

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

Volume IX, No. 4

March/April 1999

ARNIE MATAVA - ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Having recently retired as a rural carrier out of the East Montpelier Post Office, Arnie Matava probably suspected that it wouldn't be long before he would be approached by a *Signpost* writer. Although not prone to granting interviews, Arnie respectfully agreed to submit to my questioning.

We talked about his early years growing up on the family farm in Wentworth NH which, by the way, had no electricity. This must have made farm chores, as well as everyday living, a bit tedious. He noted that the nearest high school was 17

miles distant in Plymouth and that he would catch a ride with neighbors, arriving at school in the wee hours and waiting outside until school finally opened. At night he hitched the same ride back, getting home around seven. Definitely that was a different era, and not that many years ago either.

Arnie talked fondly of those years, especially when describing the many horse pulling contests he and his dad participated in. (One year they entered forty-two pulls scattered throughout New England and won forty of them!)

Working with his dad caring for Wentworth's town roads, Arnie learned many of the skills that would serve him well in the coming years. He became a rock driller with Rowe Construction in the building of the Interstate in 1958 which first brought him to Montpelier. (He had a hand in removing the famed Silver Ledge in Middlesex which was directly in the path of the Interstate and the rebuilt Route 2. The remaining vestiges may be made out by the discerning eye even today.) Then followed employment with some of the better known building contractors of the day — Harold Howes and Kenneth Baird, to name a couple.

Not all was work, however, as he met his wife to be, the former Martha Robertson (Marty to her friends) who at that time was living in the former Ralph Ross home on Towne Hill



Road. This house recently burned and a new home was constructed on the site. Marty's acquaintances, nieces of the former Isabel Hall, whose home is now owned by Gene Troia and Ann Carter, led them to buy a lot at the top of Cherry Tree Hill. In 1966, they built their home overlooking Spruce Mountain and the surrounding hills to the east.

Arnie then struck out on his own as a home builder (he

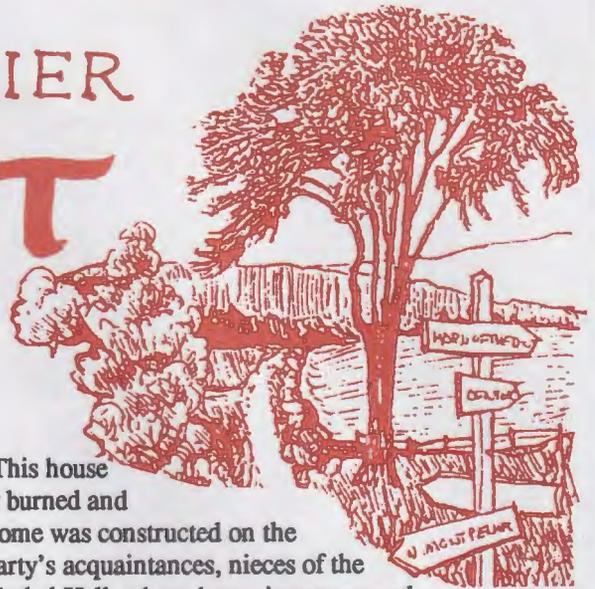
was sick of breathing all that dust) and built a number of homes in the area. The last of these is located on Lyle Young Road, formerly owned by the Ron Gonyaws and now owned by the Brian Lusignans.

When a position opened up as a rural carrier in East Montpelier in 1982, Arnie took the job. Reflecting on those years, he noted that the volume of mail has increased much faster than the number of additional boxes would seem to justify. No surprise to any of us!

Now ensconced in his retirement, he has plans to build a home for his daughter. He and Marty are the parents of two children, Lori and Scott, both of Plainfield, and the grandparents of two. He also has plans to do some remodeling in his own home. (It looked fine to me.) A trip to the southern climes in their camper is in the works for the month of March.

Not one to sit around, Arnie will continue to be much in evidence in and around town, though the familiar sight of his red Toyota pulling up to townspeople's mailboxes will no longer be seen.

*Austin C. Cleaves
Austin Cleaves is a partner in the dairy operation,
Fairmont Farm, and is a man of many talents.*



Top of the Signpost

Why do we celebrate birthdays? We expect everyone to take notice of this annual milestone in our lives. Especially we expect to make a big deal of the landmark years - 40th perhaps and 50th. Never mind if we're less eager to note the 60th and 70th in this culture which adores youth. We're still likely to hail the 80th and 90th as badges of survival, something to be proud of. And at 100, one is a celebrity!

