

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST



Volume XXV—Number Five

July/August 2015

Joyce Bean: A Model for Us All

by Ann Stanton

Would I write a profile of my neighbor Joyce Bean? I jumped at the chance. We both have been attending Strong Living exercises at the Four Corners School for years where Joyce is a main attraction. Halfway through the hour, she reads two or three jokes and gets us laughing. Sometimes we laugh as much as we lift weights. Joyce was one of the original members, beginning to attend after the death of her husband Harold (“Beanie”) in a conscious move to “make sure the emptiness does not go unfilled.” As I talked to her over home-made muffins and tea, Joyce observed, “I’m not exciting, but I am old.” In addition, she is lively, creative, caring, and a model citizen of East Montpelier.

Some of her stories illustrate the “olden days”: helping her father in Rochester, Vermont, as he delivered quarts of milk from the family cows to their customers and, in the winter, sledging down the half-mile hill with him to get home; doing farm chores alongside her dad and learning to bake, cook, and sew from her mother and grandmother; using waxed wood bowls, seconds from the Granville mill, as sleds. Children were used to helping out and to making their own fun. Joyce notes a little sadly that the pace of modern life has robbed us of many such skills and that kind of time.

As evidence of the next adjective—“lively”—consider the Fearsome Foursome, a group consisting of Joyce, Bea and Wilma Anderson, and Charlotte Karr. The four friends pulled all sorts of



capers—jumping rope in the middle of Center Road, picnicking on a frozen pond in the middle of March, making a sponge cake with real sponges (Charlotte exclaiming, “Something is wrong with my knife!”), and sneaking into a friend’s kitchen after midnight to stage a surprise birthday party.

Joyce’s caregiving skills began early, babysitting for neighbors. At age 18, she took a job as a nanny to three children in Connecticut whose parents worked in New York City and only came home on weekends. Joyce got two of the children to school every day and watched the third at home. At first, there was a cook, but when the cook left, the parents added cooking

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Top of the Signpost

Where Are You Now?

As part of its mission to help East Montpelier citizens know more about their neighbors and their community, the September/October issue of the *Signpost* has, for some years, featured the comments, thoughts, and ideas of East Montpelierites about a particular topic (road names, favorite trails, and disappearing landmarks are a few recent ones) chosen by the *Signpost* volunteers. We've been delighted with the broad participation and have all learned a great deal from piecing together the information that many people contribute.

This fall we'd like to learn a bit about some of the folks who spent their childhoods in East Montpelier. Some remain here, others have "flown the coop," so to speak. We'd like to know a little about where some of our former youngsters are 5, 10, 30, 50 or more years after finishing school here. What decisions took you to your current locations, occupations, and interests?

In approximately 250 words, we'd like to know what you're doing now and whether it's what you planned all along. What attracted you to remain in our community or what drew you away? In the end we want to hear about the many paths taken by those who shared a common road in their early years.

This call for contributions will reach those of you who are here. We count on you to forward this solicitation to family and friends who now live elsewhere. Photographs are welcome as well.

Please submit all contributions to Barbara Ploof at signpostbcp@hotmail.com or 223-6934 no later than August 1, 2015.

— Edie Miller



The Bairs' Hard-Cider Dream

by Steve Stoufer

Several years ago Dan and Leila Bair took a scenic drive around East Montpelier. Viewing some of their farmland off Sibley Road, Leila turned to Dan and suggested that he might think about planting an orchard. To many of us, this would have been an unusual suggestion, but to Dan, a man with what strikes me as a serious passion for traditional hard cider, it was an idea that made a great deal of sense. Leila's offhand remark sparked a life change.

Recently I visited the Bairs at their historic Peck Farm, established in 1788 by Nathaniel Peck. Today the farm is owned and managed by the Bair family, which includes their children Abigail and James. Pumpkins and hayrides make the farm an attractive tourist destination, but Leila's casual remark during the scenic drive has culminated in an interactive, true farm-to-plate and eventually farm-to-glass orchard. Dan is deeply interested in hard cider production now. His latest plantings, Brown Sweet, Roxbury Russet, and Kingston Black—varieties perhaps not well known by apple eaters—are very well known to those who practice the ancient art of producing traditional old-world cider.

