

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

Volume 2, No. 2

November/December 1991

DUDLEYS : A TRADITION OF SERVICE

The Dudley Store, a fixture in East Montpelier Village for many years, was built by John M. Willard in 1889. Ownership went from Willard to Frank D. Carr to Wallace Clark and finally to Clarence and Lena Dudley in 1906. The post office was located in the left front corner of the store. Each owner served as postmaster with C.P. Dudley serving for 44 years before retiring in 1949.

When the Dudleys purchased the store they lived in a 12'x 18' adjoining room on the south side of the building. They later lived upstairs over the store. A pool table was placed in the ell where they had lived. Later an addition was made for a second table. These were used for about five years for entertainment for local people until radio and movies became popular. The room was used for additional stock until the post office was moved in there in 1950 after Mr. Dudley's retirement as postmaster.

Most items, from cookies to nails, were sold in bulk by the pound.

When the Dudleys first owned the store, there was a soda fountain. There was also a "Servatore" which had eight

pipes surrounded by ice to keep the bottles of soda cold. One warm bottle was inserted into the pipe, and a cold one came out the opposite end with separate pipes for each of the eight flavors.

The ice house, an important part of the establishment, was located at the back of the store. Ice was cut and drawn from the mill pond by the bridge in the village and slid down a chute from the hill back of the store into the ice house where it was packed in sawdust. Charles (Chub) Dudley's job was to clean sawdust from the ice before it was used in a large "reach-in" cooler where all dairy products and large bottles of soda were kept.

The store had "Home Delivery" service which Wayland Page, a long-time employee, operated twice a week in the village. He first went to take the orders, then packed and delivered them. On Fridays he went as far as County Road, coming back through the Center and along Bliss Road.

In the late '20s C.P. Dudley and Wayland Page built seven cabins at the back of the store and where the present post office is, which were rented for overnight lodging. Mrs. Dudley and Wayland handled the "Sleepwell Cabin" business, which could accommodate 28 people at \$1 a person! Mrs. Dudley did all the washing and ironing!

The barn originally had three stalls and three box stalls for horses. There was room for hitching four teams outside under the shed. Carriages, sleighs and wagons were stored in a shed at the north end of the barn.

The store was operated by Mr. and Mrs. Dudley with Wayland Page joining them in 1923. He worked there for 48 years, retired in 1971, but continued to work three days a week for the Birones.



Dudleys Store



In 1946 two Dudley sons, Charles and J. Pershing, joined their father in a partnership, C.P. Dudley and Sons. Charles Dudley assumed ownership after the death of J. Pershing in 1961 and C.P. Dudley in 1968. In 1971 Ernest and Gloria Biron purchased the store from Charles Dudley and continue to use the Dudley name.

Additional space was added in 1973 and 1974. Both the store and upstairs apartment were greatly enlarged. A second addition to the store in 1975 increased the store to 5000 square feet.

The Biron's have modernized and expanded most departments, while keeping the country store atmosphere. Hunting and fishing licenses, lottery tickets, "Dudley" T-shirts, and other Vermont logo shirts have become popular items.

Ernie had a serious accident in June 1980 and was unable to continue an active role in the store, but he was involved as much as possible as managing consultant until his death in 1988. His son Jeff graduated from high school and became manager of the store after the accident. Another son, Tony, became assistant manager in 1983.

The store continues to be operated by Jeff and Tony Biron, with the assistance of Jeff's wife, Robin, her sister Penny Copeland, and several part time employees. Gloria Biron is still the owner and bookkeeper.

Phyllis Duso



Joe Brown grand marshalls the Bicentennial Rally Day Parade

"The East Montpelier selectmen would like to express our appreciation to the many volunteers who helped make the Town's Bicentennial Rally Weekend, Sept. 7 and 8, a tremendous success.

Nineteen-ninety-one marks the third year for the East Montpelier Rally Days celebrations, and the event has grown more popular each year.

Volunteers, too numerous to list here, are the backbone of the success of the many Rally Days events. Much time is given to planning and carrying out the weekend's activities.

We thank our citizens for their efforts to foster a high level of community spirit in East Montpelier.

