

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

Volume XI, No. 5

May — June 2001

"A BLESSING FOR ALL INVOLVED"

Jessie Taylor

"My God, what have we done! It was three o'clock in the morning, and we were up!" says Ken Riportella recalling the night he was wakened by the screams of his newly adopted two-year-old son who had just arrived home from Ohio that very afternoon. "I felt like we were nuts to have done this." Yes, this was going to take some adjustment.

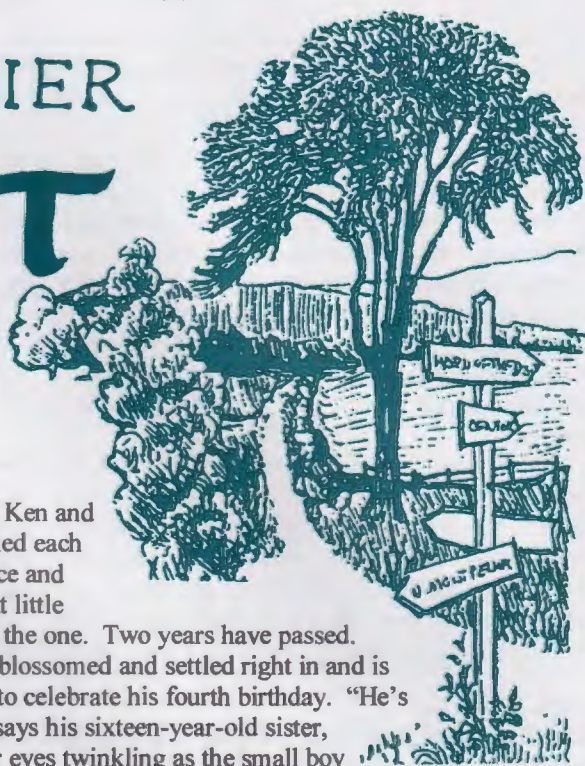
This new chapter in the life of the Riportella-Croese family was launched when Ken read an article on older couples adopting. He and his wife, Dr. Ruth Croese, both in their fifties, discussed it and decided that, with the pending departure of their eldest child, they would have room to enlarge their already established family. Utilizing her web surfing skills, Ruth jumped onto the Internet and searched the files of every state agency in

the nation. Ken and Ruth weighed each circumstance and decided that little Devon was the one. Two years have passed. Devon has blossomed and settled right in and is now about to celebrate his fourth birthday. "He's amazing," says his sixteen-year-old sister, Crystal, her eyes twinkling as the small boy climbs over her shoulders. Crystal and her older brother Matt were also adopted, each at the age of two.

Ruth adopted Matt as a single mom. She was settled in her career as a Family Practitioner at the Plainfield Health Center (she's now in her 23rd year.) She met Ken when he moved into an apartment above hers. He helped by caring for Matt when Ruth was on call and quickly the relationship between the grownups blossomed. One year later they were married in the front yard of their East Montpelier home. Ken remodeled the home, doubling its size while continuing his career as well as being the "at-home dad" for Matt. The following year Ken and Ruth attended an adoption conference in Burlington. There they talked with a social worker and rather casually mentioned that, if a two-year-old girl became available, they might be interested. Months later they got a call out of the blue that there was indeed a little girl in Florida who had just become legally free for adoption. Ken called Ruth at work, and within three short minutes they decided yes! There was a mad flurry of paperwork and correspondence, and two weeks later a very charming and rambunctious Crystal was home.

Before his marriage to Ruth, Ken worked his art for twenty years creating wooden, acoustical, musical sculptures. His work has been displayed nationally including at the Smithsonian, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He also worked for the Cooperative Fund of New England for ten years, six as President and CEO, offering technical assistance and funds to developing cooperatives throughout New England. He received his education at Goddard College with degrees in education, psychology and art/music. Ken volunteered many hours at the elementary school coaching soccer and basketball, participating in the ELF (Environmental Learning for

(Continued on page 2)



Top of the Signpost

Today is April 1st - April Fool's Day. The biggest joke of the year was the weather! Shouldn't we be looking for snowdrops, not snow banks, on our lawns? But we get what we get. March is still my favorite month of the year, even if it was a bit overdone this year.

