

# EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

Volume 3, No. 4

March/April 1993

## CARMI DUSO: TRAVELER EXTRAORDINAIRE

When you finally catch up with Carmi and Phyllis Duso, you've accomplished something! That's how I feel as I round the easy curve of their drive, past a couple well-kept outbuildings and handsome trees, to their home, a little above the Winooski valley and within sight of the Old Brick Church and town clerk's office. The Dusos have just returned from snowmobiling with friends at 8,000 feet in West Yellowstone, Colorado, and they're off again right after lunch to Manchester, Vermont. No matter that it's the snowiest, windiest day in memory. "Only a two hour drive," says Carmi. Phyllis' musical daughter and grandson are in a production of "Bye Bye Birdie," and Carmi and Phyllis are going.

I know the Dusos are on the go a lot, and I know, too, that Carmi is internationally recognized for his pioneering contributions to and personal enjoyment of snowmobiling. But I'm not prepared for how relaxed they both seem, in spite of a schedule that would leave most of us frazzled. And I'm not prepared for the staggering number of awards, articles, feature stories, news photos, and honorary citations discreetly placed on walls and shelves but mostly packed into a huge scrapbook. Many of these are recent; pictures of a smiling Carmi with "MR. SNOWMOBILE!" headlines and articles about the central role he played in the

formation, development and legislative financing of the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST). Here, too, are articles from Enosburg Falls of a younger Carmi, in the fire department for 41 years, as its chief for 25 years, influential community member, father and husband, and outstanding telephone company employee from 1927 to 1968. "CHIEF!" and "MR. EVERYTHING!" declare the headlines.

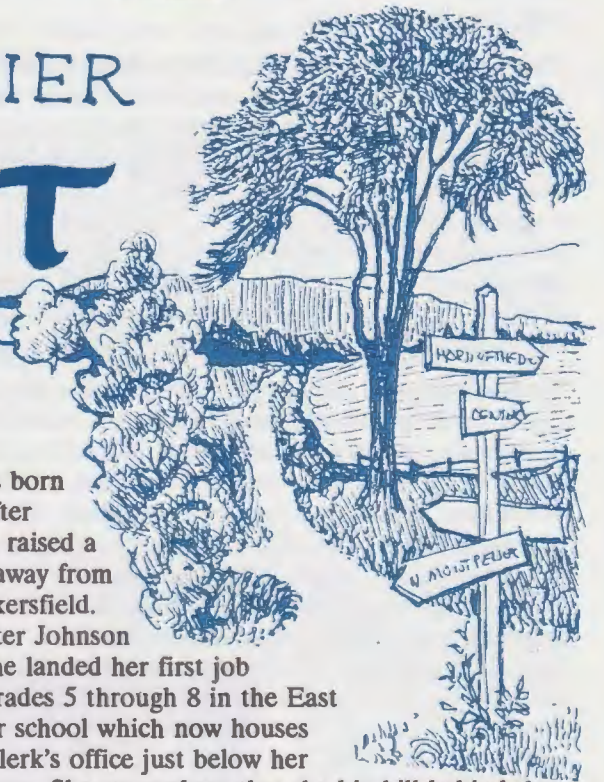
Phyllis was born 16 years after Carmi and raised a few miles away from him in Bakersfield. In 1941 after Johnson College, she landed her first job teaching grades 5 through 8 in the East Montpelier school which now houses the town clerk's office just below her present home. She remembers that the big hill behind the building was where the children played (now her side yard), and it was a wonderful sliding hill in winter. Phyllis would go outside with her students at recess; she never minded the cold and loved being outside with them in the snow. In time she married a Dudley and became known not only as a mother, wife, and elementary school teacher but as a church organist, piano teacher, choral director, and in 1968 was named Vermont Mother of the Year. A dedicated and effective organizer and fund raiser, she saw her own and her community's efforts culminate, after a decade of work, in the reopening and ongoing restoration of the Old Brick Church, which had been closed for 20 or 30 years.

So how did Phyllis and Carmi come to meet one another and in 1969 become husband and wife? To answer that let's go back to Enosburg Falls and 1915. Twelve-year-old Carmi returned home for the school year after spending June to September as a hired hand, proud of his hard work and proud of his summer's pay, \$5.00. Home was where Mom and Dad and seven younger brothers and sisters lived in "the next house down" from his uncle's farm, where Dad worked. Not far away was the farm where Phyllis Ovitt and her brother and older sister were raised. "Our farm was in Bakersfield, but there was a little corner of it in Enosburg," says Phyllis.