Austin Cleaves, Weston Cate, Allan Couch, Selectmen"

TOP OF THE SIGNPOST

Our town has just written out its own recipe for how to celebrate a birthday - Vermont's 200th. The directions call for one sparkling day and a full measure of enthusiastic townspeople. Gather them all on a playing field, throw in some spirited music, lots of color and laughter, add a measure of local talent and charming costumes, spice up the mix with plenty of eats, and you have the recipe which made our Bicentennial Rally Weekend so successful.

What made it all work? The party was a success because so many people worked - more than 65 folks just to plan for all the events and lots more to carry them out. It didn't require big bucks, since almost everything was donated. Nor was the program complicated. Mostly we made our own fun, with games, hikes, a parade, a variety show and auction, and Sunday's special events. I think that everyone enjoyed the weekend. And beyond the fun, look who participated: the two churches who served the meals, the Bicentennial Committee who raised funds for the Veterans Memorial, the fire fighters who earned dollars for the Fire Department, and the auction Saturday night to benefit the SIGNPOST. The bidding raised \$1,435, which covers the costs of the next three issues.

Our grateful thanks to all who supported the auction and the variety show with your dollars. While you were taking home your bargains, you were giving the SIGNPOST your vote of confidence. We especially thank the energetic committee who organized the auction and those who donated services and items.

Another note of appreciation goes to our East Montpelier printer, L. Brown and Sons, who so generously donated the cost of the September-October issue of the SIGNPOST. Thanks for your support!

Aren't we lucky to live in such a great town?

Jean Cate

To the Signpost:

May I offer my congratulations to the "East Montpelierites" responsible for Bicentennial Rally Weekend activities. I came back "home" especially to participate in the Dudley Musicale, but thoroughly enjoyed the hike, supper, talent show, and church service. I am very impressed with the town spirit that was evident at all the activities.

It was a thrill for me to direct June Morse's singers in a fine presentation of music that my great-grandfather used 100 years ago with his groups that met at the Town Hall.

Three cheers to all of you who are celebrating a fine past and rekindling a home-town spirit which is unusual in this mobile society.

Charlene Dudley McIntire

HONOR ROLL TO BE DEDICATED

On Veterans' Day, November 11, at 2:00 p.m., there will be a dedication of a new honor roll of East Montpelier wartime military veterans at the Town's Municipal Building. Everyone is invited to attend. This ceremony culminates the concentrated activity of four veterans who continued work previously started and directed the construction of a new honor roll. The committee members were Gladys Dunkling, Chair; Roger Chapell, James Goodall and Conrad Ormsbee.

The committee began with \$2500 appropriated by the voters in March, 1990, and plans for a wood and glass structure larger but similar to the original honor roll. Monuments and honor rolls of about fifteen towns were visited to help in arriving at a design. The majority were granite, but recently erected ones in Berlin, Chelsea and Cabot consisted of bronze plaques on stone.

An early decision was made to list the veterans' names, which became a major factor in determining size and cost of the structure. Identifying East Montpelier veterans was complicated in that official State records show mailing addresses rather than town of residence. Many hours were spent in research. The result is that the listing for World Wars I and II is essentially the same as the original honor roll, but the Korean War list doubled. The fifty-nine Vietnam era veterans are being listed for the first time. No attempt was made to honor participants in Desert Storm as official records are still tentative.

Proposals were received for constructions of wood with glass, bronze on granite, and totally granite. The committee chose a granite design submitted by Maurice Memorials, Inc. of Barre. The personal interest in the project shown by Mr. Maurice resulted in very favorable pricing.

Additional money raised by the Town Bicentennial Committee through the sale of T-shirts supplemented the original allocation and made this project possible. Your Memorial Committee thanks all of those townspeople who have helped.

Conrad Ormsbee

TAXES ARE DUE

Property taxes are due November 10. Since the 10th is a Sunday this year, it is important to be sure to bring payment in person by Friday or be sure it is postmarked no later than the 10th (if you can find a post office that will do that). Otherwise be sure to get it in the mail before the post offices close on Saturday, the 9th.

Sylvia Tosi will have special hours for the Town Clerk's office on Friday, Nov. 8th, opening at 8:00 a.m. and closing at 5:00 p.m.

AT U-32 IT'S THE YEAR OF THE READER

Author Robert Newton Peck addressed junior high students from U-32 and Main Street School at U-32's auditorium October 16. His appearance is the first of several events to highlight U-32's emphasis on the importance of reading. U-32 Junior-Senior High School Principal John Coolidge has declared the 1991-92 school year "The Year of the Reader".

