

EAST MONTPELIER Signpost

Volume 1, No. 2

November/December 1990

CARROLL BADGER *A Life Simply Lived*

Last July, East Montpelier lost one of the best citizens a small town could ever have. When Carroll Badger died, the whole community went into shocked mourning. He died as simply and quietly as he had lived, while piling wood for next winter's warmth. If Carroll had been able to choose the way in which he would go, this would probably have been it.

Carroll was born to John and Louise Badger on December 19, 1919, the oldest of four children. His sister, Rachel, is the deceased wife of Hugh Hawkins. His brother Harry and wife Mildred live on Dairy Lane in Montpelier, and Carroll's younger sister, Frieda, is the widow of Franklin Scribner and lives in Calais.

Carroll's formal education began in the Four Corners School in East Montpelier, but at the end of his first year, his parents bought the Bailey Farm near East Montpelier Center and thereafter he went to the Center School and later to Montpelier High School.

During World War II, he joined the Air Force, was stationed in New Caledonia in the Pacific where he was an airplane mechanic. When the war ended, Carroll came back to Williamstown to live with an uncle and worked in a filling station in town. As a sideline, he started one of the first school bus routes in the state, using his own '28 Dodge. Just a few years later, he returned to his family home in East Montpelier Center where he remained for the rest of his life.



During the 70's and 80's, he drove a school bus for East Montpelier. Carroll was a very quiet, efficient disciplinarian. Once when the kids became unbearable, he simply turned the bus around, drove back to the school, lined them up in front of the principal and said, in effect, "Now you take over."

Carroll was a music lover. As a young boy, he picked up a visitor's harmonica and with no previous training proceeded to make music, and he continued making it for the rest of his life. Besides a harmonica, he owned three accordions, a guitar, a keyboard and had just recently bought a Hammond organ. All of these he played without knowing a note of music. He was never without music. He had radios in almost every room of his house and even in the sawmill and the sugarhouse. Many of these he had built himself. He was part of a small orchestra which played on demand in many parts of the town. They played, finally, for him at his Memorial Service.

According to his sister, Frieda, Carroll was a "tinkerer." Others might call him an innovator or even an inventor. One thing for sure--Carroll never tinkered just for the fun of it. He always had a utilitarian objective in view. A few years ago he had an old Fordson tractor with iron rear wheels, which blew its engine. He also had a Henry J auto which had a better front than rear. He hated to scrap either one of these fine machines, so he cut the Henry J in half, removed the engine from the Fordson and with a few 2 x 6's from the mill, he made a tractor with a car front end and engine.

Hundreds of passersby delight in one of his last "inventions." From old metal sap buckets, he fashioned a very photogenic roadside waterwheel which runs fast or slow according to the water flowing down his little brook.

This, too, has a purpose besides being a camera-stop. It actually produces enough electricity to charge a battery. (Incidentally, Carroll's good sense of humor stood out one day when a tour bus load of people stopped to admire the wheel and met him crossing the road. In the ensuing visit, one tourist asked him if he had lived here all his life, and Carroll answered, "Well--not quite.")

Carroll loved the land and his home. As Master of the Montpelier Center Grange for years, he put into practice the Grange's philosophy that one should be a good caretaker of the land. His was truly a diversified farm. At various times, he grew strawberries, blueberries, rhubarb, and potatoes, and even grew wheat and ground his own flour. He raised geese and bees, and boarded cows.



Carroll at his cider press

His sawmill produced lumber for many a neighbor, and his sugarhouse and cider mill were social centers at the appropriate seasons. Carroll was one of the first in the area to make apple cider jelly. His agricultural pursuits followed him into the kitchen where Carroll was an A#1 cook, noted for his doughnuts and homemade ice cream.

Carroll did not forget the kids. Whether he was leading them in 4-H or helping build and man a skating rink or a swimming pond, he was a great favorite of all the neighborhood youngsters.

Carroll was civic-minded and always in favor of anything he thought would better the community life. He helped start the East Montpelier Fire Department. He was school director for a number of years, and at the time of his death he was on the East Montpelier Cemetery Commission. In all his dealings with the general public, he was thoughtful and fair and had a talent for defusing potential fireworks.

He could be a little cynical about the fast-growing bureaucracy and the ever-increasing rules and regulations, remarking at one time that he no longer dared turn his wheelbarrow around without getting a permit. He did have faith, however, that common sense would prevail and that wise townspeople would choose the right paths for the town. He had recently voiced support for the new little newsheet which has just been started.

Somewhere, somebody is probably saying to Carroll, as in his Grange ritual: "Well done, good and faithful servant." Carroll, we will miss you, but you will never be far from our thoughts, as we pass your waterwheel and remember how you were.

Dorothy Morse

RALLY DAY '90 (Overheard on September 9)

"Did you go to Rally Day yesterday?"

What Rally Day?

You know, all those things going on around town, like games and hikes and stuff.

Oh. I guess I read about it in the paper. Did you do all the things they talked about?

No way! I didn't know there were so many roads in East Montpelier. I got lost looking for the Town Forest, but on the way I stopped by the Four Corners School (did you know I went there for 6th grade?) and had a ball checking out the old pictures of town and watching the little kids playing their violins.