Growing up on farms during the depression, they both remember having "everything but money." And both saw many changes. "In my life I've been pulled out of the mud by oxen and steam locomotive, and I've also watched the moon walk. I've seen wages for young people go from \$5.00 for a whole summer to \$5.00 an hour! That's change." Carmi's handsome face seems serious for a minute, and I get a glimpse of a younger man who courted and married



Carmi and Phyllis Duso



the eldest Ovitt girl, Phyllis' beloved sister who was not only a kind sister, but mother and best friend to her when their own mother died.

The two sisters and their families remained close, though separated by a few counties, and when Phyllis' husband passed away in 1961 and her father died that same week, the families rallied. Her sister and brother-in-law Carmi were her support. A few years later, in 1967, cancer tragically and suddenly deprived Phyllis and Carmi of both sister and wife. The family networks that had gotten them through earlier losses were established, and within a couple of years, their fondness for one another and common bond of loss became the basis for a new beginning together.

Their marriage in June of 1969 set the tone. Phyllis and Carmi attended her son's wedding together in Boston in the morning and were secretly married in a church in Maine in the afternoon...then off to Alaska in Carmi's new Winnebago. Since then they have combined retirement with adventure and service. They've traveled to all the states and the provinces of Canada. Carmi has been instrumental in establishing over 80 snowmobile clubs in Vermont and the umbrella and founding organization for them, VAST. A recreation visionary, he's in the International Hall of Snowmobile Fame and has logged, often with Phyllis, a minimum of one or two thousand miles on snowmobiles every year since 1968.

When it comes to planning and action, Carmi is Fearless and Worryless. "And that," says Phyllis, "just about sums it up!" Meanwhile if you want to catch a word with them before they head off to Minnesota, better get movin'! You might find Phyllis at the church or with friends at Wedgewood, and if you see Carmi, ask him to tell you the story of the shootout in Enosburg Falls.

Nona Estrin



## TOWN MEETING MARCH 2

The PreTown Meeting Forum will be held Thursday, Feb. 25, at 7:30 p.m. at the East Montpelier Elementary School. There will be a discussion of the Warning, and the candidates for office will be introduced.

Town Meeting is Tuesday, March 2, 1993, beginning at 9:30 a.m., with the School District Meeting called for 1 p.m. Polls are open 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Baby sitting will be provided by Girl Scout Troop 523 from 9:30-12:00 and 1:00-3:00. A donation of \$1.00 per hour per child is suggested. Bonnie Burkholder is the scout leader.

The school cooks are putting on a chicken pie dinner with coleslaw, potato, vegetable, and apple crisp for the mid-day break. There will be one sitting at 12 noon, price \$5. The proceeds will be used for a new warming oven for the school's kitchen.

## FROM THE TOP OF THE SIGNPOST

*It's never too late to say "thank you."*

*About three years ago when we were first laying plans for a town newspaper, we cast about for other towns who had plowed the ground ahead of us. Nearby in Middlesex we found the Middlesex Occasional, a lively paper in newsprint format published by Neely Washington. She invited us to visit and talked with us about how she does it. A second paper, the Times of Shrewsbury, was further away but some long telephone conversations with long-time Editor Betty Heitzke proved a real inspiration to us. These successful community newspapers showed us that it can be done, and that townspeople really do appreciate this unique way of talking to each other.*

*So we started. Several other town newspapers have come to us since then: the Williston Whistle, the Barnard Bulletin, and the Huntingtonian for example. We have enjoyed and learned from them all. Thanks.*

*You might say that we have graduated from kindergarten and are part way into first grade, for two of our neighbor towns are looking at us as a model! Calais and Cabot are about to start their own newspapers. People with energy and vision in each town have come to us with questions, and we are proud to share some of our successes and failures with them. Best of all, each of their papers will be vastly different from ours, just as their towns are. We wish them well.*

