

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST



Volume XV — Number Six July/August 2005

A PASSION FOR FOOD *Michelle McFadden*

Joe Buley, a chef for many years, and, more recently, a grower, is very excited about his new greenhouse. Measuring a whopping 100' by 30', the enclosed plastic structure is the first thing one notices upon arriving at Screaming Ridge Farm on Dillon Road.

Passionate about local, organic food, Joe spent the better part of last fall and winter constructing the greenhouse in his side field. It took him three weeks to grade and level the site with a backhoe and bucket-loader. Construction began in December, cross-ties and supports were erected in January and—with the help of several friends—the seamless plastic skin was installed in February. Joe began planting in March, fulfilling a long-held dream to grow vegetables here in Vermont.

Continued on Page 4

EDUCATION AMONG THE APPLE BLOSSOMS *Karen Liebermann*

Imagine wandering into a schoolyard under a cloud of crabapple blossoms. Imagine children singing, kneading bread, setting up puppet shows, climbing trees. Walk on a little further and you'll hear older children singing harmonies in German, see concentration on the faces of second graders knitting, and hear clapping rhythms coming from the first graders studying math. Come here on a weekend and you

might find adults from the community learning about biodynamic farming, or beekeeping, or find an EarthWalk community group learning about wild edible plants. The place is Orchard Valley School at Grace Farm (site of the former Winooski Valley Orchard), and it's a wonderful community resource and new neighbor in East Montpelier.



Several years ago the Child's Garden (a Waldorf Kindergarten in Montpelier) and the Three Rivers School (a grade school in the Waldorf tradition) came together to search for a permanent home. Within a remarkably short period of time, they found the former Winooski Valley Orchard site, fundraised, bought and renovated the farmhouse and apple barn. At every step it was the strong vision and creativity of teachers, parents and board members, and the support of people within and outside the school community that made possible the school's opening in the fall of 2004.

The school currently serves approximately 100 students, nursery through grade five, from over 60 families, from towns all through Central Vermont. The school anticipates growing to include grades 6-8, and through tuition assistance and fundraising, there is a commitment to making this option affordable to all interested families.

At the heart of the school is the philosophy of a holistic education, honoring the spiritual side of children through a curriculum that integrates art, music, and movement into every part of the child's education. Physical mobility and imagination in the early years are the seeds that will bear fruit later as the child moves into academics.

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EAST MONTPELIER
Signpost

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TOP OF THE SIGNPOST

*Daffodil Dilly is coming to town
In a yellow petticoat and a green gown.*

The topic for discussion at the latest meeting of the Jean Cate Community Fund committee was "Where do we go from here?" Someone had mentioned in a note to Wes Cate that it would be nice to see flowers at the corners of our roads. That led to a proposal that we make daffodil bulbs available at Rally Day to any one who would "adopt a corner" and plant a dozen or so bulbs.

There are on the order of 500 bulbs in my garden. These are the great, great, (at least) grandchildren of small plantings of daffodils my mother, Edith Coburn, made many years ago. They have been moved several times and each time has resulted in a quantum increase in their numbers. I will be happy to donate a fair number since I know Mother would be very pleased to have her bulbs planted throughout the town.

Further, when Elaine Manghi told someone about this plan, that person offered to share her bulbs. East Montpelier could become the daffodil capital of Vermont!

So, come to Rally Day and pick up a bag or two of bulbs to plant on your favorite corner(s). They will have complete instructions, some potting soil, and fertilizer. Or, if you have bulbs you would like to contribute, give me a call — 223-6886 — and I'll pick them up. (Notice I did not say I would dig them!)

Dave Coburn

“Thank you” to these loyal supporters.

Dorothy Conlon

Florence Young

Lori Pinard

Raylene Blanc

Manuel Piro

Harriet Haggett

Maurice and Barbara Brown

Contributions help make possible the free delivery to every home in East Montpelier. Any amount — \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50 — is welcome.

UPDATE FROM MAY/JUNE SIGNPOST

Alyce Collins, who's hermit business was featured in the last issue, has notified us that there will be a four to six week break in the flow of hermits. She has had an operation to correct an arthritis problem in her hands. Look for the hermits to be back in the stores by early August.

STAFF CHANGES AT THE SIGNPOST

Janice Waterman announced that, after this issue, she will be stepping back from her *Signpost* duties of lining up people and businesses and authors for our special articles. We thank her for her excellent work for the paper over the years and look forward to a time when she might rejoin our team. She will be sorely missed!

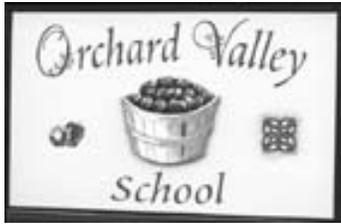
Also, Barbara Ploof has taken over from Dave and Darlene Grundy the task of assembling the bits and pieces of the *Signpost*. All articles, items, etc. should be directed to her at the address on the left. The Grundy's will stay on as copy editors and to help as needed.

Thirdly, Dawn Anderson has asked to be relieved of her duties as custodian of the mailing list. She has served faithfully for several years at what is a rather difficult job. Any reader who would like a challenge and is willing to take over here, should call Rob Chickering - 229-5005. This is a great way to learn the names of your neighbors. For more information on what's involved, give Dave Coburn a call - 223-6886. At present, the list is maintained in File Maker Pro but some thought has been given to moving it to Microsoft Access. Either way, we offer training in how it is done. The list is coordinated with the Town Office and the Town Auditors.

Many thanks to all these folks for their long and faithful service!

The curriculum centers on an understanding of the development of human beings based on the teachings of Austrian philosopher Rudolph Steiner.

The natural world and its rhythms are brought into the classroom through songs, stories, and seasonal food and crafts.



