

# THE North Star MONTHLY

Every Small Town's Newspaper

DANVILLE, VERMONT

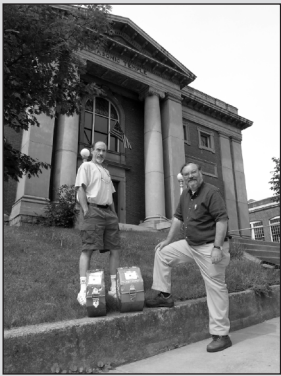
GOOD FOR THE WHOLE MONTH

\$1.50

AUGUST 2005  
Volume 17, Number 4

PAGE TWENTY

**Catamount Arts Will  
Have Permanent  
Home at the  
Masonic Temple**



PAGE TWENTY-FOUR

**We Grew Up at the  
St. Johnsbury  
Fish Hatchery**

PAGE TWENTY-SIX

**The World is the  
Game Board and  
Anyone Can Play**

## RAILROAD STREET OPENS ITS ARMS TO BOOKSTORE AND CAFE

Scott Beck and his wife, Joelle, talked about opening a business for a long time.

Joelle says, "I make these wonderful cookies, and we talked about selling them online. The vision was to evolve and  
(Please See *Downtown* on Page 8)

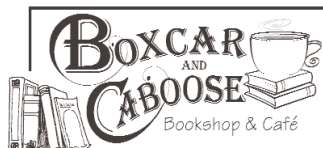
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# They Call Me the Phantom at VPR

## - Joel Najman

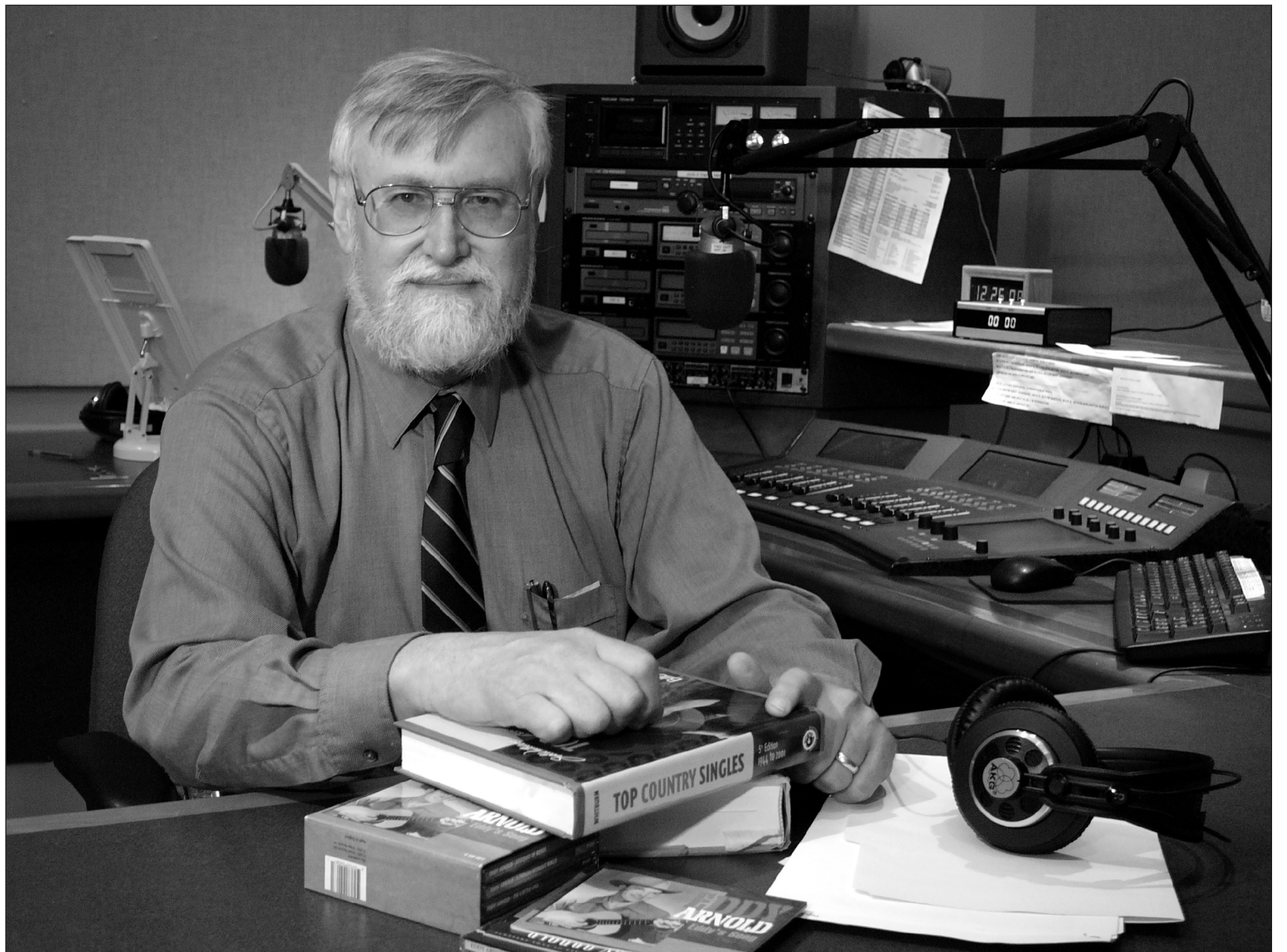


Photo By: North Star Monthly / Dave Ballou

Joel Najman is the writer, producer and voice of the Saturday night program on Vermont Public Radio called "My Place." There are few who know more about the subject of American popular music in the 1950's and 60's than this program host, known affectionately at VPR as *The Phantom*.

