

# EAST MONTPELIER Signpost

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Volume 32 / Number 5

NEWS OF OUR COMMUNITY

May-June 2022

## New Business in Town

by Deb Glottmann

If you haven't met Mike and Kim Brown you're missing out. This cute couple met in September 1998 while Kim was living with her grandparents next to Fairmont Farm. They were engaged December 25, 1998, after only three months of courting. Twenty-four years later they have four beautiful children (Macenzie 22, Averie 19, Zachary 14, Marie (E) 11), two awesome Labs (Quincy & Theo) and two shy kitties (Sealy & Calley). Macenzie is a VSECU member service consultant; Averie lives in Horseheads, NY and helps run her partner's dairy farm, Zach is a sports kid—his favorite is basketball; Emarie is an awesome gymnast and is almost done at EMES.

Mike worked for Fairmont Farm for 28 years until January 2021. At first, he enjoyed the animal care, husbandry, and milking. He eventually became the crops and equipment manager. He adores haying and loves MacGyver-ing a farming fix. He is the one whom people call when facing a mechanical dilemma. Mike just loves to work—always with a smile. He started plowing for Fairmont and eventually he bought a truck and M. Brown Trucking started. A few driveways yielded him a business while working full-time for Fairmont. Mike would finish in the afternoon and head into his home business until dark. With a lot of dedication and patience, this family has made a small business stand out.

Since 2015, the family unit has run M. Brown Trucking & Landcare. His faithful sidekick, Tuffy, has been with him since the purchase of Landcare & the Hawkins farm. Mike and his crew plow 160 driveways and 15 commercial lots, and make topsoil and compost deliveries for many local businesses. He is a master with his excavating toys. He knows just how to make water go where it's supposed to and really enjoys making projects just so. Their family success comes from three things: team effort, a deep dedication to each other and their customers, and the fact that Mike has two speeds: fast and asleep. It is impossible for him to sit still.

The Brown's newest adventure is the purchase of a town



photo courtesy of Kim Brown

*The Brown Family (L to R): Mike & Kim, Averie, Zachary, with Marie in front.*

treasure: P.W. McCoy Corporation. Pat McCoy retired and entrusted his customer base and equipment to the Brown family. Mike is honored to carry on Pat's work ethic and care for his customers with the same vim and vigor as Pat.

Mike's better half, lovingly referred to as "the wife," Kim, is a paraeducator, behavior interventionist and preschool assistant at EMES. However, her absolute favorite job of all is being a mom—a super mom actually. Four kids in four directions and she is always there for them. She even did Mike's bookkeeping early on before QuickBooks. Sometimes when the Browns walk into a room, I look for their super hero capes. They both are doers!

Together, the Browns are a force to be reckoned with.

*Mike Brown, continued p. 7*

Thank you, East Montpelier voters, for approving the Signpost's budget for another year! The Signpost is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Our funding goes directly to printing and postage costs for six issues per year, with a few filing fees along the way. Since day one and continuing through 32 years, we are run by a volunteer staff of East Montpelier townspeople. Deep thanks go to Terry Allen, Lyn Blackwell, Jennifer Boyer, Alex Brown, Patty Connor, Hilari Farrington, Rachael Grossman, Renee Kievit-Kylar, Rosie Laquerre, Edie Miller, Carolyn Pastore, Barbara Ploof, Kate Rader, Mary Redmond, Merry Schmidt, Rachel Senechal, and Ann Stanton. The Signpost wouldn't be here without these volunteers and the town and business support.

Signpost members meet every other month to discuss the coming issue. It's a "work" meeting, but every time we

gather we invariably stray from topic, swap news, and tell stories. The sense of community we feel, interest in our town, and delight in East Montpelier is reflected in the Signpost itself. We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoy creating it. We welcome you to join us. If you are aware of new businesses in town, a possible feature for East Montpelier Eats, local artists of all kinds we've never covered—in other words—anything East Montpelier-related that we haven't covered, please make sure we're aware of it.

Contact Michelle Singer at [michellealsinger@gmail.com](mailto:michellealsinger@gmail.com) if you are interested in sharing ideas, writing, or editing, and don't forget, you can find the entire archive of issues of the Signpost at [www.emsignpost.com](http://www.emsignpost.com).

—Michelle Singer is the managing editor of the Signpost.

## Town Meeting Day Summary

There are no surprise results from this year's town voting on March 1. The town budget of \$2,000,127 was approved, and fortunately, we still have sufficient numbers of service-minded folks to fill out our ballot (for the most part). Thanks to Michael Duane—town moderator; Carl Etnier and Jon Jewett—selectboard members; Deborah Fillion and Chris Racanelli—listers; Deborah Fillion (again)—auditor; Spencer Hardy, Lauren Oates, Zachary Sullivan, and Kim Watson—planning commissioners; and Jonathan Boucher—first constable.