In an effort to let nature "speak for itself," the classrooms reflect the outside world, with corners softened by natural fiber cloths, wooden or handmade wool felt toys, and the teachers seek to spend lots of time outdoors.

The children have a strong "environmental education," not learning about the "hows" and "whys" of science, but by experiencing it by exposure to the natural world. Fairies and gnomes figure prominently in the children's world, representing the life forces. The science of atmosphere and the complex dynamics of plant cell growth are too much for the children at this age, but speaking of fairies and gnomes that help the plants grow acknowledges the life forces that the children are witnessing, and keeps it on a child's level. It also opens doors in the realm of the imagination, and this is another central theme in the Waldorf movement. There is a conscious effort to support the development of the imagination, to help children develop into themselves, and achieve a balance between imagination, physical mobility, and intellect.

In the graded classrooms, one of the first things a visitor might notice is that the teacher stays with a class all the way through the cycle from first to eighth grade. The intent is for the teacher to form an intimate relationship with the child and the family, creating a real partnership in the education of the child. "Without love, education is very difficult," says lead teacher Jacqueline Gabe. Keeping the same group of children throughout their grade school experience fosters a different level of commitment from the teacher. There is an intense commitment to helping them progress. Lauren Andrews, mother of two children at Orchard Valley School, remembers that at first she was very hesitant about her children having the same teachers for years. Now, it's one of her favorite aspects of the school. "The continuity of the relationship between children and their teachers is powerful, for the children and the parents. It's like having a partner."

Lauren Andrews also appreciates the school community in its collective effort to shelter the children to a degree from the forces of consumerism and materialism through an avoidance of television and video games. Families are encouraged to avoid mainstream media and allow the children to develop their own sense of who they are, separate from the commercialized messages of mainstream culture. For many parents, this is a powerful reason to be part of the Orchard Valley School community.

Much of what makes this school unique, even among Waldorf schools, lies outside the beautiful classrooms. Fifty-five acres of field, forest, riverside, and apple orchard provide an incredible campus for student and community learning. There are hopes of including animal husbandry in the school program—chickens in the near future and perhaps other livestock later on.

A farm committee has been working over the last year and a half to learn about the apple orchard and other aspects of the farm, and to create a vision for the future. The school welcomes community participation and was thrilled to get to know some farming neighbors at a recent visioning meeting for the Grace Farm. There have been some orchard and farm workshops already, and the committee hopes to offer more in the coming years.

In addition to being a thriving school and budding farm, the Grace Farm Campus is a center for the community. The Barre Players rehearsed there this past winter, and EarthWalk (a community group seeking a deep recon-

nection with the natural world) has hosted monthly gatherings exploring the fields and forests, tracking and building snow shelters. The summer calendar is full of options open to the community, from summer day camps to Wednesday evening family workshops and campfires. Call the Orchard Valley School office (456-7400) for more details, or to receive the seasonal flyers advertising community events and festivals at the school. Please join me in enthusiastically welcoming the Orchard Valley School to East Montpelier. I hope to see you there!

Karen Liebermann is the mother of two, Cricket and Dane whose education is part-time Waldorf and part-time homeschooling. Karen's husband is Bob Osborne. They live on Kelton Rd.

*Wednesday Summer Picnic Potluck Series: Everything from campfires to beekeeping. 5-8 p.m.
EarthWalk Summer Camps: July 25-29, August 1-5, and 8-12th.
EarthWalk Community Gatherings: Third Saturday of the month, 2-5 p.m. followed by a potluck. Call 223-3148 for details.
Farming and the Divine: Ongoing discussion series.*

EAST MONTPELIER SWIMMING HOLES

It's hot. Summer is not a long season, but it can be hot. Heat makes us think of water, cool, clear water. That means swimming holes. So, the *Signpost* thought that it would detail for its readers the merits, demerits, and location of East Montpelier's swimming holes. As it turns out, this is a short story. There are few swimming holes in town. In fact, East Montpelier might well focus on developing local and public swimming facilities.

Of course we are not without resources. There is a swimming hole off Coburn Road, between VT14 and VT2. This swimming hole is an unused gravel quarry and belongs to the State of Vermont, presumably administered by VTrans. It is said to be good swimming but the entrance road is barricaded.

There are also North Montpelier Pond, Sodom Pond, Horn of the Moon Pond, Nelson Pond, Chapell Pond, and the Winooski River. Surely, there is in that group of waterways a place or two to swim, and with public access. And, of course, there is the Wrightsville Recreation Area. East Montpelier can claim that, although the public beach itself is in Middlesex.

Readers, if you know of any East Montpelier swimming holes that are not disclosed here, would you share that information with the *Signpost*?

Richard Linton Brock



Joe's Vermont roots go back several generations. Joe has

fond childhood memories of returning to East Randolph and St. Albans for holidays and vacations: visiting his grandfather's smokehouse and butcher shop, fishing in the spring, splitting wood for the sugar shack in the summer, and hunting in the fall. The oldest of Joe's and Geraldine's five children, Joe, Jr., was born at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, while his father served in the Air Force. Joe's family moved often as his father completed projects as a civil engineer in Texas, the midwest and northeast, then back to Texas where Joe finished high school in Houston and graduated from the University of Texas at Austin. Joe's father, Joe Buley, Sr., born in Richmond, and his mother, Geraldine Greenwood, born in East Randolph, met during college at a friend's camp.



Joe has "been cooking all his life," and started his own wholesale seafood business during college. He headed to Europe in 1987, where he attended a tour of L'Ecole Superiore Du Cuisine Francaise, a cooking school in Paris. His educated questions elicited an invitation to attend their culinary school. To his surprise, school started the next morning, although the program had a two-year waiting list. Joe bought his equipment that evening and a future chef was born. Joe met his wife, Lori Martin, in Paris towards the end of his three-year program and they married in 1992.

