

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

Volume 2, No. 4

March/April 1992

CELINA MOORE: A RICH TAPESTRY

Anyone who has ever spoken with Celina or heard her music knows she is surely an artist. What we witness in her music is a woman who has worked a lifetime to unleash the power that is her very soul.

From an early age she realized she was "artistic" and found her interests centering on painting, dancing and singing. A choice was necessary. Her choice has woven a rich tapestry which is Celina Moore.

At the Potomac School came her first realization of the gifts she had for singing. It was 6th or 7th grade. "I still remember the song, "The Holly and the Ivy." She laughed, but the laugh stopped abruptly as she recalled that the audience became hushed, listening. At that moment, the young girl experienced a "self-discovery" which would shape a lifelong love affair with music. The tapestry began.

What followed were exciting and challenging years. Her family lived in Virginia, Washington, D.C., Cambodia and

Germany, following her father's army and legal careers.

It was the experience in Germany which began weaving the design of the tapestry. Here she learned singing from "wonderful teachers" and tried out her public wings.

"All business lunches started with Bach arias," so there were ample opportunities to sing and learn the language. She returned to the United States to continue her education at the Manhattan High School of Music.

Of course Celina's loves are broader than just her music. The tapestry is enriched by her fondness for nature and love for her husband Tom and daughters Celina and Eliza.



The Moores: Celina, Tom, Celina, Eliza

As a child she took long walks, not for exercise but because, I suspect, she was compelled to do so. Cradled within the solitude of the trees and nurtured by her family, she was, and still is, able to seek her "grounding," her self-understanding. As a result, certain truths have emerged for her.

No longer does she "need famous teachers" telling her she is great. She now realizes it's the process of learning to sing which brings her the greatest satisfaction. Out of her increasing self-awareness she says, "I'm learning to shake off all the things that aren't me. At 50, I think I'm almost able to get notes like I want them or phrases to say what I want them to say. I'm not here to be a great singer, but to learn to sing."

To hear Celina sing is to hear the language of the heavens. This, together with her buoyant enthusiasm, is her marvelous gift to us all.

Mary M. Senechal



BUSINESS LISTING

There are several residents who operate businesses out of town. Many have requested to advertise in the *Signpost*. Since we decided that the paper would be nicer if it wasn't filled with advertisements, we limited our ads to town businesses only. But we thought it might be fun to list some of the East Montpelier people who own businesses elsewhere. This list in the next column is by no means complete but what we came up with after some brainstorming at our last meeting. If we missed you, let us know and we'll gladly add your name!



OUR THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTORS TO THE SIGNPOST

Lassie C. Adams
Natalie Beal
Harold and Joyce Bean
Thomas Benton
Henry and Lena Brazier
Eula Brown
George and Leatrice Brown
Robert and Carolyn Brown
C.V. Landfill
Virginia Callan
Brenda Chapell
Dwight and Irene Clark
Edwin and Nellie Clark
Austin Cleaves
Charles and Merlene Codling
R.M. Peardon and Frances Donaghy
Ralph and Anne Flanders
James and Janetlee Goodall
Peter and MaryEllen Hill
Gerald and Elsie Ibey
Richard and Sally Longhi
George and Norma McLeod
Kenneth Moll
Madeleine Mongan
Sherwood and Roberta Morse
David Parker
Stephen Rauh
George Sibley, Sr.
Howard and Carolyn Sieven
E. May Slayton
Samuel and Barbara Starr
Roger and Geneva Thivierge
Jerome and Katherine Vaughn
James and Dianne Vitt
Dona Welch

Robin's Peach Tree, Montpelier
Robin Blanchard
Capital Candy, Barre
Richard Blanchard
Karen Blosser Insurance, Montpelier
Karen Blosser
The Drawing Board, Montpelier
Ray Brown
Chenette Engineering, Montpelier
Bernie Chenette
Jan's Beauty Boutique, Montpelier
Jan Crossan
Guilmette's Volvo, Barre
Dave and JoAnn Guilmette
Vermont Survey Consultants, Montpelier
Dave Hudson
Steve's Market, Montpelier
Sally and Rick Longhi
Vermont Reality Exchange, Montpelier
Lori Pinard
Rauh & King, Montpelier
Steve Rauh
Vermont Tire, Montpelier
Robert Rochefort
Wedgewood Tennis, Racquet Ball, Berlin
Dick and Jane Staudt
Capital Reality-Century 21, Montpelier
Dick Thurston
Utton's Mufflers, Montpelier
Pat Welch

