

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST



Volume XXII—Number Six

July-August 2012



ANGELA PURCELL

The Chapell Family and Templeton Farm

by Colin Blackwell

If you find yourself coming to a complete stop at the four corners of Lyle Young and Center Roads in East Montpelier you'll see a sign that reads "Templeton Farm – Family Owned Since 1810." John Templeton Jr. settled there some 20 years after his father participated in the organization of the town.

By 1870, under the stewardship of Hiram Templeton, the farm had evolved from a subsistence settlement into agricultural production and operated with two oxen, one horse, sixteen cows, two cattle, twenty-two sheep, and two swine. That year, the farm produced 3,500 lbs. of butter, and 1,200 lbs. of sugar, 75 bushels

Continued on page 4

The Inexhaustibles: Bill Merrylees and Lucy Patti



TERRY J. ALLEN

by Edward Day

If you've ever wondered what makes East Montpelier such a special place, meet Bill Merrylees and Dr. Lucy Patti.

Bill and Lucy have lived in East Montpelier for 16 years. They met in Craftsbury in 1987 at the Craftsbury Outdoor Center where Bill started a bicycling program and led bike tours. Lucy was teaching paddling and leading walking tours.

Bill was from Pennsylvania and had an early interest in bicycling. After college, he biked across country to California. There he guided bicycle tours through California and into the Rockies. "But after a few years there I missed the green landscape of the east coast," he says. He took a job with a bike touring outfit in Waterbury Center in 1983. Winters he worked in skiing. One year he was a naturalist in Vermont State Parks, and he has also been a science teacher.

From Long Island, Lucy attended Dartmouth, where she rowed on the college's championship "eights." After graduation,

Continued on page 10

IN THIS ISSUE

2—Rally Day

4—EMES Update

6—Town Weathervane

10—Tell us the history of your road's name

Signpost Volunteers

Ted Allen: Mailing

229-5819 tedallen05602@comcast.net

Terry J. Allen: Layout & Photography

229-0303 tallen@igc.org

Jennifer Boyer: Webmaster

223-8926 vtpots@gmail.com

Rhoda Carroll: Copy Editor

229-0037 rhoda@rhodacarroll.com

Charlie Catlin: Records Editor

229-4273 shcharlie@hotmail.com

Rhoda Chickering: Town Records

229-5005 rhoderchick@myfairpoint.net

Rob Chickering: Business Manager

272-7328 rchickering2009@gmail.com

Robin Gannon: EMES Reporter

rgannon@u32.org

Lori Martin Buley: Design/Administrative

229-0950 lorianne.m@comcast.net

Carol McKenna: Proofreader

229-6001 cmckenna1000@yahoo.com

Eddie Miller: Organizations/Coordination

229-0677 signposteam@comcast.net

Carolyn Pastore: Copy Editor

223-7463 cwpas44@yahoo.com

Barbara Ploof: Copy/Administrative

223-6934 signpostbcp@hotmail.com

Michelle Singer: Copy Editor

223-6186 jmsinger98@hotmail.com

Wendy Soliday: Features Editor

229-9594 wsoliday@aol.com

Printed by L. Brown and Sons Printing

476-3164

EAST MONTPELIER Signpost

Published six times a year.
Mailed free of charge
to all residents of
East Montpelier.

PO Box 184
East Montpelier, VT 05651

Top of the Signpost

by Joyce Bean

On May 14 I attended the informational meeting to be better informed about the EMES bond proposal. This led me to recall that my husband, Harold Bean, was part of the planning group for the original EMES building. His name is on the plaque with the others in the school entrance.

When the building was finished, I was commissioned to make drapes for all ten rooms. Seems there must have been miles of stitching, but eventually they were finished.

In the late '60s and early '70s, I spent five years as a member of the school board and later, three years on the planning commission. Our daughter started her education at the new school in 1968.

So you see, I have an ongoing interest in the town and especially in the school. I believe East Montpelier to be a fine example of a small New England town where we are all neighbors who really care about each other.

— Joyce Bean lives on Barnes Road in a house built by her husband in 1950.



TERRY J. ALLEN

Rally Day Planning

Rally Day is approaching on September 8, and there will be many fun events of interest to all. Planning for this year's Rally Day is underway, and details will be announced in the next issue of the *Signpost*. Meanwhile, we would love VOLUNTEERS to assist with planning for specific events and to help on Rally Day itself. (Note: It will not involve lots of meetings but only small tasks!)

Help may be needed, for example, with planning a dessert competition, and organizing parade participants, a 50/50 raffle, kids games, a kick ball tournament, and with the farmer's market.

The Rally Day Committee gives profuse thanks to Bill Merrylees (and his family) who after seven years of organizing Rally Day has decided to pass the torch. The new Rally Day Committee is:

- Becky Brown: 229-9010 emrallyday@hotmail.com
- Lisa Helme: lisahelme@comcast.net
- Jean Vissering: jeanviss@attglobal.net

Nominate:



Each year at Rally Day we recognize an East Montpelier citizen who has contributed to the community. This year we would like to hear your thoughts. Please tell us who you think deserves this award and why. This will not be a popularity contest but will be judged on the merits of the individual. (We have so many worthy citizens but there are many Rally Days to come!)

Send nominations along with the person's contributions to: emrallyday@hotmail.com or contact Becky Brown at 229-9010.

Writers in Our Midst

by Carolyn Pastore

We have many talented artists in East Montpelier. In the *Signpost*, we like to introduce authors of recent books to our neighbors. If you have published a book within the last year or know of someone who has, please contact us. In this issue we feature author Linda Urban who lives on Bliss Road.

Linda Urban and I first met at East Montpelier Elementary School where I knew her as Claire and Jack's mom. Linda came to EMES several times as a writer, sharing her craft with the children and encouraging them to write their stories. Listening to Linda read from *Mouse Was Mad*, her second published book, I could hear her passion for writing.

