

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

Volume XIV, No. 2

November/December 2003

NAOMI FLANDERS - LADY OF MUSIC

WENDY SOLIDAY

Every evening after dinner, her parents and her eight siblings would gather to sing and then listen to great literature and Bible stories being read aloud. In the winter cars could not travel on Brazier Road, so she and her brothers would pile on top of a sled and shoot down to Towne Hill Road to catch a ride to school. Naomi Flanders has lived much of her life in East Montpelier and now lives in the house next door to her childhood home.

Naomi is the first daughter of Anne and Ralph Flanders. Her responsibilities began early in life as the oldest daughter in a big family. She was charged with being her mother's helper from the start, caring for the babies, preparing meals, telling the younger girls bedtime stories, helping them with their homework. For the past five years she has managed the care for her mother with the same dedication and compassion she gave to her siblings. Her mother Anne recently passed away. Naomi and her ten year old daughter, Esther Nemethy, have both felt that the opportunity to care for Anne has truly taught them about love and about grace. Despite her sadness Naomi's eyes still glimmered when she spoke of her mother and how her mother bathed their entire family in love, even when she was no longer able to care for herself. The patterns of her childhood were repeated though reversed. Esther and her aunt Lois had just recently finished reading aloud *Great Expectations* to her grandmother.



Naomi working with student Allison Howland

As a child, Naomi was educated in many of the one room and two room schoolhouses in East Montpelier, including the Village School and the Morse School on County Road. She remembers those small school experiences with great fondness and also remembers disliking it when the Elementary School was built. In eighth grade, she and her friends were moved to this "big" school. They rebelled a bit and missed the large well-lit rooms and wooden floors of the old schoolhouses.

Naomi's education continued at Montpelier High School and then at Johnson State College, where she worked not only as a student but also did housekeeping and waitressing. She had begun studying piano at an early age (all her siblings studied piano. "It was simply expected.") and continued playing through college, studying with a wonderful master teacher, Lauren Webb. Though she had "always" sung and been involved with vocal music, she did not start formal voice lessons until she was nineteen. She minored in Music at Johnson State, but she was still most interested in her major, Humanities. Her early exposure to great writing and literature had fostered a keen love of these disciplines. She continues to love the mix of music and the humanities.

In her early twenties, Naomi met Celina Moore. She says that Celina helped her focus more on her vocal talents and connected her to many other teachers. She began to perform locally with Vermont Opera Theater. In 1987 she moved to New York City where she studied voice privately with a master teacher, working as a nanny and saving all her money for lessons. On the advice of a friend (who said it would "ruin her") she decided not to go to a Conservatory, but instead chose to continue her studies independently. When she eventually returned to Vermont, she continued her studying and performing. She has had many roles on stage with groups such as Vermont Opera Theater, Plainfield Little Theater, Unadilla, Onion River Arts Council performances, and the Vermont Philharmonic.

Continued on Page 3

TOP OF THE SIGNPOST

We were having a conversation recently when a friend of mine referred to the many lives each of us lives. He then went on to tell of a secret part of his life in which he had touched deeply the life of another person without even realizing it. He only learned of the profound influence he had had when he received this touching note in the mail: "I'll bet you don't remember me, but I want you to know that what you said to me twenty-four years ago made a real difference in my life. I've never forgotten it." Then the letter writer resurrected a long forgotten incident when something his friend said was so compelling that its influence had lasted twenty-four years. Can you

imagine how humble my friend felt?

This likely happens to most of us, whether we are the givers of such an enduring gift or the receivers. But wait. Isn't the real magic in this story that letter of thanks? The fact that someone had taken the time to write and appreciate that long ago gift? It makes me stop and ask: which of our lives is so hectic that we can't take time to express thanks for a job well done, an unexpected kindness or, like the writer in this piece, a powerful influence from long ago. Make the time. It is surely worth it.

Jean Cate

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The *Signpost* welcomes contributions. Any amount would be gratefully received, \$5, \$10, \$25, even \$50.

Augustine and Alberta Pacini	Robert and Nancy Morse
David Wiggins	Lois McKnight
	Dorothy Mix

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

Naomi's talents extend off stage as well. In 1989 she became Vice President of Vermont Opera Theater and from 1990-93 she was President, working in administration, fundraising, and production. She has been musical director for numerous performances at Unadilla and Barre Players. She also has worked in production for many school, community and state musical events, her most recent production being Mozart's Magic Flute. Since 1995, she has been a member of the Monteverdi Music School vocal faculty. Presently she works with about twenty five students and also teaches and directs a girls' A Capella Choir at Monteverdi. She has been director of a summer music/theater camp for many years.

It is hard to imagine that someone who has a ten year old daughter, has been caring for an ill mother, has been teaching and directing, has time for any more projects, but Naomi's passion for her work must energize her. Last year she and her sister founded Echo Valley Community Arts, a new non-profit production company, named for the valley that lies between Brazier Road and Route 2. She serves as Executive Director of this organization whose aim is to help create community arts projects, combining many artistic venues into exciting performances.

She claims her little house is so little that it gives her time to do all these things that really matter to her. (Her house was built by her parents for her rowdy brothers as they became teenagers and the big house got too crowded).