FROM THE TOP OF THE SIGNPOST

Suppose you lived in East Montpelier. Where would you get your mail? If you answered "East Montpelier" you might be only about 35% right. The rest of our townspeople get their mail through the North Montpelier Post Office, the Adamant Post Office, the Plainfield Post Office, or on two routes out of Montpelier.

Suppose that all the copies of the *Signpost* were mailed at the East Montpelier Post Office at the same time. Would everyone get a paper on the same day? No way, José. East Montpelier box holders might get theirs that very day, but a week or ten days might pass before everyone in town got a copy through their regular mail sources. And that's exactly what happened with your January-February issue. Some were received December 31, which is the schedule we planned on. Others took a long ride to Burlington where they got buried in a post holiday avalanche of unsorted third class mail. You never saw them till January 13.

That's our postal service at work in this paper-overloaded society. We don't like to have it happen to us, and we're working on our end of the problem. Thought you ought to know!

Jean Cate

X-COUNTRY SKIERS LOOK BACK, WALKERS LOOK AHEAD

For most of us, winter storms on the rainy side of freezing are a crime against Vermont's nature. As the skiing year ends and in reflection over what many say has been a poor winter for skiing, I would like to offer this observation.

Some of the best skiing I had this winter were on days that weren't made for skiing. It was either too wet, too icy, or both. But up here in East Montpelier we're in a little snow pocket, and it seemed there was always just enough cover to support skiing. Most of my friends had given up. But I had my secret weapon--- lightweight, high performance metal-edged skis with fishscale (no wax) bottoms. I'd throw them on before or after work, and off I'd go each day at dawn or dusk or both. The edges took care of the ice, and the scales flew happily through slush and even puddles. I almost never got to use my old "real snow" skis, but at least I got out daily for months. And once I was outside, it was as beautiful as ever.

Here in East Montpelier we are fortunate to have several spots where any resident can enjoy the outdoors. Here are some.

The East Montpelier Town Forest. Park your car or walk to the parking area on Haggett Road, half a mile west of Adamant. There are trails to walk or ski, and varied habitats to explore, including a wetland edge on the south boundary and some old hemlocks and mixed hardwoods elsewhere.

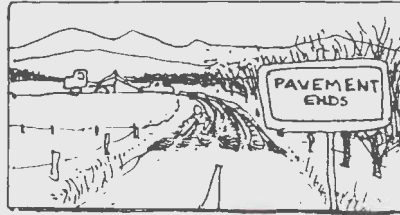
Dodge Road/Cleaves Farm Trail. From the legal trail on Dodge Road go over the height of the land to Lyle Young Road. Trail markings should be in place by the time spring comes.

U-32 High School. A one mile+ woodland trail follows a ridge high above the Winooski River. There are also open fields with a view of Camel's Hump and a running track available when not used by students. On weekends, park outside the gate. During the week the parking lot is usually available.

Elementary School. The recreation field and the grounds of the Elementary School are available when not in use by students.

Town Roads. Everyone has a favorite town road. Get to know them and enjoy walking or riding your bicycle.

Nona Estrin



CHURCH CHIMES

Old Brick Church Old Meeting House

The Brick Church Club sponsors a community Koffee Klatsch on the first Monday of each month, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. We serve coffee, tea, muffins, quick breads and enjoy conversations of community events or highlights of a person or their family. Please join us March 2 or April 6.

OMH/OBC will offer an Adult Study on Death and Dying. This will be a six week series dealing with issues such as euthanasia, living wills, support of a dying person. Meetings will be every Wednesday at alternating churches, beginning March 4 at the Old Brick Church.

An International Forum on Russia will be held on March 8 at the Old Meeting House, with dinner, several guest speakers and discussion. Reservations should be made by calling 454-7309; donations for the dinner will go toward Russian relief efforts.