Oh, is that why I saw a school bus going by on Saturday? And full of grown-ups too! And the old cars and tractors were headed for the school, right? I wondered about them.

Uh huh, they were part of a wheel show that was there all day. Inside they were showing a bunch of crafts made right here in town. It makes you realize there are some pretty talented folks living here.

I know. I heard that the Variety Show was a panic. It reminded me of the minstrel shows the church used to put on years ago. Those were the days! Probably some of the acts you saw were put on by the kids of the folks who did it back then. Talk about talent!

That's for sure. Our town isn't lacking in that department. It seems sort of nice to have a day just for East Montpelier, makes it feel special. My only problem was that they didn't have a food sale, except for pies and cider at the Old Meeting House. Of course, the Brick Church put on a good baked bean supper, but how about during the day? Sure makes you hungry to play ball and hike around town.

Maybe they'll at least sell popcorn next year and sandwiches and cookies and cider. Sometime I hope they'll give tours of the early schoolhouses in the 10 original school districts in town. Wonder how many are still standing?

I think it would be fun if they had a parade -- and my son thought a skateboard demonstration would be neat and maybe some foot races. Guess there's no end of fun things that would make Rally Day go on for years!"

Saturday, September 7, 1991 has been chosen as the third East Montpelier Rally Day. If you would like to help in any way, please call Jean Cate at 223-2951 or Sylvia Tosi at the Town Office, 223-3313.

THE TOWN WEATHERVANE

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Peter Hill, Allan Couch, Austin Cleaves

August 8, 1990

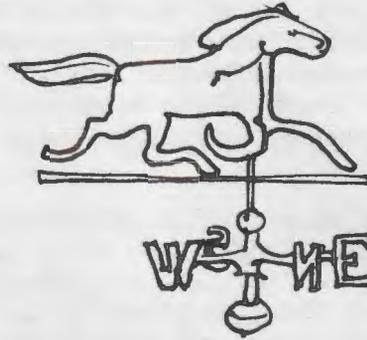
- * Flood damage in N. Montpelier discussed. Flood disaster funds applied for.
- * Read petition signed by area residents regarding a speeding car going 60 to 70 mph on day ambulance was at home of Harry and Dot Morse's nearly hitting some people. Noted to cut brush on westerly side of County Road and post signs as to hidden driveways.
- * Appointed Margaret Richey to the Planning Commission to replace Philip Sparrow who recently resigned.
- * Approved closing Town Clerk's Office on October 4 so clerk and assistant clerk could go to Town Fair at Barre Auditorium.
- * Cancelled August 22 meeting.

September 12

- * Agreed to support the effort being made to locate a safe refuge house in Barre City. Signed a statement of support to be delivered to the Shelter Committee, Inc., by John Riley.
- * Town to receive \$11,845 in flood disaster funds for North Montpelier dam and \$960 for Horn of the Moon culvert.
- * In response to request by Nadell Fishman, decided to place a YIELD sign for those entering Dodge Road from Vincent Flats Road so they would have to yield the right of way to those going toward Dodge Road from Snow Hill intersection.
- * Received \$4797 on Act 200 funds for 1990/91. The amount originally quoted was \$5918.
- * Approved attendance of the Town Clerk and Johanna DeMartino, Chair of the Planning Commission at award ceremony in Washington, D.C. for the Take Pride in America Award.

September 26

- * Approved putting an additional 12" of blown-in insulation in the attic of the Town Office Building.
- * Appointed Carroll Witham, Jr. as Cemetery Commissioner to finish Carroll Badger's term through Town Meeting 1991.
- * Heard report from Route 2 Citizens Alliance regarding their



concerns on the rebuilding of Route 2. The group proposed that a corridor study of the area be done before any further rebuilding is done. Selectmen will direct the Planning Commission to gather more information on what the cost, time frame, etc. of such a study would entail.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chair: Johanna DeMartino

August 16

- * Listened to Leonard Wing of the CV Landfill explain proposed changes for a recycling center at the landfill.
- * Reviewed the revised Sandy Pines Development Map and will take any necessary steps after the proposed changes have been reviewed under Act 250.

September 6

- * Voted to approve the site plan for the CV Landfill recycling center with conditions: 1) No outside, uncovered storage areas, 2) Include a drop off recycling area for residents, 3) Planning Board reserves the right to review traffic matters after the recycling center has been in operation for a time.
- * Received a draft of the Town Plan from John Riley.
- * Received update on Regional Planning from Tim Carver.
- * Heard report from John Riley and John Hall on landfill hearing held on August 15 in Barre. They reported that there were numerous arguments from those opposing the landfill. The landfill board at this stage believes that the real issue is whether or not the land will support a landfill. This needs to be resolved before discussion of whether such a facility should be constructed.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Chair: Earle Ellingwood

September 10

- * Approved the application and conditional use permit for C.V. Landfill, Inc. to add a recycling facility to the existing landfill.
- * Approved the application and conditional use permit for Emma Lund to put a double wide trailer on her property on Fair Road.