Dan has even continued cultivation of a variety known as Baba's Holy Red, a variety his grandfather (known as Baba) found on the farm and used for cider decades ago. Dan endorses a method he described as "dense planting trellised" for the nearly 1,000 trees he intends, eventually, to use for hard cider production. Hard cider in the style Dan wishes to produce takes time and a considerable financial investment. The trees need to grow to the right maturity so that their juice gives Dan what he needs to blend and ferment exactly the right stuff. The method Dan uses for planting should produce a high and relatively fast return but the initial expense is high, some \$15,000 to \$25,000 per acre. Fortunately, interest in hard cider is growing locally and nationally and Dan might be in the right spot to ride a wave of interest in hard cider as robust as the interest in craft beer brewing is now.

To set this plan in motion and to finance Dan's hard-cider dream, an offering of Honey Crisp, Liberty, Empire, Macoun, and other apple varieties will be open for a pick-your-own apples operation in the future. Meanwhile, hay rides, fresh sweet cider, pick-your-own pumpkins, and, oh yes, farm-to-



Roy, Joanne, Dan, Leila, in front James, Abigail Bair

TERRY J. ALLEN

forest pumpkin chucking from a hand-built trebuchet will allow Dan, his family, and guests to take part in creating a kind of revolution in hard cider making as well as the continuation of a great tradition of East Montpelier farming and community.

Sweet cider, pumpkins, hay rides and launching of pumpkins will happen this fall, Friday through Sunday from 10 a.m. until dark. Dan hopes that pick-your-own apples will start in full swing in one or two years. He anticipates that his hard cider operation will begin in earnest in about five years. Meanwhile, local craft enthusiasts will be able to fill carboys with pressed cider on Thursdays this fall for their own experiments with hard cider brewing. Although Dan has produced hard cider for himself, he is still in the process of creating the right blend which he will feel comfortable putting his name on and sharing with the community he and his family have called home for over 200 years.

So please, check out the orchard on Sibley Road. There are designated walk-throughs so that our community can really get a sense of the great farming tradition and make a connection to this beautiful land. In doing so, families will have an experience that will stay with them for a lifetime. Contact Dan Bair for hours and options through his website: www.peckfarmorchard.com as well as on Facebook and Twitter.

—Steve Stoufer is co-owner, along with wife Maria Manghi-Stoufer, of *The Manghis' Bread* in Montpelier. Steve is an amateur wine maker and enthusiast of all things East Montpelier. He very much looks forward to tasting Dan Bair's hard cider and adding yet another reason why living here is the opportunity of a lifetime.

EMES Students: The Write Stuff

During the past two years EMES students and staff have been engaged in writing instruction aligned with the Common Core State Standards. The writing standards ask students to write in three focused areas of study or genres: narrative, informational, and opinion/argument. This past spring, all EMES students completed their opinion/argument writing unit. Following is a sampling of student work. Note how students' skills in presenting reasons and arguments become more sophisticated across grade levels.

Kindergarten: Kathryn Stauffer



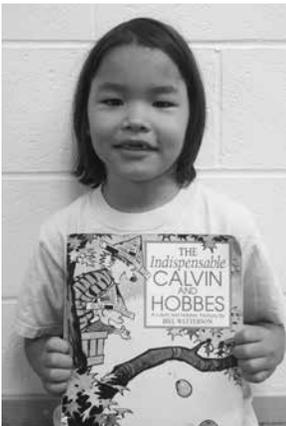
DO NOT THROW GARBAGE IN THE FOREST.

Animals can die from garbage.

It is very serious that animals can die from garbage.

Another reason is because it looks messy.

Grade 2: Isak Duncan



DEAR CLASS,

I think Calvin is a very funny six-year-old kid. If you like comics like that, you should read Calvin and Hobbes. Calvin has a stuffed tiger named Hobbes. Also, he's got a very creative imagination.

One time, Calvin even created a duplicator! It was very funny because when he and Hobbes got back to his room, Calvin's first duplicate had created FOUR more Calvins! A duplicator is basically a

3-D copier. It creates a 3-D copy of yourself or whatever you put in it. It was funny because Calvin and Hobbes both made such a funny face while they screamed. They both screamed, "AAGGHHH!!"