TERRY HOFFER

"They call me The Phantom at Vermont Public Radio. I like to go into the studio after midnight when the only other people around are the cleaning service. I turn the lights down low, and I'm totally alone." Joel Najman would never think of himself as a celebrity for the public, but in the world of radio that features Rock and Roll music and its heyday in the 1950's and 60's there are few names more respected than Najman's. None are better known in Vermont.

Najman is the historian and host, the personality and voice of the great Saturday evening VPR program called "My Place." Najman thinks of the program as a documentary of contemporary music with an emphasis on the stories behind it. He steers away from the well worn expression "oldies."

Najman was raised in the Bronx and moved to Westchester, NY in 7th grade. "I was always listening to my portable radio," he says. "I'd hold it under the covers and tune in to radio dramas and the top 40 music from WMCA in New York and WNJR in Newark. My hobby

was always Rock and Roll."

Najman slips seamlessly in and out of his radio personality and salts his conversation with facts from the history of music. He describes the explosion of Rock and Roll as a response to record companies promoting African American Rhythm and Blues to a much wider audience after World War II. "All the radio stations in major cities were playing their versions of contemporary music. White artists had been singing ballroom music, and their hits were very white bread. They had none of the rough edges of the rhythm and blues artists like the Dominoes or Hank Ballard and the Midnighters."

The legendary DJ, Alan Freed, known as the "Moon Dog" in Cleveland, coined the term "Rock 'n' Roll," and record companies promoted their cheap, plastic 45 rpm singles. A tsunami of new material swept the music market stuffed with white bread, and the result was revolutionary. The effect was a global shift in what was appealing (and what was selling) as popular music. Najman calls it the "amalgam of Rhythm and Blues and Country Music," and what emerged was music with a strong rhythm, an accent on the offbeat and

(Please See *Baby Boomers* on Page 6)

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## Here Comes the Judge

In the wake of Justice O'Connor's resignation from the U.S. Supreme Court there has been a flurry of activity as Republicans and Democrats and all manner of lobbyists dig in for the confirmation of her replacement. Will her successor, appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, favor conservative or liberal leanings? Will she (or he) be cool on abortions, warm on the Ten Commandments in public places, opposed to the death penalty and able to perfectly and consistently balance individual rights with public good? How about government funding for parochial schools and undeclared wars? And I don't want to hear, "I haven't read all the facts yet."

Maybe this is an easier one: Last week the Justice Department appealed to the Supreme Court a lower court ruling that prevents the government from seeking up to \$280 billion in tobacco industry profits from an alleged conspiracy to hide the dangers of smoking. I'd like to ask the nominee for the high court, "Do you smoke? And have you ever been offended by someone who did?"

He (or she) would probably opt to not answer the question because of the pending litigation. Come On! What's your favorite color? Do you like vegetables and would you wear a necktie under that robe or ... Oh my gosh not a string tie.

There have been significant changes since the first court with five justices convened in 1790. It probably wasn't as cushy a job then, as the justices had to ride circuit and travel the country to hear cases. Finally in 1891 Congress created the federal appeals court system, and the Supreme Court could stay inside the beltway.

In the early days the Court struggled with such matters as the citizens of one state suing another. In 1793 the Supreme Court said, yes, but five years later Congress passed and the states ratified the Eleventh Amendment, which nixed suits by citizens against states. Chief Justice John Jay quit, and he went back to New York to be Governor. The Senate rejected George Washington's first suggestion, so he asked of "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death" Patrick Henry. Henry declined, and Oliver Ellsworth became the chief, but the Court didn't really get up to speed until Chief Justice John Marshall took the reins in 1801.

Since then the Court has evolved as our idea of justice has changed. Justices (yes that's men and women) have come to the Court and risen to the occasion. They, and we, have freed the slaves and allowed them to vote. Women have property rights now, and they, too, can vote. Thankfully law is a living thing, and it changes. Supreme Court justices do the same as they listen, research, question, interpret and even compromise. As writer Anna Quindlen said recently, it seems like the turf protectors of partisan politics want something else. They want "potential justices with a platform of positions, immutable and certain ... with opinions set in stone."

Don't we want someone in an open seat on the Supreme Court who has a great breadth of knowledge and depth of wisdom, someone who speaks well and gets along with others, someone who picks up his room and is not too stubborn to lean to the left or lean to the right if it's the right thing to do? Don't we want someone like any good employee whose attitudes are not set in stone and who can grow in the job? And someone who understands that if you want to smoke you go outside to the loading dock behind the court house. That's what I'd look for.

Terry Hoffer

## Who Will Get Less?

The Vermont legislative session closed without any definitive action on health care funding, a result of legitimate differences in opinion between the legislature and the governor. The null outcome does not mean there was no activity. Quite the opposite, there was a great deal of discussion over this topic. There needs to be much more. A fundamental question that I think needs more open discussion, one that is often lost in the vague, politically appealing language, is who is going to get less? An intimately related question is are we, a society that so highly values the rights of the individual, a people so moved by a compelling story of individual suffering, able to say "No?" I am not suggesting we should ignore the plight of individuals. I highlight an essential conflict in all of the proposed adjustments to our current health care system that must be openly addressed, namely, in order to slow the rise of health care costs there has to be less. "Less" can mean less income to the people working in the health care system, less services, less use of technology, less testing, less treatment, less profit to medically related businesses, less research, less quality monitoring...the list can easily be extended.