Upon returning to the States, Joe worked as the chef and then executive chef for restaurants in Brooklyn, New York, southern California, and Austin, Texas, over the next fifteen years. His restaurants won awards for best chef, best restaurant, first place in culinary competitions, and participated in many local fundraisers. In September of 1999, Joe, Lori, and their family of three daughters, Nikita, Olivia and Annik moved to Montpelier for Joe's new position as a Chef Instructor at the New England Culinary Institute. After working night shifts since culinary school, Joe landed a plum in the morning shift (lunch) at the Chef's Table. Last year, he saved the culinary school \$40,000 in purchasing and program cost, and was promoted to Campus Purchaser. Over the last several years, Joe taught his students fine dining, business management, organic food production and sustainable agriculture; the junior chefs benefited from his wry sense of humor as well. Joe developed a desire to "prac-

tice what he preached" and grow the fresh, local produce he taught his students to appreciate in his classes.

Sustainable agriculture involves practices that enhance the earth instead of depleting its resources. For Joe, this means following organic practices such as avoiding chemical fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides, and improving his soil for maximum agricultural yield. Inspired by Eliot Coleman, the organic farmer who inherited Scott and Helen Neering's environmentally friendly farm in Maine, and encouraged by local organic farmers Richard Wiswall of Cate Farm in East Montpelier and Joey Klein of Littlewood Farm in Plainfield, he dreamed of creating his own farm. Last year, Joe sold \$1000 of produce, thus meeting the IRS requirements for "commercial farmer."

Joe has contracted with the Food Works at Two Rivers Center, funded by a Merck Foundation grant called Beyond Hunger, which matches about one dozen area farmers with 25 meal sites such as group homes, assisted living facilities and senior centers, to provide the "underserved population" with local produce. Joe will also sell 1000 pounds of organic canning tomatoes to U-32 to make tomato sauce for school lunches. Sometime in the future, Joe is considering a community supported agriculture program for gourmet produce, where the local consumers purchase shares in the spring and Joe provides fresh fruit and vegetables throughout the summer and fall. Joe and his family also raise chickens and ducks for their eggs.

This year, he hopes to quadruple last year's amount with his greenhouse and large gardens behind his house. In the greenhouse, Joe has planted nine types of heirloom tomatoes, three types of heirloom winter squash, yellow zucchini, cucumbers, okra, peppers, sugar snap peas, lettuce, basil, melons, chilies, bergamot (the plant used to perfume Earl Grey tea) and bee balm (used to season lamb and pork). He has also started cherantais seeds, a tiny, delicious French melon that he remembers from Europe. Most of these plants were started from seed ordered from Fedco and Johnny's; some seeds are from an organic Vermont company called High Mowing Seeds. Joe uses solar energy to heat the greenhouse - no fossil fuels - and will keep it cool in the summer with large ventilation doors. Joe hopes to raise produce in the greenhouse ten months of the year, March through December, and take two months off. The two outdoor gardens include many more vegetables and space for some of the seedlings to be moved outdoors. Joe is determined to make this project a success in spite of Vermont's very short growing season and tough winters.

In addition to Joe's full-time job and his extensive growing project, Joe and Lori have also worked very hard on their house, remodeling the exterior - new siding, windows, doors and trim - and the interior, room by room. Joe has also served on the East Montpelier School Board of Directors for the last two and one-half years. Last but not least, Joe oversaw the reconstruction of his brother's camp on Lake Champlain. Lori works full-time from home as a technical editor. The highlight of Joe and Lori's years are the times they are able to spend with their daughters and their extended families over vacations and holidays, especially here in East Montpelier.

Michelle McFadden and her husband, Chuck Hoffert, have four children: Charlie, Michael, Henry and Princess Maeve. They are moving from Clark Road to Kelton Road over the Fourth of July.

ABBY SUSKIN

Emily Carver

It may be every child's dream to run away and join the circus, but for a few talented locals, this dream is a reality.

Every summer, Abby Suskin, a junior at U-32, joins a host of talented students and coaches from Vermont and around the world at Circus Smirkus, a youth circus based in Greensboro, Vermont. Suskin joined the traveling performers the summer after sixth grade and concludes her touring this summer, five years later.

With a mandatory yearly tryout that includes various acrobatics, multiple staff interviews, and a three-minute piece utilizing various pieces of circus equipment, Suskin has successfully earned a place in the world-renowned Circus Smirkus summer after summer. Suskin said of the multiple summers away from home, "I miss my family and my friends a lot, but it's just such an incredible experience, it's really hard to explain. The people that are attracted to Circus Smirkus are just the most incredible

people. I've made a lot of friends that I think I'll be close with for most of my life."

With such a tight knit group, Suskin cites leaving as a challenge. "After spending so much time in such an intense environment, it's really hard to leave and come home. I mean people know where you've been and what you've been doing, but there is no way to know just what it means and no way to explain it."

Founded in 1987, Circus Smirkus has since earned the name "The United Nations of Youth World Circus" with over twenty countries represented under their big top.

Suskin leaves in early June for training and rehearsal in Greensboro and begins touring June 26.

Emily Carver is a senior at U-32 High School, and will be heading off to Beloit College in Beloit, Wisconsin, at the end of the summer.

GET READY TO RALLY!

The only way to have more fun on Rally Day is to help make it happen! Mark your calendars: The 17th Annual Rally Day will be held on Saturday, September 10th. Join your neighbors for a fun day of games, food, and activities at the Elementary School and elsewhere around town. It takes a lot of hands to put together our annual community celebration. Please call us to find out how you can give a little of your time to help with the festivities. Volunteer and be a part of this East Montpelier tradition!



