

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

Volume XXVIII—Number Six

July/August 2018

Ginny and Dave Burley: 'Sight Unseen' Worked Out



LINDY BIGGS

Sitting on the staircase Dave built.

by Lindy Biggs

Ginny and Dave Burley met as kids when their families happened to vacation at the same place—Lyme, New Hampshire—every summer. There was something special between them right away, and they stayed in touch by writing letters throughout the years until they would see each other again during their family vacations.

That childhood attraction never stopped.

Their paths diverged after high school when Dave went to the University of Pennsylvania to study civil engineering, and Ginny went to Drew University to study English. After college, Dave traveled the world for five years, working first in Alaska and then Saudi Arabia. During the long Alaska nights with little to do and nothing to spend his money on, he read land brochures and saw an ad for land in East Montpelier, Vermont. He wrote a check for \$15,000 to purchase 78 acres on Sanders Circle—sight unseen—and became a Vermont landowner. In 1978, he finally got to see the hillside he had bought on Sanders Circle. Asked what he thought when he first saw that forested hillside, he said, "It was cool."

In 1972, Ginny graduated from Drew University in New Jersey and then went on to the University of

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TERRY ALLEN

Dave at his knife sharpening wheel.

Precision Edge

by David Connor

As I pulled into the driveway of the handsome log home of David and Joanne Guilmette to interview Dave, I already knew I was going to enjoy myself, having experienced their hospitality a few years back. At that point, I seem to remember that Dave's garage was a neat and tidy place where he worked on vintage cars. These days, the garage is the home of Precision Edge, Dave's well-regarded sharpening business and the focus of my visit. After showing me his immaculate 1948 Ford coupe, he escorted me to his back deck, and the interview began.

How Precision Edge came to be is quite a story. To start at the very beginning, Dave believes that most Vermont Guilmettes came from Quebec several generations ago. He, however, was born in Vermont and grew up and went to school in Montpelier. Always mechanically minded (and perhaps a bit car-crazy), he was hired as a teenager by Automaster in Burlington to recondition and clean cars. When his manager

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Top of the Signpost

Traditionally, our September/October issue is written by townspeople who contribute their ideas and opinions on a particular topic or theme. In past years, you have shared your thoughts about favorite outdoor trails, road names, creativity, and many other topics. This year we want you to explore the concept of family. This is what we hope you will address:

If the well-known adage, "It takes a village to raise a child," is true, what does that look like in 2018 in East Montpelier? Who acts as extended family in your life, providing committed and regular support to you and your immediate family? How are folks in East Montpelier living intergenerationally or collaboratively and why? Our next issue of the *Signpost* will look at the various configurations of family and community in our town (village). Tell us about the ways you support or are supported in your everyday life by family and community. We look forward to hearing about the new—and old—ways that community members are living interdependently.

Please articulate your thoughts and ideas in up to 300 words and send to Barbara Ploof at signpostbcp@hotmail.com no later than August 1.

Thanks and Welcomes

Time brings change which is always bittersweet with its regretful goodbyes but also new ideas and opportunities. We are grateful to Charlie Catlin who is taking a break after many years of closely following the workings of our town boards by reading and excerpting the minutes for *Signpost* readers. This issue features the work of Kate Rader taking over that role. We also welcome several other new volunteers: Merry Schmidt, who has been on the job for several issues, helps ensure that our copy is clear and cogent and has taken on writing assignments as well. More recently we have welcomed Lyn Blackwell who, as proofreader, has ultimate responsibility for our clean copy, and Hilari Farrington who is joining Wendy Soliday in finding subjects and writers for our individual and business feature articles. Onward into our 29th year.



TERRY J. ALLEN

Steve Sparrow herds McKnight Farm cows across Snow Hill Rd.

Thanks, Green Up Day Volunteers

Aaron Abrahamson, Adamant Coop, Bragg's Farm, Ginny and Dave Burley, Jane Burroughs, Cabot Creamery, Steve Campbell, Paul Cate, Casella Waste Management, Kathy Christy, Matt Curtis and Cub Scout Pack 742, Theresa Doyle, Dudley Store, Marc Eagle, EMES students, East Montpelier Home Center, East Montpelier Post Office, East Montpelier Town Office, Paul Erlbaum, Carl Etnier, Lydia Faesy, Four Corners Schoolhouse, Seth Gardner, Robin Gannon, Rachael Grossman, Todd Hill, Hunger Mountain Coop, Bruce Johnson, Ed Johnson, KC's Performance Auto Care, Flora and Holly Lamson, Rosie Laquerre, Bev Lavin, Alicia Lyford, Manghi's Bread, Karin Martin, Laura McCaffrey, Katie McLinn, McKnight Farm, Priscilla Moore and husband Glenn, North Country Federal Credit Union, Cristin O'Donnell, Susan Olander, Bob Onne, Orchard Valley Waldorf School, Carolyn Pastore, Guthrie Perry and road crew, Plainfield Hardware, Barbara, Allen, and Randy Ploof, Mary Redmond, Denise Roy, Shaws Supermarket, Sue Stephen, Cindy Tomaszewicz, Shari Young, and Jennifer Zollner, plus everyone who called and/or emailed me about areas cleaned and trouble spots around town, and all 140 volunteers who contributed time picking up trash and recyclables on and before Green Up Day!