In the school arena, the citizens of 18 central Vermont towns, comprising six separate school districts voted overwhelmingly (7493-1688) to create a new Central Vermont Career Center School District. Formerly known as

the Barre Regional Technical Center, this facility will now be governed by a board representative of all sending school districts.

In our own WCUUSD, the budget (\$36,169,267) and other routine items were approved and the following board members were elected: Jonathan Goddard, Berlin; Margrette Weiss and Daniel Keeney, Calais; Flor Diaz Smith, East Montpelier; Dennis Hill and Ursula Stanley, Middlesex; N. Eckart Baning, Jonas Eno-Van Fleet, and M. Garrity Leclerc, Worcester. In addition, Rosie Laquerre and Mary Ormsby were elected clerk and treasurer, respectively, of the district.

Details of each of these three meetings may be found on the East Montpelier website—[eastmontpeliervt.org](http://eastmontpeliervt.org)—under Town Meeting.

—Edie Miller is a Signpost volunteer.



### East Montpelier Signpost

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Links to Other Town Information

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# Ty Rolland

by Julie Singer George

Many of you, probably most of you, have met Ty Rolland. He wears many hats: East Montpelier Fire Department and Ambulance Service Chief, EMT, Blue Ridge Construction, Barre-Montpelier Seventh-day Adventist Church Board, District 6 Ambulance Board, and State Fire Warden for East Montpelier.

He owns and operates Blue Ridge Construction. As a general contractor, he does residential and commercial projects, renovations, and site work. Add on snow plowing in the winter—all with just five employees.

After moving to East Calais with his family from Connecticut when he was seven, he lived on a small farm and tended to sheep, goats, horses, and chickens, while helping with the family's logging, gardening, and haying. He now shares his life with his wife, Nancy, and their three adult children, Kelsey, Kiley, and Josh. Kelsey is teaching in Texas; Kiley is a first-year student at Norwich University; and Josh graduates from U-32 this year. The family lives within sight of the fire house in the village—chief Rolland's second home.

It is, perhaps, through his position as chief of the East Montpelier Fire Department for the past ten years that many of you have met him. What does he do as Chief? He is responsible for approximately 20 volunteers and 20 paid employees. The work of the department has increased from the 40 or so fire and FAST (Firefighter Assist and Search Team) squad calls when he joined in 1989 to over 700 fire and ambulance service calls last year. In that time, the department went from an all-volunteer organization, to a stipend call-back system under the previous fire chief, to a paid 24/7 ambulance staff. This has been achieved with a combination of taxpayer supported funding and income generated by the ambulance service. The fire department is the primary responder for East Montpelier and Calais. The ambulance service also includes Plainfield and Marshfield in its area of primary responsibility.

While a chief of a rural fire department has many of the same responsibilities as a city fire chief, there are some big differences such as deciding about the equipment and fire, rescue, or ambulance purchases. In rural Vermont, that could include whether to bring chains, 4WD, water tankers, or a Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV) for use in places inaccessible by a rescue vehicle.

Which brings us to snow and mud season in Vermont. This year's mud season, in particular, has been a big topic of conversation and planning at the station. Chief Rolland says that so far, the department has been able to respond to all calls without getting a truck stuck or the need for completing a call on foot. The department must have the equipment, training,



photo courtesy of Julie Singer George

and a plan in place to be able to successfully drive vehicles on the back roads in all kinds of weather. The reduced snow cover and the increased ice of recent years has changed the impact on road conditions, making changes in procedures essential. In recent years, the department has added the East Montpelier trail system to its response area. The UTV is essential to carry equipment and personnel when responding to calls on the trails.

When asked what effect the last two years of Covid has had on the department, Chief Rolland responded that it has required additional training, more planning, and more supplies. For the first four to five months, call volumes went down, then they went back up. In general, ambulance calls are increasing, while fire call volumes remain stable. With a federal grant, the department is able to host vaccination clinics at the station as well as help staff area clinics. Many protocol changes that happened due to the pandemic will remain with the department in the future.

Why did he join the fire service? It appears that it runs in the family. He recounted the many times, growing up, he listened to the scanner and accompanied his grandfather to calls. His grandfather was instrumental in starting a volunteer fire and ambulance service over 50 years ago in upstate New York. Chief Rolland has been in the fire service for nearly 33 years.

Next time you see Chief Rolland, remember to thank him and the many people at the fire station who provide us with such excellent fire and medical coverage.

—Julie Singer George, retired after 30 years with Vermont Life, enjoys weaving, knitting, and fostering dogs. Her late husband, Bill, was a EMFD volunteer firefighter for nearly 50 years.

