moved. Selectboard are to meet with State engineers at the site.

- Rachel Grossman appointed to Funding Request Study Committee.

- Awarded contract to Burrell Roofing for replacement of Coburn covered bridge roof.

- Discussions continue with area towns about possible formation of a regional ambulance service.

- Since no one attended Planning Commission's Public Hearing on Zoning Ordinance Amendments Oct. 17, Selectboard called another Hearing for Nov. 21, town-wide notification to be by post card. [Nov. hearing later re-scheduled for Dec. 19.]

Nov. 13, 1996

- Still trying to schedule site meeting at Brazier and Towne Hill Rd. intersection, trying 7 a.m. as a high traffic time.

- Road Foreman Garand expressed con-

cern about Palmisano pond on Dodge Rd. and its possible impact on spring road drainage.

- Discussed Rt-2, 14, & Quaker Rd. intersection with representatives of AOT and Regional Planning Commission. The bypass is 10-15 years away. Options for interim solutions were discussed. Board feels the Rt-2 & 14 intersection at the Winooski River bridge is more urgent because of the condition of the bridge. Options will be discussed with property owners.

- Recommended appointment of Chris Reed as Town Health Officer.

- Approved Gully Jumpers Snowmobile Club's request to use four sections of town roads to connect trails as in the past.

- Central Vt. Revolving Loan Fund has available funds to lend to small businesses. Bill Bryant appointed as contact person.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Stephen Rauh, Chair

Sept. 19, 1996

- Preliminary plat review of Messier subdivision approved.

- Request for 6' x 24' addition to south side of post office, submitted by Gloria Biron. Approved.

- Request for 4' x 7.5' Mobil Gas sign at Dudley's Store approved.

- Discussed site plan for Montpelier's composting facility at Packard Park with officials of East Montpelier and Montpelier. Approved.

- Sketch plan for Casavant subdivision on Fair Road approved.

Oct. 3, 1996

- Sketch plan for two-lot subdivision on former Baross property on Rt-2 presented by Kevin and Brian Bailey. Approved.

Oct. 17, 1996

- Casavant subdivision on Fair Rd. has been changed to two lots. Preliminary plat review approved.

Nov. 7, 1996

- Final plat review of Dick Casavant's Fair Rd. subdivision approved.

- Hearing on Bailey subdivision on Rt-2 recessed to Dec. 5, due to the absence of the Baileys.

- Pam Parent's request for home occupation selling crafts in her home on Rt-2 was approved.

(Continued on page 4)





THE TOWN WEATHERVANE



(Continued from page 3)

- Sketch plan for three lot subdivision on Towne Hill Rd. presented by Norm Rice and the Hawkins brothers. Approved.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Jeff Cueto, Chair

OCTOBER 21, 1996

- Special meeting was called to discuss a letter to be sent to the Selectboard. Members agreed to send letter condemning the actions of the Selectboard in the Arthur Rice appeal case.

EAST MONTPELIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Jan Aldrich (Chair), John Hall, Loring Starr, Susan Stephen, Nancy Thomas

Oct. 3, 1996

- Board discussed & adopted various budget policies. Board accepted auditors' report.
- Board approved Northfield Lumber Co. as woodchip supplier, and hired Chiptec to install new draft system.
- Laura Johnson reported 17 new students in grades K-3, many of whom are "at risk." Recommended hiring part-time reading assistant with Title I money.
- Board discussed and adopted Vermont Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities as the standards for EMES. Extra meetings for budget planning scheduled for Nov. 21, Dec. 12 and possibly Jan. 9.

Nov. 7, 1996

- Pam Somers presented music budget. Would like to purchase school sound system. Board will put \$3,000 in the budget for a system next year.
- Suggested looking into the All-Cycle Company for school's recycling.
- Replacement floor tiles to be installed in kindergarten room this year.