An Old-Fashioned Supper of baked beans, red flannel hash, coleslaw, cornbread and apple pie will be held April 11 at 5:00 and 6:30 at the Old Brick Church. Adults - \$6, Children - \$3.50, with proceeds to benefit the Onion River Foodshelf. Reservations should be made by calling 223-5705.

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.

TOWN MEETING NEWS

There will be a few changes at Town Meeting this year. To allow for more seating space, the voting booths will be set up in a first and second grade classroom in the school.

Town Meeting Day dinner will be chicken pie and biscuit, vegetable, coleslaw, dessert and beverage for \$5.00 (adult) and \$2.50 (children). Proceeds from the dinner will go toward the purchase of a warming oven for the cafeteria.

Australian Ballot for 1992:

Moderator (vote for 1)	Martin K. Miller Charles R. Parker
Selectman/3 years (vote for 1)	Tim Carver Edith Miller
Lister/3 years	Steven Sinclair
Auditor/3 years	MaryEllen Hill
Trustee of Public Funds	Sylvia Tosi
Town Law Agent (vote for 1)	H. Roger Chapell Conrad Ormsbee
Town Grand Juror	Laura Williams
First Constable	Dennis Carver
Second Constable	Arthur Montague
Cemetery Commissioner/5 years	George F. Sibley, Sr. William Shouldice III
Planning Commission/2 years (vote for 3)	Claudia Bristow Sally Longhi John S. Hall Philip Leno Johanna DeMartino
Planning Commission/3 years (vote for 3)	Susan Merritt David Hudson Laura Hawkins Margaret E. Richey Edward S. Blackwell Donald H. Donnelly
School Directors (one for each term) Elementary/2 years	Bret W. Mugford Susan O. Stephen
Elementary/3 years	Anthony Klein
U-32/3 years	Phillip L. Cookson Ted Guilmette Steven M. Somers



THE TOWN WEATHERVANE



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Weston Cate, Allan Couch, Austin Cleaves

December 4, 1991

- ▶ Began preliminary work on budget.

December 11, 1991

- ▶ Heard report from Road Foreman Butch Davis; noted that loader needs work to extend its life. Voted to get a repair estimate from Hill-Martin.
- ▶ Approved request from Veteran's Memorial Committee to place a spotlight on the new monument outside of the municipal building.
- ▶ Agreed to accept donation from Phyllis Duso of an antique table-top desk used by the postmaster when the post office was in Dudley's Store.
- ▶ Correspondence received from City of Montpelier reporting Bliss Road has been posted with 25 mph signs following East Montpelier and Fran Weinbaum's request.

December 18, 1991

- ▶ Discussion about 1992 salaries resulted in adjustments to cover the current inflation rate of 3%.
- ▶ Reviewed analysis of hours spent on applications by Sewage Officer Czaplinski. Voted to pay Town Sewage Officer at the rate of \$7.00/hour. Will consider raising the fees for sewage applications as part of the budget discussion.
- ▶ Continued work on budget.

January 2, 1992

- ▶ Continued work on budget. Agreed to raise sewage permit fees to cover cost of Sewage Officer's time.
- ▶ Voted to authorize the purchase of payroll software for \$1600.
- ▶ Voted to level fund the Recreation Board.
- ▶ Voted to cancel contract with Humane Society for impounding unlicensed dogs as of 4/15/92. It was felt these services were available for less cost and Constable Dennis Carver was dissatisfied with the limited hours available for dropping off dogs.

- ▶ Met with Planning Commission to discuss transition to an elected Planning Commission as voted at Town Meeting 1991. Agreed to elect three Commissioners for 3 year terms and three Commissioners for 2 year terms.

- ▶ Agreed to invite Conservation Fund Committee Chair Edie Miller to future meeting to discuss Merritt application.

- ▶ Approved request from Bill and Pam Pollack for fill on their property on Wheeler Road from Towne Hill Road project.

- ▶ Approved Agency of Transportation offer of engineering study of Coburn Covered Bridge as part of state review of covered bridges. The study will be 100% funded by State.