Green Up Day Helpers Steve Campbell, Ginny Burley, and Paul Erlbaum separate and clean recyclables and refundables.

Your efforts resulted in the removal of 1,000 cans, 102 illegally dumped tires, and 2,060 pounds of garbage from our roadsides! THANKS ALL.

—Chris Racanelli coordinates East Montpelier's Green Up Day

And thinking ahead...HELP WANTED East Montpelier Green Up Day is looking for a volunteer co-coordinator to help plan and coordinate Green Up Day, 2019. Planning begins in January. Call Chris Racanelli, 793-6687

EMES Leadership Team Aids Community

The Student Leadership Team at East Montpelier Elementary school, composed of 14 sixth grade students, recently sponsored a food drive to benefit the community food shelf at the Old Brick Church (OBC). Student leaders visited each classroom at EMES and shared information about hunger and nutrition. They also distributed boxes throughout the school building and advertised the three-week drive with posters and morning announcements. On Wednesday, April 11, the student leaders delivered the collected food to the OBC and stocked the shelves. This is one example of how these student leaders support their school and town communities. The food shelf staff and the Old Brick Church congregation are very appreciative of their hard work.



Back row: Left to Right: OBC Pastor Rev. Herb Hatch, food shelf volunteer Sherry Carver, students Madyson, Paige, Aurelia, Yvette, Greta, Selah, Eliza, Ava, Lily, food shelf director George Clifford.

Front Row: Left to Right: Taggart, Lincoln, Cyrus, Hughes, and Hailey.

Serving an average of 63 people monthly (from 26 families) since January 2018, the food shelf is open the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month from 2 to 5 p.m. for residents of East Montpelier, Calais, and Plainfield.

East Montpelier Eats

volunteers who have nurtured and supported this publication for so many years. Paulie Coburn is one such mainstay. Practically from the beginning, Paulie has been testing and posting recipes, the details of which you'll read below. A few years back, the *Signpost* editorial team thought it would be interesting to expand on Paulie's recipes to include food-related enterprises in town, resulting in the regular "East Montpelier Eats" column. This month's column takes us back to the beginnings.

I met with Paulie in the beautiful family home on Daggett Road (not, as you might guess, on Coburn Road). She and her husband Dave moved into the house to be with Dave's mother after Dave's father died in 1975. The first thing Paulie did, as she and I sat down in the lovely light-filled living room, was to hand me a worn copy of *The Community Cook Book*, compiled by The Friendly Circle. Her mother-in-law gave her the book, the source of the *Signpost* recipes, when she moved in.

It takes some detective work to figure out details. The Friendly Circle, for example, was not a church group; Paulie thinks they most likely were a group of neighbors in North Montpelier. The publication date can only be guessed. One of the recipes calls for a can of tomato soup, so that dates it to at

least the 1940s when such products were widely available. Paulie explains that the recipes themselves can be quite a challenge. Sometimes ingredients are listed but then no directions follow. Perhaps it was self-evident to the Friendly Circle, but not to modern cooks! Measurements, too, are different; e.g., a pint of flour or a teacup of sugar. And what does it mean to "cook in a moderate oven"? Although the recipes appear in the *Signpost* exactly as written, Paulie faithfully tests each recipe, tweaking it to perfection before sharing. Thankfully, she provides us with notes that clarify some of those odd measurements and adds directions when missing from the original recipe.

In some ways, this tweaking is second nature now, although it wasn't always so. Paulie laughs as she recounts how she once burned Jello as a new bride. Thinking this would be an easy dessert, she emptied the packet of dry Jello into a pan of hot water, but she hadn't heated the water enough, so the Jello didn't dissolve. When she placed undissolved Jello and water on the stove and turned on the heat, the powder burned.

"Cooking takes practice," she advises. "You make mistakes, and you learn from them." Paulie says her large family was her "laboratory." She often combined recipes, played with amounts and ingredients and served the results for dinner. There were many successes and a few that fell short: the recipes that her husband Dave would pronounce, on eating, "Well, that was good. We'll never have that again."