RECREATION NEWS

Charlie Burbo, Judy Cookson, Jack Pauly

- * The Recreation Committee has been busy the last few months. Jack Pauly, Charlie Burbo, and Paul Cate spent many hours preparing the field for the new fence. S&W Fence Co. installed the new fence to keep everyone safe.
- * 108 East Montpelier children participated in the swim program at Wedgewood. This is a great program at a reasonable price.
- * Regulation goals and a practice field at the school have put in with the hard work of our enthusiastic coaches, and soccer is now in full swing.

FOUR CORNERS SCHOOLHOUSE ASSOCIATION

Marion Codling

The Board of Directors met at the schoolhouse on September 19th to further discuss obtaining grant monies for the major work needed at the schoolhouse. Wish us luck!

An open house was held on Rally Day, chaired by Kathy McGinley. Suzuki violin and piano presentations were scheduled throughout the day, coordinated by Andy Christiansen and Ginny Burley. A very meaningful and attractive picture display of East Montpelier historical buildings, with narratives, had been arranged by Lyn Blackwell and Carolyn Shapiro. Many residents took the opportunity to learn of the location of these buildings from an accompanying large wall map on display with the pictures.

THE BLACKBOARD Elementary School

Principal: Laura Johnson

The Elementary School Board has decided to send a newsletter to all townspeople in months alternating with the *Signpost* to keep everyone up to date on news from the school and from School Board meetings.

U-32 High School

Principal: John Coolidge

Participation Philosophy:
Still Right After 20 Years?

Sue Clayton

At a recent meeting of the Policy Committee of the U-32 School Board, the junior and senior high athletic directors, Paula Dolan and Dan Violette, and the Associate Principal Jackie Gahagan explained the dilemma they face with the school's "no-cut" participation policy.

"When the school was started 20 years ago, parents told us they wanted their kids to participate," Gahagan said. "They were tired of their kids being cut off teams, and told us it was more important that everybody play than it was to win. Back then, that wasn't a problem because usually we didn't have many kids out for sports. But the situation has changed now. We need to know if the board and communities still feel the same way about participation, and if so, how do we accommodate the growing numbers of kids who want to play?"

Twenty years ago, Gahagan remembered, U-32 only offered a few varsity and junior varsity level sports, mostly for boys. Now, not only has the number of varsity and junior varsity sports increased, programs are now offered for both girls and boys, and at the 7th, 8th, and 9th grade levels. Participation in sports at U-32 has increased dramatically, due in large part to the active sports programs now in place in all the elementary schools. This year's boys' 7th grade soccer team has 37 players. The girls' team has 35. Similar turnouts are expected for basketball, where participation problems will be more severe, with only a 5-person team instead of 11.

Obviously, one answer is to have more teams, a solution which has been used in past years in the junior high. The difficulty then becomes in recruiting qualified coaches, scheduling multi-team practices and games in an already full gym, as well as arranging for transportation and officials.

If we are successful at encouraging seventh and eighth grade participation, do we start cutting in ninth grade? Should we provide an intramural program? What are the guidelines? What is the philosophy of the U-32 district? If we want our children to participate, are we willing to pay for the space and people to make that possible?

These are not, nor are there ever, easy economic times. In December of this year, we will make our last bond payment on U-32. Will we use the \$155,000 a year we have been paying on that debt to improve our facilities to meet our present needs, or will we reduce our tax load? Is our commitment to education -- and participation -- different than it was 20 years ago? Our teachers and children have a right to know.



WANTED!

Someone with a desire to do something important for the community. Someone with courage and dedication who isn't afraid of hard work, and is willing to accept the challenge of a difficult job. We are looking for a person who considers respect and appreciation reward enough, and who is just glad to help. If you're this kind of person, you're needed as a volunteer fire fighter. Come to the firehouse on any Tuesday night and talk to us, call any member of the East Montpelier Fire Department, or call Lt. Bob Van Zandt at 454-7101.

EAST MONTPELIER'S A WINNER!

East Montpelier received one of 89 citations awarded at the Fourth Annual Take Pride in America ceremony in Washington D.C. Take Pride in America is a national campaign aimed at increasing awareness of the need for the wise use of both natural and cultural resources. Nearly 700 individuals and communities were nominated. East Montpelier was nominated by Charles Johnson for the work being done on town planning by bringing the community together in the planning process. East Montpelier received the only award bestowed upon an entire community.

Town Clerk Sylvia Tosi and Planning Commission Chairwoman Johanna DeMartino travelled to the capitol to receive this award. Before the ceremony, they were able to visit Ling-Ling at the Washington Zoo, climb the steps to the Lincoln Memorial, (no, they didn't count them all), and tour the Capitol Building with one of Senator Leahy's office staff. All this, and they got lost only once!

The awards ceremony was held on the mall across from the Washington Monument with the Secretary of the Interior, Manual Lujan, Jr., and Take Pride in America Spokeswoman Linda Evans presenting the awards.

"I join the Take Pride in America officials in applauding East Montpelier's efforts to preserve and effectively manage its natural resources. It is incumbent on us to protect our environment and act responsibly. I am delighted to see the people of East Montpelier recognized for their leadership."