Why do I prefer this month out of all twelve? For openers, it always brings the first day of SPRING, at least meteorological spring. That I have a birthday the same day is a happy coincidence. The weather may not show much change, but we know in our bones that our vast white fields will soon show black cracks as the snowmelt seeps into the ground. Sugaring and parsnips accompany the change, and what could be more hopeful?

My second reason for favoring March goes back to my Japanese roots. March 3 is Girls Day or Doll's Festival Day in Japan, when the Ohinasama is brought out and the hundreds of small dolls are displayed on five bright red shelves. I still observe this ritual each March as I did when I was a little girl. Nowadays neighbors often drop in to see the display which is set up during most of March. Tomorrow I shall pack the tiny

treasures away in their individual boxes for another year. Time to think Spring.

Here in Vermont, I believe that the most significant day of the year is Town Meeting Day. That's my third reason for preferring March. Town Meeting is truly the peak of the year, especially for small towns such as ours. Just as the Japanese observe New Year's Day as a time to clean house, pay up bills, visit friends and share special holiday foods, so we do our version of New Year's on the first Tuesday in March. Not only do we tend to the business of the town, clean house and pay bills, but we join with friends and neighbors over special holiday foods (our Potluck!) This year's meeting was especially rewarding, bringing out a respectable attendance despite the storm. Debate was heartfelt and civil. Many neighbors who had not seen each other since the snows started made the effort to be there. And all of us went home feeling that we had really had a part in making our town work.

So I wish you all a happy Spring. May the snowpiles be just memories by the time you read this!

Jean Cate

(Continued from page 1)

the Future) workshops, and going on countless field trips with the kids. He very much enjoys being the at-home parent.

Music has remained a central core for the Riportella-Crose family. Crystal and Matt are both accomplished musicians. They each started playing the violin at the age of five. They took lessons, attended music camps, played in the Vermont String Training Orchestra and then the Vermont Youth Orchestra, All State and All New England music festivals. Matt has been Concertmaster of all these orchestras, and Crystal has been principal second for All State and her music camp orchestra. Today, Matt is attending Colby College in Maine and is associate Concertmaster of the orchestra. Both kids played sax, Matt alto and Crystal baritone, with the U-32 jazz band.

Besides being academic achievers, the Riportella-Crose kids also are dedicated athletes. Matt continues his career on the track team at Colby and has taken first in State for his indoor long-jump and second in State for the triple jump. He has been named most valuable field athlete and voted team captain. He was on the track team all through high school, was second in the Vermont Decathlon two years in a row and consistently placed high in his other events. Crystal previously played soccer, but is now a "goalie turned runner" as she puts it. She was named most improved and most dedicated runner on varsity Cross Country this year. She also holds her own on the U-32 track team. Little Devon enjoys going to his sister's meets and promises to follow in his siblings' footsteps. He can be seen sprinting around the track during the meets.

The diversity of the Riportella-Crose family, not only in color, but also in interests and hobbies, is refreshing. Crystal has been a participant in the Model UN Project at school. This has led to trips to New York and Boston as a U-32 delegate. She will represent U-32 at Girls State in June.

Both Ken and Ruth like to garden during the summer. Ken does the vegetable garden while Ruth tends the perennials.

When interviewed for this article, Ken and Ruth were both

emphatic about making known the need for more adoptive families. There are so many children just within this country that are in dire need of a loving family. Adoption, especially of the older child (any age above infant), is often completely subsidized. Their path to adoption has been made easier through state agencies and the Internet. Adoptions by older couples are becoming more prevalent. There is hardly a situation that cannot be contemplated. When looking at the Riportella-Crose family, one realizes that anything is possible. They point out that while adopting when you are older does take some extra effort, the rewards gained in the process are well worth the effort. And what a blessing it is for all involved.

Jessie Taylor is a single mother of two adopted children, ages 1 and 3. She is an at-home mom, and she and her children share their home with two horses, one cat, one dog and a fishtank. She has shared a driveway on Chickering Road with Ken and Ruth for 6 years.



CHURCH BELLS



OLD BRICK CHURCH

Rev. Marcheta Townsend, Pastor

Worship, Sunday School and Child Care 10:00 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.