—The tag team of Rachael Grossman and Ann Stanton collaborated on this article. Both are *Signpost* volunteers.



Paulie in her kitchen

Paulie's Recipes

From the Community Cookbook of the Friendly Circle, North Montpelier

Sour Cream Salad Dressing

- ¾ cup sour cream
- ¼ cup of good vinegar
- 1 egg well beaten
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon paprika
- 3 tablespoons sugar

Thoroughly mix and cook over hot water until thick and creamy, stirring constantly. If wanted, when serving, thin with sweet cream or evaporated milk.

Paulie's Comment: You may want to adjust the vinegar depending on the strength of flavor. I tried this dressing on potato salad and liked it a lot.

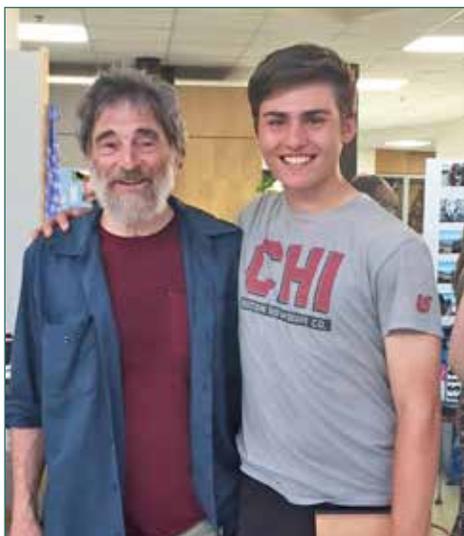
Planning Commission Update

The Planning Commission (PC) has started updating the town's zoning to support the new Town Plan. With funding from a state grant, the PC hired Brandy Saxton from PlaceSense to guide the process. Saxton was selected from among five qualified consultants (Go to PlaceSense.com to read more about her and her company). The PC appointed two residents, Gabriella Malina and Lindy Biggs, to participate with the PC on the zoning project.

This fall, the consultant will present draft zoning language for PC consideration. Our goal is to have a draft of the updated zoning ready for public review by the end of the year, with public outreach sessions to take place in early 2019. Meetings of the Planning Commission are held on the first and third Thursdays of each month and are open to the public.

—Norman Hill is PC secretary.

U-32 Celebrates Community Mentors



Paul Erlbaum and Finn Olson

with mentors in the community: Branching Out (founded by East Montpelier's own Carolyn Shapiro in 1999), Community Based Learning (CBL), The Pilot program, Branching Out Middle School, and the Alt Path to Graduation. All told, we have as many as 130 students each year learning from community members. In this era of digital communication, mentors can be from around the globe, but most still come from our local communities. Many are from East Montpelier.

What do students learn from their mentors? The excuse to get together is always a study dreamed up by a student, a study not available in school—like Japanese, Buddhism, antique gunsmithing, building an electric guitar, or philosophy. Other times, students plan projects to get a glimpse of a possible career—accounting, marketing, surgery, psychology, teaching, sound engineering, or law enforcement. How mentors and students spend their hours together varies widely.

One thing is consistent: mentors gift their time, expertise, and interest. Students get a chance to meet community members or get to know a familiar neighbor in a new way. As often as not, the lessons students learn may seem off topic, and yet they are relevant in these young lives: how to reach out and communicate outside of school, how to connect with new adults, how to follow a thread of interest, how to be critical thinkers and feelers, how to be lifelong learners.

The student/mentor connection is the heart of these programs at U-32. Sophomore Finn Olson spent the year exploring questions of how people develop their moral/ethical values. At this celebration, Finn spoke about his connection with his mentor, East Montpelier resident, Paul Erlbaum. "Paul taught me how to

On the evening of May 9, students, parents, and community members gathered in the U-32 atrium to showcase and celebrate the work done by students with the help of community mentors in our third annual Mentor Appreciation Night. U-32 offers five programs in which students have the chance to link up

with mentors in the community: Branching Out (founded by East Montpelier's own Carolyn Shapiro in 1999), Community Based Learning (CBL), The Pilot program, Branching Out Middle School, and the Alt Path to Graduation. All told, we have as

tackle big questions. He taught me how to research, and most importantly, he taught me that with a little peppermint tea, anything is possible... Paul has been a truly important adult in my life this year." Paul responds, "What an opportunity! Ruminating on questions people have pondered for centuries with a smart, determined, engaging 15-year-old—not an opportunity to be missed! Working with Finn and witnessing his critical thinking skills grow is a consistent joy."



Aro Veno (l) with students Erin Langevin and Jozie Bolduc (right).