- Board decided to have the audiometer machine in the nurse's office repaired at cost of \$165; the money to be taken out of the maintenance budget.
- Laura Johnson explained that nurse Cindy Murphy puts in a lot of extra time; suggested that the school needs a full time nurse. She proposed increasing hours, salary and benefits to make this a full-time position.
- Board approved hiring a new Title I aide, Chanda Martin, for this year.
- Board appointed the following Support Group members: Henry Murray, Irene Vilbrin, Steve Moran, Mary Ann Rob, Ruth Farnham, Shari Young, Linda Blake and Stuart Hall.
- Board approved pay of \$75/day retroactive as of Nov. 1 for Kelly Heney, substitute physical education teacher since the beginning of school year.

U-32 BOARD

Peter Bluhm (Chair); Ginny Burley and Tony Klein, East Montpelier members

Oct. 8, 1996

- Smoking policy was discussed due to recent conflicts at school.
- Peter Bluhm moved to spend \$1,000 from contingency fund to cover cost of stolen equipment.
- Approved off-site classes plan as presented, with \$2,910 to come from contingency fund.
- Approved academic support coordinator position as presented, to be hired for remainder of school year, out of administrative salary line.
- Approved \$1,500 from contingency fund for window rehabilitation.

Oct. 22, 1996

- Annual Curriculum Report on schedule to go to the *World* Nov. 20. [Note: Rescheduled for January.]
- Approved permanent part-time accounting position in the office through the end of the year.
- Board requested policy committee review suspension policy.

Nov. 12, 1996

- Approved the following appointments to special education associate staff: R. Atkinson, M. Goodfriend and D. Dwyer.
- Recommendations for substitute stipends accepted.

FOUR CORNERS SCHOOLHOUSE

Ruth Frost, Chair

- The Halloween party, hosted by Ginny Burley, attracted more than one hundred children and their parents. The Tiger Cub Scouts of East Montpelier, as part of their community service, decorated the Spook House and created scarecrows for display around the schoolhouse.
- Winter workshops are: Lines and Shapes; Hand Applique; Basic Patchwork; Basic Knitting; and Basic Slipcovering. Call Ruth Frost for dates and information (223-6892).
- For use of the schoolhouse, call Marion Codling (223-2058).

EAST MONTPELIER FIRE DEPT.

Chief Jon Winston, President Bill George

- The Fire Dept. would like to announce that C. David Sawyer of Rt-14S and Jason Sanborn of Country Club Rd. have just been accepted as members of the Department. And welcome to Bernard Corliss who has rejoined.
- It looks like our busiest year yet—the department had responded to 197 calls by the end of November.

CHURCH BELLS

OLD BRICK CHURCH

Rev. Marcheta Townsend, minister

Worship services, as well as Sunday School, are held at 11 a.m. each Sunday. Rev. Marcheta Townsend and the congregation welcome you to our services.

OLD MEETING HOUSE

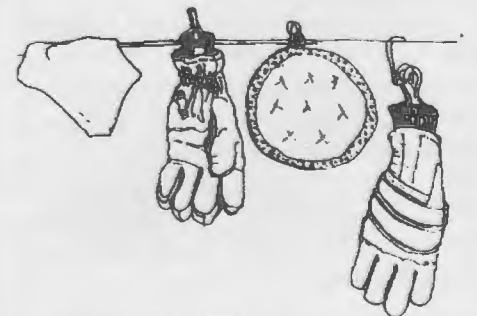
Interim minister, David Connor

Sunday Service and Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. All are welcome.

THANK YOU!

Special thanks to our **Signpost** contributors. You know who you are, but we'll also list you in the next issue, when we have more room.

Please keep those cards and CHECKS coming!





ENHANCED 911 UPDATE

Work has been continuing on the E-911 locatable addressing project in East Montpelier. The new addressing will make it easier for fire and ambulance personnel to find you in an emergency— not to mention the UPS truck.