January 8, 1992

- ▶ Discussed request from a realtor for permission for an alternative sewage system on the Tenney property in the Horn of the Moon area. The request was denied.

- ▶ Voted to adopt these sewage application fees: \$40 for review of state approved designs, \$75 for review of in-ground designs, and \$125 for review of mound system designs.

- ▶ Received request from Gully Jumpers Snow Machine Club to use a portion of Brazier Road. Tom Brazier opposed this due to excessive speeds when used in the past. Tom offered to discuss with the Club the possibility of routes on his property. Agreed to send a letter to the Club asking them to consider Brazier's offer prior to further consideration of the road.

- ▶ Tom Brazier addressed two road concerns: feels town should spend more money on maintaining gravel roads and that town should not cut back on use of salt to clear paved roads of ice in winter. Selectman noted that the Town does its best to keep the roads clear and that expenditure on salt and sand has not significantly changed.

- ▶ Voted to appoint Georgiana Miranda and Steve Sinclair to the

Conservation Advisory Committee for terms to expire 4/1/95.

January 15, 1992

- ▶ Road department reported winter sand supply getting low due to recent ice storms.

- ▶ Went into executive session to discuss contractual negotiation concerning a host town agreement with the CV Landfill.

- ▶ Accepted resignation of Jack Pauly from Recreation Board. A letter of appreciation will be sent.

January 27, 1992

- ▶ Reviewed and accepted the budget in the total amount of \$529,890.

- ▶ Petition to request whether the town shall continue to be dues-paying member of the Central Vermont Solid Waste District was discussed. Selectmen felt petition not worded properly and that a vote on this at Town Meeting would not be binding. Will refer this item to Town Attorney.

- ▶ Petition to request adopting, rejecting, or amending Town Plan to be done by Australian Ballot will be put in as submitted.

- ▶ Petition for \$10,000 to be added to the Conservation Fund will be put in as submitted.

- ▶ Voted to purchase additional 1500 yards of sand from McCulloughs at \$3.50 per yard.

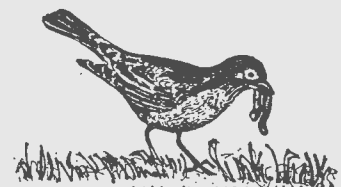
- ▶ Accepted David Rogers' bid to repair the roof on the Coburn Bridge.

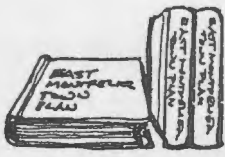
January 29, 1992

- ▶ Approved contract for Cynthia Hartnett to edit the Town Plan.

- ▶ Signed warning for Town Meeting.

- ▶ Voted to appoint Ed Blackwell as Assistant Zoning Administrator during February when Zoning Commissioner is away.





PLANNING COMMISSION

Chair: Johanna DeMartino

November 7, 1991

- ▶ Approved a sign permit for Warren and Mary Noyes to advertise a gaso-line island at the old Creamery building.
- ▶ Discussion regarding whether a permit is needed for an above ground pool. Town Attorney will check into.
- ▶ Worked on Town Plan.

November 21, 1991

- ▶ Met with representatives of Earth Construction to discuss plans to purchase the old Cooley gravel pit and to fill in an area around the pit with material they will be removing from projects on Towne Hill and Berlin Street. Also plan to extract 37,000 yards of material from the existing pit over the next two years with a crusher to be operated on site. Suggested neighbors and Town Attorney be contacted as plans outlined constitute a change of use.
- ▶ Application for a lined landfill and a composting facility at C.V. Landfill site have been submitted. Meeting scheduled with C.V. on 12/5/91.

December 19, 1992

- ▶ Accepted preliminary sketch plan submitted by Dexter and Susan Merritt for a 5 lot subdivision on a 37 acre parcel in North Montpelier. A public hearing will be held in January.
- ▶ Agreed to seek help from the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission to review the C.V. Landfill proposal.
- ▶ Above ground pools are not permanent structures, not taxed by the listers, and a permit is not needed.