# Doris Elizabeth Washburn

## *World Traveler and Knitter For Peace*

by Andy Christiansen

This June marks 60 years that Doris Washburn has lived in her small but comfy home in East Montpelier Village. She has been a familiar presence at Town Meetings, stretching back to the use of old Town Hall, and at Old Brick Church events. Hidden behind her calm and steadfast appearance is a wanderlust for travel to distant places. When she was young, she vowed to visit Alaska, Hawaii, Lake Louise in Alberta, Canada, Switzerland, and the Matterhorn. She wanted to see the world. Another thread to her life is empathy for the poor and suffering, which she addresses in her own small way every day.

Born on July 25, 1928, at Barre City Hospital to Henry Burt Washburn and Elizabeth Ruth Barwick, Doris was an immigrant's daughter, as her mother came from Briston, England. Doris was the baby of the family, following Marjorie, Muriel, Marion (whom we remember as Marion Codling), and Donald. Prices were different then. The hospital bill for her birth was \$29—what a great deal that would have been for East Montpelier.

The stock market crashed the next year and kicked off the Great Depression. Her father lost his farm in Washington, VT and they moved to Plainfield when Doris was two. There, they lived at a farm which some may remember in later years became the Walter Smith Farm on Taylor Farm Road. The Washburns shared the house with Raymond and Bernice Wheeler. The family never had a car, so her father would walk down to the Martin farm (now Goddard College) where he was a herdsman. Doris and her siblings would walk or use a sled to attend the Hollister Hill School. In her first year, Doris was the only first grader, but because the teacher saw how capable she was, she started her off in the second grade. Just after her schooling was finished in November 1935, the family moved to a farm in Seekonk, MA. She finished grade school in Seekonk and attended high school in East Providence, RI.

While everyone was looking down because of a sinking economy, Doris was looking up—at trees she could climb and adventures in the great outdoors. “Those were great years for me. I loved ice skating, the outdoors, and growing up on a farm... We had a big garden and my mother put vegetables up. I thought it was the best growing up a child could have.”



Two brothers owned the farm. Charlie Read managed the orchard and sawmill, and Frank had the cattle. “They’d take us to the beach once a year,” she says. “I had a Nanny goat as a pet and helped out at their outdoor bowling alley setting up pins. I also gave young children a ride by leading ponies around a ring.”

“And then,” Doris says, “my Mom and Dad divorced.” She lived with her mother in RI and her father worked on a farm in NH. In grade school, she said, “I started out babysitting, doing housework for a lady, and started right out when

I was growing up being responsible which I think is a wonderful thing for a child growing up.”

In 1960, Doris moved to Vermont and joined the Green Mountain Club so she could enjoy mountain hikes and winter camping. “I still belong to the club,” she said, “though I can’t hike anymore.” When asked what drew her here, she said it was visits to her sister, Marion and her husband, Charlie Codling, who lived in East



Montpelier. The townspeople she met were so welcoming. That same year, she took a job with the State of Vermont in the Purchasing Division and spent the rest of her career there.

So what about the bucket list she made when she was young? She met all her goals and then some. She visited all those countries including her mother’s birthplace in England. She also had brief encounters with celebrities like Eddie Arnold and Kate Smith. She decided to walk every road in East Montpelier, and she did that too! Asked if she has goals now, she laughed and said, yes, to stay alive.

Doris worries about the war in Ukraine and all the problems endangering the planet, and wishes she could do something to help. In her own way, she has. Since 2003, she has made nearly 600 sweaters for “Knit for Kids,” which distributes them to children in need around the world. Perhaps some of them will find their way to “those poor Ukrainian kids.” Considering her work, the importance of her faith, and her love of children, one thinks of the Beatitude, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” That’s Doris.

—Andy Christiansen, a lifelong resident of East Montpelier and active member of the EM Historical Society, remembers Doris from when she first moved to town.

early photo courtesy of Doris Washburn; current photo by Andy Christiansen

## Town Offices

PO Box 157, East Montpelier, VT 05651  
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Office Hours: Mon–Thurs 9 AM–5 PM  
Fri 9 AM –12 PM

### Town Clerk

Rosie Laquerre  
clerk@eastmontpeliervt.org

### Town Treasurer

Don Welch  
treasurer@eastmontpeliervt.org

### Town/Zoning Administrator

Bruce Johnson,  
manager@eastmontpeliervt.org

### Fire Permits

EMFD 225-6247

### First Constable

Jon Boucher 917-4855

### Animal Control Officers

Lead: Carl Etnier 552-4343  
Assistant: Amber Perry 498-5140

### Listers

Ross Hazel  
Chris Racanelli  
223-3313 x206,  
listers@eastmontpeliervt.org

### Health Officer

Ginny Burley 272-4045

### Service Officer

Rachael Grossman 223-3177

### Selectboard

Seth Gardner, Chair  
sethbgardner@hotmail.com  
Judith Dillon Carl Etnier  
Jon Jewett Amy Willis

### Planning Commission

Zach Sullivan, zsullivan@gmail.com

### Development Review Board

Steve Kappel, Chair  
sjkappel@gmail.com

### WCUUSD Board

Flor Diaz Smith, fdiazsmith@u32.org  
Lindy Johnson, lindyjvt@gmail.com

### State Representative

Kimberly Jessup, 249-9306  
jessupkimberly@gmail.com

# Get Outside on Green Up Day

Saturday, May 7, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm  
East Montpelier Elementary School Parking Lot



*Marina H., a seventh grader at Shelburne Community School, was a winner of this year's Green Up Day poster contest.*

Not sure if it was the pandemic or whether some folks were afraid to deposit their trash in the right place, but over the spring there has been a lot of trash on neighborhood roads in East Montpelier. We know it isn't your litter, but our town needs our help to be beautiful!