We do not like to do with less, particularly in matters related to our health. The debate over the citing of a dialysis unit in the Northeast Kingdom is an example of our difficulty with this issue. The efficiencies, and resultant societal savings, of a larger and more centrally placed dialysis unit was an insufficient argument and could not stand up to the persuasive stories of individual costs in terms of time and travel. Thus, rather than a single dialysis unit serving the Northeast Kingdom, there will likely (I hope) be two. We can't say no to one, so we will pay for two.

The dialysis case is a local example of how difficult it is to balance public and individual health priorities. Although it can be argued that the American economy, with a national shift in spending priorities, can easily keep up with health care costs, this is not true on an individual scale. There are many who are already dealing with less. The uninsured and underinsured do with less by forgoing health care services. Employers are offering less health insurance coverage due to escalating premiums. Medicaid pays health care providers less than the cost of the services. (Medicaid is the publicly funded federal-state insurance program for low income and disabled Vermonters. Our elected representatives correctly perceive the political impossibility of increasing taxes to better fund the Medicaid program. In effect, they have delegated this taxation activity to health care providers. Health care providers, to offset the losses incurred in serving patients covered by Medicaid, increase charges to other payers, the so-called cost shift.)

I have avoided the emotionally burdened term "rationing." Yet, "doing less" is a form of rationing. In our current health care system, we already ration care, based upon one's ability to pay (or the surrogate, extent of insurance coverage). We seem to be comfortable with this method of rationing in other aspects of our lives. Housing, food, recreation, legal representation—the quantity or quality of all of these are to some degree rationed by our ability to pay. Yet we want to treat health care differently—and, in my opinion, rightly so.

The vernacular used in the current debate over health care reform is money. The proposals developed during the last legislative session all attempt to place limits on the flow of money into the health care system. I am sure that health care providers, hospitals, insurers, medical equipment suppliers and pharmaceutical companies will be quite vocal in the debate. I worry that the economically and politically weakest participants in the health care system, low income, less educated, less politically perceptive Vermonters, will not be heard. Any discussion on limiting funding must go beyond the dollars. There must also be an open dialogue, a conscious choice, about who is going to get less. The proposed reforms that advocate either a market model or global budget/single payer shirk this needed discussion.

(See *Who Will Get Less...* on Page 4)

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## Write to Us

**LETTERS:** Write to *The North Star*, and let us know what's on your mind. Your point of view or observation is important to us. Letters must be signed.

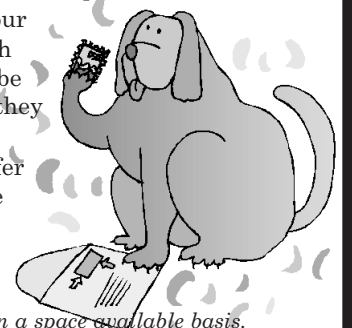
**ARTICLES:** We don't have a big staff of writers. So we look forward to you sending your writing. If you have questions or ideas and want to ask us first, please call. We'll send our guidelines. No fiction, please.

**PHOTOS:** We'd like to see your photos and welcome them with a story or without. They can be black-and-white or color, but they must be clear.

**PRESS RELEASES:** We prefer press releases that are unique to *The North Star*.

**DEADLINE:** 15th of the month prior to publication.

All materials will be considered on a space available basis.



## Letters to the Editor:

Vanna Guldenschuh

Dear North Star,

My brother, in Barnet, kindly gave me a subscription to the

*North Star*. I live about 2500 miles away in Santa Fe, NM. It is a great paper and I read each issue with much enjoyment.

I am going to try, tonight (July 3) Vanna Guldenschuh's New England Stovetop Lobster and Clambake (we can get good  
(Please See *Letters* on Page 4)

# US Senate May Abolish Navy Yards

## General Custer's Expedition Finds Gold in the Black Hills

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THE NORTH STAR

August 7, 1874

Last week, with the exception of one day, was cloudy accompanied with a good deal of rain. It was bad weather for haymakers. This week Monday and Tuesday it was cold enough for fires, morning and evening, in shops and stores. Now it's pleasant again and warmer.

Ben Rogers of Walden, a landlord and merchant at Noyesville, recently sailed for California. He is accompanied by his son Eugene. The father and son are going to Santa Barbara, which is in the southern portion of the state, about 350 miles below San Francisco. They will prospect the country for a while and if pleased with the same, intend to locate at that point and engage in the mercantile business.

**Fatal Scalding Accidents** - Three cases of scalding occurred in Rutland, week before last. On Tuesday an infant son of Darius

Drisley fell into a boiler of hot water, which was standing upon the floor, and was so badly scalded that he soon died. On Tuesday also a little daughter of John McCormick of West Rutland, fell into a pail of boiling water and was badly, but probably not fatally, scalded. On Friday a little daughter of Marshall Derrigan, while rocking with her back to the stove, tipped her chair backward and overturned upon herself a pot of boiling water. Her entire person, with the exception of her face, was scalded. Her recovery is hardly possible.