My interview with Naomi began while she and her dad and her daughter ate dinner, sitting together at a small table with candles glowing. Though I was keenly aware that her mother's physical absence must have left a huge space in her home, there was a warmth, ease, and gentleness that was certainly present. During our conversation, there were many interruptions...a friend and her sister Lois arrived, her dad left for bed, her daughter needed help finding homework, dishes were cleared, messages given and received, her daughter needed a lap and a snuggle... but none were treated or felt as interruptions. Naomi continued the interview while calmly dealing with her other responsibilities. All were important; all were part of her busy, talented life. I expect that even when she blew out the candles for the night that the warm glow remained.

Wendy Soliday and her husband Dr. Greg MacDonald live on Murray Road. They are the parents of grown children.

EAST MONTPELIER FIREWORKS FUND: "THE SKY'S THE LIMIT" CAMPAIGN

The first annual East Montpelier Fireworks Fund collected \$2,460.25 to help offset just some of Northstar Fireworks' out-of-pocket costs of putting on another spectacular show. The generosity of owners Dave and Deedee Swenson is legendary!

Fund-raising for our next Rally Day Fireworks Extravaganza has begun! Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to:

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

For more details on how you can help, ask for an information sheet and donor form at the Town Clerk's Office.

Many thanks to these recent contributors:

- Paul & Julia Haynes
- Chris & Mary Stone
- Paul K & Elaine Manghi
- David B. Wiggins
- Margaret & Alban Richey
- Peter & Jane Burroughs
- James C. & Harriet M. Shea
- Jerry Dodge
- Susan & Dean Shattuck
- Marion J. Codling
- Dave & Judy Joly
- Cliff & Shirley King & friends
- Rally Day Pancake Breakfast
- Rally Day Corn Roast

2003 Fireworks Business Sponsors who provided cash donations and services:

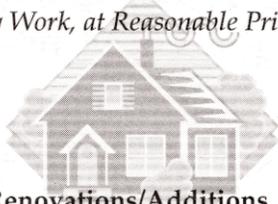
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Rally Day Committee

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EMES KIDSTUFF



MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

Mrs. Gannon's Fourth Grade class has been raising monarch butterflies. They got 16 monarch caterpillars (larvae) when they were only three days old. We fed, measured and graphed their growth. The students have written short pieces to tell you about what they have learned about monarchs. We hope you enjoy it.

Robin Gannon.

Facts about Larva by Charlie and Ellery

After the monarch hatches it is larva. The larva only eats milkweed. Milkweed is poisonous to some animals. The larva has parts in its mouth that it uses to chew. When the larva grows, it sheds its skin. It is 10 to 14 days before it will turn into chrysalis. When it is ready to turn to a chrysalis, it hangs in a "J". Then its skin splits, and the chrysalis is under the skin.

The Chrysalis by Erin and Emily

Caterpillar larva is in its chrysalis for about 10-14 days. For the first 12 days, they have green chrysalises. Then they turn black because of the black coloring in the butterfly's wings. The gold around the chrysalis is fat cells or lipids from the larva. When the monarchs hatch the chrysalises are clear.

Monarch Migration by Duncan, Cole and Jack

Did you know that monarch butterflies travel 2,320 miles to migrate to Mexico? They can fly 70-80 miles a day and travel 7-8 miles per hour. They weigh only about 1/2 a gram. Did you know that monarch butterflies taste with their feet? Monarchs cling to each other to keep warm. There are only 13 sites in Mexico. There used to be 60.

Facts About Monarchs by Shawn, Evan and Kory

People thought monarchs were pests, so they had contests to see who could kill the most. Monarchs are famous in Mexico because there are so many. People like to learn about monarchs. Monarchs are very different from moths because moths come out at night and go into cocoons.



FOUR CORNERS SCHOOLHOUSE

Two new members have joined the Board. Rose Riley was elected the Clerk and Paulie Coburn Treasurer.

On August 21, the Christiansen family, Andy, Jennifer, Zoe and Anders, presented an **evening of music**, ranging from the beautiful blending of their voices in a *capella* tunes "Cool of the Day" and "O Good Ale" to some audience participation. Andy's brother Chris joined his family for "Beulah Land," a favorite of attendee Doris Washburn. The evening concluded with Zoe on clarinet and Andy on piano for the Second Movement of the Mozart Clarinet Concerto. Jennifer expressed these words for her family, "We enjoyed it. It feels good to keep a 'foot' in East Montpelier."

Diana Fielder



Memory Hour on Rally Day was the most fun for those students of the '30's who returned with pictures and stories of classmates and events from their past. Younger alumni and Alberta Goodine, a teacher there in 1953, answered questions about life in a one-room school. Mildred Slayton and Bertha Tucker, formerly the Thompson sisters, (seated in front in the photo) moved to the current John and Donna Hall residence from Canada just before the '27 flood. They told the story of the early February morning in 1939 when their brother had come to help with the milking and saw smoke in the air. He sent their youngest sister, 13-year-old Gladys, off on her pony to see what was up. She discovered fire at the schoolhouse and roused help at the Barclay residence. Dwight Kelton and Peter Christiansen were among those present to tell about life at the school as long ago as 70 years. Tony Klein moderated the Memory Hour sharing.

Elaine Manghi

SCHOOL PICTURE

Four Corners Schoolhouse children. This photo was taken before the first building burned. The students were identified by Mildred Slayton.

(Photo provided by Andy Christiansen.)