I recently had the opportunity to sit down with Linda and chat about her writing and her latest young adult novel, *Hound Dog True*. Although Linda did some writing when younger, she did not expect to become a writer. After Claire was born Linda began reading picture books to her. It was then that Linda felt she had something to say and began writing, at first in secret. Linda says it "takes courage to put ideas on paper and determination to revise a piece until it works." She often takes a nugget of her own experiences and uses it to build a character and tell his/her story. Mattie, the main character in *Hound Dog True*, faces challenges and learns to take "small brave steps." Below is an excerpt from this novel.

Introduce yourself.

"I'm Mattie Breen," Mattie had said.

Louder.

"I'm Mattie Breen." Came out quieter, though.

Tell us something about yourself.

And just like every other transfer day, Mattie got tangled in her own head, trying to figure out what would be good to say. What she could say that would be smart or funny or interesting enough to make people forget they already had friends and places to sit at lunch and people to be with at recess.

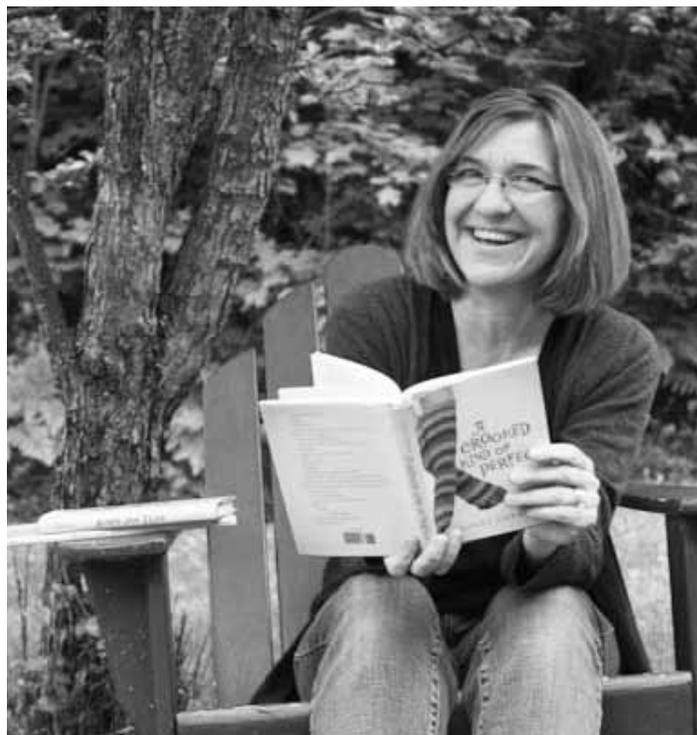
Mattie'd had her notebook with her—the first one, the yellow one—and she'd held it to her chest like armor. Tucked her chin behind it. Felt her breath bouncing hot back.

Shoes shuffled under chairs.

Shy, someone whispered.

Stuck up got whispered back.

Just the day before, Mattie had seen a TV show about Buddhist monks, how they could breathe so deep and slow



TERRY J. ALLEN

Linda reads from her first published book
A Crooked Kind of Perfect.

they seemed to stop time, to stop their own hearts from beating. Mattie tried that then. Breathed slow and deep, trying to stop her face from redding up. It did not work.

Probably because I'm not a Buddhist, she thought. And that's what she said.

"I'm not a Buddhist."

That was enough for Mrs. D'Angelo to tell her she could sit down.

Mattie did sit down.

After Linda left I continued to reflect on her words, "I write about small things that matter in big ways." Linda is working on her next book, *The Center of Everything*, which is about small town life and doughnuts.

—Carolyn Pastore, now retired from teaching at EMES, lives on Powder Horn Glen Road. She taught first through fourth grades for 34 years.

Good Neighbor

Good Neighbor stories are always welcome. Here's one from Erica Zimmerman

A bevy of community members offered help when I had surgery this winter. The cooking was great, the chore help and kid carpools essential. But of special note were two unexpected contributions from brand new friends. Karen Kane saw my post on Facebook and came every week to walk our puppy Pippa with her dog Duchess. Jan Burrus gave my 4-H group a fantastic lesson on braiding rugs from baling twine. (She is a master of re-use—you should see what she wove from t-shirts.) Thank you all!

Thank you *Signpost* supporters

Contributions are always welcome. Please mail them to:
PO Box 184, East Montpelier, VT 05651

Cynthia Tomaszewicz

EMES Facilities Update

by Flor Diaz Smith, Facilities Committee Chair

As I write for this issue of the *Signpost*, the first meeting of the EMES Facilities Committee to determine the next steps for the elementary school remodeling after the bond vote has yet to occur (June 4).

I was, of course, very disappointed in the vote results as I know many of you were too. But I have been told more than once that a bond vote rarely passes on the first try. We now have the community engaged in the process, and I am confident we will find a positive outcome going forward.

The Facilities Committee feels strongly that we presented to the School Board and to the community a well-thought-out proposal. The Board approved the proposal unanimously and brought it to the voters of East

Montpelier. This was a very big first step all by itself after all the years of Committee work.

Now that we know the town's initial response to our proposal, we will again try our best to listen to the input of everybody who either still needs more information or would like to see changes made. We will mail a survey and also post it online. Please take a moment to provide your input.

Having said all of this about next steps, I must add that we have been overwhelmed by the kind notes of so many people. We can't thank you enough for your words of encouragement and thoughts. We are thrilled to have so many new volunteers to help us through this process. We are energized by all this positive energy and thankful to live in a community that is so supportive of public education.

The Facilities Committee is open to all and meets the first and third Mondays of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Elementary School.

Templeton Farm, continued from page 1

of corn, 230 bushels of oats, 60 tons of hay, and 200 bushels of potatoes (U.S. Census of Agriculture).