**St. Albans Murders** - The murderer of Miss Ball of St. Albans has not yet been arrested and as to who committed the outrage and murder remains a mystery. Her lover, who was suspected, has proved an alibi. Another tramp has been arrested on suspicion but nothing has been proved against him.

August 14, 1874

**Senate May Abolish Navy Yards** - All of the members of the US Senate perambulating Committee on Naval Affairs were to leave last week on the pleasant trip to examine the navy yards along the coast. The steamer Dispatch, in addition to her gorgeous fixtures, will carry supplies of provisions including wines and other luxuries in sufficient quantities to enable the voyagers to live sumptuously during their trip, which will consume about four

weeks. The Committee will go first to Norfolk, thence to Philadelphia and New York. They will stop at Newport to witness tests with torpedoes, thence go to Boston and Portsmouth where the investigation will cease. It is decided that the Pensacola Navy Yard will stand, beyond doubt, therefore the Committee will go no further south than Norfolk to find out which, if any, of the existing navy yards can be abolished.

**Fire at Lyndon Center** - On Monday morning last, about 11 o'clock, fire was discovered in the barn of Frank Quimby on the Wm. Hoffman farm on Pudding Hill, and by 12 o'clock his two barns and a shed were entirely consumed with 20 tons of hay, a wagon and all his farming tools. Loss of about \$1,000, insured for \$325. It seems a mystery how the fire caught. It was discovered by his wife, who tried to put it out with a pail of water and extinguishing what was near, looked overhead and discovered it in the hay mow and working up to the roof. She blew a horn calling her husband from the field, but he arrived too late to save much of anything. The most plausible theory of the origin of the fire is that a spark flew from the chimney of the house into the window where hay was pitched. The window was towards the house.

August 21, 1874

**Frightful Railroad Accident** - A frightful accident occurred on

the Southeastern railroad last week Thursday at Abercorn, PQ just across the line from Richford where a footbridge had washed out. The chasm was so near a curve as not to be seen until too late to stop the morning train for Montreal, which all piled into it except the Pullman car. The engine Stickney went to the bottom, the baggage car on the top of it and the first passenger car struck endwise on top of that. A report from the Farmer says: another bridge further west was gone and a section man coming from the west discovered it but could not cross to stop the train and therefore undertook to go back to a telegraph office, but failed to reach it in season to prevent the disaster. The train was about an hour late and was running at a high rate of speed. The bodies recovered are described frightfully mangled and the wreck as being a complete ruin.

The smoky atmosphere with which we have been surrounded for the past two or three days is the result of vast forest fires which are raging near Ottawa, Canada.

August 28, 1874

**Black Hills Expedition** - A telegram from Bismarck, N.D. conveys a dispatch from a special correspondent with General Custer's expedition: The command reached here yesterday in good health and spirits from Custer's Valley. Gold and silver was found in several places in

good paying quantities. A single miner may take out \$100 per day, and game (bear, elk and deer) is in abundance. The distance from Bismarck to the gold regions is about 250 miles over a practicable route. Citizens of Bismarck are greatly excited and already expeditions are organizing. The command leaves here tomorrow for the little Missouri and home to Lincoln.

**St. Johnsbury Items** - We learn that A.A. Jerauld, proprietor of the Boston Clothing Store has failed. We hope he will be able to resume business in a few days. Mr. Daniel Colby of the firm Colby, Gay & Blake had a team stolen out of his barn last Sunday night.

A gentleman in the eastern part of the state who was about to have his leg amputated on account of its being bent at right angles and stiff at the knee heard of Johnson's Anodyne Liniment. After using it a short time his leg became straight and is now as serviceable as the other.

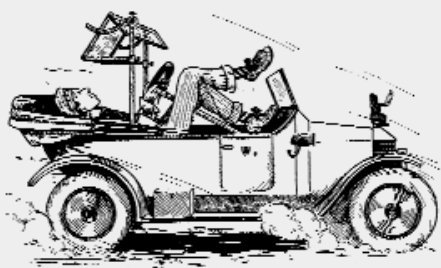
**Soliders' Reunion** - The extra train carrying passengers to the Soldiers' Reunion in Burlington on Tuesday morning was pretty well filled. Among those who went from this station were Chas. D. Brainerd of Co. F., 17th Vt.; Chas. Adams, Co. G., 4th Vt.; Martin Sargent, Co. D., Cavalry; Spencer Tilton, Co. D., Cavalry; Chas. Prouty, Co. F, 3d Vt.; Geo. Blair, Co. D., Cavalry.

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## Letters to the Editor:

(Continued from Page 2)

seafood here but not quite as fresh as when I got my own clams from the bay in East Hampton.)

Keep up the good work.

Mark Gelber  
Santa Fe, NM

### Historical Research

Dear North Star,

For a publication on the Caledonia County men and boys who went to the California gold rush, I am looking for local grave-stones with carved inscriptions recording the death of miners in California or on the way to and from the golden state. The only such stone that I know of is in Peacham for Newel Marsh whose stone records his interment in Shasta City, CA on November 20, 1852.

Are there any gravestones in

Caledonia County cemeteries reporting deaths of miners? Cabot counts as it was part of the county until 1855.

Also does anyone know where the Danville Grand Lists are for the 1840's and 1850's. The town office does not have them I have been told.