Beginning with the pancake breakfast, the day's events will include lots of your old favorites (Veggie Decorating, the Parade, Jumping Gym, a Barbecue, the Signpost Auction, Memory Hour) and some new ones. We're going to miss the fireworks that Northstar so generously donated in the past, but the evening will be topped off with an equally lavish spectacle: a Variety Show full of local talent. We're also planning to bring back the guided bus tour of historic sites in town. Check your tax bill in August for a detailed schedule.

For more information or to offer your help, contact us:

Kids' Activities: Erica Zimmerman 223-6930

Family Sports: Bill Merrylees 223-4951

Variety Show: Colin McCaffrey 454-1007

Food: Cliff & Shirley King 223-2079

Auction: Sally Longhi 223-5859 or Julia Haynes 223-1651

Parade: Hobie Guion 223-1808

Cozy Corner: Darlene Grundy 476-4300

Setup and Cleanup: Matthew Curtis 223-7403

Bus Tour Tickets: Deborah Fillion 229-1320

If you can blow bubbles, pitch a tent, or brew tea, please volunteer for an hour on Rally Day.

Next Rally Day planning meeting: July 20th, 7:00 p.m., at the Town Clerk's Office.

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email: eastmont2@adelphia.net

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Asst. Clerk - Ginger Hopkins

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email: eastmontpe@adelphia.net

(Mon.-Tue. 9:00-5:00, Wed. 9:00-12:00)

Chief Lister - Rosie Cueto

(Mon.-Fri. 9:00-11:30)

Zoning Administrator

Vacant

email: eastmont3@adelphia.net

TOWN OFFICIALS

Selectboard

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Tom Brazier, Edie Miller

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Deborah Fillion	Rick Hopkins
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Ken Santor	Carol Welch

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Cliff King	Gray Ricker
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Ginny Burley, Chair
Sue Chickering

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Janice_Aldrich@hotmail.com

TOWN WEATHERVANE

Milestones

Marriages

- * Robert Walmsley Duncan to Tracy Ann Loysen, March 12, 2005.
- * Casey Lee Holmes to Heather Marie Grand, April 2, 2005.
- * Kristopher Joseph Kirby to Lesilee Dayle Martin, May 21, 2005.

Deaths:

- * Glenn W. Leslie, April 22, 2005, father of Cecile Barber.

Land Transfers

- * Brent Gould & Heather M.(Gould) Pipino to Judith Lauren & David J. Thurlow, 0.42 acres & dwelling, Dillon Rd.
- * Donald Kent & Valerie L. Bigglestone to Joshua & Michelle Singer, 1 acre & dwelling, Cherry Tree Hill Rd.
- * David F. Antonovich Sr. & Daniel Antonovich to Vermont Land Trust, Inc., easement, North St.
- * Vermont Land Trust, Inc. to David F. Antonovich, Sr., Yvona Lukomski & Daniel Antonovich, 2.5 acres, North St.
- * Conrad H. & Anne M. Ormsbee to Conrad H. & Anne M. Ormsbee, Trustees, 1.1 acres & dwelling, Center Rd.
- * Robert D. & Virginia A. Bragg to Edward J. & Chad E. Scribner, 8 acres, Bragg Hill Rd.
- * Robert D. & Virginia A. Bragg to Joshua Scribner & Tracy Cano-Scribner, 19.6 acres, Bragg Hill Rd.
- * Robert D. & Virginia A. Bragg to Douglas M. Bragg & Barbara L. LeGrand-Bragg, 1.5 acres, Bragg Hill Rd.
- * Washington Electric Coop. Inc. to Steve Litkovitz & Ann Giroux, easement, Sodom Pond Rd.
- * Ronald J. & Claudette Marinelli to David Mindell, 3 acres & dwelling, Bliss Rd.
- * Margery F. Lashua to Kimberley D. Lashua, Trustee, 12.4 acres & dwelling, County Rd.
- * Andrew & Caroline D. Shapiro to Mark & Connie Lane 0.12 acre, Gould Hill Rd.
- * Christopher R. Goodrich & Arlene M. Shorten-Goodrich to Michael L.J. & Amanda Lee Mislak, easement, Jourdan Rd.
- * Amy Beth & John G. Lessard to Midfirst Bank, 0.76 acres & dwelling, VT14S.
- * E. Christopher, Peter W. & Vera C. Pratt to Vermont Land Trust, Inc. et al, Amendment, 481 acres, Brazier Rd., Towne Hill Rd. & Cherry Tree Hill Rd.
- * Elsie T. Ibey to Paul G. Ibey & Elsie T. Ibey(life estate), 24 acres & dwelling,

Quaker Hill Rd.

- * Bruce P. & Janet L. Chapell to Trustees of the Bruce P. Chapell Trust and Trustees of the Janet L. Chapell Trust, 14.7 acres & dwelling, Center Rd.
- * Bruce P. Chapell to Trustees of the Bruce Chapell Trust & Trustees of the Janet Chapell Trust, 105.9 acres & dwelling, Center Rd., Templeton Rd. & Lyle Young Rd.
- * Edward J. & Chad E. Scribner to Christine A. Wood, 4.8 acres, Bragg Hill Rd.
- * Leonard A. & Elsie J. Giroux to Jason D. Giroux, 1 acre & dwelling, Fair Rd.

Land records are public information. Further details on any property transfers may be obtained at the Town Office.

Selectboard

March 21, 2005

- * Voted to approve the Riverbend Liquor License for 2005.
- * Appointed town officers as follows:
Austin Cleaves: *Inspector of Coal Wood and Shingles*;
Bill Merrylees: *Green Up Coordinator*;
Don Welch and Carol Welch: *State Police Advisory*;
Anne Sherman: *Funding Request Study Committee*.
- * Excess weight permits approved for: Gillespie Fuels & Propane, Clifton Rathburn Jr., Michael W. Lowell, Donald Giroux's Trucking, Feed Commodities Int'l Inc., JLC Transportation Inc., Barrett Trucking Co., E.E. Packard Enterprises, Cardinal Freight Carriers.
- * Approved the name Bragg Hill Rd. for new road off VT14, for existing Bragg home and two lots.
- * Approved the Kadzam access application off Towne Hill Rd.
- * Signed State Police Law Enforcement Contract through March 31, 2006.