Another time was when Calvin got soaked with a water balloon! It was funny when Hobbes snuck up on Calvin, and threw the blue water balloon at Calvin! Hobbes was like, "AHH, you're all wet! Hoo, Hoo!" It was funny because later, Hobbes got him again with another one! Another reason why it was funny is because Calvin made such a weird face when he was hit with the water balloon! You should read Calvin and Hobbes because it is very funny!

Grade 4: Finn O'Donnell



TEAM SPORTS ARE IMPORTANT

Have you ever played on a team sport? If you have, you'll probably know what I mean. If you haven't, then you should learn... Team sports are important, here's why. One way team sports are important are they teach lessons like teamwork and good sportsmanship. Although good sportsmanship is taught in basically every sport, you will probably learn good

sportsmanship as well. For instance, having good sportsmanship will probably make you a better person. Teamwork will also help you throughout your life.

A helpful reason team sports are important is they help you stay active. In fact, team sports will probably keep you moving, keep you in shape and above all keep you healthy.

Another beneficial reason for team sports is they help you make friends. For example, when I was on a team for the first time and I worked with people I didn't know until our first meeting, learned with them, and got to really know them. Now they are some of my best friends even though that was about three years ago. I'm still playing on teams with them.

Now you know many reasons why team sports are important: they teach lessons, they keep you active, and help you make friends. So why don't you sign up for a team sport and have a lot of fun!

Grade 6: Caroline Kirby



SHOULD ANIMALS BE KEPT IN ZOOS?

How would you like it if you were kept in a cage/enclosed area for most or all of your life? I know I wouldn't like living in an enclosed area or cage. Well, that's what happens to animals in captivity. So, I am against animals being kept in zoos/captivity. In this writing piece, I will be writing about how zoos

hurt animals more than they help them, how you can learn more about animals in their natural habitat, and how animals are more healthy in the wild than in captivity.

Some people think that zoos save endangered or injured animals, but really that's what game reserves and wildlife sanctuaries are for. Actually, a study found that only 2% of the world's 6,000-plus endangered animals were enlisted in zoo

Continued from page 4

breeding programs! Therefore, zoos do almost nothing to help the world's endangered animals. In the wild, elephants usually live until they are about 60-70 years old, but in captivity elephants live until they are about 30-40 years old.

A lot of people say that you learn quite a bit from the animals in zoos, but you can't really learn anything from birds that cannot fly and tigers that cannot hunt. What I am trying to say is that it's difficult to see how animals act in the wild when they are in captivity. No matter how hard the people at zoos work, you still only really learn about how animals act in captivity. Zoos also teach people that it is okay to keep other beings in captivity, but that is not acceptable. I am guessing that you wouldn't like to be kept in captivity while people pass by and watch everything you do.

Animals need freedom. People may think that animals are happy in zoos, but they aren't. Just take elephants for example.

In the wild, elephants can sometimes be found in herds as big as 100 elephants, but in captivity there are usually just a few or one elephant.

Therefore, in captivity elephants are deprived of family and socialization. Zoos also deprive animals like elephants of exercise. For example, wild elephants usually walk up to 40 miles a day, but they can't do that when they are stuck in cages. Plus, like I wrote before wild elephants live 30-40 years longer than they do in captivity.

I am definitely for game reserves and wildlife sanctuaries because they help protect and save animals, but I am totally, utterly against zoos. I just don't think that zoos help animals and in my opinion, you can only learn about how animals react in captive situations when they are in zoos. Most of all, animals are much better off living in the wild than in zoos. Just like people, animals need their freedom.

Joyce Bean, continued from page 1

to Joyce's duties for no extra pay. Even for a youngster accustomed to hard work, this was the final straw; so she resigned and enrolled in secretarial school in Boston. Joyce's secretarial skills landed her a job with the deputy commissioner of education in Montpelier and later with The American Fidelity Insurance Company.

Joyce and Harold Bean were married in 1947, and Joyce says she would not be the person she is today were it not for the love of Beanie for 54 wonderful years. They had two children, Jeff and Lesley, and were blessed with two granddaughters, Kelcie and Molly. All of us in the exercise group know Molly, Joyce's granddaughter, who often came with Joyce during school vacations and, more recently (now a high school freshman), came to play the violin for us—Joyce's father's violin, which was given to Molly on her 13th birthday.