If you have information please contact me at PO Box 200 Peacham, VT 05862. I would be interested in any family stories about the gold rush - successes or failures.

Lynn A. Bonfield  
Peacham

### Thanks for a Much Needed Break

Dear North Star,

Thank you so much for a truly enjoyable paper. It is a much needed break from the "gloom and doom" of the dailies and we look forward to its arrival each month.

Barbara Rooney  
Littlestown, PA

## Who Will Get Less in Health Care?

(Continued from Page 2)

The debate over who gets less of our health care dollars needs to treat fairly all participants, patients, providers, hospitals, insurers, pharmaceutical companies and medical suppliers. Unless there is active public participation, I fear the debate will become a competition dominated by those with the greatest economic and/or political stature.

Tim Tanner

## Midsummer Fantasies

What a joyful experience summer in the Northeast Kingdom can be (as it can be in other places, too, of course). When nature chooses to favor us, we feast on sunny days, cool and fragrant breezes, multi-colored flowers and the greenest of grass. Shorts and T-shirts are the dress for the day. One of the pleasant consequences of being retired (for 20-years in my case) is having more time to enjoy things I slighted during the years when our children and work filled ours lives. What one does with this gift of leisure is an individual matter, of course, for pleasure and experiences that create it are so different for all.

One of my treasured enjoyments comes from losing my mind, so to speak, in the fantasies I create out of the natural and ordinary things around me. We live on a small hill with a bird's-eye view of Burke Mountain and the White Mountains of New Hampshire in the distance.

We have a tiny fish pond, almost filled with lily pads and budding lilies, in which one goldfish darts around with amazing speed; he is supposed to have companions, but they don't show themselves. Surprisingly, the fish is accompanied by a myriad of tree frog tadpoles. They swim much more slowly, and waste no time eating the fish flakes intended for the goldfish. We marvel at their presence, for there are no large trees nearby. Quite soon, when they mature enough, they will mysteriously disappear, and we will see nothing more of them until their descendants arrive next year.

At this time of year, pleasurable fantasies arise while watching the orange and yellow daylilies in bloom. My wife planted them across the pond from where I sit. Sometimes there is a breeze, which helps them nod their heads together.

I never know what unusual sights to expect when my mind wanders. Last night, with the breeze almost brisk, I saw a sullen parrot, or could it have been an eagle with a sharp beak, sunken eyes and a brooding appearance resulting from an overhanging forehead. He stood there all evening, undisturbed, while I watched what I hoped were his friends.

Nearby was a tall, intense, perhaps ecstatic, lily with flashing eyes and prominent ears who spent the evening kissing a shy, smaller lily who couldn't seem to elude him. Perhaps a majority of them were shamelessly flirting as they repeatedly brushed against each other, only to break away and then return. I wondered if the lilies might be part of a flower-based zoo when, with amazement, I saw a determined anteater nosing into nearby flowers. His proboscis was so sharp and long I could see no other purpose for his existence. I couldn't see any ants, so perhaps his attention was focused on tasty tadpoles?

When I have had enough of the lilies, and want to continue the parade of fantasies, I put my head back, raise my eyes and see the puffy clouds in the bluest of skies. Last evening, among the countless cloud formations, the sky held the outline of the coast of Africa, a rabbit lying on his back with feet in the air, and a tiny duck.

With such joys so readily available, why should I - or you, if you would allow your rational mind to take a whimsical break - ever leave the Northeast Kingdom in the summertime?

John Downs

### Cobleigh Public Library Lyndonville

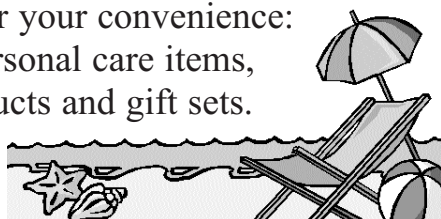
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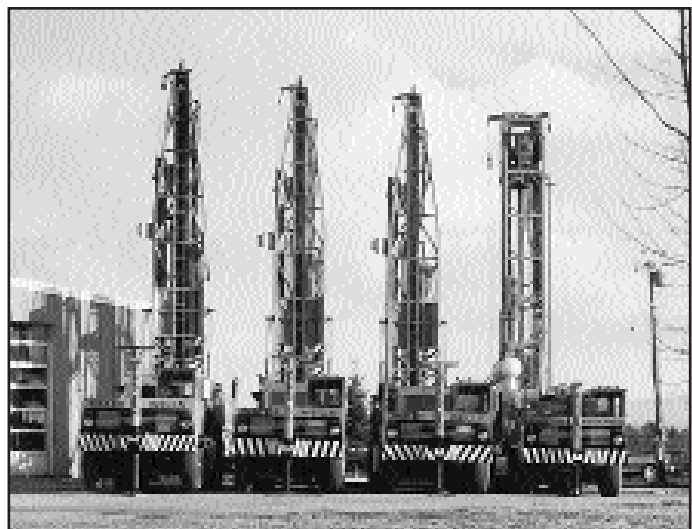
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## Our Children and the Natural World

Reading John Downs's column "It Was Education Outside Of The Box" [*North Star Monthly*, June 2005] and a review of Richard Louv's latest book *Last Child in the Woods*, got me thinking about how little some children know about the natural world. Most of the 10-year-olds that I know, (boys at least), could tell you the names of 10 dinosaurs and describe them in detail. Most could name and describe the inhabitants of Middle Earth or the opposing combatants in the Star Wars movies. But send those same children outdoors to collect and name five different wildflowers, tree leaves and insects from their immediate environment, and many would be stumped.