Ruth Lacillade
Dwight Kelton
Norman Thompson
Mildred Thompson
Flora Abair
Robert Young
Harvey Stoddard
Bertwell Wheeler

Archie Abair
Raymond Lacillade
Kenneth Weaver
Margaret Lenna
Robert Gallison
Bertha Thompson
Alice Lenna
Harlie Lacillade

RALLY DAY 2003

For most of us Rally Day is a day filled with joy. We visit with friends and family and come together as a community in a special way. From early morning to late at night we offer activities to entice community members of all ages to join us in the celebration. Each year we like to introduce new events. This year we held our first pancake breakfast. Using a homemade pancake recipe and local maple syrup, Whitney and Barbara Dall and Cliff and Shirley King made this new addition to Rally Day a great success. We also introduced a Food Court for lunch. From Marcia Kemp's Jamaican delicacies to The Old Meeting House's box lunches to Cliff King's roasted corn on the cob most taste buds were satisfied. Another change we introduced was the Live Signpost Auction. With Dave Connor, auctioneer extraordinaire, and Rhoda Chickering and her able crew we truly enjoyed a delightful evening. So many people give their time and talent to provide activities and goods for all of us on Rally Day and we thank you. We couldn't do it without you.

With the success of Rally Day come some problems. There were two classrooms that were unlocked with messages written on the white board, furniture moved, articles missing from a student's



The people of East Montpelier honored Deborah for the effort she put into development of the town plan and for serving as interim zoning administrator then as temporary town administrator.

desk, and evidence that someone was swinging in a swing chair that is suspended from the ceiling. The chair had a part removed and fell down during class on Monday after Rally Day. Fortunately, no one was hurt. There were people on the roof and a traffic cone was left up there. There were a few beer cans under the evergreens at the corner of the school, lots of litter and some people drove on the newly seeded field.

The East Montpelier Elementary School belongs to all of us and we are all responsible for taking care of it. Parents, teachers, staff, children and community members can be vigilant about keeping

people out of places where they don't belong. The Rally Day Committee tries hard to keep the building secure but we can't do it alone. If you see a door unlocked please tell us. If something or someone is running amok - help us take care of it. Don't litter - use the trash receptacles. If the barrels are overflowing offer to replace the bag. We certainly can use your help in this way. A much bigger problem is having older students climb onto the roof. Parents please talk to your kids about this - safety is our biggest concern! This problem is not restricted to Rally Day and has been occurring for years. The answer lies in making it impossible to climb onto the roof. Rally Day is too special an event to be marred by a few thoughtless acts. Help us keep a safe and enjoyable event.

A special thanks goes to Northstar Fireworks. Every year we cap off the day's events with a spectacular display of fireworks. In a farm field at the edge of the woods comes this incredible display that rivals any other in cities and towns across the country. And this is a gift to us — the people of East Montpelier — from Dave and DeeDee Swenson. We are grateful for this gift.

Next year's Rally Day is September 11, 2004. *Rachel Senechal*

RALLY DAY DONORS

This year we held a live auction with Dave Connor as auctioneer. Everyone had a great time, and we brought in over \$2300 which is enough to fund three issues of the Signpost! We'd like to thank all of you who came and bid so generously on the auction items, the many Rally Day volunteers and especially these individuals and businesses who contributed auction items:

Chris Abrams
Dave Blosser
Jeff & Robin Biron, Dudley's Store
Jennifer Boyer, Thistle Hill Pottery
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Ray & Jody Brown, The Drawing Board
Abby Bruce & Sean Downey, Ruby's Run
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Ginny Callan
Tim & Ann Carver, Carver Family Tree Farm
Carol Casavant
Jean & Wes Cate
Paul Cate and Sandal Cate
Mo & Sue Cerutti, Riverbend Store
Tarin Chaplin
Rhoda & Rob Chickering
Putnam Clayton
Dave & Pauline Coburn
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Elaine & Paul Manghi, Manghi's Bakery
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Hal Mayforth
Colin McCaffrey
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Patrick McCoy
Bruce Mekkelsen, Mekkelsen's RV
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Celina Moore
Morse Farm
Sue Mugford
Diane Paulger, Trade Winds Hair Salon
Tracy & Brian Phillips
Lori Rice
Mary Ann Rob
Cheryl Rus, Sign Here
Andy Shapiro, Energy Balance
Roger & Anne Sherman
Paul Shper, Video Box Office/Global Gifts
Bob Smith, Tinker and Trade
Wendy Soliday
Jane & Dick Staudt
Mary Stone
Sylvia Tosi
Utton Muffler
Katherine & Jerome Vaughan
Jean Vissering
Howard Wallbridge
Washington Electric Coop
Bob Watson, Capitol Grounds
Bonnie & Dennis White, Cold Pocket Farm
Richard Wiswall & Sally Colman, Cate Farm



MILESTONES

BIRTHS

- > Lucas Benjamin Winters, July 17, son to Lynn Marie & Charles Benjamin Winters II.
- > Cole James Heigis, August 1, son to Tricia Anne Dwyer & William Scott Heigis.
- > Bridget Marie Holmes, August 19, daughter to Heather Marie Grant and Casey Lee Holmes.

MARRIAGES

- > David Lee Fournier & Kelly Ann Bevins, August 2.
- > Antonia Martino Chiuchiolo & Natasha Johnson Eckart, August 9.
- > Shaun Kelly Jarvis & Corinne Allyse Abrams, August 16.
- > Richard Allan Elsworth & Sharon Susan Varney, September 8.

CIVIL UNION

- > Anthony David Moulton & Ronald Robert Douglass, August 16.