But why do we hail these age markers as cause for celebration? I think it is in our human nature and human need to stop as time passes and measure what the past year has meant to us. It is at once a time of celebration and resolve - like New Year's. After all that is a birthday too, as are July 4, December 25 and most of our other holidays.

So the idea that our town is celebrating its 150th birthday is at once a review of how it all came about and a study of what has happened to us since 1849. It is a time to turn our minds back to the Vermont of 1848. How were our land, our farms, our roads, our people different from today? What were the driving forces in Montpelier that impelled them to set aside 80 percent of their land as a separate town, while they concentrated on developing the village to serve as a suitable state capital?

Whatever the climate of that long-ago time, I suspect that most people in today's East Montpelier believe that we came out the gainers. And so we celebrate 150 years of independence.

Do you know the many ways in which we are celebrating? Start with a proclamation passed early in the legislative session and add the Selectboard's own proclamation. Mark the extensive historical study going on in the elementary school throughout February, culminating in a "Celebration of Learning" for the whole town to share. Our Town Clerk has arranged with the Post Office for a special sesquicentennial postmark to be stamped at Town Meeting. There are souvenir badges to mark the year, and the historical calendar and the beautifully-designed plate are already in many homes. As the year progresses, an ambitious group is creating a re-enactment of the historical play "Early East Montpelier", written in 1976. The historical society, inactive for several years, is enjoying a revival with monthly meetings.

And so we can be proud of the people and events making this town birthday come alive for each of us. Let's all share in the celebration.

Jean Cate



SESQUICENTENNIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS



EARLY EAST MONTPELIER

A HISTORICAL PLAY IN THREE ACTS

The Sesquicentennial Celebration Committee is planning to stage the play "Early East Montpelier" which was written and last performed in July of 1976. We intend to involve as many residents and descendants as possible in the production to be presented in late September 1999. We will need actors and actresses, stage hands, and several people willing to do all the advance jobs necessary for a quality show. If you would like to help, please contact:

Maurice Cerutti, Producer 454-1720
e-mail: SUEMEL7@AOL.COM
Alban Richey, Director 454-7862
e-mail: arichey@together.net

EMES SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Classes at the East Montpelier Elementary School have had an exciting few weeks. Jon Gailmor spent time with the children helping them write songs celebrating the sesquicentennial of East Montpelier. Several local residents visited classrooms to tell about their experiences and share stories they had heard from relatives and friends. Peter Burns worked with fourth, fifth and sixth graders. He helped the children write their own stories about the history of East Montpelier from these reminiscences.

The stories and songs were presented to the public at a program at EMES February 18.

COMMEMORATIVE MAIL STATION

The East Montpelier Postmaster, Paul Maynard, will have a mail station open at the Elementary School on Town Meeting Day, March 2, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. You will be able to have your mail hand cancelled with our unique Sesquicentennial stamp marking our 150th year as a town. Special commemorative envelopes will also be available for purchase so you may address them to anyone you wish - or to yourself - then have them stamped with the commemorative cancellation. A fine souvenir of the occasion!

Also on Town Meeting Day there will be a booth where the Sesquicentennial calendar and souvenir button may be purchased and Jennifer Boyer's celebration plate ordered.

EAST MONTPELIER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Upcoming meetings:

- >March 3 - Elliott Morse will present a program about East Montpelier sugarhouses at the Four Corners School, at 7 p.m.
- >April 6 - Robin Gannon, EMES teacher, will describe her class's town history project using GIS mapping tools. The meeting will be held at the Four Corners School at 7 p.m.

The East Montpelier Historical Society will be part of the Vermont Heritage Weekend, June 19 - 20, sponsored by Cabot Creamery. Over thirty Central Vermont historical societies are preparing open houses, tours, and exhibits. Watch for more about this later in the *Signpost* and local newspapers.

For more information call Anne Ormsbee at 223-5372.



MILESTONES

Births

- >Andrew Scott Proof, Jr., born October 20, 1998, son of Ellen Christine & Andrew Scott Proof.
- >Ashley Marie Mekkelson, born November 26, 1998, daughter of Bruce & Laurie Tosi Mekkelson, grandparents Sylvia & Donald Tosi and Grace & John Mekkelson.
- >William Amsden Bigglestone, born November 30, 1998, son of Valerie Lynne & Donald Kent Bigglestone.