Beanie brought his bride home to East Montpelier, where they made an amazing team. They bought 12 acres at the top of the Barnes Road hill for \$500. Then they lived in a tent one summer as Beanie designed and built their home's 16 x 24 foot "core"—set up on rollers until the concrete foundation could be laid. That first winter, they had only a pot-burner for heat with a jerry-rigged chimney that blew off if the wind was wrong. (Joyce and Beanie took turns chasing the chimney across the yard and re-setting it.) Later, a 16 x 24 addition was added, and another bedroom and bath later still when Lesley was born. Beanie worked in construction with his cousin Richard Clark. Together they became Clark Builders. Meanwhile, for 38 years Joyce ran a slipcover business out of her home.

Joyce has lived in her house for more than 60 years. In the last *Signpost* issue, Joyce thanked her neighbors for their help during the winter. She herself exhibits that good neighbor spirit, as well as sharing her skills with the town, serving on

the East Montpelier School Board for five years (three as chair), three years on the Planning Commission, and most recently on the East Montpelier Solutions Committee. In addition, she was, for several years, the assistant treasurer of the WCSU school district.

For me, Joyce models how to move into my final years. She mourns her lost family and friends but cooks for her daughter and granddaughter every week and maintains correspondence "by snail mail" with many friends; she remembers and misses the old neighborhood and ways, yet befriends the new neighbors, keeping alive many sparks of community; she's cautious about going out on icy, below-zero days, but she meets the cold with happy memories and good humor.

And she meets friends for lunch, goes to Green Mountain Youth Symphony performances (where Molly plays first violin), attends plays at U-32 and the Quarry Theater, enjoys her season ticket to Lost Nation Theater, and is up for adventures afield.

All of us can profit from Joyce's life philosophy: stay positive, stay upright, and always reach out to others. The rewards of this philosophy, she affirms, are awesome.

—Ann Stanton, a retired college professor, lives at the corner of Bliss & Center Roads with her husband David Connor and Sophie the Elkhound.



TERRY J. ALLEN

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Assistant Animal Control Officer:
Elliott Morse 839-8723

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

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sethbgardner@hotmail.com

Carl Etnier Steve Sparrow
Kimberly Swazey Casey Northrup

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Jean Vissering, Chair, 223-3262

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Richard Curtis, Chair
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Rubin Bennett, Chair
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Kimberly Kendall Priscilla Gilbert
Stephen Looke Flor Diaz-Smith

State Representative

Tony Klein, 793-6032
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Town Weathervane

MILESTONES

BIRTHS

- Mathew Monczka, son, born April 17, 2015 to Teena Cane & William Monczka
- Freya Adamant, daughter, born April 22, 2015 to Ashley Hetrick & Jack Lloyd
- Addilyn Stacy, daughter, born April 23, 2015 to Jonathan & Emily Stacy
- Mason Tassey, son, born April 28, 2015 to Desirae Baker & Scott Tassey

DEATHS

- Frances Packard died April 18, 2015, mother of Ellery
- Janet Burrus died May 23, 2015, wife of David and mother of Heather & Rob
- Paul Redmond died April 28, 2015, husband of Mary and father of Justin & Erin

MARRIAGES

- Michael Williams & Nancy Brooks, March 28, 2015
- Theodore Allen & Stephanie Krauss, May 21, 2015

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

- Andrew Ibey & Heather Ross-Ibey to Wells Fargo Bank, single family dwelling & 1.38 acres, Taycon Drive
- Wesley Merriam to Reed Kimberley & Lora Stridsberg, single family dwelling & 8.93 acres, Mays Way
- Kenneth & Nancy Willey to Morris Properties LLC, mobile home & 1.58 acres, US2
- Wallace & Claire Hinch to Alan Jackman, mobile home, Robinson Road
- William & Mary Porter to Coleman Parker, single family dwelling & .34 acres, VT14S
- Coleen Krauss to Matthew Krauss, single family dwelling & 10.11 acres, Sparrow Farm Rd
- Bernadette Cleland to The Bernadette Cleland Revocable Living Trust, single family dwelling & 40 acres, Dodge Rd
- Albert Miller to The Albert Russell "Duffy" Miller Revocable Living Trust, single family dwelling & 40 acres, Dodge Rd
- David Coburn to Solar Communities Inc. d/b/a SunCommon, Easement/ROW, 1.5 acres, Daggett Rd
- John & Kathleen Audy to Raymond & Courtney Stout, single family dwelling & 1.26 acres, US2