Field work has been completed by the State's contractor, microDATA, Inc., to identify locations of all the buildings with phones in town. Post office box holders may now remove the pink cards from their windows!

The database, which includes overlays of the building location maps, postal rural routes, Town Grand List and tax maps is being reviewed by Rosie Cueto and Bill

Bryant for correct matching of each building with its owner/occupant. The Selectboard has begun work on an addressing ordinance and is completing

preliminary road naming. If you live on a private road or driveway with three or more homes on it, it will need to be named. If you would like to suggest a name, please contact Bill Bryant at the Municipal Building (223-3313).

The Selectboard will hold a public hearing on the proposed ordinance and street names sometime in late winter. The Town is planning to install all needed road name signs, but residents will need to place their new number on their building or on a post at their driveway.

We expect that the new addressing can be completed in time for the July 1, 1997, goal set by the Vermont E-911 Board to implement the new 911 calling system. Residents will be notified of the new addresses sometime in the spring. In the meantime, don't buy too much new stationary with your old rural route box address on it.

Questions about E-911? Call Fire Chief Jon Winston or Bill Bryant.



1997 TOWN MEETING COUNTDOWN

Here are some key dates to keep in mind as we plan for Town Meeting:

Thursday, Jan. 23 - last day to submit petitions for special Warning articles.

Monday, Jan. 27 - last day to submit Candidate Petitions for Australian ballot voting for local offices.

Saturday, Feb. 22 - last day to register to vote before Town Meeting. Town Clerk's Office open 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Thursday, Feb. 27 - Town Forum & Australian Ballot Informational Meeting.

Tuesday, Mar. 4 - TOWN MEETING



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SIGNPOST AUCTION DONORS-- YOU MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN!!

Chris Abrams
and Nona Estrin
Annis Acres
(George and Patty Annis)
T & M Motor Sports
(Todd Audet)
Joyce Bean
Horn of the Moon Cafe
(Gary Beardsworth)
Ben and Jerry's Homemade
Karen & Dave Blosser
Thistle Hill Pottery
(Jennifer Boyer)
Bragg Farm Sugar House
and Gift Shop
Laurie Brewster
The Drawing Board
(Ray and Jody Brown)
Ginny Callan
Carver Family Tree Farm
Jean, Paul & Sandal Cate
MaryAnne & Joe Cerasoli

Sandie Chaloux
Chapell Family
Connor Contracting
Judy Cookson and friends
Jan's Beauty Boutique
(Jan Crossan)
Rich Czaplinski
Danforth's Sugarhouse
Joann DeMartino
Mary Rose Dougherty
Dudley's General Store
Ella Emerson
Nona Estrin
Cow and Lizard Clothes
(Lucy & Joe Ferrada)
Bruce Fitch and Family
Ed Foley & Molly Foley
Stuart Friedman
Ruth Frost
Mark Galbo
James Goodall
Michael Harris

Carol Hass, of Razzmatazz
Hawkins Brothers
Heidimarie Heiss-Holmes
Tom Herzig
Martha Holden
Ginger Hopkins
Charles Johnson
Catamount Nursery
(Steve & Laurie Justis)
Sandy and Patty LaPerle
Legare's Market
Wally MacNow,
of Camco Music
Mekkelsen Trailer Sales
& Rental
Dexter Merritt
Celina Moore
Morse Farm Sugar Shack
Marion Palmer
Diane Paulger
Delia Robinson
Linda Royce

Sign Here, Inc. (Cheryl Rus)
Rachel Senechal
Andy Shapiro
The Country Store
(The Shouldice Family)
Video Box Office
(Paul Shper)
Capital Market
(The Sikora Family)
Tinker & Trade (Bob Smith)
Sam and Barbara Starr
Mary Stone
The Suskin Family
Sylvia Tosi
Jean Vissering
Doris Washburn
Washington Electric Co-op
Cate Farm (Richard Wiswall)
Carroll Witham
Anonymous
Did we miss your name?
Call Loring Starr, 229-0007



East Montpelier Trails News

Sandy Woodbeck, Chair



We have a treasurer! Thank you to Kim Kendall for joining the Trails Committee.