Leanne Copping worked with the McKnight and Center Farms

Ann Stanton, a mentor for several students studying psychology, shares the enthusiasm. "Everything about the mentor experience has been so positive. Just walking in the U-32 door, I feel boosted up by the energy contained in that building. My student mentees were serious about and invested in their topics. They worked hard, were eager to discuss, open to suggestions, and were courageous in their explorations. In short, they were ideal students."

Thank you to all the East Montpelier community members who have helped make this program possible; we look forward to many more connections. If you are interested in mentoring a student, please contact Karen Liebermann (kiebermann@u32.org) or Mentor

Coordinator Kim McKellar (kmckellar@u32.org).

—Karen Liebermann works at U-32 and lives in East Montpelier with her husband, Bob, and their children, Cricket, Dane, and Una, who are already taking full advantage of mentoring opportunities at U-32.

Thank you to Signpost contributors:

Paul Erlbaum and Rachael Grossman
Harriet Haggett
John Ordway and Molly Power
Patricia Woodward

Inside EMES: Study of East Montpelier and Surrounds

Know Our Town

This year East Montpelier Elementary third graders studied their town in a unit entitled "East Montpelier—Past, Present, Future." Students learned about the town's history, important landmarks, early settlers, and current landscape. Guest speakers talked to the students about their connections to the town and how it has changed over the years. They included Michael Duane from the East Montpelier Historical Society, the Hall family from Fairmont Farms, Burr Morse from Morse Farm, Bruce Chapell from Templeton Farm, and Rosie Laquerre from the Town Office.

As a culminating event, students participated in a tour around town that took them to some important landmarks. With guest speakers at each site, students learned more about the significance of the landmark to the Town of East Montpelier. Sites included the Morse Farm, U-32 Middle/High School, the Old Meeting House, the Town Office, and the Fire Station.

Students have ensured their research has a longer life and a broader audience through a video they've produced with the support of a grant from the Vermont Folklife Center of Middlebury, Vermont, and the help of the EMES technology club. The video consists of interviews with the guest speakers against a background of East Montpelier landscape photos. The video was unveiled at EMES Technology Night on June 12. Students and staff are appreciative of all the townspeople who contributed to this learning.

—Kathy Christy teaches 3rd grade as well as professional development for teachers.

Physical Education Lab Update

This spring we did a lot of moving in and around our community. Grades one, two, and three visited the Country Club of Barre to practice their golf skills and concepts. We did some driving, chipping, and putting on one of the best courses in Vermont. The assistant golf pro, Evan Cary, was amazing with our kids. As we toured the clubhouse and pro shop, he demonstrated types of swings and clubs, and then we got to play about three holes of golf. EMES students showed off their skills and knowledge of golf rules and etiquette.

Grade four headed to Wrightsville for a day of canoeing and disc golf. They practiced boat safety and different strokes to maneuver a canoe, then played some canoe games such as boat tag and racing. Disc golf was up and happening at the East Montpelier Elementary School "country club" this spring, so we tested our skills on the Wrightsville course as well.

The grade five/six classes did some climbing and disc golfing at Millstone in Barre. We had great weather to practice

on the disc golfing course and also did some reconnaissance for potential mountain biking trails. The climbing at this location is great for beginners, but also has some features that will challenge the more experienced students.

—Michael Blanchard is EMES PE teacher and serves on the EM Recreation Board.

Trout in the Classroom ... and in the Stream



"Wow! That was cool that I got to release the trout myself!"

"I'm proud that we took such good care of our fish."

"I was surprised when the caddisfly crawled onto my hand!"

"Our trout are in a good stream. All the tests say so."

Those were some of the comments overheard when we released 64 brook trout that EMES fourth graders raised this spring into a river in East Montpelier. Thanks to a grant from Trout Unlimited, we received the equipment needed to raise the brook trout. The Trout in the Classroom (TIC) program instills the importance of caring for our environment.

In January we received 100 "eyed" eggs from Roxbury Fish Hatchery. Besides learning about the trout stages and life cycle, students chose a specific fish to study in depth. They wrote a report and created a 3-D mobile in art.

We used the WCSU science standard of cause/effect to learn what happens if the river is polluted, the standard of internal and external structure and function to learn about trout body parts and what they do, the standard of matter and energy to learn about food chains and webs, and the standard of sustainability to understand what we can do to help the trout. Articles from the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Fishing Guide were read, and then we used the maps in the back to show the trout's route from Sodom Pond to the Winooski River to Lake Champlain.