DEATHS

- > Robert Michael Morse, August 30, husband of Brenda Kaiser.
- > Ann Christine Flanders, September 12, wife of Ralph Flanders.
- > Bernard W. Guilmette, July 20, husband of Marcia Guilmette.

LAND TRANSFERS

- > Robert S. Bevan, Trustee of the Jean L. Bevan Trust to Tregia L. Bevan, 10.6 acres & dwelling, Guyette Rd.
- > Denis N. & Carol L. Houle to Royal Lepage Relocation Services International Inc., 0.26 acre & dwelling, Paul's Square.
- > Frederic M. & Lisa S. Levine to Joseph Peter & Ann-Marie Dixon, 47 acres & dwelling, Green Rd.
- > Thomas D. Webster to Denell LLC, 3 acres & dwelling, North St.
- > Carole A. Casavant to Lisa Rice, Quit Claim, 0.78 acre & dwelling, Pine Ridge Rd.
- > Lisa Rice to Louise G. & Gregory P. Sylvain, 0.78 acre & dwelling, Pine Ridge Rd.
- > Michael & Kathleen Hart Miceli to Lisa J. Rice, 10.4 acres, Old Farm Rd.

- > Elaine Parker and Margaret Davis to Dana L. Vander Els, 2 acres & dwelling, VT214.
- > Richard J. & Sharon S. Harvie f/k/a Sharon Lee Graves f/k/a Sharon L. Somers, to Richard J. & Sharon S. Harvie, 3.6 acres & dwelling, Bliss Rd.
- > Laura Banfield to Duane Wells, 53.2 acres & dwelling, Banfield Rd.
- > Bradley B. Witham to Town of East Montpelier, 1.5 acres, Templeton Rd.
- > John & Phyllis Sanfacon to Thaddeus & G. Daysi Ward, 18.7 acres & dwelling, Wheeler Rd.
- > Royal Lepage Relocation Services International Inc. to Stacey K. Fordham, 0.26 acre & dwelling, Paul's Square.
- > Linda Lee Royce to Douglas A. Royce, 0.35 acre & garage.
- > John G. Leclerc to Gerald C. Jourdan, Jr. & Jill E. Jourdan, easement, VT14S.
- > Malcolm S. & Mary E. Rode to Andre B. & Priscilla N. Gilbert, 5.8 acres & dwelling, Center Rd.
- > William & Kathleen A. Croteau to Susan W. Rounds, 7.02 acres & dwelling, Guyette Rd.
- > Alice Nichols to Marie Tardie, 0.92 acre & dwelling, Drake Rd.
- > Beverly C. Lavin to Randell James Lavin, 1 acre & dwelling, Coburn Rd.

Selectboard

Edie Miller, Chair,
Martha Holden, Tom Brazier

July 21, 2003

- > Site visit to Class 4 section of Brazier Road.
- > Hearing held on reclassification of Brazier Road.
- > Approved traffic signs, culverts and roadwork at the elementary school as per recommendations made by Road Foreman, Mike Garand.

August 18, 2003

- > Approved a 60' wide right-of-way access permit for a seven-lot subdivision of property of Anthony and Jean Cassani on US2.

- > Approved a 60' wide right-of-way access permit for a building permit off Center Road for Bryan Bedell.
- > Approved a 60' wide right-of-way access permit off County Road for Arthur and Amanda Clark subdivision.
- > Heard report from Road Commissioner Garand.
- > Conducted a public hearing on the extension of the revised Telecommunications bylaw and approved this bylaw.
- > Heard a report from delinquent tax collector, Norma Raymond.

September 8, 2003

- > Heard report from Road Commissioner Garand and discussed his role in visiting proposed rights-of-way for planned subdivisions and the applicant's responsibility to construct those accesses according to the conditions attached.
- > Marlene Betit will submit application for a hazard mitigation grant for Coburn Road and the Cate Farm bridge.
- > Appointed Don Welch, Carol Welch and Tim Meehan to the new State Police Advisory Board.

September 22, 2003

- > Heard a presentation by the Barre Town EMS providing paramedic level service.
- > Heard a report from Dave Coburn on the status and proposed uses for the Revolving Loan Fund.
- > Approved submission of Municipal Planning Grant application to the Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs. Grant would be used to make zoning regs consistent with new town plan and to clarify the language.
- > Approved a proposal for a box culvert at Putnam Road.
- > Approved, with conditions, an Access Permit for Doug Hill for a subdivision off Towne Hill Road.
- > Approved elimination of fees charged town residents and property owners for copies of Zoning Regulations and the Town Plan.



Planning Commission
Carol Welch, Chair

July 16, 2003

- > Approved subdivision permit for David and Pauline Coburn on Daggett Road for a new 3.2 acre lot and transfer of 0.5 acres to a neighboring landowner.
- > Approved sketch plan review with conditions for John Sanfacon two-lot subdivision on Wheeler Road.
- > Noted that the Selectboard will hold a public hearing on changes to the telecommunications bylaw requiring a retainer fee to cover the expense of technical review.