January 2, 1992

- ▶ Approved the land fill of materials extracted from Berlin Street and Towne Hill reconstruction projects at the old Cooley gravel pit. Other issues regarding change of use and extraction of products is out of Planning Commission's jurisdiction.

CONSERVATION FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 10, 1991

- ▶ Merritt application - amended the recommendation to the Selectmen as follows: loan can be repaid at any time within the 3 year period; loan would be released upon the initiation of the project; loan to be used according to the intentions expressed in application.
- ▶ Policy and procedure review continued.
- ▶ Established new schedule for the second Thursdays of month.

January 9, 1992

- ▶ Notified by Selectmen that two new members were added to the committee: Georgiana Miranda and Steve Sinclair. Susan Merritt had also applied but was not selected due to Merritt's pending application. Committee decided to send a letter to Selectmen stating their desire to have Ms. Merritt included as committee needs interested people and broad representation.
- ▶ Dennis Carver has missed three consecutive meetings. Charles Johnson agreed to call him to see if he is still interested in serving on the Committee.

FOUR CORNERS SCHOOLHOUSE ASSOCIATION

President: Don Donnelly

- ▶ Detailed estimates have been obtained for the artesian well and piping to the school building; a contract will be signed shortly.
- ▶ A family snowshoe outing was held in February. A town-wide sugar on snow party will be held for residents on Sunday, March 29, at 2:00. Come and see sap boiled the old way.



EAST MONTPELIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD

Janice Aldrich, Phil Cookson, Rich Davidian,
Tony Klein, Burr Morse

January 9, 1992

- ▶ Met to discuss and plan the budget. \$12,654 was cut from the budget. Expenditures will be up 1.94% for next year. The amount to be raised in taxes for 1992-93 will be \$769,897. The problem is that revenues are down. The carryover funds from last year are smaller because they were used to keep taxes level last year; interest rates on investments are lower, and state funding may be less. These losses in revenue all add up to a tax increase of about 14% or about \$110 on a \$100,000 piece of property.

January 16, 1992

- ▶ Special meeting to approve budget.
- ▶ Voted to set tuition rates at \$5,529 for students in grades 1-6 and \$2,765 for students in the half-time kindergarten program.
- ▶ Grocery store tape drives have come to an end. Grand Union tapes totalled up to \$272,316.05 which will provide a camcorder, VCR, color TV, and one Imagewriter printer for the second grade Apple Computer. The Price Chopper tapes totalled up to \$57,256.37 which will result in a Dukane overhead projector. Thanks to everyone who sent in tapes. Special thanks to Laura Langevin, Betty and Albert Jerome for all the work they did in counting the tapes.

DENNIS R. HAWKINS 223-3994		HUGH M. HAWKINS 229-0114
Driveway and Lawn Construction Mowing, Bush Hogging Snow Plowing Sanding		229-4166 WHOLESALE - RETAIL

**ORDER YOUR DISEASE-
RESISTANT LIBERTY ELM!
\$15 WILL BUY A SEEDLING
AND A TREE SHELTER
(REMEMBER TUBEX?).
SIGN UP FOR ONE OR TWO AT
THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE.
PICK UP DATE IS MAY 2
AT THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.**



MOOSE LIPS



◆ *Veteran's Memorial in front of Town Municipal building now shines in the dark! A spotlight was installed by James Goslant, a local resident electrician.*

◆ *Dog licenses due by April 1, 1992. Fees as follows: Neutered or spayed \$4.00, male dogs \$6.00, female dogs \$8.00. Also need current rabies vaccination certificate. If you have questions about rabies certificate, call the Town Clerk 223-3313.*

◆ *The Nutcracker Suite was performed at the Barre Opera House in December with several East Montpelier children participating. Congratulations to Crystal Crose-Rippportella, Matt Crose-Rippportella, Jessie Dall, Joey Davidian and Megan Somers for a job well done!*

◆ *Preschool census is coming along well thanks to many volunteers and cooperative parents. Anyone who knows of any new children in town (birth to age 5) contact Linda Royce at the Elementary School.*

◆ *The East Montpelier Cooperative Playgroup has temporarily dissolved due to a sudden decrease in participation. Anyone interested in future playgroups of a cooperative nature is encouraged to call Robyn Hall at 223-3308. A core of at least nine parents is needed for the co-op to run effectively.*