*With best wishes,
Governor Madeleine Kunin*





BONING UP ON ZONING

Yes, East Montpelier has had zoning since 1972, and before you build, remodel, subdivide land, change the use of a building, add a pool, put up a sign, place a new or used mobile home on a site or replace your present mobile home, you need to check with Roger Chapell, our Zoning Administrator, to see if you need a permit. Permit applications and a copy of the regulations (\$2) are available at the Town Clerk's Office.

[A note about mobile homes: when moving one from one town to another, a bill of sale must be filed with the Town Clerks in both towns. However, this does not apply if you are moving from one mobile home park to another mobile home park.]

Roger's office hours at the Town Clerk's Office are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:00 to 2:30 P.M. or you may call him at 223-3313 or write to Box 157, East Montpelier, VT. 05651-0157. "I'm here to help you," Roger says, "not harass you. I try to make the process of obtaining a permit as painless as possible." Douglas Kievit-Kylar is the Zoning Administrator Assistant.

NEXT ISSUE

News for the January/February issue should be submitted by December 1 to Janice Waterman, RR 1, Box 4330, Montpelier, 05602; 223-5826.

BEFORE you plan your project, you should read the zoning regulations, locate the zone in which you reside, find which regulations apply to your project; fill out the permit application which should include a diagram (not necessarily to scale) showing the size and the setback measurements from property lines and adjacent buildings as accurately as possible.

Once you have given the completed application to the Zoning Administrator, he will determine if you need a permit. If you do need a permit, fees have been set as follows (effective July 1, 1990):

- Single Family Dwelling: \$60.00
- Multi-Family Dwelling: \$60.00/unit
- Planned Residential Development Review: \$60.00 per unit
- Motel: \$125.00
- Signs, fences, pools: \$15.00
- Garage Accessory: \$15.00
- Commercial/industrial:
 - Less than 10,000 square ft.: \$125.00
 - 10,000 square ft. and more: \$250.00
- Residential additions: \$15.00
- Commercial additions:
 - Less than 5,000 square ft.: \$60.00
 - 5,000 square ft. and more: \$85.00
- Planning Commission hearings: \$40.00 (plus advertising costs)
- Preliminary Plat Application: \$25.00 + \$10.00 per unit
- Board of Adjustment Hearings: \$35.00

Land subdivisions or those in industrial and commercial districts go to the Planning Commission for site plan approval.

Permits can be denied because of: (1) an incomplete application, (2) not a permitted use, or (3) does not meet setback requirements. If denied, you may appeal to the Board of Adjustment for a possible variance or conditional use permit. Your Administrator will guide you through this process. A project that is not permitted or is not a conditional use according to the present zoning regulations cannot be approved by any town body.

TOWN PLAN UPDATE

After almost two years of preparation, the Planning Commission has finally assembled all the input received from various boards, committees, and other interested townspeople into a working draft of our new Town Plan. The Commission is beginning to review the draft, discussing the contents and recommendations of each section.

The Planning Commission meets on the first, third and fourth Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building and will likely be devoting much of each meeting to Plan discussion. Notices will be posted in the Municipal Building on the Tuesday prior to each meeting listing the topics planned for discussion. Anyone interested in the Plan is urged and welcome to attend.

Following initial review, the Commission will be holding public forums to discuss the information and recommendations that will be contained in the final draft.

CONTRIBUTORS

We thank the following people for their generous donations:

*Carroll E. Badger
Charles & Claudia Bristow
Jim & Gladys Brock
Wes & Jean Cate, Jr.
Roger & Genevieve Chapell
Stanley & Joyce Christiansen
Marion J. Codling
Allan & Nancy Couch
Joseph & Johanna DeMartino
Don & Margie Donnelly
Phyllis Duso
Cy & Petie Ferris, Jr.
George & Barbara Fitch
Dr. Philip & Maureen Gates
A.F. Heitmann
Mildred Heller
Ellen Hill
Curtis & Charlotte Karr
Bradford & Ruth Lane
Wendy Soliday & Greg MacDonald
Edie & Mary Miller
Madeleine M. Mongan
Conrad & Anne Ormsbee
Alban & Margaret Richey
Riverbend Store
Roger & Anne Sherman
Dr. Robert & Cathy Smilovitz
Jean Vissering & Robert Klein
Florence Jean Young*

LAND TRANSFERS

(As received in the Town Clerk's Office
7/20/90-10/1/90)

Creamery Building on Rt. 2 from David and JoAnn Guilmette of East Montpelier to Warren and Mary Noyes of Waterbury.

Land and mobile home on North Street from Michael Vereline of Montpelier to Steven and Lisa Albertson of Montpelier.

Mobile home and 1 acre of land on Lyle Young Road from Robert Laird of Pittsfield, NH, to Betty Campbell of Worcester.

House and 10 acres on Bliss Road from Bennett and Patrice Johns of Montpelier to Peter and France Weinbaum of Montpelier.

Ten acres in North Montpelier from Ina Thompson of North Montpelier to Samuel Thompson of Northfield.

House and 4.3 acres from Estate of George Murray of East Montpelier to Henry Murray of East Montpelier.

Mobile home in Sandy Pines Trailer Park from Michael and Catherine Aja of East Montpelier to Andy and Andrea Ignacio of Barre.