August 6, 2003

- > Heard testimony at a hearing on a two-lot subdivision on Horn of the Moon Road for Erwin Clark. Commission continued the hearing until its August 20 meeting for applicant to obtain additional information.
- > Heard testimony at a hearing on a seven-lot subdivision of property of Anthony and Jean Cassani on US2. Commission continued the hearing until its September 4, 2003, meeting for applicant to obtain additional information to address concerns of abutting landowners and the Commission.
- > Approved a right-of-way in connection with a building permit off Center Road for Bryan Bedell effective on approval by the Selectboard.
- > Approved with conditions a sketch plan review for a two-lot subdivision of property owned by Dorothy Allard and Bill Martin off VT14.
- > The Commission will revert to its regular meeting days and time in September: first and third Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

August 20, 2003

- > Approved a sketch plan review for Casey and Amanda Northrup to change boundary lines on a parcel belonging to Nathan Danforth at 4379

- US2 that was subdivided in 1989.
- > Approved Clark subdivision on Horn of the Moon Road with conditions.
- > Approved a permit for an Adopt-a-Site sign off Butterfield Road for the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District.
- > Approved a sketch plan review for a six-lot subdivision off Towne Hill Road by Doug Hill with conditions.
- > Extended by three months a sketch plan acceptance of a subdivision by the Merritts on VT14.
- > Rob Chickering showed a new map depicting the Conservation areas specified in the Zoning Regulations. Commission asked Chickering to show it to the Board of Adjustment.
- > Formed a committee to draft an application for a planning grant to re-write the Zoning Regulations.
- > Deborah Fillion reported that the Selectboard has re-approved the telecommunications bylaw.

September 4, 2003

- > Approved two-lot subdivision for Nathan and Dorothy Danforth, located at 4379 US2.
- > Discussed public involvement in the planning process with guest Carl Etnier.
- > Rob Chickering presented the Commission with a draft of the planning grant application and received suggestions for revisions.
- > Approved use of a new Conservation Areas map by the Zoning Administrator as an aid in determining affected parcels.

September 18, 2003

- > Approved two-lot subdivision on VT14 for Gerry and Jill Jourdan with conditions.
- > Approved sketch plan review for a public campground on property owned by Tracy and Brian Phillips on VT14.
- > Commission celebrated the regional planning commission's approval of our new Town Plan and awarded Deb Fillion a Certificate of Appreciation for her leadership and diligence in the creation of the plan.

Board of Adjustment
Jeff Cueto, Chair

July 14, 2003

- > Granted a variance to Dwight and Irene Clark of 200 Kelton Road for an addition to their home.
- > Granted a dimensional variance to Sherwood and Roberta Morse of 770 Cummings Road for a new deck.
- > Granted a dimensional variance to Jamie and Jessica Gray of 1365 North Street for a new deck.
- > Approved a conditional use permit for the Town to replace an existing salt shed with a new one at the same location on Templeton Road.
- > Approved a conditional use permit for Casella Waste to replace an existing recyclable storage shed with a new shed at its facility on US2.

August 11, 2003

- > Granted a variance to Jason and Marina Gorton of 155 Carlton Blvd. for a roof over an existing deck.
- > Ron Koss inquired of the Board regarding any special provisions that might apply should the Waldorf School purchase property for sale on VT14 north of East Village. Chairman Jeff Cueto informed him that the Board could not render a decision without all the facts of the case and that a school in Zone C is subject to Section 5 of the zoning regulations: Special Public Use Exceptions.

August 25, 2003

- > Granted a variance to the Four Corners Schoolhouse for construction of a handicapped access ramp for the existing building.
- > Granted a variance to Douglas and Barbara Bragg of 405 Quaker Road for an addition to their home.
- > Rob Chickering showed a new digitized map of the Conservation areas identified in the zoning regs. The Board agreed that this more accurate map could be used as a reference, but the one in the regulations governs.



THE TOWN WEATHERVANE



Elementary School

*Jan Aldrich, Chair
Joe Buley, Lucy Ferrada,
Julia Haynes, Robert Riggen*

June 24, 2003

- > The Board honored Marcia Pauly on her retirement for her years of service to the school.
- > Approved appointment of Sara Kaminski as second grade teacher and Stephanie Appleton for roles as a long term substitute, half-time third grade teacher and half-time para-educator.
- > Approved funds for a Responsive Classroom presentation, vehicle and pedestrian traffic flow signs, walk-in cooler repairs, student equipment and office changes totalling \$8,115.
- > Approved policy on Admission of Non-resident Students (F14).
- > Approved appointment of Melody Richardson as part-time individual assistant.
- > Carol Randall reviewed her goals for the past school year with the Superintendent and Board.

August 19, 2003

- > Bob Riggen replaced Nancy Thomas as Vice Chairperson of the Board.
- > Board members were appointed to various committees for the coming school year.
- > Michelle McFadden reported progress on pedestrian and vehicle traffic flow changes and on renovations to the principal's office and kindergarten classroom.
- > Bob Riggen reported that the new mobile computer lab is great and that training on its use will be provided.
- > Current school population is 204.
- > New teacher orientation and Literacy Training in-service events were announced.
- > Approved acceptance of Jude Brister's resignation and hiring a full-time para-educator for a one-year position.
- > Discussed the upcoming budget process. Teachers will submit budget requests for the October Board meeting and make curriculum presentations at a later date.

U-32 Jr. Sr. High School

*Ginny Burley, Chair
Richard Curtis
East Montpelier Members*

July 16, 2003

- > Joint meeting with the Montpelier School Board to discuss existing and future combined activities.
- > Resolution passed directing the superintendent to devise a collaboration plan with Montpelier High School.
- > Approved purchase of new driver education vehicle.

August 4, 2003

- > Approved Use of School Facilities Policy.
- > Acknowledged Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center as an Emergency Evacuation Site for U-32.
- > Approved hiring Gelena Magee, part-time Administrative Assistant in Health Services, Ginger Nichols, Special Ed Supervisor, and Ruth Vickery, para-educator.
- > Accepted the resignation of Mel Kopecky with regret.