EAST MONTPELIER SELECTBOARD

March 30, 2015

Motions Passed:

- to approve the annual highway financial plan
- to adopt the local emergency operations plan

- to continue contracting with the same vendors for roadside and lawn mowing
- to appoint Jack Pauly as the CVRPC alternate representative
- to approve excess weight permits for several applicants

April 13, 2015

Motions passed:

- to renew the town's contract with NEMRC for disaster recovery
- to authorize Seth Gardner to sign the letter drafted 4/13/15 to Washington Electric, with any minor changes he may find appropriate stating the town's intention that the publicly owned Church Street will not be transferred to WEC
- to approve several excess weight permits

May 4, 2015

Motions Passed:

- to authorize town administrator Bruce Johnson to sign the Better Backroads grant application
- to authorize town administrator Bruce Johnson to sign the ArcGIS license contract with ESRI
- to authorize Seth Gardner to sign a letter assuring Washington Electric Coop that they are currently in compliance with East Montpelier zoning regulations for parking as a pre-existing use, without the parking spaces on the opposite side of VT14
- to authorize Town Administrator Bruce Johnson to sign excess weight permits EW-15-35 through EW-15-38 as presented

May 18, 2015

Motions Passed:

- to authorize Seth Gardner to sign the annual agreement with the state to use the Marshall & Swift Cost Tables for CAMA
- to create the Capital Improvement Committee as a standing committee under the selectboard comprised of: 1 member of the selectboard, 1 member of the planning commission, the town treasurer, and 2 at-large members. Members would serve one-year terms.
- to appoint to the Capital Improvement Committee: PC members, Gene Troia and Julie Potter; SB member, Casey Northrup; Town Treasurer, Don Welch; and Dave Burley
- to offer the Town's full-time employees Plan 2 of Delta Dental Insurance through the Vermont League of Cities and Towns
- to donate a small piece of land to VTrans which currently holds a ROW as part of the VT14 bridge project

EAST MONTPELIER PLANNING COMMISSION

March 19, 2015

Discussion/review items

- Conservation Overlay Map
- zoning changes related to revised Flood Hazard Map

Motions Passed:

- to recommend that the SB appoint Jack Pauly as the alternate town representative to CVRPC

April 2, 2015

Motions Passed:

- to reelect Jean Vissering as chair and Julie Potter as vice-chair of PC
- to accept the Report on Proposed Changes to the East Montpelier Land Use & Development Regulations Review with proposed changes
- to approve the East Montpelier LUDR and the accompanying documents and maps

April 16, 2015

Preparation for May 7 hearing on changes to EM LUDR

May 7, 2015

- A public hearing was held to introduce the Planning Commission, to explain Flood Hazard Regulation, Conservation Overlay Districts, Withdrawal of Ground Water, Administrative Amendment, Site Plan Review/Conditional Use, Applicability, and Certificate of Compliance Regular Meeting
- Discussion with ZA and SB about future planning and zoning topics

EAST MONTPELIER BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

March 16, 2015

Motions Passed:

- to reorganize the board as follows: chair, Rubin Bennett; vice-chair, Stephen Looke; clerk, Kim Kendall; in addition representatives to WCSU board and committees were elected
- to formalize meeting times, publication media and other routine matters
- to accept Marion Anastasia's resignation with thanks and best wishes in future endeavors

March 23, 2015

- Special meeting facilitated by Jen Miller-Arsenault to develop a list of skills & knowledge, characteristics & traits to guide the new principal search

April 27, 2015

Motions Passed:

- to approve 2-year extension of transportation contract
- to approve the retirement of music teacher Pam Dunkling

May 18, 2015

Motions Passed:

- to approve a leave of absence for PE teacher Michael Sherwin
- to approve the hiring of Samantha Gelfon as music teacher (0.8 FTE)
- to approve the hiring of Michael Sherwin as Behavior Coach (1.0 FTE) as a 1-year position
- to approve the hiring of Ted Natherson as Special Educator (1.0 FTE)
- to approve a 3.5% raise for the non-bargaining contracts at EMES
- to accept resignation of Kacie Worth with regret

U-32 SCHOOL BOARD

April 1, 2015

Motions Passed:

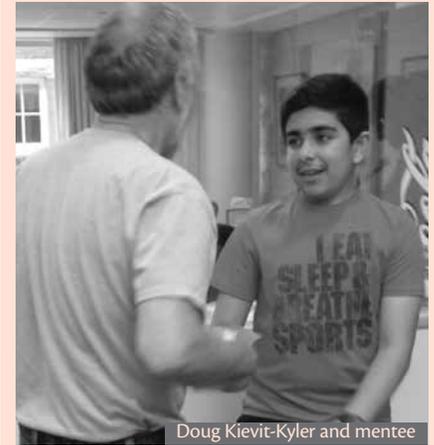
- to award the \$80,599 bid for improvement of two roof sections to Burrell Roofing
- to extend bus contract for another two years
- to approve a one-year leave of absence request as recommended by the administration

May 6, 2015

Motions Passed

- to accept the following retirements/resignations: Ben Skoglund, school counselor; Johanna Hiller, English teacher; Tammy Hoermann, academic coordinator; Joan Garcia, administrative assistant; Betsy Davis, academic coordinator; Danny Hendershot, youth outreach coordinator; Brian Slopey, science teacher; Sheryl Lamberti, administrative assistant
- to accept the following appointments: Megan Allison, library/media specialist; Nathan Lovitz, school counselor; Erin Mooney, English teacher; Nicholas Holquist, English teacher; Lisa J. Rice RN, school nurse
- to grant leave of absence to Erin Gallagher-Baldwin (0.4 FTE) language arts teacher

Mentors Needed



Doug Kievit-Kyler and mentee

WENDY FREUNDLICH

Girls/Boyz First is seeking adult mentors to spend time doing fun activities with youth in central VT. For more info, please go to our webpage <http://www.communityconnections.us/ProgramInfo/girlsboyz/GirlsBoyz.html> or call Wendy Freundlich, program director 224-6500.



GARY ANN LEWIS



TERRY J. ALLEN

Haying The Old Fashioned Way



We have all seen the big, white rolls of hay in the fields. They are among the latest means for storing the forage to feed the dairy cattle on Vermont farms. Today's farms are highly automated from harvesting to feeding. It was not that way, however, when the first settlers arrived.

Harvesting grass for the cattle, usually referred to as "haying," was all done by hand. It started with using a scythe for mowing. This device consists of a long, slightly curved, very sharp blade on the end of a sinuous wooden shaft. It is swung in an arc and cuts a swath about six feet in width. Swing, pull back, advance, swing, pull back, advance, and so forth. It takes a long time to mow an acre of hay.

The cut grass is left for a bit to dry. Often it is necessary to turn the hay with a pitch fork so it will dry evenly. It is not safe to put wet hay in the barn because it can ferment and create enough heat to set it afire. Once it is properly dried the farmer will pull it into long rows with a wooden rake. This rake has a head some 30 inches long with ten-inch tines.

Then it is time to pitch the hay onto the wagon and take it to the barn. Moving along the row, the farmer stacks the hay in small bundles and tosses them up on the wagon. A second person stands on the wagon and places the bundles in precise locations so they will stay in place during the trip to the barn. One bundle in the front left corner, one in the right and a third and fourth in the center. Three go over the gaps to hold everything



in place. Then more rows are placed in the same sequence, moving toward the back of the wagon bed until the wagon is full or all the hay is picked up.

Once in the barn the hay is unloaded and stored in a mow (rhymes with cow) until it is needed to feed the cattle. All this work is done by hand and can be very hard on hot, humid summer days. It took lots of switchel (a drink made from water, vinegar, ginger, and molasses or maple syrup) to get the job done.

Colonial-era farms were very small; often having only five or ten milk cows. Even then it took several people to do the work involved.