April 13, 2005

- * Amended the Sandy Pines loan by deferring payments for 5.5 years and extending the loan term for 5.5 years.
- * Appointed Paul Cate to office of Town Forest Warden and Jonathan Boucher to the office of Assistant Fire Warden.

TOWN WEATHERVANE

- ★ Decided, in response to complaints about loose dogs, first, to post a reminder in the Times Argus of the East Montpelier animal control ordinance, and second, if needed, to create a sign to move around town indicating animals must be under control at all times.
- ★ Excess Weight Permits granted to: Haskins & Sons Concrete, Lajeunesse Construction, Camp Precast Concrete Products, John Colgrove Trucking, Ray LaPerle, Warren Hill Trucking, Dubois Construction, Cox Trucking, Green Mountain Power Corp, Hutch Crane & Pump Rental, Paul Garcia.

April 18, 2005

- ★ Voted to approve the Town of East Montpelier Ordinance Relating to Individual Disposal Systems.
- ★ Approved a motion for road crew to go to a four-day, forty-hour a week summer work schedule.
- ★ In order to comply with the Agency of Natural Resources' finding of too much petroleum product on town property, the EMFD vehicles will purchase gas at a local service station.
- ★ East Montpelier Farm Contracts were approved for William Parker, Allen & Maybeth Butler, and Clifton & Shirley King.
- ★ Approved a motion to continue with the signalization of the intersection of VT2 and VT14 in order to avoid the possibility of losing priority on the project list if design changes were made.

Planning Commission

January 6, 2005

- ★ Voted to grant preliminary and final site plan approval to Norman Rice to subdivide land owned by Hugh, Susan, and Dennis Hawkins on Towne Hill Rd.
- ★ Voted to grant preliminary and final site plan approval to Brian and Tracy Phillips to subdivide their 15.3 acre property on VT14S.

March 17, 2005

- ★ Motion approved to give Isaac Hayward the opportunity to provide the required site plans as specified by the Planning Commission in order to receive a Commercial Use permit.
- ★ Approved a motion to approve the North Country Federal Credit Union Sign Application as amended.

April 7, 2005

- ★ Discussed drafting a proposal to change the notice of permit for zoning appeals.
- ★ Officers were elected as follows: Rob Chickering: Chair; Rick Hopkins: Vice Chair; Deborah Fillion: Corresponding Secretary.
- ★ Responded to a question about a zoning permit for home occupation, saying it is not required to have a zoning permit, but it may be useful to have such a permit to show customers or inquiring neighbors.

April 21, 2005

- ★ Voted to approve the preliminary and final site plans for a two-lot subdivision of land owned by Thomas, Ann, and Lena Brazier located on Brazier Road.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR JOB VACANCY

East Montpelier seeks candidates for the part time job of town Zoning Administrator. Duties of this position are to:

- + Help townspeople understand zoning requirements and procedures.
- + Approve routine applications.
- + Meet with the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Adjustment, about four meetings each month.

About 17 hours per week. For more information, call Marlene Betit, Town Administrator, 223-3313.

Elementary School

April 12, 2005

- ★ Preschool staff will now be paid through local schools. The Early Education Task Force recommended towns have their own preschools. Special education, testing, speech and other additional costs would be paid out of WCSU managed funds.
- ★ The board presented Julia Haynes a plaque in appreciation of her service on the EMES school board.
- ★ Community Connections is planning a summer camp.

- ★ EMES was designated as a 2005 Medallion School by the Vermont Business Roundtable based on test scores and performance.
- ★ Up to \$2,000 out of the \$10,000 Capital Improvement Fund will be used for flooring, with the remaining monies used to begin building a reserve fund for roofing and other repairs as needed.
- ★ The following assignments were approved:

Matt Curtis will serve on the EMES School Technology Committee, Matt Curtis will coordinate the Student Centered Accountability Based Budget Committee, Jan Aldrich will be the representative to the Recreation Department. Jan Aldrich will continue as the representative to the Montpelier/WCSU Collaboration Comm.

U-32 Jr. & Sr. High School

March 2, 2005

- ★ The following motions regarding board assignments were approved: Ginny Burley: Chair; Rob LaClair: Vice Chair; Allen Gilbert: Clerk; meetings set for 6:00 p.m. on the first and third Wednesdays of the month; The Times Argus is the newspaper for official postings; Rob LaClair: representative and Tom Williams: alternate, to the Washington Central Exec. Committee; Mark Berry: representative and Tom Williams alternate to the Washington Central Policy Committee and the Washington Central Negotiations Committee; Rob LaClair: representative to the Washington Central Transportation Committee; Dan Violette: Truant Officer; Ed Deegan: District Auditor for one year term.
- ★ The committee memberships are as follows:
 - Finance* - Rob LaClair, Ginny Burley, Stuart Savage
 - Policy* - Mark Berry, Tom Williams, Allen Gilbert
 - Curriculum* - Allen Gilbert, Ginny Burley, Sue Chickering
 - Personnel* - Mark Berry, Rob LaClair, Stuart Savage
 - Co-Curricular* - Sue Chickering, Tom Williams, Rob LaClair

TOWN WEATHERVANE

U-32 - continued

- * Voted to accept the following retirements at the end of the school year: Janice Dunn, Bonnie Mohlman, Sandy Mohlman
- * Voted to accept a revised winter coach contract.