August 20, 2003

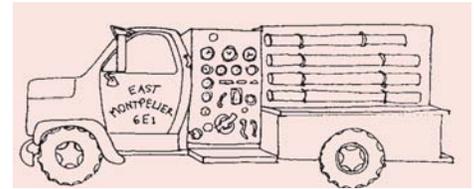
- > Approved appointment of fall coaches.
- > Accepted resignations of Ginger Nichols and Mary Ormsby as Administrative Assistants.
- > Approved appointment of Sue Anne Mayette as Speech/Language Pathologist and Kathleen Ball as Health/Living Arts teacher.

EMES Board Members Contact Information

Jan Aldrich 229-0406
{Janice-Aldrich@hotmail.com}
Joe Buley 223-7970
{jbuleyjr@adelphia.net}
Lucy Ferrada 223-7681
{lferrada@aol.com}
Julia Haynes 223-1651
{julia@vsha.org}
Robert Riggen 223-4262
{rriggen@adelphia.net}

September 3, 2003

- > Approved appointment of Charles Phillips as English Academic Co-ordinator, Tommi Hester as Para-educator, Suzanne Verchereau-Staab and Lori Ann Wilson as Administrative Assistants.
- > Approved contract with independent music instructor, Seth Pelton, to teach the high school Rock Ensemble under the direction of Tom Cate.
- > Approved 5th and 6th grade participation in U-32's Middle School Cross Country Running program.



EAST MONTPELIER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The EMFD has surpassed the two hundred mark for calls responded to already this year. The department continues to be busy with fire and EMS training. Once again the department participated in the East Montpelier Rally Day celebration, and some of our fire-fighters helped Northstar with their spectacular fireworks display! I do believe it was the best display yet!

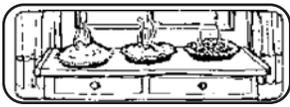
A few of our members attended the 9/11 memorial service in Barre City and later that day participated in a candlelight vigil where Governor Jim Douglas spoke. It was a somber remembrance of a date that we shall never forget.

The department is still anxiously awaiting the arrival of our new fire engine though the actual delivery date is still uncertain. The department would like to thank the community for its ongoing support.

Now that Fall is upon us, it's time to get your chimneys cleaned and to replace batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. A good time to replace those batteries is on October 26 when we turn our clocks back. These simple precautions might just save a life. We hope you have a safe and fire-free winter.

Robin J. Copping, Chaplain, EMT-D

A LOOK BACKWARDS



CINNAMON ROLLS - LILLIAN REMILLARD

Mix 1 pint flour, 1 tablespoon sugar, 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1 good teaspoon baking powder. Rub in 2 tablespoons shortening, and add enough milk to make a soft dough. Roll 1/2 inch thick. Spread with butter, sugar and cinnamon. Roll like jelly roll, cut in slices and bake in quick oven.

Mrs Remillard, as she was known to almost everyone, lived in North Montpelier and worked in the woolen mill. She had been widowed at a young age and never remarried.

RECIPES FROM THE COMMUNITY COOK BOOK
 "Taste-Tested" with hints and up-date as needed
 by *Paulie Coburn*

Paulie's Comments

One cup of milk will be about right to make a soft dough. I mixed about 2 teaspoons cinnamon and 1/2 cup sugar. Bake at 400 degrees for 12 - 15 minutes. You can use your imagination to vary these rolls. For example, try raisins, cut-up dried apricots, or diced apple pieces in addition to the cinnamon and sugar. The rolls are fun to make, and, after you've made them a couple of times, they can be made very quickly. Great with afternoon tea.

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

One of the interesting quirks of this cook book is that the recipes seldom mention how hot the oven should be. This is because most of the women baked in a wood stove and seldom had a oven thermometer. Their way of testing the temperature was to put a hand in and see how long they could keep it there. A three-count was fine for most baking needs. "Bake it a while then test it to see if it's done."

Historical Society

Anne Ormsbee, VP/Treasurer

How were your sniffles, croup, sore throat or cough treated when you were a child? A spoonful of honey, a mustard plaster or 30 minutes in a steam-filled bathroom? These were some of the old-time remedies recalled by folks who attended the September Historical Society meeting.

In addition, Charlotte Gilruth, who has a homeopathic practice in Montpelier, shared some history of Homeopathy, its philosophy, practice and usefulness in today's world.

There will be a joint meeting of the Calais & East Montpelier Historical Societies on Monday, Nov. 3, at the Post Office Building in East Calais. Potluck supper at 6 pm and a program will follow on the Cross Baking Co. (remember Cross crackers?), with Landale Edson.

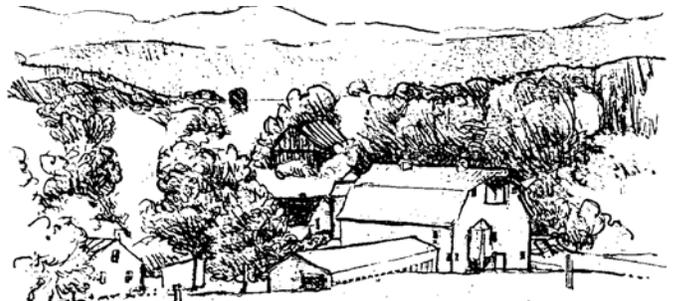
Conrad and Anne Ormsbee have changed the Historical Society window in our lobby area from summer haying to historical sites on the State Register. There are some great pictures of the older homes in town. There is also a listing of the sites listed on the Register.