Spend an hour or two on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, cleaning up litter. Get your Green Up bags from any of six locations: Town Offices, Dudley's Store, East Montpelier Elementary School, Bragg Farm, Morse Farm, or our newest addition, Fox Market on 3070 US Route 2.

Here are some general guidelines to keep you safe and get the job done:

- Dress in brightly-colored clothes: long pants, gloves and boots
- Use bug spray and always check your body for ticks afterwards
- Face the oncoming traffic as you work
- Separate cans, bottles and recyclables from trash
- If you can, pull large items to the side of the road and call me about the location
- Report any hazardous waste you come across (dead animals, needles, suspected toxic materials)
- Tie your trash bags closed when full and bring them to East Montpelier Elementary School parking lot

The Green Up crew always seeks volunteers to help people with their bags and to sort and recycle trash. If you have a few hours to spare, please call or just come.

*-- Chris Racanelli, Green Up Coordinator, 802-793-6687*

# Update on Ananda Gardens

by Ann Stanton

Since it's growing season, I decided to check in with Patrick Sullivan and Melisa Oliva to see how their CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) has grown. The couple's fledgling CSA, named Ananda after their baby daughter, was featured in the Signpost back in 2017. Initially operating from a one-acre rented property on Dillon Road, they grow organic vegetables using the most up-to-date sustainable agriculture practices. That means going beyond organic standards to fight climate change and build a healthy farm ecosystem. (Patrick holds a Master's degree in Sustainable Agriculture from UC Santa Cruz.)

And how they have grown! Ananda, an almost third-grader, has been joined by a little sister, Munay. They now own their own farm, 33 acres on Horn of the Moon Road where, long ago, housing for Wrightsville Dam builders stood. Now the structures include their two-story home, along with a barn and five walk-in greenhouses. New since Covid is an extended driveway leading to an open-air farmstand that is surrounded by pick-your-own flower gardens.

CSA members are invited to stop by the farmstand (suitably masked and distanced) to choose their own vegetables from the coolers while enjoying the beautiful

setting. Ananda Gardens has partnered with Rise-up Bakery in Barre and Mansfield Mushroom Co. for add-ons; they also offer organic fruit when available. The CSA, with an enrollment of about 150 supporters, operates during spring, summer, and fall, with a choice of small, full, or jumbo. Subscribers also can choose to have their weekly allotment delivered to their home.

Calling itself Vermont's Wellness Farm, Ananda Gardens has expanded beyond its superb vegetables with a website that includes delicious vegan recipes. Even more exciting are the cooking classes offered by Melisa, who is a professional chef and holds national board certification as a Health and Wellness Coach and Food

for Life Instructor. April's offering was The Power of Food for Cancer Prevention and Survival. Check out their website for current classes and signing up for a CSA: [anandagardens.com](http://anandagardens.com) or email [info@anandagardens.com](mailto:info@anandagardens.com).

Plans for future growth include a permanent farm stand structure that will house a community kitchen for classes and pop-ups, as well as pick-your-own organic fruit. Stay tuned for what the next five years will bring!

—Ann Stanton is a longtime Signpost volunteer and coordinator for East Montpelier Eats.



Melisa, Patrick with Munay and Ananda

## Paulie's Recipe No Bake Maple Cookies

### DIRECTIONS

Boil 2 ½ cups Grade B maple syrup and 1 stick butter to the soft ball stage (not any longer). Mix with 3 cups oatmeal, 1 cup coconut, and 1 cup chopped nuts.

Drop by rounded tablespoons onto wax paper and allow to cool. Another option is to press mixture into a greased 9 x 9" pan. Allow pressed mixture to cool and set before cutting into equal squares. Squares should be small as these cookies are very sweet.



Comment from Paulie Coburn: I've been going through my collection of maple recipes that I have kept over the years. This one looks

like it is clipped from a magazine, but I don't know which one.

## NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR



drawing by Hal Mayforth

Not to be sappy, but I am overwhelmed by the kindness and good will of my neighbors—known and unknown.