"Every year should be the year of the reader," Coolidge acknowledged. "We must make opportunities to highlight our most important educational values. I can't think of a greater value to highlight than literacy for all our students." Coolidge has asked U-32's Reading Strategy Committee, a group of teachers from all areas of the curriculum, to undertake initiatives which address reading across the curriculum and in the community. Special events will include other author appearances, as well as events designed to involve families in promoting reading at home.

"We especially need to address the role that the broadcast media play in our homes and in our classrooms. I'm concerned that the video revolution is hurting the reading development of our students. We need to reduce the amount of time we spend watching television at home and using video in the classroom."

Stephanie Smith, Curriculum Director

ADVERTISING POLICY

Many East Montpelier residents who own and operate businesses in other places have requested ad space. After a lengthy debate, we decided to stick with our current policy which limits advertisements to East Montpelier businesses only. We are concerned that too many ads will detract from the *Signpost* and take up more space than we can afford. We will, however, soon be listing local businesses owned by East Montpelier residents as part of a business story.



THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

To all those who contributed during the Rally Day events and to these special people:

*Phillip & Eleanor Barber
Frieda Battles
Dwight & Irene Clark
Putnam & Sue Clayton
Marion Codling
Grace Cook
East Montpelier
Elementary School
Carolyn Gehrke
A. F. Heitmann
Judith R. Hinds
A. John & Polly Holden
Elliot Morse
James & Alice Murphy
Frederic & Granthia Preston
George F. Sibley, Sr.
Charles & Janice Waterman
Carroll & Joan Witham*



THE TOWN WEATHERVANE



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Weston Cate, Allan Couch, Austin Cleaves

August 14, 1991

* Discussion regarding Fair Road damage. Voted to contact Mr. Hedges to give him a deadline to make the repairs to the road and to remove the load of stone from the roadway.

* Contract for winter sand awarded to David Cheney Trucking.

* Met with Sewage Officer Richard Czaplinski. Request from Bernie Chenette to consider use of shredded tires in place of gravel for a replacement mound system at his home. Bernie has given Richard a copy of this new technology and the selectmen agreed to let him try it providing effectiveness is monitored.

* Edie Miller agreed to Chair the Town's Conservation Committee.

* Granted a catering permit for a wedding on Horn of the Moon Road.

* Approved utility easement request from Washington Electric Coop for new power lines on Brazier Road.

* Weston Cate, Sylvia Tosi and Bill Bryant will attend the annual VLCT Town Fair in October.

August 28, 1991

* Voted to take no action on the Road Access Permit Application from Deane Hedges until town road has been repaired to satisfaction of the selectmen.

* Approved registration and attendance for Town Clerk to go to Vermont Clerks and New England Clerks meetings.

September 6, 1991

* Voted to accept the tax stabilization application of Peter and Mary Ellen Hill to take effect in 1992 (switch from state to town program)

* Sand from Mr. Cheney failed to pass the test. Delivery stopped until further testing can be done.

* Voted to sell copies of voter checklist with addresses at the price of \$0.10 per name, copies to be printed on paper and not on labels.

* Zoning Administrator requests Selectmen's input on a zoning violation concerning the construction of two storage sheds on Dennis Carver's property on Route 2 without a permit. Official notice of violation will be sent.

September 11, 1991

* Voted to accept fixed price fuel bid of \$0.69 from Foti Fuels.

* Fair Road discussion continued. Repair work not completed by Mr. Hedges. Voted to have the selectmen visit the site again, meet with the most affected property owners and determine what work to have done and billed to Mr. Hedges.

* Guard rail work to be done in October.

* Sand from Cheney trucking did not meet specs and contract therefore terminated. Voted to award bid to McCullough as the next lowest bidder.

* Received a letter from Frances Weinbaum regarding speed limits on Towne Hill Road and the paved portion of Bliss Road. There is a 40 mph limit and signs will be posted from Gallison Hill to Route 2 next spring after paving work is completed. Bliss Road speed limit needs to be addressed by Montpelier.

* Review of plans for Casavant development road received from State's Transportation office. Will ask Mr. Casavant to address the concerns mentioned, especially in regard to the surface material and eroded areas.