EAST MONTPELIER CEMETERY COMMISSION

August 5, 2003

- > Work on updating the cemetery rules continues.
- > Agreed that additional sites could be used in the front section of the Cutler Cemetery.
- > Voted pay level for trimming work, purchase of additional veteran markers and purchase of a new string trimmer when it is needed.
- > Voted to use outside help to fix Quaker Cemetery fence and gate.

There is an information sheet available for prospective cemetery lot owners at the Town Clerk's Office.



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HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS

TWIN VALLEY SENIORS

The Twin Valley Seniors meet every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11-2 in the Old Schoolhouse Common in Marshfield. Lunch (suggested \$3 donation) is followed by entertainment. All are welcome and transportation can be provided. For details or more information call the Center at 426-3447 and leave a message.

Meals on Wheels delivers hot meals to about 12 folks in our area. If you have an interest in helping with the delivery of those meals, Marcie Morse would very much like to talk with you. She can be reached by leaving a message at the number above.

HOME SHARE VERMONT

HomeShare Vermont is a program intended to pair up elder or disabled Vermonters who want to stay in their homes with people who need a place to live. For the past 20 years, this program has operated successfully in Chittenden County and now has expanded to the central Vermont area and is available to East Montpelier residents.

According to the last census, East Montpelier has 68 citizens over the age of sixty-five living alone, many of whom are potential home providers.

There are several reasons why someone would want to consider becoming a home provider, but the most common one is maintaining independence. Having someone around to help with chores, or to share a meal with, or to help out with housing costs, can make it possible for some senior citizens to continue living at home.

Many younger people sign up for housing. Good rentals in this area are difficult to find, especially if income is limited. An applicant might be a new teacher, an adult student, someone going through a divorce or perhaps an immigrant. Each case is different.

"We're addressing the need for affordable housing and providing a benefit to older residents," says Betsy Reid, coordinator for HomeShare of Central Vermont.

HomeShare operates under the umbrella of the Central Vermont Council on Aging. Its offices are in Barre. For more information about this program, call Betsy Reid at 479-8544 or go online to www.homeshare@cvcoa.org.

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ADOPT-A-ROAD

I'm wondering how many of you worked on Green-up Day last Spring and went over to the elementary school, noting the piles of junk that were collected from our roads by the volunteers.

Why do we have to let that trash accumulate over the year? Why do we have to look at it as it piles up? The longer it sits on the side of the road, the deeper it burrows into the grass and dirt and the harder it is to extract in the Spring. Wouldn't it make more sense to collect it as it appears?

Many of us travel up and down the same roads near our homes on a daily basis. We walk for exercise and to take in the beauty of our surroundings. What if we stopped for just a few seconds and picked up the trash as it appeared? This way, we could enjoy litter-free roads all year, and have an easier job in the Spring.

What is all this leading up to? I'm suggesting we initiate an "Adopt-A-Road" program for East Montpelier. Certain individuals or families would agree to "look after" a road or portion of a road in town. We would agree to pick up litter as it appears, monitor the physical condition of the road and give Mike Garand, our road foreman, a call if we observed something requiring immediate attention, like a washed out road.

I have personally adopted East Hill Road from VT14 to Clark Road and Clark Road from East Hill Road to the Barre Town line. I drive and walk these roads on a regular basis and enjoy seeing them free of litter. It's an easy process to stop, pick up the trash and add it to my recycling, returnables or refuse.

If any readers are like minded, I would ask you to give me a call at 476-4300 to let me know of your interest in adopting a road. I could keep a record and insure there is no overlap.

Wouldn't it be nice to have our roads clean and beautiful all year?

Dave Grundy

Moonlight Skiing at the Morse Farm Ski Touring Center

Morse Farm photo.



MORSE FARM SKI TOURING CENTER

Ellen Magurn



Winter was always a slow time for Morse Farm Maple Sugarworks. By the third week of October, the colorful foliage is brown and under foot and the last of the tour buses have pulled out of the parking lot on County Road, headed for the interstate.

Several years ago Burr Morse began working on an idea that would utilize this down time. He saw the land surrounding the farm as no less scenic in the winter months with rolling fields, sugarbush and dramatic views of Camel's Hump and Hunger Mountain range. To Burr's mind the farm presented itself as an ideal location for a snowshoe and cross-country ski touring center. The idea of a ski touring center also appealed to long time neighbors Chip Stone, Bill Kaplan and Nat Winthrop. Together they began working on a business plan that would include land and an initial investment from each family. John Morton, a Nordic Ski Olympian and trail designer, was brought in to create a system of trails that would take advantage of the physical beauty of the land as well as provide a variety of trails that would appeal to different skill levels. Onion River Sports agreed to set up and coordinate snow shoe and ski rental equipment and offer lessons. When it came time to start the work of clearing trails, Burr asked the community for their help and was surprised and touched by the outpouring of support from volunteers eager to see the ski center become a reality.

As anyone starting a new business knows, there are any number of concerns to lose sleep over. Burr Morse is an astute businessman and had worked hard with his partners to consider all the variables within their control that would make this venture successful. The skiing industry is of course at the mercy of Mother Nature who doesn't give a hoot about variables. Last winter, as many will recall, she was generous with the snow but cruel with sustained sub-zero temperatures. Ominous forecasts kept many out of state alpine skiers off the slopes and snow machines off the VAST trails. There was another concern which proved difficult to gauge. Burr worried whether people would pay to ski on his trails. VAST trails are easily accessible from many roads. Skiers frequently take advantage of the network of the paths groomed for snow machines.