March 16, 2005

- * Curriculum report included the fact that students are taking more courses and graduating early and the budget implications need to be considered.
- * The Fundraising Policy and Facilities Use Policy were moved to the second reading.
- * Voted to approve the spring and fall coaches.
- * Accepted the retirement of William Dunn.

April 6, 2005

- * The Fundraising Policy and Facilities Use Policy were moved to the third reading.
- * Voted to approve the revised spring coaches list.

- * Motion failed to approve a Leave of Absence Request.
- * Accepted year end resignations of Paul Angell and Ellen Dorsey Lillis.
- * Voted to table the approval of Professional Staffing for 05-06 school year until 4/13/05 meeting.
- * Voted to authorize the establishment of a summer drivers' ed. program for up to \$5,000.

April 13, 2005

- * Voted an increase of 0.967 FTE for the 05-06 school year, not including the summer drivers' ed. program.
- * Voted to authorize the billing to Community Connections for facility use for 04-05. The funds would be reserved for future Community Connections programs and held at WCSU.
- * Approved the appointments of Timothy Flynn, special services & program director and Mary Ellen Simmons, 0.5 FTE math teacher.
- * Voted to approve the amended Cooperative Agreement between U-32 & Websterville Baptist.

- * Voted to pay up to \$7,000 from the fund balance to defer the cost of the student trip to the New England Drama Festival. Each participant will be asked to contribute \$50 to the cost of the trip, with no student being excluded from the trip due to inability to pay the \$50.
- * Voted to accept the resignations of Laura Roberts, special ed. administrative assistant, and Larry Coletti, WCSU technology support person.
- * Voted to approve the spring athletics coaches and the proposed boys' ice hockey team trip to Finland.

May 4, 2005

- * Voted to approve a one-year leave of absence to Emily Johnson.
- * Voted to adopt the School Facilities policy on third reading.
- * Approved the Teacher Appreciation Resolution as presented.
- * Accepted the retirement of Amy (Budlinger) Whitlock, science teacher.
- * Approved the appointments of Sheryl H. Ferris, 0.5 FTE school nurse, and Katherine Walker, 0.5 FTE math teacher

Church Bells



Old Brick Church

Angelo Tillas, Pastor

Sunday Services at 10:00 am
Phone: 223-1232

Old Meeting House

Rev. Susan Cooke Kittredge

Pastor

Rev. David W. Connor

Associate Pastor

Worship & Sunday School- 9:30 am

Nursery care is available

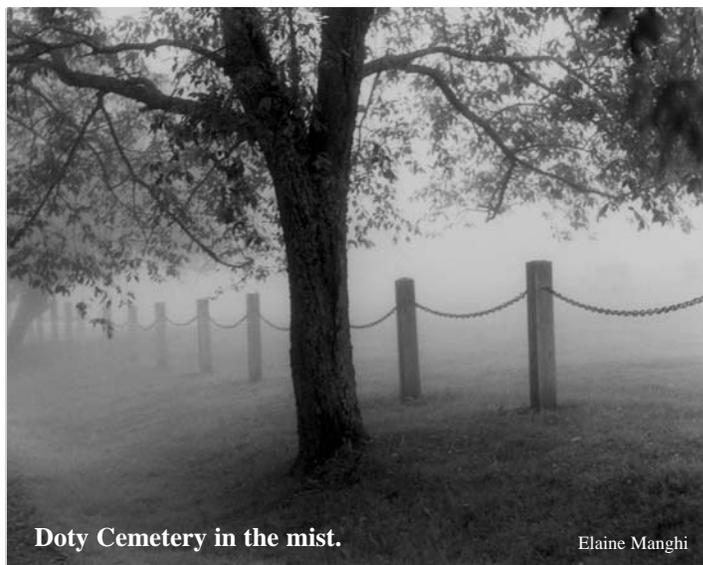
Phone: 229-9593

Crossroads Christian Church

Rev. Bob Walton, Pastor

Worship and Sunday School - 9:30 am

Phone: 476-4843 & 229-9389



Doty Cemetery in the mist.

Elaine Manghi


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HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

EAST MONTPELIER TRAILS



This summer the Trails group will be constructing new trails in two areas of the Town. One project is the East Montpelier section of the Cross Vermont Trail, a mile and a half section about half way between Montpelier and East Montpelier village. This section parallels the Winooski River and RT2 and is a multi-phase effort that will take a few years. We will continue the trail clearing work we began last summer on sections of the trail on or near the bed of the old RT2, which was located lower and closer to the river. Also, with the help of a summer work crew from the Green Mountain Club, we will be moving some large rocks and creating benches for the trail on some difficult sections of riprap between the highway and the river.

This trail has its share of engineering challenges, not least of which is a bridge over the Winooski. Fortunately, the old railway abutments just upstream of the power dam pond can probably be used for the bridge. But that's another summer.....

Our other new project will be a two-mile section along Mallory Brook, on the recently conserved Pratt lands. We were just awarded a Vermont Recreation Trails Program grant (federal money administered by Vermont Department of Forests and Parks) to construct this section, so we can start this summer. We are still trying to work out trail alignments at the trailheads, and we probably will not have a completed trail until next summer.

For those of you more familiar with road names than stream names, this trail will run from Dodge Road just east of East Montpelier Center to Cherry Tree Hill Road. The Mallory Brook Trail will provide public access while protecting sensitive wetlands and other areas of high ecological value within the brook valley.

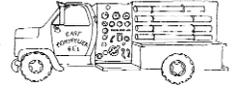
Both of these new trail sections are steps toward our ultimate goal of an eighteen-mile loop around the perimeter of East Montpelier. We are happy to announce that Aaron Codling, a trails aficionado new to our group, has volunteered to serve as Trail Master and coordinate the new construction.