◆ *Burr Morse is recovering at home from a skiing accident. The cast is off, he's driving and can't wait to get sugaring. Get well soon!*

◆ *A strong note of appreciation goes to Jack Pauly for his nearly six years of service on the Recreation Board. If you might be interested in serving on this Board which oversees the swimming program and the recreation field, call the Selectmen.*

◆ *Bring your sweet tooth to the Sugar on Snow Party at the Four Corners Schoolhouse on Sunday, March 29 at 2:00. A \$2 donation is requested.*



MILESTONES

(Received by the Town Clerk by Feb. 1)

BIRTHS

♥ *Chad Vincent Santor born October 22, 1991 to Shawn Marie Corbiel and Jeffrey Lee Santor.*

♥ *Samantha Rose Knudsen born December 14, 1991 to June Lynn and John Thomas Knudsen.*

♥ *Christopher Joseph Mureta born December 14, 1991 to Jean Marie and Douglas Edward Mureta.*

MARRIAGES

♥ *Kristin Day and Michael McCarthy on December 6, 1991.*

♥ *Brenda Jane Bubar and David William Pope on January 13, 1992.*

PASSINGS

Clifton L. Mix passed away on December 6, 1991. Survived by wife, Dorothy S. Mix.

Jeanne Cecile Bolio passed away on December 9, 1991. Survived by husband, Allen G. Bolio.

Clifton Earl Haggett Sr. passed away December 27, 1991. Survived by wife, Beatrice Haggett.

Alice Albizzati, a long time resident of North Montpelier, passed away on November 12, 1991.

LAND TRANSFERS

(Received between October 29 - December 17)

House and 55 acres on corner of Cherry Tree Hill and Towne Hill Road from Otto Farmhouse to Jan Peter Otto.

One acre off Paul Square from Richard G. & Carole Casavant to F. William and Vera Doe.

House and 2.1 acres on corner of Bliss and Center Roads from Estate of Carroll E. Badger to David W. Connor & Ann V. Stanton.

Dwelling and 1.9 acres on Upper North Street from Steven G. Hinds and Judith Rosch Hinds to Judith Rosch Hinds.

.25 acres on Route 14 from Doris Tumulty to Richard & Mary Tousignant.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The EMFD has been busy this new year responding to 23 calls, compared to 11 calls at this time last year. The Department responded to a mutual aid call to the Hardwick fire. Fire-fighters and equipment from 10 departments responded to this blaze in sub-zero temperatures.

The EMFD has also been busy training, and participated in a casualty drill with Plainfield Fast Squad involving treatment and evacuation by snowmobile of 10 victims of a mock airplane crash.

The annual report of the EMFD is available at the Town Clerk's office. Last year EMFD responded to 159 calls, 71 fire related and 88 for medical assistance. 84 of these calls were in East Montpelier, 46 in Calais, and 29 were mutual aid requests.

EMFD and Auxiliary would like to thank the citizens of East Montpelier and Calais for their continued support during the past year.

William H. George, Jr.

DREAMING SPRING

*there are times when dreaming seems
the only answer
when spring never comes
and the green grass grows achingly distant
the clutch of cold every morning
lingers through the day
and the northwest wind still comes from the pole*

*dreaming tiny mint green leaves
feathering the branches
pale spring beauties topping
last year's dried leaves
thrush song haunting the trees*



*dreaming green grass rushing to the sky
Deneb, Vega and Altair high above in the evening
warm, warm misty rains*

*dreaming lilacs scenting the warm breeze
the first white of shad against the darkening trees
waves of pale red reaching up the mountains*

*dreaming the rich, raw furrows hungry for seed
cows on fresh grass and the first mowing
heifers testing the pasture's freedom*

*dreaming spring and it comes
Cherie Staples Langer*

THE BRAGG FAMILY: SMALL BEGINNINGS LEAD TO A BIGGER STAR

The Bragg Farm Sugar House and Gift Shop is a fine example of what can be done with initiative and persistence. It also demonstrates how a life's ambition can be turned into a way of life. Douglas and Barbara Bragg have used their considerable skills to design and construct a building for their expanding business. It houses a gift shop, a kitchen for making candy and packaging syrup, a woodshed, and the sugar house.