* Voted that all roads constructed for future acceptance as town highways shall conform to State's Dept. of Transportation A-76 standards.

* Donation of hand crafted oak flag holder received from Clifton Wright. Thanked Mr. Wright for his kind donation.

September 25, 1991

* Discussion re: Fair Road problem with Deane Hedges and neighbors to resolve work done without town or abutting property owners consent. No compromises reached, therefore

repairs will be done by town and billed to Hedges.

* Renewed Town's property, liability and auto policies.

* Voted to award bid for concrete floor in municipal building to David Rogers.

* Bill Bryant to serve as Assistant Zoning Administrator from October 7 to November 1 in Roger Chapell's absence.

* Appointed Joy Wilcox to the Wrightsville Beach Recreation District Board as town representative.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chair: Johanna DeMartino

August 1, 1991

* Heard an update on Brazier gravel pit proposal from Tom Brazier and Bernard Chenette.

* Steve Sinclair updated the group on the feasibility and costs of producing GIS maps for inclusion in the Town Plan. To be discussed further.

* Heard update from Roger Chapell on zoning issues. Helen Eldred would like to put a trailer on her property. Planning Commission suggested this not be pursued until septic issue looked at. Dexter and Susan Merritt have a request in for a five lot subdivision on Factory Road. Application fees and septic system information needed before review can be done.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Chair: Earle Ellingwood

August 12, 1991

* Public hearing on proposed Brazier gravel pit. Heard testimony from many townspeople too numerous to recap here. Hearing to be continued.

August 19, 1991

* Public hearing continued on Brazier gravel pit with testimony from many townspeople and a petition received against the proposed pit signed by 40 people.

* Heard lengthy testimony regarding Crystal Springs water source.

September 9, 1991

* Public hearing re conditional use approval for a retail feed and farm supply store on Route 14 at the home of Ramon and Marion Spooner. Approved, pending the approval of the site plan and information on sewer and water. Recessed until 10/14.

* Continued public hearing on Brazier gravel pit.

September 23, 1991

* Continued public hearing on Brazier gravel pit, emphasis on water concerns.

FOUR CORNERS SCHOOLHOUSE ASSOCIATION *President: Don Donnelly*

We had an excellent art show at the schoolhouse for Rally Day and the townspeople who stopped by complimented the fine display. Antique toys were also on display on the stage of the schoolhouse and many lingered to discuss and reminisce about these toys and the toys of their youth. We sincerely thank the many people who brought their art or toys for display.

A Fall Gardener's Session planned by Paul Cate with Alan LePage was held October 10 and a Hallowe'en party for preschoolers and school kids on October 31 is planned by Ginny Burley.

We received a \$2,000 grant from the Vermont Third Century Fund, contingent on matching funds. One other foundation is considering our grant application. Permanent, but removable display wallboards and a center-floor display have been created and installed for Rally Day and for a children's Art Show in November. Please stop by and enjoy young ideas and talents. Call Don at 223-8697 for further information.

Remodeling

Property Maintenance

STANLEY A. ST. JOHN

RFD #1, Box 85
East Montpelier, Vermont 05651
Telephone 223-5890

QUALITY WORKMANSHIP

EAST MONTPELIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD *Janice Aldrich, Phil Cookson, Rich Davidian, Tony Klein, Burr Morse*

August 1, 1991

* Laura Johnson and Darryl Bloom are taking a conflict resolution course to help students and staff deal with conflicts in a peaceful way.

* Voted to adopt the Success in Regular Classroom (Act 230) Policy.

* Voted to adopt the Non-Discrimination (Section 504) Policy.

* The board will explore all options for building a storage shed in place of the existing storage trailer.

September 5, 1991

* Judy Graham, PTO President, reported on its activities. Attendance at meetings are low. A new program this year will be an adult craft night.

* Darryl Bloom said that there will be a parenting course offered to three schools in the district this fall entitled "Peace in the Family."

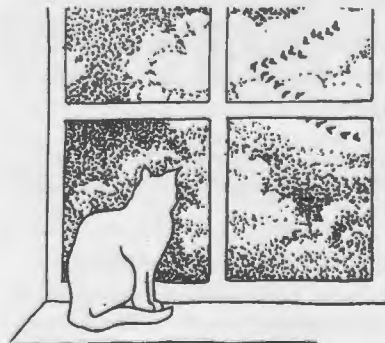
* Board went into executive session to discuss negotiations.