What's Happening in Town?

EAST MONTPELIER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Tom Brazier, Chief

The East Montpelier Fire Department has initiated the nationally known program, "The Knox Box." Faced with an increasing number of citizens giving fire departments keys to their residences or businesses, the KNOX BOX program allows the keys to be placed in a strategic place outside the resident's building with only the Fire Department having access. The KNOX BOX consists of a lockable steel box bolted to the building near the entrance. Placed inside the box would be the entrance key, other important keys, specific instructions about whom to call if an emergency arises, and any special hazards within the building. **ONLY THE FIRE DEPARTMENT WOULD HAVE ACCESS TO THIS BOX.**

The benefits of this program are too numerous to mention in this article, but the two most important are: it allows faster access to the building by fire department personnel and provides greater security for the building owner. To find out more about this program, please contact Chief Tom Brazier at 223-7853 or Lt. John Audy at 223-7899.

The Fire Department has gained three members since the last *Signpost*. They are Toby Talbot of Maple Corners, Bill Amell of East Montpelier and Kevin Hudson of East Montpelier Center. We would also like to welcome the first two members of our new Junior Firefighter Program: Cory and Cole Bliss of Calais. The Junior Firefighter Program is open to all young adults between the ages of 14 and 18 who wish to know about the fire service.

A special thanks goes to Conti Oil of Websterville who has donated a used fuel truck to the department. This unit is presently being modified for use as a tank truck to haul water and should be placed in service by mid-April. The refurbishment of the present fire department tanker has been started and should be completed by mid-summer.

Bill George

THANK YOU TO THESE LOYAL SUPPORTERS!

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.

Raylene Blanc
Marion Codling
Marguerite Ferris
George & Marjorie Morse
Samuel & Barbara Starr

Leon & Jean Boucher
Gladys Dunkling
Bernard & Marcia Guilmette
The Nist Family
Florence Young

The *Signpost* staff would like to thank those who supported the lunch at this year's Town Meeting as the proceeds which exceeded expenses will help defray *Signpost* expenses.

WILLING WORKERS

The Town Office reports that most vacancies were filled promptly after Town Meeting with either new people or incumbents. The Selectboard is looking for someone to represent the Town on the Solid Waste District Board. Also, an auditor to replace Jim Hanna.

These positions may be filled by the time *Signpost* reaches you but, if you are interested, call the Town Office 223-3313.

EAST MONTPELIER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Four Corners Schoolhouse — 7:00 pm

May 21 — **East Montpelier barns.** Four of our neighbors will tell us the history of their barns.

June 18 — **Letters from away.** Look over your files of old letters from family and friends who have moved to distant places or served in the military. Bring some to read aloud.

June 23-24 — History Fair at Tunbridge. Theme for East Montpelier will be **East Montpelier barns.**

FOUR CORNERS SCHOOLHOUSE

Rachel Senechal, President

>Come to the East Montpelier Preschool OPEN HOUSE at the Four Corners Schoolhouse on Wednesday, May 9th, from 7 to 8 pm. Everyone is invited to see our Preschool.

>For use of the building call Elaine Manghi at 229-5811 between 6 and 8 pm.





THE TOWN WEATHERVANE



MILESTONES

Births

- >Samuel Kent Bigglestone, born January 12, 2001, son to Valerie Lynne & D. Kent Bigglestone.
- >Joseph Anthony Breer, born February 2, 2001, son to Virginia LeeAnne & Cary Alan Breer.
- >Isabel Rich Hall, born February 12, 2001, daughter to Bonnie Rich & Richard Hiram Hall II.

Deaths

- >Ellen C. Hill, February 23, 2001, mother to Joanne Bair, Bruce, Douglas, James, & Robert Hill.
- >Marion Kreis, December 15, 2000, mother to Lisa Kreis, Roxanna Weber, Henry Joseph Kreis, Miriam Hill, Erwin Kreis.