Jean Cate

## 1993 CANDIDATES ARE:

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Moderator .....                           | Martin Miller        |
| Selectman - 3-yr-term .....               | Dennis Carver        |
| (Vote for one)                            | Allan Couch          |
| Lister - 3-yr-term. ....                  | Rosendo Cueto        |
| Auditor - 3-yr-term .....                 | Anne Sherman         |
| Auditor - 2-yr-term .....                 | Holly Edwards        |
| Trustee for Public Funds - 3-yr-term .... | Richard Angney       |
| Town Law Agent .....                      | Peter Hill           |
| Town Grand Juror .....                    | No Candidate         |
| First Constable .....                     | Dennis Carver        |
| Second Constable .....                    | Arthur Montague      |
| Cemetery Commissioner - 5-yr-term .....   | George Fitch         |
| Planning Commission - 3-yr-term .....     | Richard Blanchard    |
| (Vote for three)                          | Richard Curtis, Jr.  |
|   | Douglas Kievit-Kylar |
|   | Richard Ormsbee      |
|   | John Riley           |
| Planning Commission - 1-yr-term .....     | Frank Pratt          |
| Elem. School Director - 3-yr-term .....   | James Hiner          |
| (Vote for one)                            | Douglas Miller       |
|   | Steven Somers        |
| Elem. School Director - 2-yr-term .....   | Janice Aldrich       |
| (Vote for one):                           | Nancy Thomas         |
| U-32 School Director - 3-yr-term .....    | Richard Angney       |
| U-32 School Director - 2-yr-term .....    | Philip Cookson       |



THE SELECT BOARD

Weston Cate, Allan Couch, Edie Miller

November 11, 1992

- ▶ Agreed to request from Dick Blake to have Green Mountain Power move street light to another pole as his car lot is moving from the west to east side of Route 14.
- ▶ Voted to reaffirm the granting of tax stabilization for the zoning application to be resubmitted by L. Brown & Sons, Inc.
- ▶ Voted to appoint Larry Brown as Emergency Management Coordinator.
- ▶ Agreed to allocate money from Act 200 funds for printing and distribution of Town Plan.
- ▶ Agreed to request by Tony Biron to receive fill from Towne Hill Road project as long as all state permits are in place.
- ▶ Received first payment of \$4,809.62 from C.V. Landfill in accordance with the Host Town Agreement, which will go into the General Fund as an unbudgeted receipt.

December 2, 1992

- ▶ Accepted resignation of Jonathan Lash as town representative to the Solid Waste Management District. Appointed Weston Cate.
- ▶ Discussed dog damage claim of Hallmark Farm in which two calves were killed and two others wounded. Voted to reimburse \$500 in dog damages per statute.
- ▶ Received complaint of illegal dumping on Haggett Road.
- ▶ Agreed to print 200 copies of draft Town Plan. Public hearing scheduled December 16.
- ▶ Voted to warn a hearing for the laying out of a public watercourse in the matter of Holt vs. East Montpelier.
- ▶ Voted to recognize the past six months of exceptional service of Road Supervisor Mike Garand and expressed appreciation for his leadership of the road crew.

December 17, 1992

- ▶ Approved the Winter Road Maintenance Policy.
- ▶ Voted to approve purchase of new truck jack for \$400.
- ▶ Considered request from Elementary School for town to plow driveway and lots as possible cost savings for school. Determined that it would not save taxpayers much due to additional time for road crew, and school snow removal would not be first priority.
- ▶ Reviewed and signed liens for delinquent personal property taxes.
- ▶ Voted to appoint Holly Edwards to fill Fred Tubbs' unexpired term as auditor.

January 7, 1993

- ▶ Lien placed against town by E. J. Prescott, a subcontractor of Earth Construction on Towne Hill Road project, as a result of not being paid by Earth Construction. Will notify State Agency of Transportation as this is a state contract.
- ▶ Heard fire department report. Noted that 1992 budget had cost overrun of \$6,000 due to equipment repair. The department was able to make up for the shortfall by fund raising. Proposed 1993 budget is \$58,989 of which \$37,866 would be East Montpelier share and \$21,123 would be the Calais share.
- ▶ General budget work session. Treasurer Tosi presented unaudited year-end figures showing expenditures being \$16,576 under budget. However, shortfalls due to an increase in delinquent taxes means a deficit of \$30,000. Delinquent taxes as of 12/31/92 were \$133,262.
- ▶ Discussed need for a town reappraisal. Most work can be done by listers over a two-year period. Agreed to increase listers' salary budget for 1993 to \$9,500 to begin the reappraisal work. Work should be ready for the 1995 Grand List.
- ▶ Select Board members agreed to cut their salaries from \$1,000 to \$750.