We are starting a new trail maintenance program in which trail sections are adopted by a group of volunteers. Anyone interested in finding out more should call Nona Estrin, at 223-7745.



Work continues on the Sparrow Farm Trail. It will be roughly marked until final signs are placed next spring. The trail leaves Hill Road at the lowest point on the road below Sparrow Farm. Many thanks to all the landowners, and all the volunteers, who have made the trail possible.



Reminders: horses and bikes are not permitted on the trails between Dec. 1 and June 1. Avoid the trails during thaws. When parking on roads, be sure to leave room for two vehicles to pass.

Thanks!



MOOSELIPS



➤ Many thanks to the following local businesses who donated items to help decorate our Town Municipal Office: Pic-A-Posy Gardens, a decorated boxwood centerpiece tree; Legares, a poinsettia; Morse Farm, a balsam garland; Bragg Farm, a wreath. The balsam trees planted outside were donated by Carver Tree Farm. These will be decorated with white lights during the holiday season.

➤ Property taxes were paid by most taxpayers by the date of November 15 as voted in March 1996 Town Meeting. Many property owners delivered their payments in person this year. A total of \$1,630,396.16 was collected. Only \$126,770.50 are delinquent as of November 16. There were very few payments received in the office after the due date of November 15 and these were considered delinquent as payments had to be in the Town Office by 5 p.m. on November 15. Mail was checked that day at the post office after 3 p.m. to make sure no payments were received there after the morning mail pick up.

➤ For the next couple of months, the theme for the window at the Town Municipal Office will be on East Montpelier Center with pictures from the late 1800's. Conrad Ormsbee and Marilyn Piro change the display periodically throughout the year. Many thanks for their efforts as people do enjoy looking at the pictures and the memorabilia displayed.

➤ **Reminder:** The town listers are out visiting properties, to prepare the 1997 town list. They appreciate your cooperation, as it makes a difficult job a little more enjoyable when homeowners are helpful and courteous.



MILESTONES

BIRTHS

♥ Kaylee Marie Lemieux, born September 25, 1996; daughter of Melissa Ann Chateauvert and William Edward Lemieux.

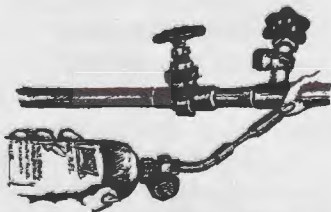
DEATHS

● Mable R. Clark, died June 8, 1996; mother of Jean Clark.

● Francis G. Abramovich, died September 24, 1996; husband of Jeannette Abramovich.

MARRIAGES

Ⓔ Bryon Garfield Hill to Camellia Louise Hann, October 11, 1996.



PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Ⓔ University of Vermont and State Agricultural College to William Shouldice III; release of Lease Land interest - dwelling on 9 acres. [Note: Lease Land is a tract of land that was granted to UVM when the town was chartered. The lessee pays rent and this was intended to give the school some income.]

Ⓔ Beth N. Thorpe to William H.Jr. & Julie B. George - dwelling on 0.93 acres; Rt-14 south.

Ⓔ Pamela S. Tucker to Duncan S. & Therese L. M. Milne - dwelling on 0.29 acres; Rt-14 south.

Ⓔ Douglas M. & Denise L. Miller to Erica Zimmerman & Kevin McCollister - dwelling on 7 acres; County Rd.

Ⓔ Richard G. Casavant to The Housing Foundation, Inc. - easement; Rt-14 south.

Ⓔ The Housing Foundation, Inc. to Richard G. Casavant - easement; Rt-14 south.

Ⓔ P&G Sales, Inc. d/b/a Ray's Homes to Ann B. Danforth - mobile home; County Rd.