Land Transfers

- >Ina Jeane Thompson aka Jeane Thompson to Elizabeth Fukushima, .54 acre & dwelling, Factory St.
- >Roger E. Ehret Jr. & Rose Sze-Ming Ehret to Glen A. Ehret and Kristie L. Ferguson, 10.1 acres & dwelling, VT 14N.
- >Rays Homes to Brenda J. & Alfred C. Prive, mobile home, County Rd.
- >Donald E. Cote to Alfred C. & Brenda J. Prive, 10.6 acres and mobile home, County Rd.
- >Mark D. & Kelly A. Codling to Aaron W. & Nicole Codling, 10 acres & mobile home, Walbridge Rd.
- >Irving Deutsch to Derek T. & Tonia T. Pryce, 10 acres & dwelling, Kelton Rd.
- >Real Ouimet and Willie Sayers, Jr. to Richard & Tina Desmarais, 8 acres, Factory St.
- >T. Wayne & Helen M. Clark to T. Wayne & Helen M. Clark, Trustees, 228 acres & dwelling, Codling Rd.
- >Jane Middleton-Moz to William J. & Susan A. Brunelli, 77 acres & dwelling, County Rd.
- >Leonard W. & Julie M. Schrum to Kathleen R. Skomitz and David B. Gage, .51 acre & dwelling, VT 14S.
- >Raymond & Bonnie Davis to Fecteau Homes, mobile home, Sandy Pines Trailer Park.
- >Philip L. & Linda L. Sparrow to Kristopher L. & Giuliana G. Jensen, 4.1 acres & dwelling, Sparrow Farm Rd.

- >Philip L. Sparrow to Philip L. & Linda L. Sparrow, 10.11 acres, Sparrow Farm Rd.
- >Paul O. & Beverly E. Knapp to Steven LaRosa and Barbara Tuller, 1.1 acres, County Rd.
- >Roxanna Weber, Henry Joseph Kreis, Lisa Ellen Kreis, Miriam Hill and Erwin Kreis to Lisa Kreis, .15 acre & dwelling, VT 14N.
- >Steven & Laurie Justis to James B. & Christine M. Abrams, 17.5 acres, Center Rd.
- >Mary Jane & Ronaldo Provost to Amy Beth & John G. Lessard, .76 acre & dwelling, VT 14S.

SELECTBOARD

*Tom Brazier, Chair,
Tim Meehan, Edie Miller*

January 17, 2001

- >Appointed Bonnie White for CV Revolving Loan Fund Board.
- >Approved final draft of sign ordinance presented by the Planning Commission.

February 7, 2001

- >Lister Rosendo Cueto discussed tax implications of Farm and Industrial Contracts.
- >Craig Keller of Vtrans provided update on changes to alternatives for Bridge #68. This bridge is on state critical list. Expect to begin construction in 2005 or 2006.
- >Authorized Ms. Betit to write appropriate letter to Secretary of Transportation regarding Town's requests for signalization, traffic changers to go in fire trucks and ambulances and a dry hydrant.

February 21, 2001

- >Appointed Eugene Troia as Zoning

- Administrator for a term of three years to Town Meeting, 2004.
- >Jim Hanna is resigning as auditor.

March 12, 2001

- >Tom Brazier elected as Selectboard Chair.
- >Approved liquor license for Riverbend Store.
- >Appointed Bruce Bjornlund, Ed Deegan, Paul Manghi, Dave Grundy and Dave Coburn to the East Montpelier Revolving Loan Fund Committee.
- >Noted several items to be discussed in 2001: possibility of a web site; speed limits on County, Towne Hill and Center Roads; Development Review Board; Farm Contracts; meeting with Planning Commission regarding update of Town Plan; Road Standards.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Carol Welch, Chair

February 15, 2001

- >Approved final plat review of two-lot subdivision by Chad and Amy Scribner on VT 14N.
- >Approved final plat review of two-lot subdivision by Tom Brazier on Brazier Road.
- >Will warn public hearing for April 5 meeting on proposed amendments to sign regulations.
- >Discussed updating current town plan.

March 1, 2001

- >Ed Blackwell, East Montpelier representative to the CV Regional Planning Commission, discussed activities of that board including services available.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Claudia Bristow, Chair

March 12, 2001

- >Approved application of Karen Blosser to construct a 10 ft. wide addition and deck to existing single-family residence on Center Road.
- >Discussed proposed setback requirements in the Zoning Regulations.
- >Granted Casella/CV Landfill a conditional use permit exception up to 27,500 tons until March 31, 2001.