At the beginning of the pandemic (was it really over two years ago—sometimes it seems much more), I received regular calls from several of my neighbors asking if they could shop for me or run other errands. It took me some time to realize that one reason for the calls was that I now fall into the category of “the elderly”—the folks we’re encouraged to keep an eye on. That realization was a shock, but still...the caring is there.

But that’s not all. On a regular basis, week in and week out, I am the recipient of often-anonymous good deeds:

my walk shoveled when I’m away; my daily papers and mail delivered from my mail box to my front door, my trash cans moved from the end of the drive to the garage where they reside; that mountain of snow left by the plow at the end of my driveway knocked down; it goes on and on. I give grateful thanks when I can, but often I simply can’t identify the benefactor—thus this very public thank you.

You all know who you are. You are the backbone of our community; those who make this a place I am so happy we found our way to nearly 50 years ago. What hopefulness in our dispirited world!

—Edie Miller

## A New Pastor at the Old Meeting House

by Barbara Ploof



photo by Alex Brown

The Old Meeting House welcomed Rev. Rameen Zahed in March after two years of searching for the right person to follow Rev. Elissa Johnk as its settled pastor. Rev. Zahed was recently ordained at his church, First Congregational Church of Houston, Texas. The Old Meeting House is his first pastorate. Though he earned his Master of

Divinity from Union Theological Seminary, he spent the first 25 years of his adult work life in the financial sector of the energy industry. Now, fulfilling his original career aspirations, he has accepted the call to the Old Meeting House. He looks forward to serving the people of the Old Meeting House as well as biking, running, and hiking the roads and trails of East Montpelier.

*Mike Brown, continued from p. 1*



photo courtesy of Kim Brown

*Mike caught a big one!*

They are all helpful and truly practice kindness first. I have had the honor of calling them good friends. I have seen Kim swoop in on many occasions for friends and family, and Mike is often hauling someone out of a ditch or plowing a neighbor’s driveway that he knew would take all day by hand, even if they are not his customers.

You can reach out to Mike for mulch, topsoil, gravel, decorative stone or sand at 802-272-7009 or email him at mbrowntruckingvt@gmail.com. If you need some trucking, excavating, Bobcat, bulldozer or brush hog work—Mike’s your man!

—Deb Glottmann lives on Center Road. She is a veterinary technician and an avid gardener.

## TOWN WEATHERVANE

**DEATHS**—*survivors living in East Montpelier are listed when known*

- Roberta Bushy, died in January
- Robert Wright, companion of Jackie Lee Hatch, died in February
- Kenneth Feld, husband of Barbara Leber, died in February
- Audrey Lafirira, died in February
- Durward Lamb, husband of Linda, died in February
- Donald Atkins, husband of Tammy, father of William died in February
- Virginia Farley, died in February
- Annette Martin, sister of Laura Hawkins died in March
- Gary Hudson, husband of Pam, father of Kevin, brother of Joanne, died in March
- Marjorie Skott, mother of Conrad Gilbert, died in March
- Roland Cliché, husband of Doreen, died in March

### LAND TRANSFERS

*Transfers relative to estate planning or corrective deeds are not included in this listing. For further info on land transactions, please contact the Town Clerk.*

- Peter Nolan & Lisa Rosetti to Eric & Kristen Arredondo, a dwelling and 1.4 acres on Cherry Tree Hill Rd
- Estate of Donald T. Pfister to Luke Byrnes & Emily Nadev, 26 acres of open land on Coburn Rd
- 1498 US Route 2, LLC to RV Retailer New Hampshire, commercial property and 14.05 acres on US2
- 1368 US Route 2, LLC to RV Retailer New Hampshire, 9.3 acres and dwelling on US2
- Donald & Barbara Cote to Christopher Wong, 1.7 acres and dwelling on US2
- John & Phyllis Sanfacon to Kitchen Synch Holdings, LLC, 10.8 acres of open land on Wheeler Rd
- Central Vermont Humane Society, Inc. to Cross Vermont Trail Association, Inc., an easement for trail access of VT14S
- Albert & Catherine Plant to John & Rebecca Pelkey, 4.30 acres & dwelling
- RAB Construction to Pia Bertelli, 3.0 acres and dwelling on Clark Rd

*The following are excerpts from minutes of EM's and WCUUSD governing boards. Complete minutes are available on the town and school websites. All town meetings were held in person at the town office building with a remote participation option using the Zoom conferencing platform.*

### SELECTBOARD

#### JANUARY 24, 2022

##### Discussion

- Resilient Roads Committee
- Conversation with PC Chair Zach Sullivan

##### Motion Passed

- to authorize the purchase, utilizing the East Montpelier Capital Reserve Fund, of a 2022 Dodge Ram 2500 4WD Crew Cab from Midstate Dodge for \$48,358
- to approve the 2022 annual certificate of highway mileage
- to approve the FY2023 Selectboard budget as presented, setting the to-be-raised- by-taxes figure for the 2022 Town Meeting Warning at \$2,000,127
- to approve the 2022 Town Meeting Warning as presented with the recommended edits
- approve SB report for 2021 Town Report by consensus

- to enter executive session at 8:49 to discuss personnel matters; exited at 8:57. No action was taken.