Last winter the dream was realized when Morse Farm launched the first season of Morse Farm Ski Touring Center. The center opened December 20th with 15 kilometers of trails. As it turned out, lots of cross country skiers already knew or discovered how enjoyable it is to ski on trails groomed specifically for them without the noisy accompaniment of snow machines and all that comes with them. Unintimidated by cold temperatures, locals made up the majority of skiers and were treated to a vari-

ety of trails that ranged from gentle slopes for novices to climbs and descents designed to challenge the advanced skier.

Trails and maps are marked with signs that indicate difficulty of terrain, and every night the trails are freshly groomed. People enjoyed the cozy glassed-in deck with the wood stove, homemade soups and snacks. They could spend a whole day exploring different trail loops then come back to the center to warm up with a hot drink. For those who enjoy four-legged company, Tuesdays were "dog days" when limited trails are available to skiers with dogs.

The first season ended rather abruptly in the beginning of March when temperatures went up for a few days and the snow quickly disappeared. The original business plan made allowances for three different scenarios based on attendance, the first being a very low turn out and the third, the wildest dream package. At the end of the season, it was calculated that they had come out right in the middle somewhere.

This year the touring center has added 10 kilometers of new trails that will cross over County Road and continue northwest of the farm. This means more than a 60% increase of trails



Burr and his brother Elliot with the new trail groomer. Elliot is the machine operator and jack-of-all trades at the Center.

from last winter. They've also improved their grooming capabilities with the addition of a Piston Bully trail groomer purchased from the Mount Ascutney Cross Country Ski Area. Looking ahead, Burr and his partners would like to continue to be able to add trails and improve the ski center, but slowly. Advertising is limited to brochures in rest areas and information kiosks as well as on their web site. The Morse Farm Ski Touring Center is small, affordable and very appealing to local folks. The success of the Morse

Farm business comes in part from a willingness to look to the future and evolve and adapt to stay current with a changing world.

Does Burr ski? When he was a kid there was a rope tow set up on the hill on the west side of County Road. He skied there for years every winter day and became quite proficient. After taking a twenty year break from the sport, he decided it was time to give it another try at Sugarbush. On his fourth trip down the mountain, he had an unfortunate run-in with a birch tree. The tree won, and Burr spent nine weeks in a body cast with a broken back. That pretty much wrapped up his alpine skiing career. A few years back, good friends made him a generous gift of cross country skis, boots, poles and bindings. He now enjoys the stark beauty of winter from the trails as much as his busy schedule permits.

For those interested in information about preseason discounts go to www.skimorsefarm.com.

Ellen Magurn lives in East Montpelier with her husband Hal Mayforth and their three sons Nick, Fran and Charlie.

COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR

Selectboard	1st & 3rd Monday	7:00	Town Office
Planning Commission (PC)	1st & 3rd Thursday	7:30	Town Office
Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA)	2nd & 4th Monday	7:30	Town Office
Conservation Fund Advisory Comm.	2nd Thursday	7:30	Town Office
U-32 Board	1st & 3rd Wednesday	6:30	U-32 High School
Elementary School Board (EMES)	1st Tuesday	6:30	Elementary School
Recreation Board	3rd Monday	6:30	Town Office
Revolving Loan Committee	At call of the chair	6:30	Town Office
Volunteer Fire Department	Every Tuesday	7:00	Fire Station, Templeton Rd.
Four Corners School House Assoc.	2nd Wednesday	7:00	Four Corners Schoolhouse

EAST MONTPELIER TOWN OFFICE

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

Clerk-Treasurer - Sylvia Tosi

email: eastmontp1@adelphia.net

Asst. Clerk-Treasurer - Terri Conti

email: eastmontp2@adelphia.net

Asst. Clerk - Ginger Hopkins

Town Administrator - Marlene Betit

email: eastmontp@adelphia.net

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

Chief Lister - Rosie Cueto

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

Zoning Administrator - Diana Chace

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

email: eastmontp3@adelphia.net

EVENTS CALENDAR

Oct. 29-Nov. 12	U-32 Student Art Show		Atrium & Entry Hall
Nov. 3	Historical Society - joint meeting with Calais - Potluck supper	6:00 pm	East Calais Post Office
Nov. 7, 8 & 14	U-32 Fall Play - <i>Survivor of the Warsaw Ghetto</i>	7:30 pm	U-32 Auditorium
Nov. 11	Town Office Closed - Veterans' Day		
Nov. 17	Taxes are due - Payments recieved by mail after that date are LATE REGARDLESS OF POSTMARK!		
Nov. 18	EMES budgeting board meeting - the public is encouraged to attend	6:30 pm	EMES Art Room
	There is no December meeting of the Historical Society		
Dec. 16	EMES budgeting board meeting - the public is encouraged to attend	6:30 pm	EMES Art Room
Dec. 17	U-32 Middle School Holiday Concert	TBA	U-32 Auditorium
Dec 18	U-32 High School Holiday Concert	TBA	U-32 Auditorium

Deadline for next issue: January 1, 2004, to Dave & Darlene Grundy, 476-4300 {ddgrundy@aol.com}

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Volume XIV, No. 2
November/December 2003

Inside: A Musical Lady
and Ski Trails

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