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 - Marlene Betit
(W & Th 9-5)
PO Box 157, E. Montpelier, VT 05651
(Office Hours: M-Th 9-5, F 9-12 noon)



**EAST MONTPELIER
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Jan Aldrich, Chair, Lucy Ferrada, Bob Rikken, Anna Saxman, Nancy Thomas

February 1, 2001

- >Washington Central Supervisory Union committee for preschool and full day kindergarten will have recommendations by June Board meeting.
- >Voted to take \$4,500 from fund balance to repair furnace.
- >Discussed request for proposals for student transportation.
- >Carol Randall reported on two in-service days held in January - one on standards based instruction and the other on school climate.
- >Set tuition rate for 2001-2002 at \$6,765 for a full time student and \$3,382 part-time.

U-32 JR. SR. HIGH SCHOOL

Tony Klein, Chair, and Ginny Burley East Montpelier members

January 17, 2001

- >Dot Blake reported on celebration of Martin Luther King Day.
- >Approved compensation for Glen Gannon for coaching girls' lacrosse.

February 6, 2001

- >Approved installation of Internet Filters.
- >Established tuition rate for 2001-2002 at \$8,898.
- >Authorized Dot Blake and Jon Winston to develop a process to ensure that the correct information about weather and road conditions be forwarded to Superintendent in a timely manner.

February 21, 2001

- >Approved leave of absence requests from Craig Scharf and Lucinda Humphrey.
- >Approved High School Spring Coaches as presented.
- >Approved a one-year Middle School Baseball Start-Up Program with a cost of up to \$1,000.
- >Approved appointment of Carol "Kris" Pavak as a paraeducator.

February 27, 2001

- >Held annual Budget Information meeting with a number of community members present.

**EMES CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
COMMITTEE**

At the request of the East Montpelier School Directors, a Capital Improvement Committee has been formed to assess the needs of the school building and grounds. An improvement and maintenance plan will be developed. A survey, distributed to community members at Town Meeting, parents and the school staff, has been returned. We had a great response!

Health concerns, such as bathrooms without hot water and replacement of school flooring, ranked first. Second and third choices were, respectively, additional instructional space for a preschool room, kindergarten and computer lab and safety issues, such as the crowded parking lot. The Committee will be forwarding recommendations to the School Directors regarding these issues and other concerns in June. Thanks to everyone who helped us by taking the time to fill out the survey.

Michelle McFadden

DOG LICENSE NOTICE

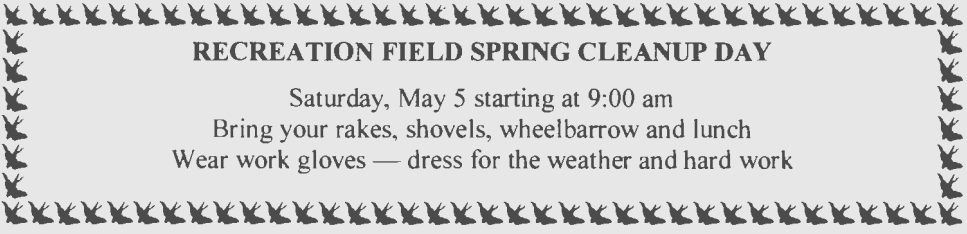
Residents who haven't licensed their dog or wolf hybrid by April 2, 2001 should have their dog registered. A current Rabies Certificate is required. If you're not sure whether the rabies vaccination for your dog or wolf hybrid is current, you may call the Town Clerk's Office (223-3313), and it will be checked for you.

All dogs six months and older must have a current rabies vaccination and be licensed with the town. A penalty late fee will be added to each license fee.

Neutered/spayed animals will be \$7 and unneutered/spayed animals will be \$13. Each of these includes a \$1 fee for the State Rabies Program.

CHANGE OF HOURS

Eugene Troia, Zoning Administrator for the Town has changed the time of his office hours. The new office hours are Tuesday and Thursday, 3:30 - 5:00 pm.