#### FEBRUARY 14, 2022

##### Discussion

- Open forum on 2022 Town Meeting Warning Articles and other items of interest to town residents
- Discussion on Shade Tree Preservation Plan with Resilient Roads Committee

##### Motions Passed

- to accept the 2023 CAI Technologies tax map maintenance contract and authorize TA Johnson to sign on behalf of the board
- to certify that there are no appeals or suits pending relating to the 2021 Grand List and, due to the constraints imposed by the Covid pandemic, authorize Chair Gardner to sign the certificate on behalf of the board
- to appoint Jane Burroughs to the Town Treasurer Selection Committee

#### FEBRUARY 28, 2022

##### Discussion

- Consideration of Mask Mandate Rule repeal
- Conversation with State Rep. Kimberly Jessup

##### Motion Passed

- to approve the liquor license renewal for Plainfield Hardware and, due to the constraints imposed by the Covid pandemic, authorize Chair Gardner to sign the application on behalf of the board
- to approve the first class, second class, and outside consumption liquor license renewals for Fox Market

#### MARCH 7, 2022

##### Discussion

- 2022 Town Meeting Review
- Special Joint Public Hearing with Town Tree Warden on East Montpelier Shade Tree Preservation Plan, and review of sharing and consideration of plan adoption
- Conversation with PC Chair Zach Sullivan on Proposed Zoning Regulation Amendments
- Planning for ARPA Discussion at the Selectboard's April 4, 2022 Meeting

##### Motions Passed

- Board reorganization: Chair, Seth Gardner; Vice-chair, Carl Etnier
- to designate authorization authority under 24 V.S.A. §1623(1) to Chair Gardner for the following: regular payroll warrants, regular payroll vendor warrants, and special warrants for standard expenditures under the town-approved budget and reserve fund expenditures authorized by the Selectboard when such warrants are necessary due to required payment timing
- to designate authorization authority under 24 V.S.A. §1623(1) in the absence of Chair Gardner to Mr. Jewett [as above]
- to adopt the 2022 Selectboard Rules of Transaction as amended
- to approve the FY23 highway financial plan, certify that the town will raise by municipal taxes at least \$300 per mile for each mile of Class 1, 2 & 3 town highways and authorize TA Johnson to sign the form on behalf of the board
- to certify that East Montpelier is in compliance with the state expectations for town road & bridge standards and



## TOWN WEATHERVANE

highway network inventories and authorize TA Johnson to sign the form on behalf of the board

- to repeal the East Montpelier Covid Rule Wearing Face Coverings Required effective immediately
- to approve the [following] slate of appointments: Tree Warden: Paul Cate (1-year term); Green Up Day Coordinator: Chris Racanelli (1-year term); Recreation Board (3-year terms, through March 2025), Jack Zeilenga, Jan Aldrich, and Darci Coleman-Graves
- to provide Town Clerk Laquerre with 32 hours of sick leave in compensation for her recent evening and holiday workload

### March 21, 2022

#### Discussion

- Conversation with Central VT Prevention Coalition on April 5th Community Forum on Drugs & Alcohol
- Discussion of next steps for shade tree preservation plan
- Preliminary review of proposed amendments to East Montpelier Land Use & Development Regulations
- Worcester Selectboard email regarding proposed cell tower

#### Motions Passed

- to approve the contract for VSP services at the level of 20 hours/month and authorize Chair Gardner to sign the contract on behalf of the board
- to accept the 2022 UCF Caring for Canopy Program Grant and authorize TA Johnson to complete the necessary paperwork
- to award the North Street/Sparrow Farm Road ash tree management project contract to Foxfire Tree Care LLC and authorize TA Johnson to complete the necessary contract documents
- to approve the liquor license renewal for CP Dudley Store
- to rescind the March 16, 2020, as last amended August 12, 2021, East Montpelier Selectboard Order Regarding Municipal Operations During Covid Pandemic
- to repeal the August 30, 2021, Town of East Montpelier Selectboard Resolution Wearing Face Coverings Encouraged and adopt the proposed Town of East Montpelier Selectboard Resolution on Face Coverings and Vaccinations

- to approve the slate of 2022 appointments and authorize Chair Gardner to complete the board representation form for CVSWMD
- to approve the engagement agreement for town use of James W. Barlow PLC legal services subject to conditions precedent regarding the requested edit of the agreement and proof of malpractice insurance, and to authorize Chair Gardner to sign the agreement once the conditions are met
- the board entered executive session at 9:00 to discuss personnel matters, and exited at 9:34
- the board by consensus determined that the Covid Vaccination & Mitigation Policy for Employees does not apply to part-time, outdoors-based, seasonal employees