Richard Louv writes in his book about NDD, Nature Deficit Disorder, an affliction that is occurring with greater frequency as our children, even in Vermont, spend more time in organized sports activities and with computer games. Psychologists have been writing for some time about how children have very little

free time to just be kids, get dirty, play outdoors and connect with their natural environment. I see this trend as ultimately very bad for our stewardship of the earth.

The more we know about the natural world the better we can make balanced decisions about our use of natural resources and understand how those decisions may impact our planet. We are also more likely to notice and object when our government or Big Business tries to manipulate science to serve its purposes, ignoring overwhelming evidence, as has been the Bush administration's approach to global warming.

Recent publicity campaigns about diseases like West Nile Virus or Lyme Disease discourage people from enjoying the outdoors. They arouse fear rather than impart knowledge, because adults, who know little about nature, understand only the warning and not the information. Statistical information about how common these diseases are is often buried in fine print. The end result is the typical reaction of, "Swat first and

ask questions later!" I don't mean to deny the seriousness of these diseases, but overdoing the scare tactics is not helpful in the long run. Maintaining a high level of fear about misunderstood or unseen threats ultimately deadens awareness.

The way that adults react to the natural world sets an example for children. Negative reactions to spiders, bats and worms, for example, teach children at a very early age to be afraid of or physically repulsed by creatures that are beneficial to human activities. Teaching children to examine small creatures and find out about the role they play in the web of life is to encourage wonder and a sense of responsibility for the natural world. Lumping all insects and other small creatures into the category of "Bugs" diminishes their worth and makes them expendable.

If parents are not able to educate their children about nature, there are many fine programs in Vermont that can help children learn about their local environment. In St. Johnsbury, the

Fairbanks Museum has been educating children and adults about the natural world since it opened in 1891. Class visits on and off-site through the school year, natural science programs for families, and the summer Nature Corner programs have exposed children as student curators or visitors to many aspects of natural science. 4-H camps, Girl and Boy Scout camps, Conservation Camps, Audubon programs and environmental camps are just some of the resources available. Scholarships are available for many of them.

Tragic drowning accidents in the Barre area this spring highlight another important reason for educating children about the natural world. Forces of nature are powerful. We have witnessed the awesome power of volcanic eruptions and tsunami in recent times through the medium of television. Sometimes we forget that there are other, less spectacular, forces at work closer to home. Teaching children to think things through before attempting daring actions helps them avoid not only accidents

involving natural forces but also disastrous human encounters such as child molestation and traffic accidents.

One of the saddest aspects of modern times is that parents have become fearful of letting children go out to play. One reason is that our society is increasingly focused on the potential dangers of life. Are these dangers really new, or did they always exist in some form? Personal experience tells me the latter is the truth!

It seems to me that, with all the effort and time spent in school trying to get children to meet arbitrarily imposed standards of learning, we have taken away so much of the wonder and joy of being a child. Spending more time educating children in decision-making, how to avoid peer pressure and hands-on activities connecting them to the natural world, could reinstate childhood as a valuable developmental stage, and might ultimately help save our planet.

Isobel P. Swartz

## Southern Gospel Concert Will Be in Lunenburg and Danville on August 6 and 7

Chris Kibbe, a delightful southern folk gospel guitar player and singer will present two concerts in the Northeast Kingdom on Sunday, August 7. His relaxed music is great for the family and all ages. Kibbe will present original compositions and familiar hymns. You just want to sit back, tap your feet, and relax while he sings. After the excitement of Lunenburg's Old Home Day and the Danville Fair on August 6; the concerts are a great way to unwind.

The first concert will be at 11:00 a.m. on the green in Lunenburg and is sponsored by the Northeast Kingdom United Methodist Churches. The second concert will be at 7:00 p.m. on the green in Danville and is sponsored by the Danville

United Methodist Church.

Recordings of Kibbe's music will be on sale, and a free will offering will be taken at both concerts.

Mark your calendar, and prepare for an exciting time. In case of rain the respective concerts will be in the adjacent United Methodist Churches. ★

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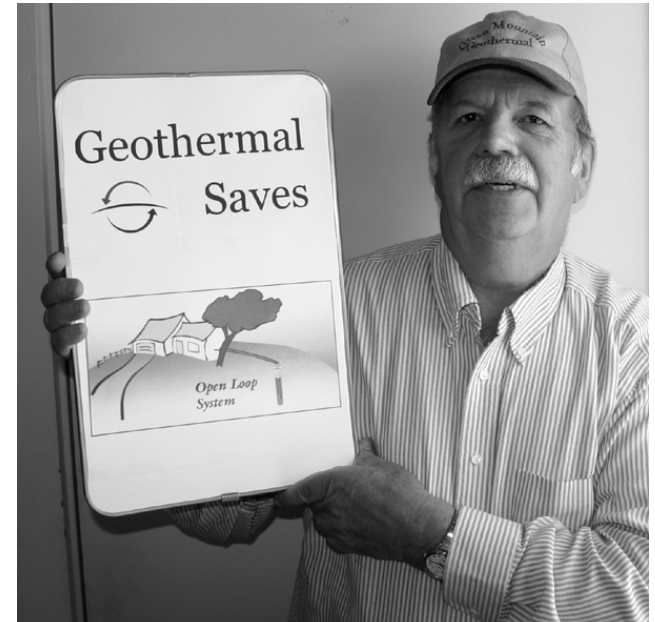
  
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# Baby Boomers Were Teenagers and Their Money Went into Records

(Continued from Page 1)

lyrics oriented to a young audience. Suddenly pop was hot.