Everyone from ten years and up was expected to help with the work that would support them all through the long Vermont winters.



The change from hand work to mechanization began around 1850 with the introduction of the horse-drawn mowing machine and other equipment. By 1900, hay production was mechanized to the point where farms could be larger

and require fewer workers. There is still a lot of hand labor on any farm but nothing like what our early ancestors faced.

For more about East Montpelier history, log on to www.eastmontpelierhistoricalsociety.org.

--Dave Coburn,
East Montpelier Historical
Society

Volunteers and Community

Why is volunteering important to the formation and sustainability of communities? Think about what your daily world would look like without volunteers. Much of the volunteering is done at the most basic person-to-person level. This is neighbor helping neighbor without asking anything in return, the root of all volunteer work.

According to a 2015 census almost 90 percent of Vermont's responding fire departments are staffed by volunteers. At EMFD we are blessed with a strong core of dedicated volunteers who give their time, energy, and effort to protect and serve our community. When we consider the future of the volunteerism and the continuation of the volunteer fire service we are challenged to figure out how to motivate new generations to carry on this important civic duty.

In short, our community needs volunteers and EMFD needs volunteers. Ask yourself if you can be one of those people who steps up to volunteer for your neighbors and community.



Quoting Nobel Peace Prize winner Albert Schweitzer, "Wherever you turn, you can find someone who needs you." Even if it is a little thing, do something for which there is no reward outside of the privilege of doing it. Remember, you don't live in a world of your own.

To learn more about volunteering at East Montpelier Fire Department call us at 802-225-6245 or come by Station 2, 54 Village Acres in East Montpelier any Tuesday at 7 p.m. to meet the team and learn more about volunteer opportunities.

--Ty Rolland, chief of the EMFD

Planning Commission Work Ongoing

The planning commission held a public hearing on May 7 to hear comments on a number of proposed changes to the Land Use and Development Regulations. Based on the comments, the PC made several additional revisions, and will submit these to the selectboard for their approval and adoption. The selectboard will hold at least one public hearing before making a decision. The recommended changes are posted on the Town website.

The planning commission will be turning its attention to matters requiring a more comprehensive approach. Topics that may be tackled include creating a master plan for East Montpelier Village, planning for a new growth area along Gallison Hill Road near U-32, and increased flexibility for clustered development and generational use of properties. The PC may also conduct a Growth Trends Study and Build-Out Analysis to better understand how our current regulations support our vision for the Town.

The planning commission meets the first and third Thursday of the month at 7:00 in the Town Office. Residents are always welcome to attend.

—Jean Vissering is planning commission chair

Paulie's Recipe: Butter Cake

1/3 cup butter

1 cup sugar

2 eggs (separated)

1 ½ cups sifted flour

3 teaspoons baking powder (level and full)

1/2 teaspoon salt

3/4 cup milk

1 teaspoon vanilla

Cream the butter, sugar and egg yolks, add the other ingredients. Beat white of eggs (soft peak), adding last. Bake in moderate oven (350°) about ½ hour.

Paulie recommends for a GLAZE:

1/2 cup pure maple syrup

1/4 cup unsalted butter, melted, cooled

1 cup powdered sugar, sifted

1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

1/8 teaspoon salt

2 to 4 tablespoons heavy whipping cream or milk

Combine maple syrup and butter in medium bowl, whisk in powdered sugar, vanilla, salt and 2 tablespoons heavy cream, adding additional cream to desired glaze consistency. Drizzle over cake. Let stand 15 minutes or until glaze is set.

--Sadie Bond from Community Cook Book of the North Montpelier

Friendly Circle

Proposed Changes for EM Recreation Committee

Since its inception by town vote at the 1966 Town Meeting, the East Montpelier Recreation Board (often called the East Montpelier Recreation Committee – EMRC) has operated as a town committee under selectboard control. EMRC has been responsible for maintaining the town's recreation fields adjacent to the elementary school and encouraging recreational activities by residents. Currently there are seven members in the group all of whom have been approved by the selectboard for terms of three years. To support the committee's objectives, the town has allocated funds (\$3,000 annually since 2000) for field maintenance and operational costs as well as support for other programs, including swimming lessons, baseball, and an annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Beginning in the fall of 2008, youth sports programs for soccer and basketball, which previously had been organized and operated by East Montpelier Elementary School, were assumed by the EMRC. To support these programs adequately, participant fees have been charged for each sport. Over the years, these fees have fully funded the sports programs and have generated a surplus which, combined with additional fundraising revenues, have allowed the group to purchase new aluminum youth soccer goals, adjustable basketball backboards for our kindergarten-grade two program, new uniforms, as well as new balls, and other essential equipment. Funds have been used also to acquire gear to help get a youth lacrosse program up and running.