### PLANNING COMMISSION

#### JANUARY 20, 2022

##### Discussion

- Work plan for energy plan
- Work plan for large parcels/ag/forest integrity

#### FEBRUARY 3, 2022

##### Discussion

- Logistics for zoning hearing
- Energy plan
- Town Plan amendment hearing

#### FEBRUARY 17, 2022 (PUBLIC HEARING)

##### Discussion

- EM proposed amendments (Presentation available on Town website)
- Comments from residents in attendance

#### MARCH 3, 2022

##### Discussion

- Energy Plan

#### Motions Passed

- to send the current version of the amended zoning regulations to the SB
- to schedule [hearing on] the Town Plan amendment for May 5, 2022

#### MARCH 17, 2022

##### Discussion

- PC Rules of Procedure
- Procedures for election of officers
- CVRPC representative position
- Public engagement for Energy Plan

- Energy Plan (Pathways Section 9: Renewable Energy Siting and Capacity)

### DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

#### MARCH 1, 2022

##### Discussion

- Sketch plan review for subdivision of the Sanfacon property on Wheeler Road, submitted by Daniel Kitchen
- Sketch plan review for proposed boundary reconfiguration for property at 2075 and 2045 VT14S

#### Motions Passed

- to approve Application #22-004 for the 12'x20' shed on property located at 1589Rte 14S, submitted on behalf of Central VT Humane Society
- to approve Application #22-003 as presented, for a reconfiguration of the currently existing 3 parcels that comprise the former Ferrada 54-acre property located along Morse and County Roads, submitted by Joseph Kiefer & Amy Goodman-Kiefer and Terrence Youk & Ann Armbrecht, conditioned on appropriate recording of the plat

### WCUUSD

#### JANUARY 24-26, 2022

Superintendent Screening & Interview Committee Meetings

#### FEBRUARY 2, 2022

#### Motions Passed

- The board moved into executive session at 5:35 for the purposes of 1) reviewing issues related to pending interviews of candidates for the position of Superintendent; and 2) conducting interviews with Zachary McLaughlin and Meagan Roy, finalists for the position as authorized by 1 V.S.A. Section 313(a)(3). The Board's executive search consultant, Michael Dewese, was also invited to join the Board in the executive session. The board exited at 10:58.

#### February 16, 2022

##### Discussion

- Slide show to explain the 2022-23 Budget
- Board self-evaluation
- School Board vacancies

*Weatherwane, continued p. 10*

**Motions Passed**

- to authorize the superintendent to sign the contract with WF Project Inspections for his services as Owners Project Manager and Clerk of the Works through 2/9/23, at a cost not to exceed \$78,467
- to approve the resignations of Mary Creeden and Emily Faryniarz

**February 28, 2022 Annual Meeting**

**Discussion**

- proposed WCUUSD Budget and Articles of District Warning

**March 2, 2022**

**Discussion**

- Community forum - Artistic Expression
- Board Code of Ethics

**Motions Passed**

- Board reorganization: Flor Diaz Smith, Chair; Kari Bradley, Vice Chair; Jonas Eno-Van Fleet, Board Clerk
- The Board entered executive session at 5:37 for a student matter, and exited at 5:54; the board returned to executive session at 5:55 to include Steven Dellinger-Pate, Jen Miller-Arsenault, and Jessica Wills, who left at 6:19, the board exited executive session at 5:28
- to accept the administration's recommendation regarding the student matter
- to designate the first and third Wednesday of each month, the first being Community Forum, the second regular board meetings
- to approve the norms as currently written, subject to revision if proposed at a later date

- to designate posting places [for minutes and agendas] at each school, on WCUUSD website, and at each town clerk's office/ town hall in WCUUSD
- to accept that the board will be governed by Roberts Rules
- to designate *Times Argus* as newspaper of record
- to appoint Flor Diaz Smith as board representative to Central Vermont Career Center
- to approve the bid award to Alliance Mechanical [for air handling upgrade] in the amount of \$289,370, decreased by \$69,130 for alternates, for a combined total of \$220,240, plus 10% contingency for a total of \$242,264 which would be paid out of capital fund
- To accept the resignation of Hank Van Oman, U-32 Athletic Director

**March 16, 2022**

**Discussion**

- Central Vermont Prevention Coalition

**Motions Passed**

- to approve awarding the U-32 Softball Dugout Construction Project contract to Lajeunesse Construction in an amount not to exceed \$45,100
- approve awarding the U-32 Storm Water Project contract to Hebert Excavation in an amount not to exceed \$274,626; and that the Board authorize the use of \$92,395 of the Storm Water project budget, plus additional capital reserve funds, not to exceed \$21,682, to proceed with the refurbishment of the U-32 Field Hockey field this summer
- to authorize the use of capital reserve funds, not to exceed \$7,200, to

proceed with the feasibility study for the U-32 driveway circulation and parking lot layout. Seconded by Jonas Eno-Van Fleet.