Doug Bragg was nine when he and his brother Dan began sugaring, gathering sap with a red sled and boiling it over a fire in the yard. His interest grew out of a book on back-yard sugaring by Scott and Helen Nearing. After they moved to East Montpelier, he and his mother opened a gift shop on the front porch, selling syrup, candy, and maple cream along with Jini's handicrafts and art work.

Doug drew on his experience in carpentry to design the building. Its construction was very much a family effort. Bob and Jini Bragg, Doug's parents, and Barbara's parents, Edward and Doris LeGrand of Arlington, Vermont, along with Doug's brother Dan had a hand in the process. Barbara took two months off from her job to work on the building.

It is obvious that the real purpose here is to make maple syrup. In the center of the sugar house stands a gleaming arch: a five-by-fourteen foot, two-pan, stainless steel "Lightning" made by the G. H. Grimm Company of Rutland. This is a sugar rig that means business.

Doug plans to increase the number of buckets from the 1,600 that were hung in the past to around 2,000. This will

enable them to make between 500 and 600 gallons of syrup. Because he boils with wood which he cuts, splits, and stacks himself, the effort involved staggers the imagination. It is truly a labor of love.

The gift shop is a place to market their syrup, candy, and maple cream as well as the vegetables Bob and Jini raise. They do not make enough syrup to satisfy the demands and so some is bought from local sugar makers. There are items made by local crafts people and Vermont food products. Doug and Barb take considerable pleasure in being able to provide an outlet for the skills of their neighbors.

A growing mail order business supplements the retail sales. Christmas gift packs are a major item and the sales are sustained by a good repeat business. They sold Christmas trees and wreaths in December and a pile of pumpkins at Halloween. The future may see the addition of a pick-your-own berry patch.

Doug and Barbara take a justifiable pride in what they are creating. They see such businesses as one alternative to the dairy cow as a way to make a life in agriculture. It takes courage to stake one's future on the vagaries of Vermont weather, the economy, and the whims of the public. It also takes considerable skill to turn 35 gallons of maple sap into a gallon of syrup with a consistency required by the marketplace. The Bragg Farm Sugar House and Gift Shop has come a long way from a bucket on a red sled.

David A. Coburn



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.	2nd Thursday	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, February 27, 7:30	Pre-Town Meeting Forum	Elementary School
Tuesday, March 3, 9:30	Town Meeting Day	Elementary School
Tuesday, March 3, 9:30-7:00	Voting	Elementary School
Sunday, March 8, 6:00 p.m.	International Forum on Russia	Old Meeting House
Sunday, March 29, 2:00 p.m.	Sugar on Snow Party	Four Corners Schoolhouse
Wednesday, April 1	Dog Licenses Due	Town Clerk's Office
Saturday, April 11, 5:00, 6:30 p.m.	Old-Fashioned Supper	Old Brick Church
Thursday, April 16, 7:30	Maundy Thursday Service	Old Meeting House
Friday, April 17, 7:30 p.m.	Beethoven's 'Mount of Olives' Oratorio	Old Brick Church
Sunday, April 19, 6:00 a.m.	Sunrise Service	Four Corners Schoolhouse
Sunday, April 19, 7:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Old Brick Church
Sunday, April 19, 9:30	Easter Service	Old Meeting House
Sunday, April 19, 11:00	Easter Service	Old Brick Church

SIGNPOST STAFF

Jean Cate, Publisher, 223-2951

Fred Tubbs, Copy Editor, 454-8462

Anne Sherman, Business Manager, 223-2693

Cherie Langer, Managing Editor, 229-4858

Janet MacLeod, Artist, 229-4349

Sylvia Tosi, Town Records, 223-3240

Janice Waterman, News Editor, 223-5826

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Volume 2, No. 4

INSIDE:

BRAGG FARM
CELINA MOORE
TOWN MEETING
BUSINESSES
TOWN WALKS
SUGAR ON SNOW