Deaths

- >George C. Pedrozo, died November 20, 1998, father of Donald J. Pedrozo.
- >Sally J. Graves, died November 27, 1998, spouse of John L. Graves.

Land Transfers

- >Thomas F. & Susan A. Kaiden to Gunnar Urang & Sarah C. Horton, 8.2 acres & dwelling, Bliss Rd.
- >Hugh M., Susan W., Dennis R. & Nancy Hawkins to Jeffrey I. & Joanne Holm, 10.5 acres, Old Farm Rd.
- >Philip Cookson to Judy Cookson, 1 acre & dwelling, Clark Rd.
- >Alexandra N. Thayer, as Adm. of Frank & Grace Hutchinson Estates, to Chester J. & Judith V. Cookson, 8.94 acres, US Rt. 2 (corrective deed).
- >Robert D. & Virginia A. Bragg to Marc D. Fontaine & Angela Houde, 18.1 acres, Rt. 14N.
- >Mary E. & John V. Kalinen to Stephen Jerome & Susan Carpenter, 5.1 acres & camp, Brazier Rd.
- >John R. Baird, Adm. of Estate of Mary L. Baird & John R. Baird, 70 acres, North St.
- >A. E. Hertzler & Doris J. Knox to Kevin A. & Elizabeth W. Goddard, 5.25 acres & dwelling, Upper North St.
- >Carolyn G. Gehrke to Carolyn G. Gehrke, 5 acres, Horn of Moon Rd. (to clear title).
- >Jasna Krivosic Prpic to Mensija Miljkovic, 1.2 acres, Upper North St. (1/2 interest).
- >Jasna Krivosic Prpic to Mensija Miljkovic, 51 acres, Upper North St. (1/2 interest).
- >Richard S. Atkinson to David H. & Phoebe C. Houghton, 57 acres & dwelling, Center Rd.



East Montpelier Fire Department's treasurer Deborah Schick is shown receiving a check for \$1,000 from David Swenson, President, Northstar Fireworks Displays of East Montpelier. The East Montpelier Fire Department is in the process of replacing their 1974 Rescue truck. The fundraising campaign is on-going and has set a goal of \$80,000. Many Calais and East Montpelier residents have made contributions to the Rescue truck replacement fund and all members of the Fire Department would like to thank you.

In 1999, the Fire Department plans to hold an open house at the fire station to show the new Rescue truck. If you would like to make a donation and have not received a pledge card, you may contact any member of the Fire Department and he or she will see that you get a card.

If anyone is interested in becoming a part of the Fire Department, please stop by any Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. at the fire station on Templeton Road, East Montpelier.

We are happy to report that our Town Clerk Sylvia Tosi is recovering nicely after surgery in late January. See you at Town Meeting, Sylvia.

911 Address Update

Please, take a look at your mailing label and see if it has the correct address.

Thanks to Paul Maynard, the East Montpelier Postmaster, and all who have sent me your new addresses, we are about 90% up-to-date. If your label is wrong, please let me know.

David A. Coburn — 223-6886
Daggett Road, E. Montpelier, 05651
or email at DCoburn@Together.net

Peter Q. Wonson

- Pest Control • Flying Insect Control
- Industrial Weed Control
- Hot Dry Extraction Carpet Cleaning System



KAYAL SERVICES, INC.

P.O. Box 175
E. Montpelier, VT 05651
229-0520



SELECTBOARD

*Tom Brazier, Chair,
Edie Miller, Tim Meehan*
November 18, 1998

- >Heard representatives from CV Memorial Civic Center regarding request for \$10,000 from East Montpelier.
- >Changed Town Highway 18 to Horn of the Moon Road in its entirety.
- >Will contract with Montpelier Police Dept. Dispatch Center to be primary answering point for 911 fire, ambulance and police calls for East Montpelier.

December 2, 1998

- >Road Foreman Mike Garand presented monthly report. North Street reconstruction and Wrightsville Dam culvert projects have been completed.
- >Approved contract for 1998 annual audit to firm of Fothergill, Segale & Valley.
- >Appointed Rachel Senechal chair of Carleton Smith Recreation Fund committee.