* Current enrollment is 225 students.

* Voted to contract with the David Villeneuve Company for woodchips for the 1991-92 school year.

* Laura Johnson reported the cost of seatbelts to be installed in buses would be \$6000.

Deadline for the next issue is December 1. Please get your copy to Janice Waterman, RR 1, Box 4330, Montpelier, 05602, 223-5826.



PTO NEWS

The PTO is up and running with Judy Graham - President, Rachel Senechal - Vice President, Joy Wilcox - Treasurer, and Jamie O'Hare - Secretary. Last year, we raised \$3,423.09 with everyone's help. Cookbooks are still for sale at \$5.00 each through the school office. We are in need of people to act as chairpersons for the Holiday Fair and Town Meeting Day dinner. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about these please call Rachel (223-0539) or Judy (229-0886).

During the first week of November we are going to sponsor a craft night with artisans setting up stations and teaching small groups their craft. If you have a skill you'd like to share let us know.



A RUSSIAN EXPERIENCE

"One hundred." I shook my head. "Seventy-five." "One hundred," the man insisted. "Forget it," I said and started to walk away. "O.K., O.K., seventy-five." I turned around. "O.K. its a deal," I said. So I bought the chess set for 75 rubles.

In July I visited Russia for 2 weeks as a member of FOLKIDS. We are a dance group of 16 kids, ages 10-14, from central Vermont. We do traditional New England folk dancing. Pam Somers, the school music teacher, came with us, too.

We visited the Red Square and the Moscow Circus while in Moscow.

Our main stay was in Yaroslavl, a small town on the Volga River. That is where we met the Russian dance group. They were very good dancers as well as extremely generous people even though they didn't have much money. We did joint performances in and around Yaroslavl. When we left it was hard to say goodbye. But next May they will be coming to our community to perform for a day.

Jared Thomas

(Jared is a 6th grader at East Montpelier Elementary School.)



MOOSE LIPS



✧ Twenty-four students won Honorable Mention awards in the energy calendar poster contest. We also had four students whose posters will appear on the official calendar. They are Liz Robinson, grade 5; Sara Pearson, grade 3; Alex Teschmacher and Stephanie Nist, now in grade 7. Congratulations!

✧ The Elementary School is collecting Grand Union and Price Chopper tapes for computers again. Save your tapes and drop them by the school or send them in with a neighborhood child.

✧ The Wee Playgroup for 3 to 5 year old youngsters meets every Tuesday from 9:30 - 11:00 in the Art Room at the Elementary School. All are welcome.

✧ Dan Neary, a professional photographer who lives in town, donated his services Rally Weekend by taking black and white photos of many events. The contact sheets are in the Town Office if you wish to order any. And please drop in to see the photo panels of the weekend on display there.

✧ Results of advisory vote on landfill: 760 votes cast: 566 NO, 193 YES, 1 SPOILED.

✧ Bill Bryant, Administrative Assistant to the Selectmen, will be in the Town Office Monday mornings, Wednesday afternoons and all day Thursday.

✧ New color was intended for the beginning of Volume II of the Signpost, but better late than never!

✧ We're looking forward to hearing Jean Cate's stories of Thailand when she returns from a month-long visit with her sister.

✧ Note to the Selectmen: The editors were intrigued by the catering permit item in the Weather. Could we have an explanation of this policy for the next issue?

✧ Bruce Chapell and Rich Atkinson have interesting things to say about farming in Switzerland after their visit. Chat with them when you can.

✧ And Pam Somers and Jared Thomas danced their way in Russia in July.

MILESTONES

(Received by the Town Clerk by Oct. 1)

BIRTHS

♥ Matthew Stephen Albertson born July 30, 1991 to Lisa Rose and Stephen Bishop Albertson.

MARRIAGES

♥ Charles William Bond and Johnna Marie Kasprzak married on August 10, 1991.

♥ Stanley Nathaniel Hook Jr., and Carol Diane Brown married on August 25, 1991.

♥ Kevin David Nielson and Melissa Ann Bonazoni married August 10, 1991.

PASSINGS

Burton L. Parker passed away July 23, 1991. He was brother to Laura Parker and Gladys Dunkling.