- ▶ Voted to include town and school staff salaries in Town Report.
- ▶ Approved request by Gully Jumpers Snowmobile Club to travel a portion of Dodge Road adjacent to Mildred Heller's property for going around the culvert crossing.

January 13, 1993

- ▶ Public hearing for consideration of laying out a watercourse on the property of Clyde & Evelyn Holt on Route 14. It was noted that 9/88 court ruling in the matter established the necessity finding required under statute for laying out a watercourse. Unable to agree on damage claim.
- ▶ Authorized purchase of additional winter sand due to very slippery conditions in December.



PLANNING COMMISSION

Chair: Johanna DeMartino

November 19, 1992

- ▶ Voted to deny Fair application for subdivision because plan does not meet minimum lot size for Zone D.
- ▶ Voted to accept sketch plan for 5-lot subdivision for LaJack, Inc. on the former Blake & Loso lot.

December 3, 1992

- ▶ Approved final plat application for Michael Czok subdivision.
- ▶ Voted to approve change in use for Larry Benoit's snowmobile shop to allow up to 12 used cars on consignment.

► Voted to deny Fair application to transfer 1.6 acres to Crystal Springs Water System because it does not meet minimum lot requirements.

**December 17, 1992**

► Accepted preliminary plat for 5-lot subdivision on former Blake & Loso lot subject to a complete survey before final public hearing.

► Requested Zoning Administrator ask Mr. Brown to remove the non-conforming sign at L. Brown & Sons or apply for a new permit.

**January 7, 1993**

► Began discussion for the proposal by C.V. Landfill to build a 5-acre landfill. No action taken.



**BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**  
*Chair: Jeff Cueto*

**November 23, 1992**

► Public hearing to determine if a permit should be granted to Dennis and Bonnie White for a temporary greenhouse connected to their existing garage on County Road. Proposed construction does not meet required setbacks for Zone D. Voted to accept the application as presented.

**December 14, 1992**

► Public hearing to determine if a permit should be granted to Larry Brown for construction of a building for use as a printing business on Route 14. This business activity requires a Conditional Use Permit. Voted to consider this reapplication as light industry use. After lengthy discussion voted to recess the hearing until 12/28/92.

**EAST MONTPELIER  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

*Jan Aldrich, Rich Davidian,  
Tony Klein, Burr Morse, Sue Stephen*

The school board has spent the majority of its last four board meetings discussing the budget. Expenditures are up, and revenues are down. There is no surplus left to be used to defray costs this year. The board has received much input from the community. It is important that people attend Town Meeting to hear the school directors' budget report. School meeting begins at 1:00 p.m. on Town Meeting Day.

---

**PTO NEWS**

The PTO has been revitalized and is working very hard to be the communication link between the teachers, parents and community. Forums are being planned, and a newsletter started. Regular PTO meetings are being held on the second Tuesday of the month. In March there will be a program on preventing child abuse led by Darryl Bloom and Janet Connor. The PTO welcomes anyone from the community to contribute to its newsletter and attend meetings.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

During 1992, the Fire Department and Fast Squad responded to 71 fire/emergency calls and 97 requests for medical aid, a total of 168 calls. This was a slight increase over 1991. The membership increased from 29 to 32 members. The department added a "Class A Foam System." This has enabled the EMFD to fight structure fires with less water and allows for quicker knockdown of such fires. A special thanks goes to the various businesses in town that purchased this system for the department.

A memorial to First Assistant Chief Robert L. Parker was built at the fire station and dedicated in October. Also in October, Cooleen and Todd Parker, Elliott and Florence Morse and other members of the EMFD and their families traveled to the National Fire Academy, in Emmittsburg, Maryland, for a memorial service and dedication of a memorial plaque to all firefighters who died in the line of duty in 1991.

The members of the East Montpelier Fire Department, Fast Squad, and Auxiliary would like to thank everyone for their continued support in 1992. It is through this support that we are able to serve you.

*William George*



*Elliott Morse, Cooleen Parker, Todd Parker, Michael Garand, and William George*

**FOUR CORNERS  
SCHOOLHOUSE ASSOCIATION**  
President: Don Donnelly

In the fall of 1992, we learned of a special grant available for access ramps for public buildings. On December 11, we were approved for a grant up to \$1,000.00, provided there are matching funds for the project. This ramp will be built at the doorway on the east side of the schoolhouse.