Baby boomers were teenagers. They bought portable record players, and their humble earnings and their weekly allowances were funneled into records.

**The Crystals were never famous for their song *My Place*, but who can forget their success with hits like *[I met him on a Monday] Da Doo Ron Ron, Then He Kissed Me, Uptown or He's a Rebel?***

Najman tells of his own buying records, tons of records, at stores in Harlem and midtown Manhattan. "I had piles of them. I read *Cashbox* and *Billboard*

*Magazine*, and everything I liked I bought. At one point I had several thousand of them," he says, but then he started working in radio and let radio stations do the collecting.

As a student at Middlebury College in 1963 Najman worked at WIPS in Ticonderoga, NY, and for the first time he transmitted his voice out over Lake Champlain and Vermont.

Najman's radio career included the gamut of assignments from full service news reporting and interviews to music. For many years he was the morning show host at WJOY and at WDOT and news director at WDEV. He says, "I had a reputation as a radio personality as much as anyone, but when it came to the history of music ... it just never seemed like work."

In 1982 Betty Smith, the program director for VPR, asked Najman to fill in for the ailing David Field and take over as temporary host for a program called "My Place." "Sadly we learned that David was terminally ill," Najman says. "He never came back, and I like to say that I'm still substituting."

Najman was finally at home. "I didn't want any concessions to the format d'jour or to commercial radio. In the old days radio programs had themes, and that's what I wanted." Najman says in the early 80's public radio was like glorified college radio, and a lot of those programs simply faded away. "I am as amazed as anyone that 'My Place' survived."

Najman researches his material before he plays it with biographies and Internet fan clubs or even the artists themselves, but the prevailing connection from one show to the next is the story behind the music.

In one program, for example, featuring the music of Phil Spector, Najman tells about a song that Spector wrote as a senior in high school. Spector was inspired by the epitaph on his father's tombstone, which reads "To have known him was to have loved him." Performing as the Teddy Bears, Spector and his group at the time sang the song that launched Spector's career,

*To Know Him Is To Love Him.*

Another program, this one in the works, will be a sequel to one about the most successful country and western artist of all time, Eddie Arnold. Arnold had 146 hit singles and sold 86 million records. The story for the sequel is that Arnold's manager was also the manager for the most successful rock artist of all time, Elvis Presley. A future "My Place" program will feature manager superstar Col. Tom Parker.

Najman says, "I look for universally appealing music - that is, accessible music with a story. I try not to chatter. There are no talk-overs. I have great reverence for the music, and I expect my listeners have reverence, as well."

Typically Najman picks 12-15 songs with a common thread and then reads all he can about the music and the thread. He writes notes in longhand and then heads to the VPR studio in Colchester after midnight a day or two before the Saturday broadcast and tapes his program.

Najman begins his recording at the same place every week and opens his program with the 1965 recording by the Crystals, *My Place*. The Crystals were never famous for *My Place*, but who can forget their success with hits like *[I met him on a Monday] Da Doo Ron Ron, Then He Kissed Me, Uptown or He's a Rebel?*

Najman says, "I admire the old DJ's (and their blistering speed and disk jockey lingo) but my presentation is that of a documentary. Rarely do I play less than a full song. I think this is about history as much as it is about music, and I'd like it to be complete to the extent that I can make it." "My Place" is distinctive for the absence of overlaps between songs. Najman will intentionally pause briefly, leaving momentary dead-air time, before and after each song. He aims for 40 minutes of music and the balance of the 60-minute program filled with his presentation of the theme or the thread and the story.

Some of his programs remain in the works for years. Najman wanted to do a segment on the Supremes, but he was unable to put his hands on a copy of their earliest recording as the Primettes. "I wouldn't do the program without it," he says. Finally he got a tape of the elusive recording from a collector, and the program aired in 1998.

Najman produces about 48 programs each year with rarely a rerun. "I've been doing this for more than 20 years, and a lot has happened in that time. I might repeat a theme and update it, but each program is new from start to finish. Beyond all the background research and preparatory work it takes two or three hours each week in the studio [as *The Phantom*]."

Listen to "My Place" on Vermont Public Radio this Saturday at 9 o'clock in the evening, or, if you are like VPR listeners James & Linda Fortier in Hong Kong, listen on the web where programming extends beyond the traditional airwaves and time zones ... and hear Joel Najman over breakfast on Sundays. ★

Joel Najman's Saturday evening program on Vermont Public Radio is familiar for its theme from the Crystals' song *My Place* ...

Where does the gang always wanna go  
When things are dragging and  
they're feeling low  
To my place, my place, my place

Though it's not fancy and it's kinda bare  
No one can come around and bug us there  
At my place, at my place

... which repeats at the end of the program with "Shoo-be-doo-doop-doo-wah" spliced in from Don & Juan's *What's Your Name*.