Students engaged in an activity in which they became steelhead trout and followed a scent (vanilla, almond, anise, or peppermint) to find their breeding grounds. They also completed an obstacle course in PE in which they were salmon and had to avoid bears, fishermen, branches, waterfalls, turbines, and more. Then we looked at what we could do to help the fish get to their spawning grounds more easily.

As part of the Teens Reaching Youth program, U-32 students Mia Smith, Jesse Colnes, and Rebecca Thompson taught the fourth graders about the water cycle, watersheds, impacts on water, aquatic food chains and webs, stream health, and conserving and protecting waterways. Each lesson we connected back to the brook trout.

On the day of the release, we tested the river to see if it was suitable for trout. Because fish are an indicator species of clean water, we conducted four tests. We tested for dissolved oxygen, turbidity, temperature, and pH, each time comparing the results to values that will sustain trout.

Students used nets to find what macroinvertebrates were living in the stream. They found mayfly, caddisfly and dragonfly nymphs. They even got to see a dragonfly emerge



from its exoskeleton and found two empty casings. One student caught a wild trout in the net, and Ted Nathanson, my TIC partner, caught a brookie on his fly line.

Student reflections:

"I learned it's important to keep rivers clean for our trout."

"It's amazing that we caught so many things."

"I loved learning about the water cycle."

"When I first saw the fish eggs, I was so excited I could have screamed."

"I liked seeing them grow up and taking care of them."

"My favorite thing was releasing the trout."

It was a very successful project.

—Robin Gannon, long-time 4th grade teacher, coordinates this innovative learning experience for her students.

Precision Sharpening. continued from page 1

observed that other mechanics were bringing things to Dave to be fixed, the Automaster dealership—which was a Mercedes dealer—sent Dave to Teaneck, New Jersey, to be trained as a Mercedes mechanic. He was the first Vermont technician ever sent there. He subsequently moved to Montpelier and worked for five years at Lyons Toyota.

Dave decided that he wanted to be his own boss, so he bought a small Amoco filling station from Joe Foti. Serendipitously, Foti's legal secretary was an attractive young woman named Joanne Hudson. Reader, he married her! Nineteen seventy was a busy year. Besides getting married, Dave bought two Mobil stations, one in Montpelier and the other in Barre. The young couple moved to Barnes Road and later bought the log home, where they raised their three children.

So, how did Dave get from managing three filling stations, raising three children, fulfilling all the duties and pleasures of family man and business owner, to an in-home business sharpening almost anything: chain saws, hand saws, knives, scythes, axes, hatchets, augers, scissors, chisels, carbide blades, and pruning tools? Personally, I think it has to do with that mechanical-mindedness and the ongoing urge to solve problems, fix things, and make them better.

Dave says, "I worked alongside my mechanics at the filling stations, and I always did things like fix my own lawn mowers. I also taught myself how to do sharpening. People were always bringing things to me to fix, repair, sharpen, etc. So I decided to open my own business in my home—where I do all my work. When people realized that I could not only sharpen saws and

mowers, but that I could also take them apart and repair their motors, I got even more business."

Dave's aptly named "Precision Edge" requires excellent vision, steady hands, and patience, as well as mastery of a remarkable collection of tools and a big dose of perfectionism. He demonstrated a Swedish-made grinding machine that dials within ½ degree on edges. This is only one of the specialized tools he uses for the work. The garage is filled with many different implements in various stages of repair. Asked how he advertises to attract so much business, Dave replied that he does very little advertising. "Word of mouth" keeps him plenty busy.

According to my 1967 edition of the Unabridged Random House Dictionary of the English Language, Dave Guilmette is a "cutler," and Precision Edge is a "cutlery." Dave is proud that he has turned a lifelong hobby into an ancient and proud trade that has become almost extinct.

If you have a knife or tool and its performance is less than you need or would like, consider taking it to Guilmette's Precision Edge. You won't be disappointed: it will be returned to you sharper than you thought possible. Stop by his shop and pick up a Precision Edge "menu" with prices for 50 different items that he'll sharpen. The place of business is his garage at 85 Barnes Road. He can be reached at (802) 477-2406 or by email at dguilmette49@gmail.com

Prices are fair, and the banter with Dave is free.

—David Connor lives with his wife, Ann Stanton, on Center Rd. in EM Center. He is the retired director of the Lamoille Family Center in Morrisville and the retired Pastor Emeritus of the Old Meeting House.