RECREATION FIELD SPRING CLEANUP DAY

Saturday, May 5 starting at 9:00 am

Bring your rakes, shovels, wheelbarrow and lunch
Wear work gloves — dress for the weather and hard work

RECREATION BOARD

The last meeting of the Recreation Board was a very productive one. The new baseball backstop looks great. Unfortunately, mother nature blew over the dugout so that will have to be repaired this spring.

Improvements to the entrance and creation of a one-way exit will be completed this summer. We feel this will improve the flow of cars in and out of the field, but most of all, make the entrance area safer for spectators and players.

Next meeting of the Board will be on April 30 at the field. The May meeting will be on May 21 at 6:30 in the Town Office Building. All interested persons are welcome and encouraged to come.

Ginger Hopkins

MORE SPACE IS NEEDED

The recreational needs of the town have intensified and the Recreation Board is looking for land on which we can have additional playing fields and open space for a variety of activities. If anyone has between 10 and 20 acres of relatively flat, open land they would consider selling, donating, or deeding to the town for recreational use, please let us know.

Call Terri Codling Conti 476-3169 or Ginger Hopkins 229-4375.





TIDBITS

- ◆ Joyce and Richard Wolkomir, whose story was in our last issue, recently received an award from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency for their Smithsonian article "In Pursuit of Justice". Their earlier article on the Montpelier Police Department also won them an award.
- ◆ Note that the Selectboard has moved its meetings from Wednesdays to the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7 p.m.
- ◆ David Coburn retires in May from his position at Housing and Community Affairs, but we all hope that he will continue his great work on the layout of the *Signpost*.
- ◆ If your picture has been in the *Signpost* any time past, we may still hold copies. Ask Jean if you want them; also back issues of which we have many. Call 223-2951.
- ◆ John Hall of Fairmont Farms states that visitors will be restricted because of the threat of hoof and mouth disease. Let's hope the alarm will end soon and Fairmont can again welcome visitors.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Start gathering up all your spent fluorescent bulbs, old oil-based paint and lawn and garden pesticides. Household hazardous waste collections will begin in May. The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District's seasonal hazardous waste collections are scheduled for the second Saturday of each month, May through October. Call the District office at 229-9383 for more information.

Conrad Ormsbee, our town's representative to the Solid Waste District, will be stepping down soon. If anyone is interested in serving in this important capacity, you are invited to contact any member of the Selectboard and make your interest known.

GREEN UP DAY

Green Up Day, an event with a thirty-year tradition of community involvement, will be held on May 5th, rain or shine. There will be many ways for the good folks of our town to be involved. Here are some suggestions:

- Plan in advance to clean up an area or roadside near your home. Contact the local Green Up coordinator to state your commitment.
- Obtain Green Up disposal bags at the Town Clerk's office prior to the event.
- Speak with your neighbors about joining you on Green Up Day.
- Recommend a specific Green Up project requiring a larger effort so that volunteers may be directed there.

Paul Erlbaum reports that last year's Green Up Day included an adopt-a-site effort involving over 50 volunteers working together on a section of the Cross Vermont Trail near Route 2. In all, over 2 tons of metal and one ton of other trash were collected in one day!

As the *Signpost* goes to press, some of the details for this year's Green Up are still being planned. For the latest information, please contact Bill Merrylees, Green Up coordinator for East Montpelier, at 223-4951; e-mail at bmerry@together.net.

The Riverbend Country Store
 A Convenience Store & Gift Shop
 Grocery - Videos - Gifts - Crafts
 Maurice and Sue Cerutti - Owners
 (802) 454-7101
 2040 VT Route 214 - N. Montpelier, VT 05666

Open Everyday 8:30am to 6:00pm

We ship Anywhere

"A Quality Family Farm Shop"

802-223-5757

BRAGG FARM
 SUGARHOUSE & GIFT SHOP

Vermont Handicrafts
 Gifts
 Vermont Cheese
 Mail Order
 Maple Products

1 mile north of E. Montpelier Village on Rt. 14 (follow signs)

Tinker and Trade

Dave Coburn



Need a reasonably priced bookcase or bureau? How about a new, pine bookcase to organize that pile of reading material? Go see Bob Smith at "Tinker and Trade" in East Village. For the last twenty years, Bob has been haunting flea markets, going to auctions, stopping at yard sales; looking for the furniture that becomes the raw materials for his fix-it-up shop.