- to approve new teacher nomination for 2022-23: Jenna Howard, Jake Ploof, and Kevin Richards
- to accept the resignation of Patricia Abraham
- to approve the extended leave of absence request from Justin Fontaine, Athletic Trainer
- to approve the hire of long term substitute for this school year: Jorie Hart, Athletic Trainer
- to approve the following changes in position: Justin Fontaine Athletic and Activities Director 2022-23; Gwen Gauthier - FT SLP 2022-23

**March 23, 2022 (U)**

**Motions Passed**

- The Board entered executive session at 6:31, to include Interim Superintendent Jen Miller-Arsenault, Principal Steven Dellinger-Pate, Jade Walker, and Amy Molina, for a student matter, and exited at 7:15
- to accept the administration's recommendation regarding the student matter

**March 24, 2022 (U)**

**Motions Passed**

- The Board entered executive session at 6:31, to include Interim Superintendent Jen Miller-Arsenault, Alicia Lyford, Michael Sherwin, the student and the student's family for a Student Matter, and exited at 7:15. Jonas Eno-Van Fleet recused himself from the discussion
- to accept the administration's recommendation regarding the student matter



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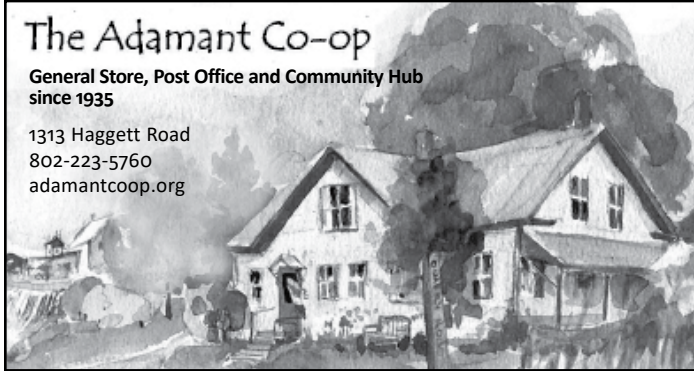
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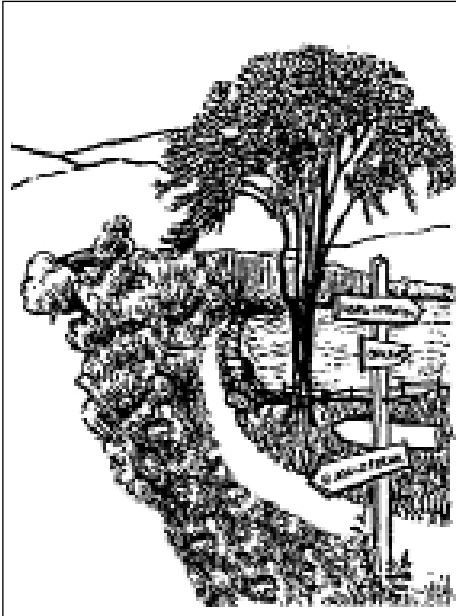
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## East Montpelier Property Taxes Due

This is a gentle reminder to East Montpelier property owners that the second installment of the 2021/22 property taxes is due on or before Monday, May 16, 2022. Payments by mail received after the 16th, but bearing an official, legible USPS postmark of May 16th or earlier, will be considered timely. Otherwise, any 2021/22 property taxes unpaid after the 16th will be considered delinquent and subject to a one-time 8% penalty in addition to the standard 1% interest fee. An additional 1% interest fee will be charged on the 16th of each succeeding month until paid. Any questions can be directed to Don Welch, Town Treasurer, at 223-3313 x 207.

### IMPORTANT DATES

- Mon. May 16,** Town of East Montpelier, Property Taxes Due
- Mon. May 16,** East Montpelier Historical Society; Program TBD. Look for announcement in Front Porch Forum
- Mon. May 30, Memorial Day** Town Office closed
- Mon. June 20,** East Montpelier Historical Society; Program TBD - Look for announcement in Front Porch Forum

### JULY-AUGUST SIGNPOST SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

May 30, 2022

*Many thanks to our supporters*

CONRAD AND ANNE ORMSBEE

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### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Conservation Fund Advisory Committee  
Development Review Board (DRB)  
East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD)  
Four Corners Schoolhouse Assn  
Planning Commission (PC)  
Recreation Board  
Selectboard  
WCUUSD Board Meeting  
East Montpelier Historical Society

as needed  
1st Tues. 7 pm  
every Tues. 7 pm  
2nd Wed. 7 pm  
1st & 3rd Thurs. 7 pm  
2nd Mon. 7:15 pm  
1st & 3rd Mon. 6:30 pm  
3rd Wed. 5:30 pm  
TBD

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