The deed conveying the schoolhouse from the School Board to our corporation has been signed and recorded. We are now completely responsible for all operating costs, including electricity, heat, and insurance.

Please look for our schedule on a table in the hallway on Town Meeting Day. Monthly events are listed to which all townspeople are invited.

---

**DO YOU EVER WONDER...**

The snowstorm at the end of December took the three-man road crew 20 hours each to plow. They try to keep the roads open all night in case a fire or emergency vehicle needs to get through.

There are 60 miles of road to plow, sand and salt in town. The road foreman advises people to slow down on icy, snow-covered roads.

Hats off to the road crew for all their extra work keeping the roads safe and passable for us during the winter!

---

**FREE TAX HELP**

Tax Counseling is available for the elderly with volunteers trained by IRS and State. The following are AARP Tax-Aid Sites for the 1993 tax season:

Barre Senior Center, 479-9512  
Brook Street Seniors, 479-0555  
Community Action Council, 479-1053  
Berlin Convalescent Ctr., 229-0308  
Montpelier Senior Center, 223-2518  
Pioneer Apartments, 223-6357  
Twin Valley Seniors, 454-8600

Call the above sites for times when help is available, or for further information, call Anita Morreale at 223-5611.



**CHURCH CHIMES**  
*Old Brick Church  
Old Meeting House*

The Mission Committee of the Old Meeting House and the Old Brick Church of East Montpelier is the 1992 recipient of the Belle Senecal Award. This award, which is given by the Vermont Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, was named after the late Belle Senecal of Barre who cared for nearly 200 teen girls during her 18 years as a foster parent. Two years ago the Mission Committee "adopted" Marie Tomberg, a social worker in the Barre district office as part of an innovative, first-of-its-kind program in Vermont. The committee works closely with Marie to identify unmet needs of the children and families on Marie's caseload. Over the past two years, the churches have provided Marie's clients, who are often victims of abuse and neglect, thousands of dollars worth of goods and services, including duffel bags, clothing, food, dishes, and Easter baskets.

A Lenten series of Bible discussions is scheduled to begin Wednesday, March 3, and succeeding Wednesdays, at 7:30. Call 229-9593 for definite location.

Plans are being made for a sunrise service on Easter, April 11, followed by a breakfast at the Old Brick Church.

*I would like to thank all my friends and neighbors for the cards, phone calls, and visits following my recent accident and illness. Special thanks to the ladies of the Old Brick Church, the ladies of the Adamant Church, and the County Road Home Dem Group for their gifts of food baskets and flowers. A very special thanks to Maybeth Butler for all her assistance and help.*

*Gen Chapell*

---

**POLISH CONNECTIONS**

Nearly two years ago Helen Eldred of Snow Hill Road started studying the Polish language from her neighbor, Ed Zuraw. She was preparing for a two-year Peace Corp stint in Poland which began November 1991. She recently made a trip back to Vermont seeking volunteers to come to Poland and speaking to various classes and groups. Helen has found her experience in working in Poland enlightening, sometimes daunting, but mostly wonderful.

Rich Czaplinski spent a couple weeks last summer in Poland helping to set up environmental management training centers under the direction of the Institute for Sustainable Communities.





## CHAPPED LIPS



► **Reminder:** Back issues of the *Signpost* are available. Call Jean at 223-2951 or get them at the Town Office.



► A group of nine people from the 5th and 6th grades will be traveling to the Yucatan in Mexico this June to extend their study of the Mayan culture. They are raising their own money for the trip and would appreciate your support of their raffle on Town Meeting Day as well as returnable bottles for refund at any time. Questions? Call 223-5705.

► Lisa Coburn, the daughter of Dave and Paulie Coburn and a member of the Portland, Maine, police force was named "Officer of the Year" by the City. Lisa majored in Criminal Justice at Fordham University after graduating from U-32. She has been with the Portland police department for four years.

► Anne Sherman noted five otters -- two adults and three babies -- playing in the Onion River, running up and sliding down the river bank.

► Jessica Neary Chipman had her first Vermont art exhibit at the Red Mill Gallery in the Vermont Studio Center. She attended U-32 and graduated with honors from Wellesley College. She is the daughter of Daniel and Emily Neary.

► Gen Chapell is recuperating at home after being at the Mt. Ascutney Rehabilitation Center in Windsor, Vt.