During the town's most recent audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, the town's auditors included a management letter comment in its report regarding the handling of EMRC funds. Given that the EMRC is operating as a function of the town, all monies collected are essentially town of East Montpelier funds. The auditors point out that all transactions with town funds should be handled by Town Treasurer Don Welch. Currently, the EMRC has its own bank account under the town's tax identification number and all

transactions related to the group are handled by the EMRC. Funds are collected and deposited, and checks written and signed by the EMRC treasurer. Annually, the EMRC provides a complete listing of all transactions and detailed support of requested items to the town treasurer and to the auditors.

As a result of the auditor's suggested change in operations, a dialog between Don Welch and members of the EMRC began in late January 2015, to explore ways to make the necessary adjustments without over-burdening the town treasurer or making it difficult for the EMRC to function. In exploring various options, an opportunity presented itself that would not only address the auditor's concern, but would also provide for an opportunity to expand the EMRC's programs.

At the selectboard meeting on May 18, 2015, Phillip Heinz and Kathy Richardson presented the EMRC's proposal for creating a new non-profit entity which would assume the historic role of the EMRC (thus eliminating the need for the town committee) with regards to the stewardship of the town fields and would also operate the youth sports programs. A formal agreement would be established between the town and the non-profit entity regarding the new organization's responsibilities to act as the caretakers of the space in exchange for the right to use the fields for its programs. In addition, the non-profit would continue to present a detailed budget request annually to the town to cover the operational and identified maintenance needs of the space. This approach will not only clear up any ambiguities that currently exist with the committee's operations and town approvals needed, but more importantly, it would allow the new non-profit entity to create stronger youth programs by allowing for collaboration with other communities within our school district.

The selectboard intends to schedule a special town meeting on this proposal sometime in late summer/early fall. You may see more on this topic on the town website: <http://eastmontpeliervt.org/boards-commision/recreation-board/>

—Kathy Richardson is treasurer of the EMRC.

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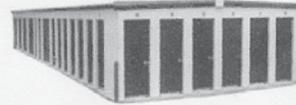
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CALENDAR

- Month of AUGUST: Property tax bills mailed; installments due in November & May
- Month of SEPTEMBER: Mallory Brook hunting permit lottery applications accepted; drawing date TBA
- Sept. 7, LABOR DAY: Town Office closed

SIGNPOST DUE DATE for submissions: Aug. 1, 2015



COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Check website for summer schedule

Conservation Fund Advisory Committee	as needed		<i>contact: blusig@aol.com /229-5441</i>
Development Review Board (DRB)	1st Tues	7:00 p.m.	Town Office Building
East Montpelier Elementary School (EMES) Board	3rd Mon	5:30 p.m.	Elementary School
East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD)	Every Tues	7:00 p.m.	EMFD Community Room
East Montpelier Fire District No. 1	2nd Wed	7:00 p.m.	EMFD Community Room
East Montpelier Historical Society	3rd Tues	7:00/6:00 p.m.	Four Corners Schoolhouse/E. Calais
East Montpelier Sr. Living Initiative	as needed		<i>contact: rhazel@ezcloud.com</i>
Four Corners Schoolhouse Association	2nd Wed	7:00 p.m.	Four Corners Schoolhouse
EMES Parent Teacher Neighbor Org. (PTNO)	2nd Wed	6:30 p.m.	Elementary School, Art Room
Planning Commission (PC)	1st & 3rd Thurs	7:00 p.m.	Town Office Building
Recreation Board	2nd Mon	7:15 p.m.	Elementary School
Selectboard	1st & 3rd Mon	6:30 p.m.	Town Office Building
U-32 School Board	1st Wed	6:00 p.m.	U-32 School