The Mallory Brook trail grant requires in-kind match of volunteer hours. Volunteers will be needed later in the summer. We'll be calling people who have already expressed interest, but you may also call Aaron at 229-9984. See you on the trails!

Jamie Shanley

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

The fire department recently held its annual business meeting during which John Audy was re-elected fire chief and Diana Chace agreed to serve another year as president. Deputy chief Mike Garand was elected to the board of directors where his years of experience will be put to good use. Elliot Morse was honored for his years of work with both the fire department and the community. Long time firefighter, EMT, and chaplain, Robin Copping received a standing ovation as she received this year's Firefighter of the Year Award. Robin's dedication to our community and the fire department goes way beyond the call of duty. We are proud to have her on our squad!



Membership in the Fire Department remains steady, but there is a growing need for more EMTs. If you're interested in becoming an EMT, contact Jay Copping at 456-1169 or write to him at PO Box 243 in East Montpelier.

Rhoda Chickering

FOUR CORNERS SCHOOLHOUSE

Stanley Christiansen has stepped down from his long time stint on the Four Corners Schoolhouse board. Beth Parker, our pre-school teacher, has been elected to replace him.

Memory Hour has become an important part of the Rally Days offerings. The topic for this year will be fire and lightning. Anyone interested in speaking on this topic is encouraged to contact Elaine Manghi or any member of the Schoolhouse Association.

The Four Corners Association will meet on the second Wednesday of the month this summer so if you're interested in attending those meetings, and all are welcome, mark your calendars for July 13 and August 10.

Rose Riley, Secretary

The Strong Living Program—an exercise program for seniors—that meets on Monday and Thursday afternoons at the schoolhouse—could use some ankle weights and/or dumbbells; in the one to five pound weight category.

If you have some that you would be willing to donate, call Paulie Coburn at 223-6886.

She can also provide you with the information you would need should you like to join this group.

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GREEN UP REPORT



Val Cueto Sue Rigen Priscella Wilson



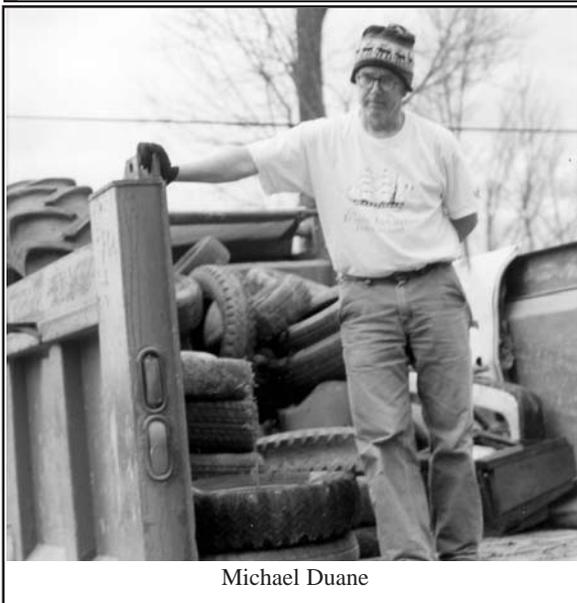
Ralph Flanders Bill Merrylees



Lucy Patti Molly Powers



Bill Merrylees Terry Keeney



Michael Duane

The rain held off on Green Up Day, and the volunteers just kept coming with green bags full of litter picked up from out roadsides. By the end of the day we had totally filled both town trucks with trash and recyclables. It is interesting to note that the most widespread category of trash recovered was beverage containers and coffee cups. Please tell EVERYONE you know to use their cup holders until they get home!

A thank you goes out to the Jean Cate Community Fund, who put on and paid for the wonderful lunch served to volunteers. A special thanks to the students of Mrs. Pomerantz, Mrs Pastori, Mrs Shedd and Mr. Quackenbush, who jump-started Green Up in the school neighborhood a day early! Thank you as well to the EMES PTNO, and to the 140+ community members who helped out!

Look around as you're driving and you will see the beautiful results of everyone's efforts. You may be inspired to stop and pick up a coffee cup that has recently appeared!

Let's talk more about that lunch! Green Up Day this year included a light lunch and lots of socializing. Twelve sandwich makers and servers set up, hosted, and cleaned up the EMES cafeteria event, organized and sponsored by the Jean Cate Community Fund and the Green Up Chair, Bill Merrylees. Dozens and dozens of cookies were baked by area residents. The large turnout for lunch and the festive atmosphere, and the enthusiasm of the volunteers ensure that this will be offered again next May. A special thank you to all the volunteers!



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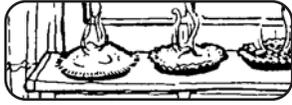
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RECIPES FROM THE COMMUNITY COOK BOOK

“Taste-Tested” with hints and up-date as needed

by *Paulie Coburn*

Baked Chocolate Pudding

Julia Clark

½ cup sugar	1½ teaspoons baking powder
2 tbsp. of thick cream or other shortening	2 tbsp. cocoa or chocolate
½ cup sweet milk	1 cup flour

Serve with whipped cream

Paulie's Comments

This is a very simple “chocolate lovers delight” that can be put into prepared ramekins, filled about half-full. Cover with plastic wrap and keep in the refrigerator until ready to bake. Preheat oven to 375° and bake for about 15 minutes or until the edges are set. Serve with whipped cream or ice cream.

Julia Hollister Clark was the wife of Theo Clark and they lived in the house where the Riverbend Store is now located. She was the mother of T. Raymond Clark (long-time selectman) and the grandmother of Raylene Blanc and T. Wayne Clark. She also was sister to Belle Hollister Coburn, grandmother of David Coburn.