Today, you cannot expect to see an ox treading away at the butter churn or freshly sheared sheep in the barnyard, but beneath the massive, 200-year-old maple tree canopies, agriculture is still taking place. Bruce and Janet Chapell are keeping a family heritage alive and well. On the 150-acre farm, they are producing maple syrup and pastured beef.

Bruce Chapell is the grandson of Hiram Templeton's daughter, Alice. In his youth, Bruce made frequent visits to the farm, helping Alice with summer chores, absorbing her love for agriculture and consequently enriching his relationship with the land.

In the summer of 1985, Bruce's long-distance relationship with the farm intensified. While living in Albany, Vermont, and raising sons Ryan and Seth, Bruce and Janet started building a sugaring operation at the farm. They dragged logs from the woods to be sawn for the sugarhouse and purchased used sugaring equipment. The seventh generation of land stewardship on Templeton Farm was underway. Three years later the family moved to the farm and built their home across the road from the sugar house.

Janet, a school teacher, and Bruce, at the Natural Resources Conservation Service, worked away from home full time. Their vision was to cultivate a part-time agricultural business that would also reconstitute a tradition for the family and generations to come. This vision was supported when they engaged with the Vermont Land Trust to preserve the land for farm use. Fairmont Farm has also played a crucial part in maintaining agricultural use by leasing crop lands from the Chapells.

Ryan and Seth took an interest in agriculture at a young age. They had farm jobs working for neighbor dairy farmer Jeff Sibley.

In their early teens they had their own business raising replacement heifers under the old white barn. In high school they worked for Fairmont Farm learning the operations of dairy production on a larger scale. During his studies at Vermont Technical College and the University of Vermont, Seth developed a research project that led him to take a closer look at what it would take to make Templeton Farm more viable. The conclusion was to join Bruce and Janet to create a partnership in the maple business and begin a beef business.

The plan involved growing the sugaring operation to a size that could generate income to pay for advances in technology and upgrades. To do this the Chapells installed a vacuum tubing system on a leased sugarbush at the Riley family land on Foster Road. This would add well over 1,000 taps in addition to the 990 taps already in use. In a good year and with the help from many friends, they can make over 600 gallons of syrup.

The Templeton beef business germinated in the spring of 2010 when they purchased eight Angus steers to be pastured for the growing season. This summer around 35 cattle of various shapes, sizes and colors can be found roaming the meadows along Center Road. Beef is sold through on-farm sales and wholesale accounts. These include sales to restaurants, the Central Vermont Food Hub, and Rumney School. The Vermont Food Venture Center in Hardwick provides affordable freezer storage space, which makes Templeton Beef available in the neighborhood year round.

Bruce and Janet are retired from their off-farm jobs. Ryan lives in Peacham and works for UPS, and Seth is a dairy nutritionist for Bourdeau Bros. Feeds. He lives in Burlington. The Chapells have an online presentation of their farm at www.templetonfarm.com.

— Colin Blackwell lives in East Montpelier. He does design/build carpentry, and has an interest in local agriculture.



A Beautiful Day for Trash!



Girl Scout Troop 30890 (above) did some greening up this year on the old logging road off Dodge Road. Front row: Olivia Thiemann, Holly McEathron, Jenna Mekkelsen, Mollie Brown, Zoe Petrella, Camille Cheney, Wyatt Brown. Back row: Barbara Clark, Jamie O'Hare, Sheila Glaess, Michael Thiemann. Helpers not pictured: Becky Brown, Shannon Cheney, Lynn Choquette.

East Montpelier's Green Up Day on Saturday, May 5, 2012, was a great success! Town residents enjoyed the lovely weather as they cleaned trash from 71 miles of roadway plus from the grounds of our elementary school.

Volunteers collected 2,580 pounds of garbage and 117 illegally dumped tires!

At the trash collection point, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, neighborhood teams, multi-generational families, and volunteers young and old enthusiastically participated in the annual town-wide spring cleaning.

The Cate Community Fund fueled our work with a free delicious lunch and a gathering of good company at the elementary school. Local farmers and food artisans, also at the school, displayed their nutritious products and added to the delightful hubbub of the day.

Generous businesses supported East Montpelier's Green Up: Casella Waste Management, Shaw's, Price Chopper, Manghi's Bakery, Dudley's Store, and the Riverbend Store. East Montpelier Elementary School also provided key assistance.

Word has it that one of the scout troops found a road sign buried in some roadside bushes. The sign said, "\$500 fine for littering." Another volunteer reported finding a tightly sealed, never-opened pair of Patagonia long underwear that fit his son. If you have any interesting Green Up finds, please tell us! And, in preparation for Green Up Day 2013, be sure to let us know of any trash trouble spots.

A warm thank you to all for taking the time on a Saturday to help spiff up our beautiful town. We cherish our strong civic spirit as well as our sense of community.

—Your Green Up Coordinators, Paul Erlbaum & Chris Racanelli



TERRY ALLEN

Town Offices

PO Box 157, East Montpelier, VT 05651
Phone: 802-223-3313
Office Hours: Mon–Thurs 9 AM–5 PM
Friday 9 AM–12 PM

Town Clerk: Terri Conti
eastmonttct@comcast.net

Town Treasurer: Don Welch
eastmonttr@comcast.net

Town Administrator: Bruce Johnson
eastmontadmin@comcast.net

Zoning Administrator: Dina Bookmyer-Baker
eastmontza@comcast.net

Collector of Delinquent Taxes: Karen Gramer
karengramer@comcast.net

Fire Permits: EMFD 225-6247

First Constable/Animal Control Officer:
Sandy Conti 479-3169

2nd Constable: Paul Haynes 223-1651

Listers: Rob Chickering, Putnam Clayton, Ross Hazel
223-3313 x206, eastmontlstr@comcast.net