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Darci Coleman-Graves	Lindy Johnson
Flor Diaz-Smith	Stephen Looke

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Town Weathervane

Milestones

BIRTHS

- Lyra Wren Purcell Williams, a daughter, born to Colleen Purcell and John Williams in March 2018

DEATHS

- Ida Lange, wife of Willem Lange, died in April 2018

LAND TRANSFERS

Key to Deed Types:

W–Warranty; Q–Quit Claim C–Corrective; M–Mobile Home; E–Easement; T–Trust Deed

- Steven Bigras to Tyler Bigras, 11.16 acres and dwelling on Jourdan Road (W)
- Patrick & Diane McCormack to Kristin Beaulieu & Erin Edwards, 1.32 acres and dwelling on Sandy Pines Road (Q)
- Ellery & Jennifer Packard to Justine Guthrie, 1.96 acres and dwelling on Pine Ridge Rd. (W)
- Joanne LaPerle, etal. to Thomas & Michele Delaney, 0.95 acres and dwelling on Cutler Heights (W)
- Roy Potter, Jr. to Potter Development, LLC, 1.10 acres and dwelling on VT14S (W)
- Patrick Biggam to Patrick Biggam Trust, 3.70 acres and dwelling on Bliss Road (Q)
- Francis & Irene Tash to Francis Tash, Jr. 1.42 acres and dwelling on Guyette Road (W)
- Donald Cote to James LaCourse, 0.18 acres and dwelling on VT14S (Q)
- Dorothy Cool to Michael Ciampi, mobile home on Mugford Road (M)
- The Kendal Frost Trust to Hobart Guion, Jr., 110 acres and dwelling on Kelton Road (T)
- Geneva Wilkin to Daniel Mercier, Mobile Home on Robinson Rd (M)

Meeting Minutes

The following are excerpts from the meetings of local town boards. See complete minutes of the town boards under Documents on the EM website at eastmontpeliervt.org and the school boards minutes on their websites.

SELECTBOARD

April 9, 2018

- Presentation by planning commission of draft 2018 Town Plan
- Discussion of EM Village sidewalk project waterline issues
- Discussion of LaPerle property boundary adjustment
- Discussion of Park 'n Ride signage
- Discussion of Town Garage water system

Motions Passed:

- to appoint Ben Lange to the DRB
- to move in and out of executive session for discussion of Central VT Internet Communications Union District (CVICUD) town representatives
- to appoint Bob Klein as CVICUD town representative, with Tom Fisher and Rebecca Schrader as alternates
- to authorize the town administrator to execute the contract with Brandy Saxton/PlaceSense for consulting services on the zoning rewrite project funded by a municipal planning grant
- to authorize the town administrator and road foreman to sign the application for the VLCT PACIF equipment grant
- to authorize the Recreation Board treasurer to submit the application for a grant for lacrosse equipment starter package through the US Lacrosse First Stick Program
- to find that incorporating Complete Streets principles is outside the scope of the project because of its very nature
- to find that [the SB] has considered Complete Streets for this area and the cost of incorporating Complete Streets principles is disproportionate to probable use, due to natural resource constraints imposed by long stretches of ledge near the road
- to adopt the FY19 Annual Financial Plan for Town Highways
- to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the letter to Dana T. Percy, Jr. and John D. Turner regarding Park 'n Ride contractor payments
- to approve the appointment of Gabrielle Molina to the Central VT Solid Waste Management District board

April 23, 2018

Motions Passed:

- to amend the 2018 draft Town Plan for the warning of the Selectboard hearings to include the revisions presented to Map 15
- to adopt the revised Local Emergency Operations Plan
- to accept the NEMRC annual disaster recovery contract
- to approve a resolution as follows: whereas all four candidates for the Washington Electric Co-op board appear eminently

qualified, and whereas four (4) candidates are vying for three (3) positions; be it therefore resolved that the Selectboard authorizes the Town Administrator to vote for Stephen Farnham, Roger Fox, and Steven Knowlton

- to approve access permit 18-008, 855 Jacobs Road

May 7, 2018

[Meeting as the Board of Health]

Town Health Officer Burley provided a report on her recent activities around town, including investigations into dog and cat attack incidents and investigation of a derelict home on Horn of the Moon Road.

[Regular Selectboard Meeting]

- Consideration of Quaker Road culvert replacement plans
- Consideration of dry hydrant proposal for Codling Rd. By consensus the board wholeheartedly supported the grant submission, installation of a dry hydrant at the location, and access development with town funding and road crew assistance
- Discussion with the EMFD of an emergency services provision concern

Motions Passed:

- to authorize Town Health Officer Burley to utilize Town Attorney Bruce Bjornlund in her investigation into the ongoing public health situation [rat infestation] at 2765 Horn of the Moon Rd
- to accept CAI Technologies AxisGIS offer and authorize TA Johnson to sign agreement for the AxisGIS [web mapping] service
- to approve the Recreation Board Policies and Procedures and the Recreation Board Athletic Policies documents as presented
- to order Recreation Board to hold officer elections at its May 14, 2018 meeting
- to designate "Deerfield Lane" as the name for the Cherry Tree LLC development road [north side of Towne Hill Road]
- to approve payment of up to \$5,000 to the Crystal Springs Water System for the verifiable cost to upsize to 8" and relocate the water system's pipe located on the 2952 US2 parcel owned by Gloria Biron

May 14, 2018

Public Hearing on the Proposed 2018 East Montpelier Town Plan

No members of the public appeared.