The object of this cellar-workshop business is to produce good, functional furniture at a decent price; something the average person can afford. If you see something you like, ask about it. Bob once sold his own bed to a man who really wanted it.

The objective is not to "restore" or "refinish" as much as it is to remake the furniture into something useful. An old bureau may acquire some new drawers or it might become a source of spare parts. Bob will mate a good set of legs from one table to a usable top from another. Then a new coat of paint and it is ready for the price tag.

Tinker and Trade does not depend solely on pre-owned items. About 60% of his business is new furniture made from pine. His records show that since his retirement in 1990, he has made 1220 bookcases, 37 bureaus and 25 toy boxes. The current project, an impressively sized bookcase, takes up most of the free space in his well equipped but snug basement workshop.

Bob Smith said he was born in the "White House in Washington" — actually what he said was he was born in a white house in Washington, Vermont. After his graduation from high school, he spent two years studying memorial arts in Barre then went to work as a draftsman for the granite industry. In 1956, he started work in the Vermont Highway Department in the Mapping Division.

Over the next 33 years, he worked in Design, Urban Studies, Survey, the Lab and finally in Construction. And he did some drafting on the side.

This was not enough, apparently, to fill his time. In 1981 he completed work on a degree program in Human Services; first at Community College of Vermont then at Johnson State College. With the degree in hand, he needed something else to keep him busy so he began to build pine furniture. His first customer was a commune in Rochester that wanted some bureaus and other furniture.

Bob, his wife Alice and their two children moved to East Village in 1967. Alice, who had worked at several State jobs, joined the U. S. Postal Service and trained in the East Montpelier Post Office. When she retired, it was as the Postmaster in East Barre.

Bob explained that "tinkering and trading" is a one-man operation, his time being divided between acquiring new inventory, working in the basement shop, and selling the product. Because his basement is fully occupied by the workshop, he built a small barn last summer to use for a sales room and storage.

Bob plans to have this open for business this summer. His shop is in the center of East Montpelier Village but a bit hidden. Just past the post office headed west and on the left, is the drive to the East Village Cemetery. Bob's house and business share this driveway. Go look him up... and make him an offer for something.

Dave Coburn lives on Daggett Road and has just retired from State government. He worked with Bob for a time in the early 60's. His wife, Pauline is East Montpelier's Assistant Town Clerk.



COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR

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

Meeting times are subject to change without notice

EVENTS CALENDAR

May 5	Green Up Day	All Day	Throughout Town
May 9	EMS Preschool Open House	7:00-8:00 pm	Four Corners Schoolhouse
May 21	Historical Society	7:00 pm	Four Corners Schoolhouse
June 15	U-32 graduation	6:30 pm	U-32—rain location Barre Auditorium
June 18	EMES graduation	6:30 pm	EMES
June 18	Historical Society	7:00 pm	Four Corners Schoolhouse
June 20	EMES last day of school		
June 23—24	History Fair	All day	Tunbridge Fairgrounds

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 — wcate@together.net

David Coburn, Layout/Design
223-6886 — dcoburn@together.net

Anne Sherman, Business Mgr.
223-2693 — no email

Dave/Darlene Grundy, Copy Editors
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Margaret Richey, News Editor
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Sylvia Tosi, Town Records
223-3313 — eastmont@together.net

Dawn Anderson, Mailing
229-0606 — muhmza@cs.com

Brett Coburn, Photographer
223-6886 — dcoburn@together.net

Janet MacLeod, Artist
223-2296 — jmac9373@aol.com

Janice Waterman, Features
223-5826 — gmnawaterman@cs.com

Deadline for next issue: May 24 to M. Richey, 225 Butterfield Road, Plainfield, VT 05667

Printed on recycled paper with soybased ink

East Montpelier Signpost
315 Putnam Road
East Montpelier, Vermont 05651

Return Service Requested

Volume XI, No. 5

INSIDE:
Tinkering and Trading
and
Quite a Family

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 43
Barre, VT