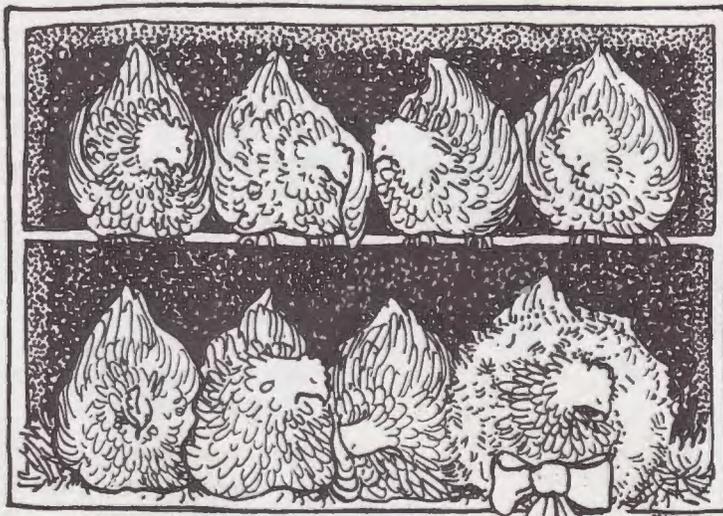
Mobile home in Sandy Pines Trailer Park from Phillip Chastenay of East Montpelier to David Delbrook of Montpelier and Stuart and Wilma Delbrook of Maryland.

House and 10.2 acres on Horn of the Moon Road from David and Diana Corl of East Montpelier to Ingrid Lukas of Montpelier.

Mobile home in Sandy Pines Trailer Park from John and Carole Culpepper of East Montpelier to Richard and Gladys Russell.

Mobile home in Sandy Pines Trailer Park from Roderick and Joan Houghton of Barre to Mark and Debra Randall of Montpelier.

House in North Montpelier from Samuel Thompson of Northfield to Ina Thompson of North Montpelier.



BE SURE TO VOTE! NOVEMBER 6, 1990

On Tuesday, November 6, the East Montpelier Elementary School Gym becomes the town voting place from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The building is fully accessible to the handicapped, and one booth is equipped with a table and chair for those who wish to sit down or who use a wheelchair. A Justice of the Peace will bring a ballot to those who can't make it to the polls due to sickness if the request is made by noon of Nov. 5.

Absentee ballots are available to registered voters who will be out of town on election day. Ballots may be requested by calling the Town Clerk at 223-3313 prior to noon of Nov. 5 and can be mailed upon request, or the voter may come to the Town Clerk's Office to vote. Ballots must be mailed back in the special envelope provided, to be received by Nov. 6.

TAXES NOW DUE

All REAL ESTATE and PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES are due and payable on or before November 10.

The Town Clerk's Office will be open Monday thru Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. the week of November 5, including Election Day on Tuesday, Nov. 6, and Friday, Nov. 9. The office will not be open on Saturday, Nov. 10, but taxes can be mailed and must be postmarked by November 10 to avoid penalty.

45 YEARS AGO

The *Signpost* isn't the first newspaper in town. The *TOWN CRIER* was published during the end of World War II and sent to East Montpelier people in the service. Do you remember these?

"S.F. Morse, who has 65 acres of potatoes, reports he has 1,500 bushel dug and is about half through. Several people from this village have been helping pick them up."

"The following men from North village are in the Home Guard: Raymond Hayward, Edward Carlson, Dixie Jacobs, and Jesse Gibbs."

"NEW CREAMERY STARTED AT EAST. The David Buttrick Company is about to start the construction of a new creamery at East Village. The contract has been awarded to Trumbell and Nelson, contractors of Hanover, N.H....The blueprints indicate a fine looking building which will be an asset to the town."

A.A.R.P.

The local chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons meets regularly in Montpelier for programs and socializing on the third Thursday of each month at the Senior Center on Barre Street at 1:30.

The chapter offers free tax assistance at tax time and holds the "55 Alive" driver refresher course several times a year. Charlotte Karr of East Montpelier is this year's program chairman, and Edmond Lovely of Berlin is the president. Come and get acquainted!



MOOSELIPS

♥ **Helen Witham** entered the first quilt she ever made in the Washington County Field Days Contest and won 1st prize!

♥ The **Wrightsville Beach Recreation District Board** discussed the feasibility of providing on-site winter recreational activities (primarily skating). They concluded that the expense of plowing and staffing and liability considerations outweighed the potential benefits.

♥ **Pharmaceutical Assistance** for Low Income elderly and disabled people is available. COVE (Coalition of Vermont Elders) can provide you with more information. Local contact is Chris Wright at 223-2152.

♥ A local pediatrician and his singing partner performed a medley of moving and successful duets on a local stage. We are pleased, however, to report that they have resisted the temptation to pursue a promising musical career and will humbly remain in the community.

♥ The East Montpelier Fire Department recognized **Bob Parker and Elliot Morse** as the 1990 Firefighters of the Year. Both were charter members of the department some 26 years ago.