Health Officer: Dave Grundy 476-4300

Service Officer: Rachael Grossman
223-3177

Selectboard

Bruce Johnson, Chair
savage1@pshift.com

Carl Etnier Steve Sparrow
Seth Gardner Casey Northrup

Planning Commission

Rick Hopkins, Chair, 229-4375

Development Review Board

Richard Curtis, Chair
rcurtis841@comcast.net

U-32 Jr./Sr. High School

Ginny Burley gburley@u32.org
Emily Goyette egoyette@u32.org

Elementary School

Rubin Bennett, Chair
rbennett@thatitguy.com

Andrea Colnes Priscilla Gilbert
Stephen Looke Flor Diaz-Smith

State Representative

Tony Klein, 793-6032
twk@tonyklein.com

Town Weathervane

MILESTONES

Births

- Katelyn Lee Sibley, daughter, born Mar. 21, 2012, to Jodi & Scott Sibley
- Austin Joseph Lamere, son, born Mar. 27, 2012, to Anne & Jared Lamere
- Camryn Allen Partlow, son, born Apr. 1, 2012, to Chelsie Anderson & Thomas Partlow
- Rebecca Lily Greenberg, born Apr. 16, 2012, to Carolyn Lorenz-Greenberg

Deaths

- Grace Hoffman Cook, died Apr. 7, 2012; at 104 was our oldest town resident, mother of Joyce McClintock
- Barbara Helene Fitch, died April 17, 2012, mother of Kathy Doner & Bruce Fitch

Property Transfers

- Peter Wells to Allen and Debora Freund, mobile home, Sandy Pines Tr. Pk.
- Hugh Hawkins & Dennis Hawkins to William McCreedy & Amy Moore, .5 acres, Towne Hill Rd.
- Donald & Judith Chase to Anthony & Jeannette Harris, mobile home, Sandy Pines, Tr. Pk.
- Cathy Smilovitz Jackson to Rhonda Prenskey & Jason Neimark, 77.8 acres & single family dwelling on Horn of the Moon Rd.
- Irene Stotts & Rebecca Reed to Christopher & Rebecca Reed, 1.08 acres & dwelling, Center Rd
- Norma Raymond to Gregory Raymond, 3 acres & dwelling, Towne Hill Rd.
- Burton Spooner to Fecteau Homes, mobile home, Towne Hill Rd.
- Win Turner to Geoff Beyer, 7.17 acres & dwelling, Dillion Rd.
- Paula Perry to Patrick & Katie John, 2.10 acres & dwelling, Cherry Tree Hill Rd.
- Earl & Carmen Doe to Christopher & Iphagainia Tanguay, .84 acres & dwelling, VT145

Complete minutes of town committee meetings can be obtained by calling the committee chairs.

SELECTBOARD

March 19, 2012

Motions Passed:

- to form a Farm Contract Committee with: Peter Hill, Tracy Loysen, Ed Deegan, Andy Christiansen, Austin Cleaves, Tom Brazier, Rick Barstow, Seth Gardner, Rob Chickering, and a PC member. They will meet after 9/1/12
- to allow Treasurer to roll over CD for another 6 months
- to authorize the Chair to sign the Amendment to the FEMA DR-4022 Grant Agreement which allows more flexibility

- to appoint the following: Carol Welch and Don Welch to State Police Community Advisory Board, Ben Winters to the Recreation Board, Frank Pratt to Central VT Regional Planning Commission Transportation Advisory Committee, Charles Johnson to Conservation Fund Advisory Committee, Ginny Callan to Central VT Solid Waste Management District, Bill George as Emergency Management Coordinator
- to approve excess weight permits for Lajeunesse Construction, Mike Brown, Tomco Excavating, Inc, Newport Sand and Gravel, Feed Commodities International, Camp Precast Concrete Products, Winterset, Inc, and Black Rock Coal, Inc.
- to authorize the Chair to sign the Vermont State Police Contract

April 2, 2012

Motions Passed:

- to approve People's Bank resolution as depository for the town allowing the Chair to sign
- to authorize the Chair to sign the Green Up Day grant application
- to authorize the Chair to sign the structures and paving grant applications
- to make the following appointments: Rich Curtis, Mark Lane and Ken Santor to the Development Review Board, Tim Carver as the lead representative and Erik Esselstyn as alternate to the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, Paul Cate as Town Tree Warden
- to approve excess weight permit for Hutch Crane and Pump Rental, Kelly-View Farm Inc, Rice Lumber Company, Barrett Trucking Co Inc, Cardinal Logistics Management Corp, HA Manosh Corp, The A Johnson Co LLC, Ivan Maxwell, Donald Giroux Trucking, Farris Tree Service, and Harrison Redi-Mix Corp

April 16, 2012

Motions Passed:

- to authorize the expenditure of up to \$101,556.19 from the truck line of the Capital Reserve Fund for the EMFD for a new chassis and re-mount of R4
- to adopt the resolution for People's United Bank Business Card Resolution Form for the Town of East Montpelier with the Town Administrator authorized to execute the application with Bruce Johnson and Denise Brown as cardholders
- to accept the Pike Contract for the three town projects: Muddy Brook Road, Towne Hill Road and County Road

Town Weathervane

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

March 20, 2012

Motions Passed:

- to adopt the financing agreement for the new Mack truck with Bruce Johnson as the authorized individual
- to authorize the Chair to sign the Efficiency Vermont Agreement
- to authorize the Chair to sign the ESRI Annual Maintenance Agreement
- to appoint Kim Watson to the Farm Contract Study Committee and Becky Brown, Lisa Helme and Jean Vissering to the Rally Day Committee
- to approve Excess Weight Permits for Newton Construction and Gregory A Bartlett
- to approve liquor & tobacco licenses for Riverbend Store

April 23, 2012

Motions Passed:

- to accept the four proposals, at a total cost of \$7,465, from Tim Frazier, d.b.a. Creative Visions Landscaping LLC, for 2012 town lawn mowing services
- to authorize the Chair to execute a contract with rbTechnologies for IT services for the town

May 7, 2012

Motions Passed:

- to authorize Town Administrator to accept the proposed bid from DuPont Construction for weatherization of the Town Office
- to accept Mike Bald's proposal for mechanical extraction of hogweed and try to pay part of the cost of \$1,750 using cemetery funds
- to accept Doug Grout's proposal for \$4,800 with the authorization to spend up to \$6,300 for 2nd pass mowing
- to accept Mike Brown's bid for \$11.75/cu yd. for 2012/2013
- to authorize the Chair to sign both NEMRC contracts
- to adopt the NIMS Adoption Document for the town
- to appoint Lyn Blackwell, Lindy Johnson, Rhoda Chickering, Allen Ploof and Susan Catlin to the Funding Request Study Committee
- to approve excess weight permits for Gillespie Fuels & Propane, Miller Construction, Vermont Heavy Construction, John A. Picard, Haskins & Associates Concrete, Don Crate & Sons and EE Packard Enterprises

PLANNING COMMISSION

May 3, 2012

Motions Passed:

- to elect Rick Hopkins as Chair; Jean Vissering, Vice Chair; Kim Watson, Corresponding Secretary

April 17, 2012

Motions Passed:

- to plan site visit at 200 Fitch Road in order to consider application #12-015, a proposal by Denis & Ruth Farnham, on May 15 at 6:30 p.m. and recess the hearing to the meeting immediately following
- to approve the subdivision as presented in a proposal by Marc Fontaine, with the condition that the applicant 1) receive an amended access permit from the state, 2) provide evidence of a road maintenance agreement, 3) have mylar include all information as required by the standards, and 4) encourage that development of lots are sympathetic to the fact that lot is in deer yard
- to approve conditional use proposed in application # 12-014 by Steve & Janet Noyes as agreed to by the parties for property on VT14S.

May 15, 2012

Motions Passed:

- to grant variance application #12-015 for a proposal by Denis & Ruth Farnham because the house was built before zoning and location is the only logical place to build the garage.
- to approve the subdivision as presented in application #12-001 by T. Wayne Clark.
- to recess the hearing on application #12-022 by Roger and Barbara Clark to create a PDR for the 76+/- acre parcel on Dodge Rd.
- To approve the waiver request on remaining Lot 2 of application #12-028, a proposal by John & Ellen Rozsa Riley and Peter Shumlin.

U-32

March 21, 2012

Motions Passed:

- to approve reductions in force of Brian Albee, Beth Allen, Tracy Gandin & Gillian Thomas as recommended by principal
- to accept with regret year-end retirement of Michael Law

- to appoint Trudy Smith as para-educator
- to enter executive session to discuss negotiations – no actions taken

April 4, 2012

Motions Passed:

- to approve net metering term sheet with Kingsbury Branch Hydroelectric Co.
- to approve athletic coaches & volunteers as presented
- to accept with regret and thanks the year-end retirement of Thomas Cate

April 18, 2012

Motions Passed:

- to authorize Keith Gerritt and Ginny Burley to award yearbook and instructional supply bids to approve the gym floor refinishing bid in the amount of \$24,400 to Danaher Floor Restoration, Inc.
- to approve the 0.2 FTE RIF recall for Health Teacher Tracy Gandin
- to approve athletic coaches and volunteers as presented
- to accept with great regret and appreciation the resignation of John Pandolfo
- to accept with regret and appreciation the resignation of Charles Phillips
- to accept with regret and appreciation the resignation of Jane Tolassi
- to approve the appointment of Jody Dwire as a permanent, part-time administrative assistant in the health office
- to approve the motion to authorize Keith Gerritt to offer Kevin Downey a 2-year contract for the job of Assistant Principal.

May 2, 2012

Motions Passed:

- to adopt the Interrogation of Searches of Students by Law Enforcement or Other Non-School Personnel Policy

EMES SCHOOL BOARD

March 19, 2012

Motions Passed:

- to elect Rubin Bennett the board Chair who will also serve as the WCSU Executive Committee Representative
- to elect Stephen Looke as board Vice-Chair
- to elect Andi Colnes as the clerk
- to keep the time and day of the meetings as the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m.
- to keep the newspaper and locations for official postings as they are
- to elect Stephen Looke as the representative and the first voting member to the WCSU

Continued on next page

Weathervane, continued from page 7

Executive Committee and Flor Diaz Smith the alternate representative and the 2nd voting member to the WCSU Executive Committee, and Priscilla Gilbert the third voting member

- to elect Stephen Looke WCSU Policy Committee representative, and Flor Diaz the alternate
- to elect Rubin Bennett, with Stephen Looke as alternate, to the WCSU Transportation Committee
- to appoint Principal Marion Anastasia as truant officer
- to approve hiring of Betsy Barstow for position of interim Spanish teacher
- to approve reducing in force 3.74 FTE paraeducators
- to take unrestricted, non-scholarship overage of \$2,502.42 to the PTNO to be used at their discretion, leaving remaining scholarship funds intact

- to appropriate such funds, not to exceed \$8,000, for choosing a floor scrubbing device that will be as flexible as possible around floor surfaces

March 28, 2012

- Approved a contract extension with Michael Levine not to exceed \$4,000

April 16, 2012

Motions Passed:

- to table the discussion of excess funds from the 5/6/2012 spring field trip
- to amend the Bond Vote Warning, to replace "EMES on Vincent Flats Road" with the "East Montpelier Town Clerk's Office on Kelton Road"
- to approve the Warning, as amended, the Resolution Certificate, and the Ballot, as well as the bond amount of \$10,300,000.



Jump for joy. It's summer.

Selectboard Update

You may recall that at 2011 Town Meeting we voted to designate East Montpelier as a Clean Energy Assessment District with the expectation that the town would create a PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) program to allow property owners to finance energy efficiency upgrades or renewal energy projects with payback linked to the property tax payment methodology. Program development stalled while various issues were worked out at the state level, but if all proceeds as expected, by the time you read this East Montpelier and 20 or more other Vermont communities will have created PACE programs administered by Efficiency Vermont.