Kate L. Cleaves passed away September 20, 1991. She was the mother of Austin Cleaves.

LAND TRANSFERS

(Received between July 1 and August 22)

19 acres off Route 14 from Robert & Virginia Bragg to Lawrence & Diane Brown.

Dwelling & 75 acres on County Road from Charles & Highleen Reynolds to Rudolph & Jane Moz.

1.17 acres on Route 14 from Peter Noel Duhamel to Donald & Marjorie Donnelly.

Post Office Building & .12 acre in Village from Phyllis Duso to Gloria Biron.

3 acres on Route 14 from Robert & Virginia Bragg to Douglas & Barbara Bragg.

Dwelling & .93 acre in Village from Kevin & Kathleen McGinley to Beth Thorpe.

Mobile home & .9 acre on Country Club Road from Jerome Rappaport to L & L Partners.

Dwelling & 2 acres on Haggett Road from Roger & Pamela Lowe to Francis & Jeri Mullins, III.

Mobile home in Sandy Pines Trailer Park from Grace Cook to Jeffrey & Tanis Roberts.

3.07 acres on Coburn Road from James, John, Judy, Jeffrey, & Jay Duncan to Ross Hazel.

10.21 acres on Snow Hill Road from David MacLeod to Seth Gardner.

Mobile home in Sandy Pines Trailer Park from Arthur & Mary Wissell to Carol E. Poor.

DENNIS R. HAWKINS 223-3994	HUGH M. HAWKINS 229-0114
	
Driveway and Lawn Construction Mowing, Bush Hogging Snow Plowing Sanding	229-4166 WHOLESALE - RETAIL
Top Soil Bark Mulch Sawdust, Hay Lime, Gravel Field Reseeding	



Norman C. Rice
President
(802) 229-1506

DUNROVEN ASSOCIATES

RR 1 Box 110 East Montpelier, Vermont 05651

SURVEYING AND MAPPING
SITE ENGINEERING

SOIL AND PERCOLATION TESTS
SEPTIC SYSTEM DESIGN

ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT PROCESSING

CHURCH CHIMES

*Old Brick Church
Old Meeting House*

The Brick Church Club is busy planning its annual fall fair, the Vermont Bicentennial Fair, for Monday, November 11. Coffee hour is 9:30-11; luncheon at 11:30; and craft and food sale from 9:30-3 pm.

An international dinner and talk on Cypress will be held Sunday, Nov. 10 at 6:00. Reservations for the dinner should be made by calling 454-7309. George and Jean Olson will talk about living and teaching in Cypress. They'd appreciate books in English to send to Cyprian schools.

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 at the same times.

PORTRAIT OF A MOVER AND SHAKER: GLADYS DUNKLING

Walking into Gladys Dunkling's home on Kelton Road you are immediately greeted by a large golden lab named Coco. Following the enthusiastic hello you soon realize that you are surrounded by the warmth and beauty of antiques. One look around this lovely home reveals the lack of "modern" furniture and accessories. Whether you notice the rose china in the hutch or the cast iron light fixture over the kitchen table, each has its own history and interesting story.

Gladys and her family moved into the "old Kelton homestead" about 30 years ago. With loving care and attention to historic detail, Gladys and her late husband, Lloyd, restored their 1820's cape with period colors and wallpaper. The dining room table was constructed with wide pine planks taken from a barn that was disassembled on the property. These smooth boards are well over 100 years old. And the kitchen cabinets are made from rough sided barn boards from the barn that stood across the road. Today's principle of "reduce, reuse, recycle" was practiced years ago by the Dunkling family with magnificent results.

Gladys' roots go back to Mary Doty and her husband Hezekial Davis, who came to this area with his brother Major Nathaniel Davis and their uncle Colonel Jacob Davis, a charterer of the Town of Montpelier in 1781. Gladys Parker Dunkling was born and raised in the Coburn homestead on Daggett Road in East Montpelier, where her cousin, David Coburn, currently lives. Gladys spent most of her life in East Montpelier, with the exception of three years in Keene, N.H., three years in Plainfield, Vt. and time spent overseas while serving in the Army.

While growing up in East Montpelier, Gladys learned the values of her family, particularly those of her grandmother and mother. These values are the basis for the philosophies that Gladys has lived by. As a child Gladys learned from her parents how to work on civic projects to pay for street lights and a summer minister. She saw how the generations before her took people into their homes when a bed and hot meals were needed. Gladys, too, has taken friends and relatives into her home. Whether it was for six weeks or six years Gladys was happy to share her home.