♥ **Returnable bottles and cans** are being collected by the Old Meeting House Sunday School. The proceeds will be used to assist our neighbors in need through winter trials. Items can be left in the shed behind the Community Hall in the Center at any time.

♥ **Save your yellow register receipts** from the Grand Union and drop them off at the Elementary School. The School is eligible for free Apple computers and video equipment if they collect enough tapes.

♥ The **Food Shelf** in North Montpelier is always in need of food donations. It is located in the basement of the dance hall next to the Riverbend Store. Hours are Mon: 10-12, Wed: 2-4, Sat: 10-12.

♥ East Montpelier received an **Award of Merit** for our 1989 Town Report. The James P. Taylor Memorial Town Report Contest is sponsored by the UVM Extension Service and the Agency of Administration's Public Records Division.

♥ **Alfred Annis and his Jersey, "Annis Acres Volunteer Bruce Angel"** won Grand Champion of the Jersey Show for the Junior Exhibitors at the Champlain Valley Exposition.

♥ There are **249 students** enrolled at the Elementary School this year.

♥ **Anne Flanders** recently received the Commissioner's Award from the Dept. of Social and Rehabilitative Services for her dedicated commitment in serving as Guardian ad Litem for dozens of children involved in the court system.

♥ **Lylehaven's "C. Orangeview Nancy"** was judged Grand Champion Female and Senior Champion Female at the "Big E" Holstein Dairy Cattle Show in Springfield, MA.

♥ Best wishes to **Allan Couch** for a quick and full recovery.

PASSINGS

♥ **Katherine (Morse) Carey**, a long-time resident of East Montpelier village, passed away on September 16th. We shall remember her happy outlook on life, and her involvement in community events, especially the famous Minstrel Shows at the Town Hall many years ago. We offer our sympathy to her husband, Dick, and to her family.

BIRTHS



♥ **Anthony Scott Goddard** (6/2/90) to **Tammy Lee and Jeffrey Scott Goddard**.

♥ **Sophia Rose Smith** (6/17/90) to **Kristin and Earl Paul Smith, Jr.**

♥ **Jenna Marie Brazier** (6/21/90) to **Ann Marie and Thomas Brazier**.

♥ **Abigail Louise Fusco** (6/25/90) to **Diana Louise and Robert John Fusco**.

(As received by Town Clerk between July and October 1.)

MARRIAGES

♥ **Stephen C. Bragg** to **Melissa L. Childress**, July 14, 1990.

♥ **Thomas E. Brown** to **Mary Rose Dougherty**, July 21, 1990.

♥ **Steven Ronald Gonyaw** to **Deborah Beatrice Morse**, July 21, 1990.

♥ **Jeffrey L. Tosi** to **Tina Setien**, July 28, 1990.

♥ **Michael Edward Precourt** to **Mindy Lee McCarthy**, August 4, 1990.

♥ **Bret Steven Meyer** to **Denise Marie Goulet**, August 18, 1990.

♥ **Gary S. Williams** to **Amy Sue Donahue**, Sept. 1, 1990.

♥ **Daniel Allen Vanden Oever** to **Melissa Lyn Doner**, Sept. 1, 1990.

♥ **Frank Everett Campbell II** to **Tanya Jean Patterson**, Sept. 8, 1990.

♥ **Steven Thomas Bower** to **Kirsten Leigh Novak**, Sept. 22, 1990.

HELP SUPPORT YOUR TOWN NEWSPAPER!

The *Signpost* is funded solely by contributions and subscriptions. Won't you help support our effort to enhance East Montpelier's sense of "community"? Our existence depends on your support! Nonresidents will receive the *Signpost* by subscription only after these first two issues. Also, would your son or daughter in college like to keep in touch with town news? Send in your subscription or contribution today!

Supporting Subscription	\$8
Supporting Contributor	\$25

Send checks payable to "East Montpelier Signpost" to **Anne Sherman, RD 1, Box 80, East Montpelier, 05651**.

Do you have an address correction? Send those to **Anne or call Fred Tubbs at 454-8462**.

CHURCH CHIMES

OLD BRICK CHURCH

Sunday School classes resumed September 9th. On August 19, a former pastor Charles Keller, wife Lucy, and daughter Betty were visitors at the morning worship.

Our thanks to those who patronized our Baked Bean Supper on Rally Day and the Chicken Pie Supper in October.

"Christmas Bells" Fall Fair will be held Monday, November 12, at the Sunday School building. Coffee hour will start at 9 a.m. with a luncheon held at noon. The sale begins at 9:30 and features crafts, baked goods, pickles, jams, jellies, cookies and candy, boutiques, aprons, stuffed toys, knits and treasures. There will also be a children's table and a food basket raffle. Come and enjoy the day with us.

OLD MEETING HOUSE

The Fall Fair was held on its typical rainy Saturday, September 15. The Chicken Pie dinner was as delicious as ever. There were many booths for people to enjoy and an auction at 1:00 which was great fun. Maybeth Butler displayed her doll collection in the Old Meeting House. Henry and Lena Brazier won the wood raffle which they generously donated to the church. Postage for wood raffle tickets was donated by the Cub Scouts, Pack 742, Den 5. It was a fun day for all and a good fund raiser for the church.