► The East Montpelier Historical Society regularly puts up interesting displays of memorabilia at the Town Office. There is currently a display of Transportation. Sugaring will be the theme of the March display. Anyone with interesting old pictures or topics should call Ellen Hill at 223-2720.

► Warm those buns! Buy your piece of chicken pie at the Town Meeting dinner.

► Are you enjoying the sketches of the children? Janet MacLeod did them one afternoon during the LEAP program at the Elementary School.

### MILESTONES

(Received by the Town Clerk by February 1)

#### BIRTHS

♥ Kevin Barrett Bond born October 11, 1992, to Johnna Marie & Charles William Bond.

♥ Alden Hamilton Hopkins born November 4, 1992, to Virginia Lovering & Richmond Benner Hopkins, Jr.

♥ Alexandra Paris Riggen born on October 28, 1992, to Susan Mary & Robert Jay Riggen.

♥ Caitlin Marie Houle born on November 19, 1992, to Carol Lynne & Denis Norman Houle.

#### MARRIAGES

♥ Mark Edward Gray and Frances Sue Brueckner on December 19, 1992.

♥ Jesse Tirone Terry and Julie Elizabeth Tarshis on December 12, 1992.

#### PASSINGS

Orris G. Wheeler died December 2, 1992. He was the father of Doris Phillips.

Ernest Berger Eniti died December 9, 1992. He lived on Templeton Road and was the husband of Anita Sorti.

### THANKS TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Frieda Battles  
Harold & Joyce Bean  
Marion Codling  
Ralph & Anne Flanders  
Betty Jerome  
Martin & Edith Miller  
Elliott & Florence Morse  
Alban & Margaret Richey  
Ralph Ross  
Ann Talbot Stone  
Carroll Jr. & Joan Witham

And remember that the *Signpost* is only possible because donors like these remember to contribute. We thank them all!

### LAND TRANSFERS

(Received between December 1 and February 1)

1.5 acres on Factory St. in North Montpelier from William & Alice Millard to Normand & Sherry Surprenant.

10 acres in the Greenwood development off Towne Hill Road from Jan & Glenda Otto to Michael & Cheryl Rus.

11.3 acres on Kelton Road from Richard & Lorraine Copping to Terry & Linda Trono.

House and 7 acres on Kelton Road from Richard & Lorraine Copping to Abigail D. Faulkner.

Mobile home on Adamant Road from Allen & Deborah Lawson to Gregory & Debbie Graves.



**Deadline for the next issue is April 1.**

**Please get copy to  
Janice Waterman,  
RR 1, Box 4330, Montpelier,  
VT 05602,  
223-5826.**

## WINTERGREEN NURSERY: DESIGNING ART IN THE LANDSCAPE

When the word "design" comes up in conversation with Doug Miller, owner of Wintergreen Nursery, the context is as likely to be about designing a way of life, a system of government, or a form of education as about the more predictable subject of landscape design. With his widely varying activities and interests, Doug calls himself a Renaissance man, and the values of the Renaissance, with a new vision combining the arts, government, economics, philosophy, education, and theology, permeate Doug's work.

The roots of Doug's interest lie deep in his childhood, with early exposure to music, forestry, and philosophy. In his hometown in the Detroit area, he saw a great deal of mediocre development and became sensitized to the relation of the environment to the quality of life. He was also exposed to good design in the form of some Frank Lloyd Wright houses in his neighborhood, and the master architect became a lasting inspiration.

Inspiration and influence color Doug's unique approach to his education. "You first learn the fundamental principles of the subject and then seek out the masters. If they're not alive, you read their writing and research them; if they're alive, you go meet them." Apprenticeship, or tutorial, or correspondence may follow. After high school Doug went to Europe to study architecture and landscape architecture, studying on his own and under the direction of experts he contacted.

After further travel and study in the U.S., all supported by periodic work in landscape gardening, Doug met his wife Denise in Michigan. She was studying languages and working in the horticultural department at Michigan State University, acquiring skills which are invaluable in their business. Doug speaks often of how supportive Denise has been in building the business and their own lives. From the beginning they had a 30-year plan encompassing work, education, and travel, and they continue to keep these priorities.

After a year-long honeymoon traveling around the country, the Millers decided to leave Detroit, which they still call "home", and move to Vermont. Why Vermont? Vermont had a reputation as a good place to start one's business; it had "good materials" for an aspiring landscape architect with its geography, terrain, and space; and it was an undeveloped place, affording scope for Doug's skills as a

designer. The Millers also liked the mountains, the snow, and the chance to have a real part in town-meeting-style democracy.