To get the marketing materials for the program, visit the Efficiency VT website (www.efficiencyvermont.com). For direct answers, contact Efficiency VT at 888-921-5990 or email pace@efficiencyvermont.com. Although the program mechanics and schedules are still evolving, it appears that project applications will be accepted well into August for the initial subscription period. This translates into an autumn 2012 construction period. Once the PACE program is up and running, Efficiency VT expects to have 2-3 open subscription periods for new projects each year.

What is a Delco Light Plant?

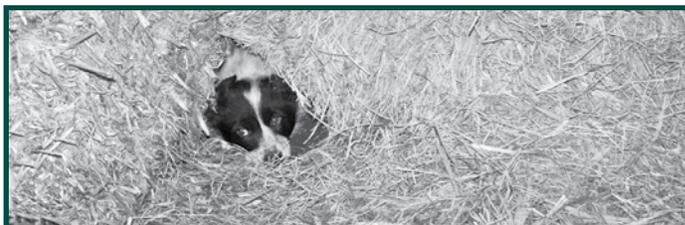
by Anne Ormsbee, EM Historical Society

By 1915, the Dayton (Ohio) Engineering Laboratories Company had equipped thousands of autos with electrical equipment necessary for cranking, lighting, and ignition. In response to growing interest in electric lighting and power for people in rural areas who did not have access to these conveniences from a central power service, Charles Kettering invented the Delco Light Plant in 1916. Manufactured in Dayton from 1916 to 1947, the plants were portable electric generator and battery systems that became an immediate success with farms, homes, churches, and rural residents across the country.

By the 1920s, several East Montpelier farms used Delco Light Plants to operate milking equipment in the barn, pump water and run barn and house lights. For example, if Mrs. Paine wanted to wash clothes in her electric wringer washer in the morning, Mr. Paine would run the generator after evening chores to charge the batteries, and the washer could be run the next day. Meanwhile, there might be a few lights in the house by which to read or mend socks after supper.

Many East Montpelier farms had Delcos, including the Braziers, Paines, Strongs, Ormsbees, Butlers, Chapells, and Drowns (Center Rd.); the Goodalls and Fitches around County Rd.; the Sibleys on Sibley Rd.; and Lyle Young on Lyle Young Rd.

The Rural Electrification Act of 1936 spelled the beginning of the end for the widespread use of independent electric generators as cooperative and private power companies began to place poles and wires along the back roads.



It's safe to come out. Winter's really gone.

The Four

by the proud parents of The Four

We remember going to T-ball games and watching in horror as every child on the team would hustle after the ball when it was hit and forget their role in the game. Baseball is a game, but has a subtle grace to it when performed correctly. From the tiniest tots to the pros, there is a systematic pattern to how things should flow.

In fifth or sixth grade, the four of them began playing together on an East Montpelier team. The plays still were a little sloppy, and they all still wanted to be involved in all the action, but they were learning their positions, their roles, and their places. Through the years, all four have played other sports yet always returned in the springtime, days after mud season, for some baseball.

They've grown up together, these four, playing short-stop or pitching, leading off and stealing bases, making fantastic plays in the field and getting the game-winning hit in extra innings of a 0-0 game. All four of them have had their moments to shine. There are no Major League scouts watching these boys, no one to see the passion they give to their craft, their desire to win and just to play one more. The four of them toiled each day to improve their skills and help the team in front of their hometown crowds.

Baseball, as with most team sports, embodies a group effort. Each player strives toward his team's victory while creating individual moments that parents will remember—those plays that showcase their son at his finest. Baseball teaches you how to fail seven out of ten times and still hold your head up in victory, how to count on one another, how to help one another and be in your place when needed.

The Four who played so long ago in those size small maroon Roadrunner tee shirts will progress to high school graduation completing this part of their lives where they



Duncan Bishop, Calvin McEatheron, Alex Ferno and Cole Cacicio

learned about teamwork and their role and who they are in the world. True friendships last beyond the game, beyond the school and into the future lives these young men will have. Whether they stay here in this wonderful community or venture far around the world, they will always have that bond as teammates and friends. But today they walk on and off that field for that last time together.

They needed a reminder to keep with them, these Four. Something that would last for them, so that no matter where they were or what they were going through, they could slip into that now XL maroon tee shirt, see the Roadrunner, and they would know that their home was there, their friends were there, and that they would always be a part of the team and part of this community. So to Duncan, Calvin, Alex and Cole, remember the days of your childhood fondly and remember you can always count on one another in your very promising years ahead.

—The proud parents of the four are Darcy & Dario Cacicio, Jen & Ken Ferno, Julie Rochat & Mark McEathron, and Brian & Betsy Bishop.

Paulie's Recipe: Mustard Pickles—For those extra cucumbers

Mustard Pickle - Helen Sparrow

2 qts. cabbage or cauliflower
2 qts. ripe cucumbers
2 qts. green tomatoes
4 large onions
All cut in chunks and soak over night in salt and water. In morning cook in same water until tender, drain.

Heat:

2 qts vinegar
1 cup flour
6 tbs. mustard

1 1/2 cup sugar
1 small tbsp. tumeric powder
Mix and moisten with cold vinegar, add to hot vinegar, stir until it thickens, then add vegetables, scald all together and seal.

Mustard Pickle - Dora Converse

1 gallon vinegar
1 cup salt
1 cup ground mustard

Mix all together in a jar and add as many freshly gathered and washed cucumbers as it will cover. Do not heat. These are excellent as they will keep crisp for months with sealing and are easily prepared.

Paulie's note: Our grandson Cyrus made a batch as part of his 4-H gardening project. Easy and fun for a young person to do.