December 16, 1998

- >Dave Grundy, Chair of Board of Civil Authority, discussed merits of purchasing a vote tabulating machine.
- >Discussed Stanley Christiansen Farm Conservation Proposal. Vermont Land Trust and Town would co-hold conservation easement.
- >Approved request of E.M. Gully Jumpers for use of short portions of Town highways to connect snowmobile trails.

December 30, 1998

- >Approved using \$14,795 from E.M. Conservation Fund for Stanley Christiansen Farm conservation project, subject to approval of other funding.
- >Kellogg-Hubbard Library Trustee John Fitzhugh and Librarian Janet Nielsen reviewed their funding request in support of planned \$1,500,000 addition.
- >Name of Kennel Road, TH #49, changed to Green Road.

January 6, 1999

- >Pres. Mike Bliss and Bill George present to discuss 1999 Fire Department Budget. Expect 1998 calls to be just under 200 with two-thirds of these medical.
- >Elliott Morse discussed Cemetery Commission's 1999 budget request.

January 20, 1999

- >Will include \$2,000 in 1999 budget for Sesquicentennial Celebration Committee.

- >Held public hearing on Proposed Zoning Amendments concerning signs. Selectboard commended the Planning Commission for working on Zoning Regulations and encouraged them to give further thought to this section.
- >Worked on proposed 1999 budget and Town Meeting Warning. School Directors are planning to warn their meeting for 9:30 a.m. like the Town Meeting. It can begin immediately after Town Meeting.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Doug Johnson, Chair
November 19, 1998

- >Reviewed zoning permits approved since last meeting.
- >Approved proposed revised sign regulations.

December 10, 1998

- >Held a public meeting for proposed changes in zoning regulations. No members of the public attended.

January 21, 1999

- >Discussed items in proposed changes in sign ordinance that were questioned at Selectboard hearing. Voted to request the Selectboard vote on proposal as presented by the Planning Commission.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Claudia Bristow, Chair
December 14, 1998

- >Lauren and Doug Rice, known as K & L Auction, requested conditional use permit to operate auction house out of former Northlight Printing on Route 14. Granted a conditional permit since all general and specific standards were met.
- >Abigail Bruce and Shawn Downey requested conditional use permit for a small apartment in a commercial area on Route 14. All general and specific standards under conditional use were met. Approval granted.

- >Casella gave annual update.

January 25, 1999

- >Casella requested permit to put a roof over and expand concrete slab at transfer station. Casella has had a transfer area but new state guidelines require that area must be covered. All general and specific standards were met. Approved.

EAST MONTPELIER TOWN OFFICE

Phone: 223-3313
Email: EastMont@together.net

Clerk-Treasurer - Sylvia Tosi
Asst. Clerk-Treasurer - Pauline Coburn
Asst. Clerk - Ginger Hopkins
Administrative Assistant - Bill Bryant
(W & Th 9-5)
PO Box 157, E. Montpelier, VT 05651
(Office Hours: M-Th 9-5, F 9-12 noon)



CHURCH BELLS



OLD BRICK CHURCH

Rev. Marcheta Townsend, Pastor
Worship, Sunday School and Child Care
11 a.m.

OLD MEETING HOUSE

*Rev. David W. Connor and Rev. Susan
Cooke Kittredge, Co-Pastors*
Worship, Sunday School and Child Care
9:30 a.m.

**CROSSROADS CHRISTIAN
CHURCH**

Rev. Bob Walton
Worship and Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.



**EAST MONTPELIER
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

*Jan Aldrich, Chair, Richard Curtis,
Cheryl Rus, Loring Starr, Nancy Thomas*

December 3, 1998

>Accepted New England Air Systems bid to do the indoor air quality project for the school.

>Continued discussion of budget for 1999-2000.

>Voted to pay one half of the ELF fee with the PTNO paying the other half.

December 29, 1998

>Held a special meeting to work on budget.

January 7, 1999

>Adopted the East Montpelier School Action Plan which focuses on student achievement of Vermont's Standards.

>Approved the 1999-2000 budget to present at Town Meeting.

>Reviewed financial update for Hot Lunch Program. Board appreciates Bobbi Huoppi's efforts in providing a cost-effective, high quality program.

>The Celebration of Learning Committee is planning an afternoon and evening celebration on February 18th in honor of the Town's 150th birthday.

U-32 JR. SR. HIGH SCHOOL

(Chair, Peter Schober), Ginny Burley and Tony Klein, East Montpelier members

December 1, 1998

>Voted to use the Chittenden Bank for arbitrage borrowing.