After a brief stint in Burlington working in a nursery, the Millers came to East Montpelier in 1978. They bought part of the old Tracy farm on the County Road near Powder Horn Glen Road, moved an old farm building up the hill to serve as a residence, and started their own landscape business. That original house became part of Doug's master design plan. Already incorporated into a larger second-stage building, the house will continue to undergo future transformations. The business has grown, too: clients range from neighbors to Rockefellers, and jobs range from East Montpelier to Chicago. Even the family has grown. First Katra arrived in 1980, followed by Mark in 1982, and Jeffrey in 1989.

From that first inspirational trip to Europe, Doug has continued the practice of combining his work with ongoing education. Periodic trips (Doug and Denise just returned from two weeks in France, studying and enjoying French masters in art, architecture and painting) keep him in touch with people and places he wishes to study. The seasonal nature of landscape work allows him time and freedom to pursue other dreams. Professionally his goal is to co-found a new philosophical movement called the New American Style in Landscape Architecture. Its purpose is to "design a living system



*Doug and Denise Miller with Jeffrey, Katra, and Mark*

for people to live in harmony with nature." But no single expression would satisfy Doug's sense of the interrelated nature of life. His interest in economics and government led to a brief U.S. congressional race last November, with Doug running as an Independent with a platform of "economic recovery." He is also writing a book on the New American Style of Landscape Architecture, based on his training in Chinese and Japanese landscape garden design, and learning the craft of stained glass!

However far-flung his interests, Doug remains firmly grounded. As much as he enjoys design work, he values the time spent outdoors building his designs. As excited as he can get about economics and the role of government in protecting people's rights, his eyes really light up when he talks about waterfalls. Designing the way water moves through the landscape, touching stones, splashing, pleasing the eye and the ear...that is work worth doing!

*Ginny Burley*

## COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR

|                                  |                                    |            |                             |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| Select Board                     | 2nd & 4th Wednesday                | 7:00       | Town Office                 |
| Planning Commission              | 1st & 3rd Thursday                 | 7:30       | "                           |
| Zoning Board of Adjustment       | 2nd & 4th Monday                   | 7:30       | "                           |
| Conservation Fund Advisory Comm. | 2nd Thursday                       | 7:30       | "                           |
| 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                       | 7:00       | 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                 |
| Four Corners Schoolhouse Ass'n.  | 3rd Wednesday                      | 7:30       | Four Corners Schoolhouse    |
| Parent/Teacher Organization      | 2nd Tuesday                        | 7:30       | Elementary School           |

Meeting times are subject to change

## EVENTS CALENDAR

|                                  |                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| February 25, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. | PreTown Meeting Forum            | Elementary School  |
| March 2, Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.      | Town Meeting Day                 | Elementary School  |
|                                  | Polls Open 9:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. |                    |
| March 16, 7:00 p.m.              | PTO: Child Abuse Prevention      | Elementary School  |
| April 1, Thursday                | Dog Licenses Due                 | Municipal Building |
| April 1, Thursday                | Beach Basking Party              | Wrightsville Dam   |
| April 11, Sunday                 | Easter Services                  | OMH & OBC          |

**SPRING WILL BE JUST AROUND THE CORNER!!**

## EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

*Published six times a year; mailed without charge to all residents of East Montpelier.  
Subscriptions mailed out of town for \$10 a year. Business card ads: \$15/issue or \$75/year.*

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Jean Cate, Publisher, 223-2951           | Cherie Langer, Managing Editor, 229-4858 | Janet MacLeod, Artist, 229-4349        |
| David Coburn, Copy Editor, 223-6886      |  | Sylvia Tosi, Town Records, 223-3240    |
| Anne Sherman, Business Manager, 223-2693 |  | Janice Waterman, News Editor, 223-5826 |

Printed on Recycled Paper with Soybased Ink

**East Montpelier Signpost**  
**RFD 1, Box 80**  
**East Montpelier, Vermont 05651**

*Address Correction Requested*  
*Return Postage Guaranteed*

Volume 3, No. 4

Bulk Rate  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 L. Brown and Sons, Inc.

**INSIDE:**

**TRAVELIN' MAN  
 RENAISSANCE  
 MAN  
 SENECA AWARD  
 HOW MANY  
 MILES OF ROAD?**