Selectboard Meeting

- Following the Public Hearing, the Selectboard noted the lack of further

input on the town plan and congratulated the PC members on their work incorporating comments from the well-attended hearing the PC held.

PLANNING COMMISSION

March 22, 2018

Public Hearing, Town Plan

The Commission accepted comments from the public

Regular Meeting

Reviewed feedback from Public Hearing

Motions Passed:

- to recommend to the Selectboard to hire Brandy Saxton of PlaceSense to work on zoning regulations

April 5, 2018

Discussion of new Vermont Disaster

Animal Relief Team (DART)

Discussion of creation of steering committee for zoning regulation revisions

Election of Officers

- Chairperson: Julie Potter
- Vice Chair: Scott Hess
- Secretary: Norm Hill

Motions Passed:

- to adopt the PC Rules of Procedure & Ethics as presented
- to approve the changes to the Town Plan as discussed and approve sending the final draft to the SB

April 19, 2018

Discussion of zoning update with Brandy Saxton

Motions Passed:

- to appoint Gabrielle Malina and Lindy Biggs to serve on the PC steering committee for the zoning project
- to recommend to the SB to eliminate the proposed boundary amendment from Map 15 with no text changes

May 3, 2018

Discussion of zoning update: identification of current zoning challenges

May 17, 2018 (unapproved)

- Discussion of zoning update: Review and complete zoning challenges summary
- Discussion of Fairmont/Lylehaven Conservation Project, Phase II*

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

April 3, 2018

Reviewed Sketch Plan for a proposed 2-lot subdivision of Rice property at 855 Jacobs Rd

Motions Passed:

- to approve subdivision application #18-003 [for Rauh property located at 940

Murray Rd] as submitted with the condition that the horse shed be re-located or removed

- to recess the review of Application #18-004 [for Morris Properties, LLC, site improvements to the existing motor vehicle sales and service facility located at 4243 US2] to May 1, 2018
- to recess the review of Application #18-005 004 [for Morris Properties, LLC, conditional use permit for property located at 4233 US2] to May 1, 2018
- to approve the landfill project proposed under Application #18-006 [Crossroads Christian Church] with the following two conditions: 1) contractor must provide erosion control during and after the construction, and 2) contractor must provide diffusion of outfall after the completion of project with no impact on existing outflow

May 1, 2018

Motions Passed:

- to approve subdivision application #18-007 submitted by Lorie & Robert Rice, to further subdivide their residential property located at 855 Jacobs Rd
- to approve subdivision application #18-004 submitted by Jim & Ashley Morris, to make site improvements to the existing motor vehicle sales and service facility located at 4243 US2.
- to approve Application #18-005 as presented, submitted by Morris Properties, LLC

Excerpts of the minutes of the EMES and U-32 boards have been omitted due to lack of space. They are available on the Signpost website at emsignpost.com.



TERRY J. ALLEN

Wisconsin for a master's in English literature. She returned to New Jersey to work in education, first in adult basic education and then at Montclair State College's Bureau of Adult and Community Education.

During those years apart they kept writing. Ginny joined Dave in Vermont in 1981, when they moved into a trailer on their land and started building the house they still live in. Dave had some construction experience but had never worked on anything as small as a house; he had worked on the Alaska pipeline and Saudi refineries. Just as they built a beautiful house, they also built a life-long partnership. They married in 1981; their first child, Aaron, arrived in 1982, Hannah in 1984, and Cassie in 1988. Interestingly, all three children are now either physicians or in medical school. Aaron practices at Essex Pediatrics, Hannah just graduated from Boston University School of Medicine in May, and Cassie is in medical school at the University of Pittsburgh.

In Vermont, Dave worked for the state department of Buildings and General Services, specializing in bridges and buildings. One of his biggest jobs was to supervise the rebuilding of the state complex in Waterbury after tropical storm Irene. He retired in 2017 after more than thirty years working for the state. When he wasn't building, he coached and refereed elementary and middle school sports and has volunteered as a mentor for Girls/Boyz First for ten years. His mentee is now a junior at Spaulding; they started at Rumney when the mentee was in fourth grade. Dave is a Trash Tramp at the Montpelier Senior Center and is a member of East Montpelier Trails, Inc.