>Voted to authorize Gossens Bachman to enter into a contract with FA&A for topographical survey and subsurface investigation.

December 9, 1998

>Reviewed first draft of FY 2000 budget.

>Voted to accept recommendation of the Building Committee to meet on a regular basis with the architects throughout the entire building process and to make recommendations to the Board. Jon Winston will chair.

December 29, 1998

>Approved budget.

>Authorized Tony Klein to register as U-32's lobbyist for reimbursement for construction aid.

January 13, 1999

>Approved the Annual Meeting Warning.

TOWN MEETING INFORMATION

Names to be placed on Australian Ballot:

Moderator	Martin K. Miller
Selectman, 3 yrs.	Tom Brazier
Lister, 3 yrs	Rosendo Cueto
Auditor, 3 yrs	James H. Hanna Jr.
Auditor, 1 yr	no candidate
Trustee of Public Funds, 3 yrs.	Kelly Codling
Town Law Agent	Dennis Carver
Town Grand Juror	Tim Carver
First Constable	Dennis Carver
Second Constable.....	no candidate
Cemetery Commissioner, 5 yrs.	Maurice Cerutti
(Vote For Only One).....	Gary Hudson
Planning Commissioner 3 yrs.	Maurice F. Brown
(Vote for not more than 3)	Doug Kievit-Kylar
.....	Tracy Phillips
.....	Kenneth Santor
School Director, 3 yrs.	Janice Aldrich
School Director, 2 yrs.	Marc Eagle
(Vote for only one)	Lisa J. Rice
U-32 School Director, 3 yrs.....	Tony Klein



Town Meeting: Tuesday, March 2, beginning at 9:30 a.m., EMES

The Town and School Meetings are now both being warned at 9:30 A.M. Both will convene and then the school portion will be recessed until the conclusion of the Town Meeting. This will allow a quicker transition between meetings. The School Meeting will be started immediately or after a short break.

Voting booths will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for items to be voted by Australian Ballot.

Items to be voted by Australian Ballot:

U-32 District: All articles on the Warning. Ballots will be handed out with town ballots on Town Meeting Day.

Elementary School: Moderator and School Directors only.

Town: All officers

- Town Budget - Article 6
- Capital Reserve Fund - Article 7
- Conservation Fund - Article 8
- Memorial Civic Center campaign - Article 9
- Kellogg-Hubbard Library - Article 10

Absentee Voting:

You may pick up absentee ballots at the Town Clerk's office before March 1 at noon, or call earlier to have one mailed to you. They must be returned to the Town Clerk's office before March 2 or directly to the polls before 7 p.m. Town Meeting Day. Voters may also come to the office to vote before March 2.

GARDEN CLUB

>March 9th-Liisa Bradley, landscaper/plantswoman will talk about color harmony in the perennial border.

>April 13th-Lydia Faesy, Naturopathic Physician, will talk on the healing aspects of plants.

All events are at the Four Corners School House at 7:30 p.m. For information, call Ruth Frost at 223-6892. See you there!



GREEN-UP DAY

Do you enjoy participating in grueling and grubby community projects? Do you have some friends who would join in? We have a large tire dump in East Montpelier. On Green-Up Day, Saturday, May 1, these tires are getting moved out. We need lots of help, including people able to join a "bucket brigade" to pass tires up a steep embankment and load them onto a truck for recycling. We also need people to prepare food for all and to do all the other jobs necessary to clean up this site. Please call Paul Erlbaum, East Montpelier's 1999 Green-Up coordinator, at 223-5782.

Open Everyday 8:30am to 6:00pm
1 mile north of E. Montpelier Village on Rt. 14 (follow signs)

We ship Anywhere		Vermont Handicrafts
"A Quality Family Farm Shop"		Gifts
802-223-5757		Vermont Cheese Mail Order Maple Products

Sugar on snow every weekend — March & April

VINS PROGRAM

The East Montpelier PTNO is looking for volunteers to join our ELF (Environmental Learning for the Future) program. We need 20 volunteers to teach children in grades K-4, beginning in September 1999.

ELF is an award-winning program first developed in 1972 by the Vermont Institute of Natural Science. It gives children an understanding and appreciation of the natural world.

A minimum of two volunteers is needed for each classroom. Once each month, volunteers attend a two-hour workshop given by VINS staff at the school or nearby. During these workshops, volunteers participate in indoor and outdoor hands-on activities, the same activities they will introduce later in the month to the children.