The Spiritual Life Committee of both churches sponsored a forum on "What role should school play in our children's lives?" on September 30. Approximately 25 people attended, listening first to experiences of parents, grandparents, and professional educators, followed by a lively and informative discussion.

A second forum was held on October 21, on the topic of "What should schools be teaching our children?" at the Old Brick Church.

A third on the education theme will be held on November 18 at the Old Meeting House at 7:00 p.m.

The worship services on September 30 included a special meditation by Marie Tomberg, our churches' Partner in Service from the Department of Social and Rehabitative Services. Partners in Service is part of the mission outreach for our churches, helping Marie with the young people in her care. An offshoot of this effort is the "cookie chain," where cookies are made once a week by members for "Our House," a place where children are helped through painful times in their lives.

Services are held at 9:30 a.m. at the Old Meeting House and at 11:00 a.m. at the Old Brick Church. Sunday School is held during the services. All are welcome.



A RALLY DAY SPECIAL MOMENT

The sky was blue, the flora was green, the air was crisp and the folks were warm and welcoming. What more could anyone ask of a September morning in Vermont? I'm speaking of the Town Forest Dedication on September 8th. How pleased I was to hear a bit of the history of the forest from Harry Morse and how proud I am of my dad [George Allen] who had a vision which he and many other folks have made a reality for us today and for future generations.

Special thanks to Paul Cate for arranging the dedication, to Janet MacLeod for the perfect sign, and to Steve Sinclair for a most enjoyable and informative tour.

*Best wishes to you all,
Kate Allen Smith.*

VIEW FROM THE 2ND SIGNPOST

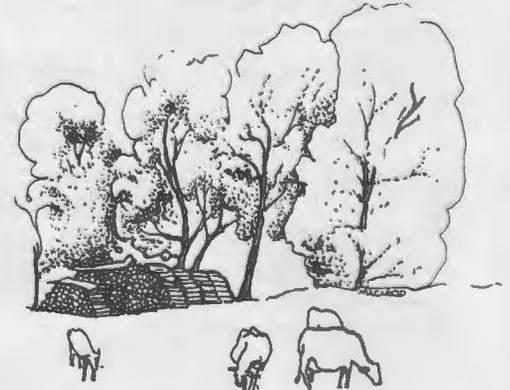
Thank you, East Montpelier neighbors! Our town newspaper is now a reality, and you have told us you like it.

The response to the *Signpost* Vol. 1, No. 1 certainly pleased us. We've received compliments, a few suggestions, some subscriptions, and several offers of help. That's what we needed to hear. Now we are settling in to plan the remaining four issues of Vol. 1, in other words, our first year. Our staff of eight volunteers is getting used to working together, learning each other's skills, and discovering that eight pages is really a small space for all we want to include in an issue. We will try to stick to our goals of covering town affairs in an understandable way and focusing on special people, places, and events in town.

You are really the key to the paper's future. Whether the *Signpost* succeeds or not depends as much on you as it does on us. We are committed to publishing every two months and will do so as long as townspeople appreciate and support the venture.

You may be interested in the following statistics: the first issue was mailed to 1,000 households and businesses, with a postage bill of \$143.20. The cost of printing would have been about \$275 but was donated by L. Brown & Sons. Many of you have voted your approval with a contribution, 29 so far. Thanks! Keep those checks coming to our Treasurer, Anne Sherman, RFD 1, Box 80, E.M. 05651, and please welcome the *Signpost* into your homes.

Jean Cate, Managing Publisher



RIVERBEND STORE

A Place Where You Can...

"Give me the country life" could be the motto of Bob and Karen Van Zandt who, four years ago, became the proprietors of the Riverbend Store in North Montpelier. Formerly of Old Saybrook, Connecticut, Bob and Karen had earlier made the decision to make career changes and were shopping for a small business to own and run. Bob had been employed for eighteen years as purchasing agent for a wholesale marine distributor. Karen, a Registered Nurse, had begun to take adult education business courses.

Before deciding to purchase the Riverbend Store from David Rogers, Bob and Karen explored the coast of Maine but found the business opportunities there a bit too pricey. They had decided to spend no more than what their Connecticut house would sell for. Fortunately for them, it was a seller's market in Old Saybrook. People were rushing in to buy coastal properties. The pace of life there inevitably quickened, and the Van Zandts made the move. Of the decision, Bob says, "We couldn't be happier. We like the laid back pace of life in East Montpelier," Karen adds, "North Montpelier Pond was a selling factor because it meant we could rent canoes and rowboats and have the pond for family recreation as well."

The lifestyle and career changes that brought the Van Zandts to East Montpelier are not all that extreme. Bob began coming to Vermont to ski in his youth, and later, when his parents moved to southern Vermont, he was a frequent visitor in their home. Along the way he began collecting old New England farm tools and implements. On the walls of the Riverbend Store and standing conspicuously at the ends of aisles like museum pieces are a milk separator and an enormous coffee grinder, artifacts from by-gone times, loaned from the Van Zandt collection. Between the dairy case and the video cassette lending library hangs a framed photograph of the former Little Woolen Mill that stood on Factory Street. First-time customers are apt to be amazed by the diversity in decor: history and high-tech side-by-side with Ben and Jerry's and bubble gum.