—from the Community Cookbook of the Friendly Circle, North Montpelier

Merrylees and Patti, continued from page 1

she spent a year in research, then entered medical school. With her M.D. in hand, Dr. Lucy Patti joined the army. "It was a great six-year experience," she says. "Met all sorts of interesting people."

Moving to East Montpelier, they were invited to a neighborhood potluck dinner, and that was their introduction to the powerful sense of community that infuses the town. Bill is now Assistant Director of Community Connections, a local nonprofit that provides positive, productive after-school activities for kids in the nine schools in the area. Lucy practices as a family doctor.

They quickly plunged into volunteering. For many years Bill and Lucy organized and directed East Montpelier Green-Up Day. Both have also been deeply involved in East Montpelier Rally Day. Bill has been on the committee for eight years. "It's a lot of work, but a lot of fun," says Bill. "It's getting harder to recruit enough people for the committee. Last year there were only five, but we made it work."

Lucy is a strong leader, too. "When our kids were in elementary school, I did the ELF Program, teaching nature." She also helped run the Reading is Fundamental (RIF) program for two years, through which kids are given five books to read and keep. Another big project Lucy has run is the RIF flower sale, an important fundraiser. This year she is chaperoning the five-day Washington, D.C., eighth-grade student trip. "It is a bit of a physical marathon for everybody," she chuckles. Bill did it three years ago.

Bill is on the board of the Cross Vermont Trail Association, creating a walking and biking trail that, when completed, will run from Lake Champlain to the New Hampshire border. East Montpelier is right on the trail.

Their daughter and son, Eliza and Ben, are students at U-32 and active Nordic skiers and cross-country enthusiasts. Eliza has high hopes of one day joining the U.S. Olympic team. When they were small children, Bill and Lucy started a weekly cross-country

ski program for kids. "It's interesting to see that a lot of those kids have moved up into competitive skiing," says Lucy.

It's not just all local. This summer, 30 students and two teachers from China will come to East Montpelier for two weeks, staying with host families (two with Lucy and Bill). A dozen students from our schools will join as peer leaders. From a huge city in China, many will experience lakes and forests for the first time. Next year a group of our students will go to China.

And then, you may have watched, fascinated, a group riding unicycles in Montpelier parades. It's another of Bill's enthusiasms. He teaches youngsters how to acquire that seemingly impossible skill and perform during the parades.

What motivates this couple to contribute so much? "This is a great place, where you know everybody and making your contribution to the community is important," says Bill. "We're a part of things. Here you can see the fruits of your efforts."

Pondering the future for East Montpelier, Lucy notes that the town is becoming increasingly developed. They've seen farms go and houses go up. But new things are going on here in the food industry such as the organic movement and the prospering of farmers' markets. "I believe our back roads will still be back roads," says Bill. "East Montpelier is way ahead of other towns in maintaining open space and the village character."

Lucy muses, "We need to figure out a way for our young people to find meaningful work locally. I want them to see the world, but I want them to come back."

"Overall, I'm optimistic about the future of East Montpelier and Vermont," says Bill. And Lucy thoroughly agrees.

—Edward Day and his wife, Joanna, have lived in East Montpelier for 18 years. Ed has spent most of his career in book publishing in the US and New Zealand, and as a writer. He is the author of John Tabor's Ride, 1989, and was Executive Director of the Vermont FoodBank when he retired.

How Did Your Road Get Its Name?

A road by any other name is still a road. Do you know the story behind the name of the road you live on?

The next issue of the *Signpost* (September/October) will include your stories about the naming of the roads in East Montpelier. Is your road named for a person who lives, or lived, on your road? Or was it named for a landmark?

Please give us a little description, 150 words or less, about it. How did a road get named for the horn of the moon? Are there cherry trees on Cherry Tree Hill or partridges on Partridge Run? Who were the Hammetts, the Daggetts, the DeRondes?

When you spend some time with your neighbors this summer, see if they can expand on the reason your road was given its name. Then send your story to signpostbcp@hotmail.com by August 1 or give one of *Signpost* staff a call and we'll jot down your story.

Thanks so much.

New E. Montpelier Town Plan Taking Shape

The Town Plan provides a record of the town's resources and the issues and problems the town faces, and it provides a guide for the future for everything from land use, education, public safety, transportation, and economic development. The Plan is a very important foundation for zoning regulations and plays a significant role within the Act 250 process. The Planning Commission along with other committees and town officials have been updating and revising the old 2008 Town Plan, and this summer we will have a draft for public review.

Many thanks for the individuals and committee members who have helped revise different sections of the Town Plan. Beginning in September the Planning Commission will host a series of public meetings focusing on specific topics within the Town Plan. These will be announced in the next *Signpost*. Your participation and comments will be very important.

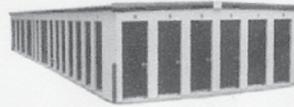
Central Vermont Humane Society



(802) 476-3811
info@cvhumane.com
www.cvhumane.com

Tuesday - Friday: 1pm - 6pm Saturday: 11am - 4pm
1589 VT Route 14S East Montpelier, VT 05651

K & A LEASING



44 Storage Units
Assorted Sizes
5 x 5 to 10 x 30

Call us for your storage needs

802-224-7170

Locally owned & operated on Rt. 2 in E. Montpelier



OIL &
PROPANE
DELIVERY,
SALES &
SERVICE

Locally Owned & Operated
Now Supplying Premium Heating Oil

Route 14, East Montpelier, Vermont 05651
Ph: 802-223-0126 • Cell: 802-793-4013
homeenergy@pshift.com



Oil & Propane Delivery • Air Conditioning • Installation • Service

Insurance Agency of New England, Inc.