For more information, please call Sarah Kinter, 223-2040.

TOWN MEETING POTLUCK

As we approach our fifth year of sharing Town Meeting lunch, most folks know how it works. Just a reminder that each family should bring something — a hot dish, a salad or bread — enough to serve four people times the number of family members. Thus a couple should bring enough for eight, a family of four a dish for 16, and so on. Then there will be plenty of food for all.

Please bring your food to the cafeteria window when you arrive. You will be given a ticket showing how many people you brought food for. If you absolutely cannot bring food, call Rachel at 223-3177 or Jean at 223-2951 by Monday, March 1, and plan to eat with us anyway. Your ticket will cost \$3.00 which helps pay for coffee, milk, etc.

DON'T MISS THE SESQUICENTENNIAL SURPRISE WHICH WILL FOLLOW THE POTLUCK! A CLUE: IT WILL TAKE LOTS OF WIND TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.



BOTTLE DRIVE

The U-32 International Club is planning a bottle drive. Call 229-0287 (Lauri Brewster) or 223-7909 to have your bottles picked up. You may also take them to Barre Street Beverage. Tell them you are bringing the bottles in for U-32, and the International Club will receive credit. The proceeds will be used for a trip to Spain in April.

THANK YOU TO THESE LOYAL SUPPORTERS!

Richard & Alice Angney	Claudia Bristow
Robert & Carolyn Brown	Frank Pratt & Annette Chapman
Marion Codling	Clayton & Joyce Copping
Mildred Heller	Gerald & Elsie Ihey
Fred & Joyce Jacek	Albert & Betty Jerome
Philip & Donna Leno	"The Nist Family"
Susan Page	G. William Martin & Dorothy J. Allard

The *Signpost* welcomes contributions. Any amount would be gratefully received \$5, \$10, \$25, even \$50. Send your donation to Anne Sherman, The *Signpost*, 315 Putnam Road, East Montpelier, VT 05651-4119. All new contributors will be recognized in the next issue.

DIANALYN'S MISC. — MISCELLANEOUS MEANS VARIETY

Interviewing and writing about people for the *Signpost* is not necessarily first on my list of things I would like to do. As it turns out, however, this experience has presented my wife, Karen, and me with a unique opportunity to meet a pair of friendly and interesting individuals and find out a great deal more about their business.

DianaLyn's Misc. has been open and operating on Route 14, about a mile south of East Montpelier village, for two years and, although we are practically neighbors, this is the first time we have been by to say hello and look around.



When we stopped by the other day for our interview, the smiling faces of Diana Gauthier and Lyn LaClair met us. Diana, who lives in the house next door with her husband, Ed, and seven year old son, Adam, was raised in Groton VT. After high school, she lived in Boston MA, Campton NH and Indianapolis IN, returning to Vermont about ten years ago. Her daughter, Julie, lives in Bradford and son, Jim, lives in Indiana. Her six brothers and sisters continue to reside in Central Vermont and in Diana's words, "are a close knit clan". Diana's husband, Ed, works in Montpelier at the New England Culinary Institute.

Lyn LaClair was raised on the farm next door and is a member of the LaPerle family. Her mom and dad, Theresa and Roger LaPerle, were well known in the East Montpelier community for many years. Lyn currently lives on Gunner Brook Road in Barre Town with her mom. Sadly, Lyn and Theresa both lost their spouses about five years ago within three months of each other. This has, however, created a very close bond between mother and daughter. Theresa enjoys helping in the business with jewelry and painting ceramics. Lyn's son, Todd Audet, owns T & M Motor Sports.

My goal, besides meeting these women, was to find out just what DianaLyn's Misc. is. As it turns out, it's much more than I expected. I was aware that they sold women's clothing but was surprised to find such things as the aforementioned jewelry and ceramics, which are hand-crafted by the women. I also found a nice selection of paintings, perfume, scented candles, incense, and even cemetery remembrance candles.