Gladys learned from her family what it means to be a good neighbor. Every Saturday morning someone in the Parker household would run errands in Montpelier. Since gas was scarce at that time, the neighbors were called to see if they wanted a ride or needed anything in town. The Parker car was always full of students when Gladys went to high school in Montpelier because there were no school buses at that time, and in her family you shared what you had with your neighbors.

Gladys has been a 4-H leader, teaching boys and girls how to garden and sew. Each year one member was selected to attend the regional 4-H camp. Because she did not think it was fair that only one person would enjoy this special experience, she rented a camp on Woodbury Pond for three days and held her own version of 4-H camp for the club.

Before World War II Gladys was chair of the victory gardens in East Montpelier. She also helped raise money for war bonds, which included decorating the North Montpelier Masonic Hall in red, white and blue and organizing local talent for a variety show.

While working at Green Mountain Power Company in 1942 Gladys enlisted in the Army becoming one of four women from East Montpelier who joined the military service during World War II. As a First Sergeant Gladys was in command of 200 women and spent time in England and France during the War.



Gladys Dunkling and Coco

In 1985 Gladys organized a reunion of the transportation company she commanded in France which took place in Santa Fe, New Mexico. In spite of a broken hip suffered five weeks prior to the reunion, Gladys attended with the aid of a cane. Recently, while attending the dedication of the Women's Veteran Highway in White River Junction, she also met a woman who had served with her. Gladys receives many Christmas cards from her fellow corpwomen.

Gladys has worked for the power company, the Army, a shoe company, Capitol City Gas, and the Vermont Dept. of Education in statistics and information. She has

been working behind the scenes for all of East Montpelier's bicentennial celebration events, for the dedication of the veterans memorial, for rally day, for the Old Brick Church's festivals, fairs and other activities, and for the polls.

Gladys likes classical music, aqua-aerobics, sewing and taking care of her grandchildren. She feels especially blessed with her daughter and son-in-law Pam and Steve Somers and their children Megan and Ryan, and her son and daughter-in-law Jon and Karen Dunkling and their children Jordan and Koby.

Gladys has travelled world wide to twenty foreign countries, visiting some more than once. She looks forward to more travelling in the future. In the meantime, she plans to continue working for the interests of the town and the Old Brick Church. Gladys states, "I'm a better giver, than I am a receiver." It's easy to understand why.

Rachel Senechal

COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR

Selectmen	2nd & 4th Wednesday	7:00	Town Office
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	"
Volunteer Fire Department	Every Tuesday	7:00	Fire Station, Templeton Rd.
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		Town Office
Zoning Administrator	Tuesday & Thursday	1:00-2:30	Town Office

Meeting times are subject to change

EVENTS CALENDAR

Thursday, October 31: 3:15-4:30	Hallowe'en Party	Four Corners School
Thursday, November 7: 7:00-9:30 p.m.	PTO Learn-a-Craft Night	Elementary School
Friday, November 8: 8:00-5:00	Last Day to Pay Property Taxes in Person	Municipal Building
Saturday, November 9: 10:00-4:00	Children's Art Show	Four Corners School
Sunday, November 10: 6:00 p.m.	Cyprian International Dinner	Old Meeting House
Sunday, November 10	Last Day to Postmark Tax Payment	
Monday, November 11: 9:30-3:00	Bicentennial Fair	Old Brick Church
Monday, November 11: 2:00 p.m.	Veterans Memorial Dedication	Town Municipal Building
Friday, November 22: 4:30-8:00	Holiday Fair	Elementary School
Wednesday, November 27: 7:30 p.m.	Thanksgiving Eve Service	Old Meeting House
Sunday, December 22: 9:30 a.m.	Christmas Pageant	Old Meeting House
Sunday, December 22: 7:30 p.m.	Candlelight Service	Old Meeting House
Tuesday, December 24: 7:30 p.m.	Candlelight Service	Old Brick Church

SIGNPOST STAFF

Jean Cate, Publisher, 223-2951

Fred Tubbs, Copy Editor, 454-8462

Anne Sherman, Business Manager, 223-2693

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