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

EAST MONTPELIER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The East Montpelier Historical Society met in April at the Cate Farm, an organic plant and food producing farm operated by Richard Wiswall and Sally Colman. We learned that the farm was first settled by Enoch and Susannah Cate and that Enoch probably built the farm's brick home after the family's arrival in 1793 from New Hampshire. Richard and Sally showed us piles of bricks remaining from long ago projects. Later, they took our group on a tour of their greenhouses and the lab where used cooking oil is processed into fuel that in turn heats the greenhouses. It is remarkable that agriculture sustains the Cate farm now as in the past, albeit by different methods. Many thanks to Richard and Sally for hosting the group.

In May, Stanley and George Morse of Calais shared memories of the care of East Montpelier's winter roads. Beginning about 1947, Stanley worked for the town when Arthur Nelson was Road Commissioner and Charles Ormsbee, George Sibley, and George McKnight were Selectmen. During the winter, Stanley operated, at 65 cents an hour, a diesel crawler tractor with wings - an International TD 14 - that, at the speed of four to six mph, could plow snow up to 16 feet high on both sides of the road. Stanley remembered that North Street tended to drift terribly and that there was a section of Murray Road called the “hell hole.” I'll leave that to your imagination. He recalled getting thoroughly stuck for days on Sanders Circle and on a trail road in the Gould Hill area. While there were no school buses and few cars, it was vital that the milk truck get to farms to pick up milk, so Stanley and the “wingman” plowed day and night when necessary. Fifty-seven hours was the longest stretch he could remember. George added that he put up snow fences and helped load the town truck with sand by hand at the Sandy Pines area of town in order to sand the hills.

We're grateful for the sharing of these memories and even more grateful that summer is finally here.

Anne Ormsbee, VP/Treas.



COBURN COVERED BRIDGE

The bridge was built in 1851 by Larned Coburn and given as a gift to the town. The only covered bridge left in East Montpelier, it crosses the main stem of the Winooski River, just downstream from the confluence with the Kingsbury Branch. It is about 50 feet long and of Queenpost design. When built, it was almost entirely of wood.

During the 155 years that have passed, the bridge has survived the ravages of time, innumerable floods, and several encounters with large vehicles.

Not much of the original bridge survives, however. A concrete floor on steel beams replaced the wooden deck and supporting timbers in 1974. Extensive reconstruction to the framing was done in 1997. The roof and many outer boards are new.

Covered bridges are covered to protect the deck and foundation; not, as has sometimes been suggested, to resemble barns so as to encourage the horse to cross. It did, however, encourage “stealing a kiss” while enveloped in the bridge's dim interior.

It is obvious that the bridge sits high over the water; so much so that the road enters and leaves at a very steep angle. This lofty perch is what has enabled it to survive the many floods, including the one in 1927 that removed the vast majority of the other bridges in Vermont.

David Coburn

AUTHORS — RESEARCHERS

The Historical Society is considering a supplement to *Across the Onion*, the town history that was published in 1983. A lot has happened in the past twenty years so an update is in order.

There are no specifics yet on the scope or timing of any update. However, if you would you like to work on such a project, call Paulie Coburn at 223-6886. Or come to the July meeting and talk with her there.

The July meeting of the Historical Society will be on the 18th at the Kellogg-Hubbard Library starting at 7:30 p.m. The program is the *History of the Coburn Covered Bridge*. There will be an on-site visit to the bridge on Coburn Road beginning at 6:00 p.m. For those new to town, Coburn Road runs from US-2 east of East Montpelier Village to VT-14 west of North Montpelier Village.

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)	2nd Tuesday	6:30	Elementary School
Recreation Board	3rd Monday	6:30	Town Office
Volunteer Fire Department	Every Tuesday	7:00	Fire Station, Templeton Rd.
Four Corners Schoolhouse Assoc.	2nd Wednesday	7:00	Four Corners Schoolhouse

NOTICES

Work Up for Rally Day

For information or to offer your help, contact:

Kids' Activities: Erica Zimmerman 223-6930

Family Sports: Bill Merrylees 223-4951

Variety Show: Colin McCaffrey 454-1007

Food: Cliff & Shirley King 223-2079

Auction: Sally Longhi 223-5859 or Julia Haynes 223-1651

Parade: Hobie Guion 223-1808

Cozy Corner: Darlene Grundy 476-4300

Setup and Cleanup: Matthew Curtis 223-7403

Bus Tour Tickets: Deborah Fillion 229-1320

*Next Rally Day planning meeting: July 20th,
7:00 p.m., at the Town Clerk's Office.*

EVENTS CALENDAR

July 4	Independence Day		
July 18	East Montpelier Historical Society - Meet at Coburn Bridge at 6:00 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	Kellogg-Hubbard Library
August 15	East Montpelier Historical Society	7:00 p.m.	Four Corners Schoolhouse
September 10	Rally Day	All day	All over town

The Old Meeting House

Summer services at the Old Meeting House will be at 9:30 a.m. and will be led by Rev. David Connor except on the Sundays when there will be a guest preacher. Guest preachers will be Rev. Suzan Nixon of Braintree on July 3, Theresa Lever of Montpelier on July 10 and August 21, Francis Brooks of Montpelier on July 31, and Revs. Pat and Ray Harwick of Charlotte on August 14. Child care is provided during the church services. Sunday School will resume September 11.

Orchard Valley School Events

Wednesday Summer Picnic Potluck Series: Everything from campfires to beekeeping. 5-8 p.m.

EarthWalk Summer Camps: July 25-29, August 1-5, and 8-12th.

EarthWalk Community Gatherings: Third Saturday of the month, 2-5 p.m. followed by a potluck. Call 223-3148 for details.

Farming and the Divine: Ongoing discussion series.

Deadline for next issue: August 1, 2004 — to Barbara Ploof — 223-6934 {theploofs@hotmail.com}

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