Ⓔ Ann B. Danforth to Jewel Love Foundation - mobile home; County Rd.

Ⓔ Nancy Metcalf to Bernard J. Salerno & Nancy Metcalf - mobile home; Sandy Pines Mobile Home Park.

Ⓔ Latham Trailer Sales to Art & Marilyn Morley - mobile home; Sandy Pines Mobile Home Park.

Ⓔ Albert & Linda Phillips to John & Myra Mascitti - easement; Rt-14 south.

Ⓔ John & Myra Mascitti to Christine Johnson - dwelling on 3.1 acres; Rt-14 south.

Ⓔ Susan A. Hughes-Devine & David G. Devine to Christine J. Johnson - easement; Rt-14 south.

Ⓔ Latham Trailer Sales, Inc. to Robert & Nancy Brown - mobile home; Rt-14 south.

U-32 COMMUNITY BUILDING PROJECT: FINISHED AND NOT FINISHED

It has been a wonderful experience coordinating the U-32 Community Building Project. The building is finished and students were in class inside it on the first day of school. We can all be proud of the results of our efforts. The building is already getting rave reviews from teachers and students who are using it. We celebrated in the new building with many of those who helped with the project, sharing a potluck dinner, contra-dancing and a slide show of the building process.

We named the project "Community-Building" not only to describe that the community built the two-classroom building, but to emphasize the other main purpose of the project: to build Community. All of us got to meet and begin to know others in our community, people we may never have met otherwise, and we got to know in a more personal way people we have seen perhaps only in some official capacity, as a board member, a teacher, or an ad-



ministrator. And we got to know each other in an environment where we felt we were doing a good thing, and where we were having a good time doing it.

So we completed the two-classroom building, and now have begun the Building-of-Community part of the project. But we are not done: we will need this Community for the work that still lies ahead. The new building does not solve the space problem at U-32: students are still crowded and located in inappropriate spaces. Our two new classrooms accommodate the extra large size of the incoming seventh grade, but the rest of the building is as crowded as ever. An evaluation of the ventilation system at the school is still under way to determine the best way to provide fresh air to all parts of the building, given the age and design of the existing system. The preliminary analysis indicates some serious deficiencies in the capacity of the system to deliver enough fresh air.



The board and maintenance staff are trying to come to terms with maintenance of the building that has been deferred too long. The inside of the school has gotten new flooring and new paint, to the extent these can be afforded. The board and community members are following up the beginnings of strategic planning, providing more opportunity to shape the future of the school.

With an exciting, action-oriented school board, a committed group of community members, and our wonderful new principal, there is more opportunity than there has been in years to improve U-32 in a variety of ways. There are groups of community members working with staff and board members on solving some of the problems with the physical building, on improving the school culture and climate, on the overcrowding issue, on junior high/senior high separation and on other areas. So get involved with these efforts to the extent you can. The conversations are stimulating, the company wonderful, and the work is important. We think you will find that your taking an active part in improving the school will help your children do the same.

Andrew M. and Carolyn D. Shapiro



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 High School
Elementary School Board	1st Thursday (Except July)	6:30	Elementary School
(Please note special EMES Board Jan./Feb. 1997 schedule: Jan. 8, Jan. 14, Feb. 5)			
Recreation Board	3rd Monday	7:00	Town Office
Town Clerk's Office Hours	Mon. - Thurs. 9 - 5; Friday 9 - 12		Town Office
Zoning Administrator	Tuesday & Thursday	1:00 - 2:30	Town Office
Four Corners Schoolhouse Assn.	3rd Wednesday	7:30	Four Corners Schoolhouse

Meeting times are subject to change

EVENTS CALENDAR

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Thursday, Jan. 23 | Last day to submit petitions for special Warning articles. |
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| Tuesday, Mar. 4 | TOWN MEETING, Elementary School |

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

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INSIDE:
The Shapiros
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Trails News
E-911 Update

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U.S. Postage
PAID
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