In its short history the new Riverbend Store has become a success story exceeding the expectation of its owners. The volume of business has tripled since they opened. Bob points to improvements that have brought in business and made for efficiency: a walk-in cooler; a small meat case, bottled gas canisters, and video tapes of favorite movies. Besides stocking just about anything a basic supermarket does, the Riverbend carries Jules Rabin's famous Upland Bread, brewed coffee and donuts, creemies, prepared



Bobby, Bob and Karen Van Zandt

sandwiches, and Sunday papers. It sells hunting and fishing licenses, and in hunting season becomes a deer kill reporting station. The store also rents Nintendo games and, along with sales of beer and soft drinks, a bottle redemption service is a standard but "messy job," Karen complains.

The North Montpelier Post Office (Zip 05666) has seen a corresponding growth in business. Over 100 Post Office Boxes are now rented, a threefold increase over four years ago. Bob and Karen are not Postal Service employees (the store rents the space to the United States Postal Service) but are authorized to sell stamps, rent Post Office

Boxes and perform a wide variety of postal services. Window hours are 8:30-10:30 a.m. and 3:00-5:00 p.m. Mail is usually sorted by 6:30 a.m. so customers can get their mail (and coffee) on the way to work.

Let others commute to work; the extensively remodeled Van Zandt residence is on the premises. But Bob and Karen defy the stereotypical image of storekeeping as confining. Bob also serves the community as a volunteer Lieutenant in the East Montpelier Fire Department, and is on the Fast Squad as an Emergency Care Assistant. Two part-time clerks, Dana Hawkins and June Knudsen, assist the owners, allowing them time to enjoy swimming, fishing, and winter sports on the pond with their son Bobby, age 10. He recalls the time this past spring when a moose was seen swimming the pond. For a family hobby, Bob and Karen stable two saddle horses, Sugar and Spice, mother and daughter. Limited range is no problem; the horses graze neighboring Richey pastures as a favor to the landowners. Two dogs, Wendy and Kate, and two cats, Pokey and Pepper, are family members too, not to mention the four white Pekin ducks and a brown wild duck who has taken up with the others. "We lost some baby ducks to traffic and a few we lost over the dam," Bob recalls sadly.

Despite a working schedule that demands nine hours a day six days a week (they have Sundays off) the Van Zandts are unfailingly cordial to customers. They're also well organized. Karen keeps the books and buys the "lighter" items -- paper goods, candy etc. -- while Bob is responsible for meats, groceries and the like. Friendly service and good management have earned the Riverbend Store an enviable reputation in four short years, possibly restoring to North Montpelier a commercial eminence that it has not known since the days of the Hollister and Nye enterprises of the nineteenth century.

Alban Richey

COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR

Selectmen	2nd & 4th Wednesday	7:00 Municipal Building
Planning Commission	1st, 3rd, 4th Thursday	7:30 "
Zoning Board of Adjustment	2nd & 4th Monday	7:30 "
Conservation Fund Advisory Comm.	3rd Tuesday	7:00 "
Agland and Open Space	1st Tuesday	7:30 "
Commercial/Industrial Development	No regularly scheduled meetings	Call Peter Wells, 229-1545
Volunteer Fire Department	Every Tuesday	7:00 Fire Station, Templeton Rd.
Affordable Housing	No regularly scheduled meetings	Call Stuart Friedman, 223-3255
Community Activities	No regularly scheduled meetings	Call Jean Cate, 223-2951
U-32 School Board	2nd & 4th Tuesday	7:30 U-32
Elementary School Board	1st Thursday	7:30 Elementary School
Town Clerk's Office Hours	Monday-Thursday: 9-5, Friday: 9-12	Municipal Building
Zoning Administrator	Tuesday & Thursday	1:00-2:30, Municipal Building

Meeting times are subject to change

EVENTS CALENDAR

November 2, Friday, 6:00	Lasagna Dinner	Old Meeting House
Sponsored by the Sunday School	Reservations: 223-5826, Janice Waterman	To benefit neighbors in need
November 6, Tuesday, 10:00-7:00	Election Day - Vote!	Elementary School
November 9, Friday	Last Day to Pay Property Taxes in Person	
November 10, Saturday	Last Day to Mail Property Taxes	
November 12, Monday, 9:00-3:00	Fall Fair and Luncheon	Old Brick Church
November 18, Sunday, 7:00-9:00 p.m.	Forum on Education	Old Meeting House
November 21, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.	Thanksgiving Eve Service	Old Meeting House
November 30, Friday, 4:00-8:00 p.m.	Holiday Fair	Elementary School
December 16, Sunday, 9:30 a.m.	Children's Christmas Pageant	Old Meeting House
December 16, Sunday, 11:00 a.m.	Children's Christmas Pageant	Old Brick Church
December 23, Sunday, 7:30 p.m.	Candlelight Service	Old Meeting House
December 24, Monday, 7:30 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service	Old Brick Church

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Riverbend Store
Town Plan & Zoning
Taxes Due
Mooselips
Be Sure to Vote!