Ginny says that she was a "stay-at-home" mom from 1982 to 1995, but her activities describe anything but staying at home. Anyone who knows Ginny knows that she never sits still. During her so-called stay-at-home period, her activities included volunteering and leading a number of groups: La Leche League, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Odyssey of the Mind, East Montpelier Elementary School, and a parents' group. She also home schooled her youngest for a few years.

In 1995 she re-entered the paid working world part time at the Washington County Family Center as a family support home visitor and quickly advanced to the position of supervisor for all home-visiting programs. During that time she says that she learned the importance of looking at systems: understanding that problems are not solved one at a time, but through looking at connections and addressing the networks that create and support problems. That approach has informed all of her work since. "It's how I think," she says.

In 1998 Ginny was hired as Director of Central Vermont New Directions Coalition, a prevention program funded by Health Department grants for many years. Still in existence, New Directions is the only coalition left in Washington County that works to prevent substance abuse among teenagers and adults. After two years in that position she was invited to create a new program supported by a grant from the Twenty-first Century Community Learning Center. The local program became "Community Connections," which also looked at youth issues and created after-school and summer programs focused on positive youth development.

In addition, she served on the U-32 Board for eighteen years, was an early board member of the Four Corners Schoolhouse, and currently serves on the board of the state-wide Vermont Afterschool. She has recently returned to New Directions part-time, working with schools and communities on the problems of opiate, alcohol, and tobacco addiction. Back in East Montpelier, she now serves as a Justice of the Peace and the Town Health Officer.

Ginny and Dave say that East Montpelier is the best place to raise kids and to be involved in the community. They have both been models for involved citizenship. We're lucky to have them in East Montpelier.

—Lindy Biggs lives in the White Pine Co-housing Community. She retired from teaching history and sustainability six years ago and is enjoying "living the good life" in East Montpelier.



TVSC Needs You

Retired people, high school and college students—we need your time and talents. Give back to your community in a great, fun, and caring environment by giving as much time as you have. Twin Valley Senior Center seeks volunteers for the following:

- Train to be a volunteer for the Meals on Wheels Program. Duties include record keeping for recipient meals, freezer meals inventory, and preparing bags for delivery.
- Marketing Twin Valley Senior Center. We are looking for someone interested in marketing to be on the Board of Directors or work directly with the director. We need someone to contribute information, ideas, and research to help develop marketing strategies and implement them. You would be a great asset in helping our non-profit organization move forward.

These experiences may also provide an opportunity to earn school credits. Please consider joining our team: Contact Rita at 223-3322 or email Twinvalleyseniors@myfairpoint.net.

- Assist in the kitchen prepping food, preparing morning snacks, packaging Meals on Wheels, washing dishes, etc.

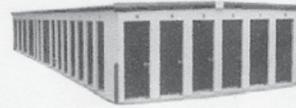


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TERRY J. ALLEN

Important Dates

Tues. Aug. 14, 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Primary election, Town Office

Mon. Sept. 3 Labor Day, Town Office closed

Calendar

Fri. July 20, 4:00 p.m. Ring 4 Freedom event: bells across the state will ring for 4 minutes. The town bell will be rung as well as other bells in town. For more info see <https://www.themillvt.com/4-freedoms-festival-1/2018/7/20/ring-4-freedom>

Deadline for the next issue of the Signpost is August 1

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Conservation Fund Advisory Committee
Development Review Board (DRB)

East Montpelier Elementary School (EMES) Board

East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD)

East Montpelier Fire District No. 1

East Montpelier Historical Society

East Montpelier Senior Living Initiative

Four Corners Schoolhouse Association

EMES Parent Teacher Neighbor Org. (PTNO)

Planning Commission (PC)

Recreation Board

Selectboard

U-32 School Board

as needed

1st Tues. 7:00 p.m.

3rd Mon. 5:30 p.m.

Every Tues. 7:00 p.m.

2nd Wed. 7:00 p.m.

3rd Mon. 7:00/6:00 p.m.

as needed

2nd Wed. 7:00 p.m.

2nd Wed. 6:30 p.m.

1st & 3rd Thurs. 7:00 p.m.

2nd Mon. 7:15 p.m.

1st & 3rd Mon. 6:30 p.m.

1st Wed. 6:00 p.m.

contact: blusig@aol.com /229-5441

Town Office Building

Elementary School

EMFD Community Room

EMFD Community Room

Four Corners Schoolhouse/E. Calais

contact: rhazel@ezcloud.com

Four Corners Schoolhouse

Elementary School, Art Room

Town Office Building

Elementary School

Town Office Building

U-32 School