PO Box 1 Village Acres • East Montpelier, VT 05651
P: 802-229-4177 • F: 802-229-4199
Toll Free: 877-448-1553 • www.iaofne.com
Auto • Home • Business • Life • Health

Casey J. Northrup

Owner, ASE Master Certified

KC's Performance Auto Care

- Auto Repair
- Used Cars
- Performance Parts
- Accessories

4423 US Route 2
E Montpelier, VT 05651

Phone/Fax
802-224-7170

kcsautovt@yahoo.com



Custom Designed & Handcrafted
Specializing in Energy Efficient Homes
Committed to Local Natural Resources

Traditional Vermont
Homes & Outbuildings

Call for a free consultation

Winterwood Timber Frames, LLC
Andy Harper
802-353-6111

Winterwoodtimber@gmail.com
Winterwoodtimberframes.com

TEL. (802) 223-7191
NIGHTS (802) 229-2728
CELL (802) 249-8402



BLAKE - LOSO

Finest in North Carolina Used Cars
And Trucks

Rt. 14, EAST MONTPELIER, VT 05651
DEDICATED SALES & SERVICE

RICHARD "DICK" BLAKE
OWNER

TRUE SOUTHERN CARS
A SPECIALTY

Maple Syrup • Vermont Products • Country Store
Corporate Gifts • Woodshed Theatre • Folk Art

MORSE FARM MAPLE SUGARWORKS

Thanks a lot for your continued support!

1168 COUNTY ROAD, MONTPELIER, VT 05602
1-800-242-2740 • WWW.MORSEFARM.COM

Maple Creemees All Year Long

We ship
anywhere

"A quality fam-
ily farm shop"

802-223-5757

1 mile north of E. Montpelier village on Rt. 14 (follow signs)



Vermont
handicrafts
Gifts
Vermont
cheese
Mail-order
maple products



Free Estimates
Fully Insured
Quality Work

Patrick McCoy
249-3003

P.W. McCoy Corp
964 Bliss Road
E. Montpelier, VT 05651

- ✓ **Driveways:** Installing New or Resurfacing (Slate and Gravel); Ditching and Culvert Work; Plowing
- ✓ **Lawns:** Grading, Seeding and Mulching for New or Existing Sites
- ✓ **Land Improvement:** Rototilling; Bushhogging; and Trail Work
- ✓ **Dump Truck:** Delivery of Topsoil, Manure, Compost, Gravel, Slate
- ✓ **Excavation:** Site Work for Sonotube and Floating Slabs; Digging Under-ground Utility Lines; and Much More!

East Montpelier *Signpost*
 PO Box 184
 East Montpelier, Vermont 05651
 Return Service Requested

PRSRT STD
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit No. 61
 Montpelier, VT

www.emsignpost.com
 • Up-to-date calendar listings
 • *Signpost* archive
 • Organizations in town

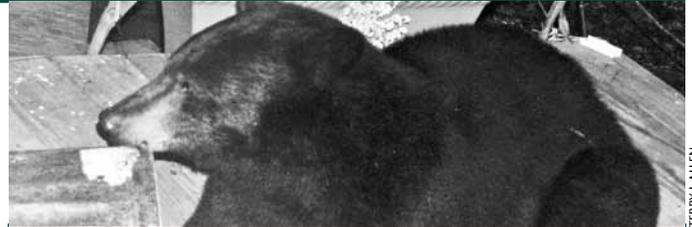
Volume XXII—Number Six
 July-August 2012

Printed on recycled paper with soy-based ink

CALENDAR & NOTICES

IMPORTANT DATES

- Wed., July 4, Independence Day.** Town Clerk's Office closed
- Wed., Aug. 22, Last day to apply to be included in the Town Voter Checklist for voting in the Primary Election**
- Tues., Aug. 28, Primary Election voting held at EMES 7:00 a.m to 7:00 p.m.**
- Mon., Sept. 3, Labor Day.** Town Clerk's Office closed.



TERRY J. ALLEN

RALLY DAY, September 8.

- 9:00 a.m. –noon in East Village; lunch at the Fire Department
 - Parade, Silent Auction, afternoon and evening events at EMES.
- All details in next *Signpost*

WWW.EMSIGNPOST.COM

Check it out: **www.emsignpost.com.**
 East Montpelier announcements welcome.
 To be notified of new announcements, join:
www.frontporchforum.com
 To receive the *Signpost* in electronic form only, notify Jennifer at
vtposts@gmail.com
A great way to know what's happening in town.

Front Porch Forum

Are you feeling left out of the discussion on EMES facility improvements? Want to hear the latest on the bear/chicken interactions? Need a good car-penter/electrician/mechanic? Want to borrow/buy/lend/sell something? Make sure you've signed up for East Montpelier's Front Porch Forum, the local email newsletter. After six months we've nearly reached a 40% member-to-household ratio and are averaging five newsletters per week. This vibrant community-driven forum has become a vital resource in a very short time. Join today! www.frontporchforum.com

Deadline for Next Issue: August 1, 2012, to Barbara Ploof: 223-6934, signpostbcp@hotmail.com

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Selectboard	1st & 3rd Mon	6:30 p.m.	Town Office Building
Planning Commission (PC)	1st & 3rd Thurs	7:00 p.m.	Town Office Building
Development Review Board (DRB)	1st & 3rd Tues	7:00 p.m.	Town Office Building
U-32 School Board	1st & 3rd Wed	6:00 p.m.	U-32 School
Elementary School Board (EMES)	3rd Mon	6:30 p.m.	Elementary School
East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD)	Every Tues	7:00 p.m.	EMFD Community Room
East Montpelier Fire District #1	2nd Wed	7:00 p.m.	EMFD Community Room
Recreation Board	2nd Mon	7:15 p.m.	Elementary School
Conservation Fund Advisory Committee	as needed	7:30 p.m.	Town Office Building
East Montpelier Historical Society	3rd Tues	7:00/6:00 p.m.	Four Corners Schoolhouse/E. Calais
Four Corners Schoolhouse Association	2nd Wed	7:00 p.m.	Four Corners School
EMES Parent Teacher Neighbor Org. (PTNO)	2nd Wed	6:30 p.m.	Elementary School, Art Room