Another area I had no idea about was the fact that Diana and Lyn provide bookkeeping services for local individuals and small businesses as well as typing, small printing jobs and med-

ical transcription for area doctors. This is an area of business they would like to expand. They may add ceramic classes in their workshop later this winter. The primary line of business that you see upon entering their store is women's clothing. Now this is definitely not my first area of expertise, but my wife tells me that what she saw was a broad selection of women's fashions including denims, cottons, sweaters and arguably the best selection of vests in Central Vermont. We also saw some beautiful hand embroidered garments, which were hand crafted by disabled people in India and Tibet. Sales of these garments directly benefit these handicapped people, which suggests to me that Diana and Lyn also have an element of social conscience in their business. Some of the brand names they carry include "Southern Lady", "Nikki", "April Cornell", and "Hary Dary". Diana and Lyn's aim is to carry unique and unusual items you might not find in the average department store and to sell them below usual retail prices.

Diana and Lyn met while working together in the office of Dr. Callan. Their background is mainly in secretarial/clerical type work. Although Lyn had some experience in women's clothing sales with her nephew years ago, the partnership of Lyn and Diana came about as a result of combining their hobbies and interests with a mutual desire to open their own business. They first opened for business in January, 1997, and moved to the present location on April 18, 1998, which by coincidence was Diana's mom's and Lyn's dad's birthday. Regular store hours of 10 - 5 Tuesday through Friday and 10 - 4 Saturday are kept, but they figure their actual hours of work are at least double that. My own experience in self-employment tells me that this is probably quite accurate.

The clothing sold at DianaLyn's is selected at shows they attend in Burlington, White River, Boston, and even North Carolina. They tell me it is quite a process to look at many different designs, fabrics, and styles and order a variety of sizes, always keeping in mind the type of customers they cater to. On top of this, orders must be placed six months in advance. Experience is the greatest asset in this process, and Diana and Lyn say they learn more and more with each day.

We probably won't be seeing a chain of DianaLyn's Misc. in every mall across New England any time soon, or even a downtown location. Diana and Lyn say they enjoy the small close knit community of East Montpelier and, while a small addition could be possible in the future, they are quite happy with the size of their store. As a matter of fact, it is quite common for customers and neighbors to stop in and just visit from time to time, and, although they don't carry children's clothing they do enjoy people bringing their children along with them.

The bottom line for Diana and Lyn is to be able to make a living doing what they enjoy. I must say I am impressed with what I found inside the doors of DianaLyn's Misc. and wish Diana and Lyn success in their endeavors.

Michael Winchester

Michael and Karen Winchester also live on Route 14, where Michael is the "Supreme High Commander and Janitor" for Winchester Collision Repair. He was featured in a Signpost interview of a year ago.

COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDER

Selectboard	1st & 3rd Wednesday	7:00	Town Office
Planning Commission	1st & 3rd Thursday	7:00	Town Office
Zoning Board of Adjustment	2nd & 4th Monday	7:30	Town Office
Conservation Fund Advisory Comm.	2nd Thursday	7:30	Town Office
Volunteer Fire Department	Every Tuesday	7:00	Fire Station, Templeton Rd
U-32 School Board	1st & 3rd Tuesday	6:30	U-32 High School
Elementary School Board	1st Thursday	6:30	Elementary School
Recreation Board	3rd Monday	7:00	Town Office
Town Clerk's Office Hours	Mon-Thur: 9-5, Friday 9-12		Town Office
Zoning Administrator	Tuesday & Thursday	1-2:30	Town Office
Four Corners Schoolhouse Assn.	3rd Wednesday	7:30	Four Corners Schoolhouse

Meeting times are subject to change.

EVENTS CALENDAR

U-32 Budget information meeting	February 23	7:30 pm	U-32 High School auditorium
Town Forum	February 25	7:00 pm	EMES
Town Meeting Day	March 2		EMES
Australian Ballot voting		7:00 am - 7:00 pm	
Town Meeting & School Meeting convene at		9:30 am	
Historical Society	March 3 & April 6	7:00 pm	Four Corners School
Garden Club	March 9 & April 23	7:30	Four Corners School
Green-Up Day	May 1	all day	all over town

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

Published six times a year; mailed out free of 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
Dave/Darlene Grundy,
Layout/Design, 476-4300

David Coburn, Copy Editor, 223-6886
Margaret Richey, News Editor, 454-7862
Brett Coburn, Photography, 223-6886

Anne Sherman, Business Mgr., 223-2693
Sylvia Tosi, Town Records, 223-3313
Janet MacLeod, Artist, 223-2296

Deadline for next issue: March 25 to M. Richey, 225 Butterfield Road, Plainfield, VT 05667

Printed on recycled paper with soybased ink

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315 Putnam Road
East Montpelier, Vermont 05651

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