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# The Cork & Bottle

Gerd Hirschmann

It's like: Paper or Plastic? Environmental concerns or bottom line interests? Mac or PC? The unexpected is inevitable! Beta or VHS? Which time do you live in? Gasoline or Diesel? Do I really have a choice? Cork or Screwcap? Do you really ask me to open my bottle of wine like a bottle of lemonade?

There is a big discussion about the closures of wine bottles. Pros and cons abound. But largely, I say, it depends on taste. And that's an intended pun: it's not only a matter of personal taste whether one prefers to pop a cork or twist off a screwcap. Each of the enclosures (new and old) will affect the taste of the wine in the bottle differently.

Cork will let a small amount of air through, which keeps the wine "alive" and aids in the aging process. A really good bottle of wine produced to age for a long time will most likely still get a cork, just because it works best for that purpose, even if there is a small risk of the cork spoiling thereby ruining the entire bottle.

To reduce this risk the wine industry has been seeking alternatives. The one that is becoming the favorite is the screwcap, now widely used for wines that are not made to age. Frankly, that is the bulk of all wine as most of us buy a bottle to enjoy with dinner – tonight or tomorrow and not in five years.

Primarily for white wine the screwcap seems almost inevitable. Nowadays, almost all the Sauvignon Blancs from New Zealand have this closure. I am sure others will follow. But besides the unceremonious opening, there is another issue: they almost work too well, sealing out all air from the bottle, which can lead to a process called "reduction" making the wine taste flat, somewhat like overcooked cabbage.

Ultimately it will depend on the grape. A high acidic content such as that in New Zealand Sauvignon Blancs or Rieslings is less likely to suffer with screwcaps than say a big bold tannic Cabernet Sauvignon. So it will be the wine makers choice again. He or she already chose how much oak, how much sulfur, how much of just about everything, so it will be his or her choice how to seal up the bottle.

The only choice we wine drinkers get is which bottle to buy; and to me cork v. screwcap is big. Simply put - I want my cork! To me it belongs to the bottle of wine like the glass I use to drink it. There are advantages to wine in a box, but I will not buy it. Corks are environmentally friendly and sustainable. The cork trees in Spain, Portugal and Northern Africa support entire eco-systems, of which we loose too many as it is already.

And, I think, it adds magic to the enjoyment of some great wine. Without the cork the wine drinking experience seems dull and boring, and there is no more chance to show off those long practiced skills with the corkscrew. This may also be a concern to those with small kids, they sure know how to open a screwcap, especially on those bottles with big colorful animals printed all over them. The cork will keep the wine safely in the hands of those who know how to operate a corkscrew. ★

*Gerd Hirschmann is a wine distributor of the VT Wine Merchants Co.*



Photo By: North Star Monthly

*On a bright day in July, Danville's Darling Damsels Red Hat Society and guests celebrated their sisterhood and companionship with a luncheon on the Danville Green. Clockwise from left front are Margaret Ide, Fran Lamothe, Norma Jung, Barb Machell, Mary Prior, Janet Wakefield, Ginger Magoon and Mary Ann Limric. Standing at rear are Chef Paula Bystrzycki and Server Hannah Lazerick. Continuing around the table are Esther Montgomery, Lois White, Anna Somers, Kay Hopkins, Alberta Charron, Vice Queen Linda Vance, Joann Gammell and Queen Pat Peck.*

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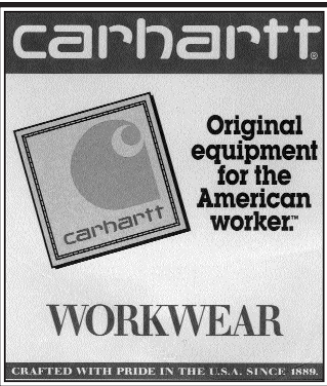
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Exhibits due Friday, August 5 between 4-7 p.m. at the Pope Library.  
 Youth entries welcome

# Downtown St. Johnsbury Welcomes New Bookstore and Cafe to Railroad Street

(Continued from Page 1)

grow over time into a bookstore and café.”

Scott is a history teacher at St. Johnsbury Academy, and he took to the street. He says, “I talked to every business person who would give me a few minutes of their time, and when I mentioned a bookstore with a café they treated me like rock star. Everyone said they wanted a place where they could get a sandwich, a salad and soup and coffee to go, and there was great interest in a bookstore as a gathering place and a means to attract traffic to St. Jay.”

Scott says, “Everyone in the book business is really nice, and they all have been wonderfully helpful. My research shows that bookselling is growing at a rate of 4% a year, and among independent bookstores the ones that are successful are in towns like Hardwick, Littleton and St. Johnsbury where the competition doesn’t include places like Barnes & Noble or Borders. The news is good, and I’m convinced the future is bright.”

The Becks opened the Boxcar & Caboose Bookshop & Café on Railroad Street in early July. The layout is bright, and the design is appealing. Joelle says, “We wanted the bookcases to be the beauty of the store,” and they are. Made by Calendar Brook Cabinetry they can hold as many as 20,000 books, but the Becks see an inventory target of closer to 16,000 to allow for a better display of their books.

Scott says, “We’ll never have every book for everyone. In the United States alone there are about 200,000 new titles each year. That’s 500 books every day, and that doesn’t say anything about the great books from last year and all the years before that. The current system for ordering books is amazing. We can get almost any book that’s in stock overnight.”

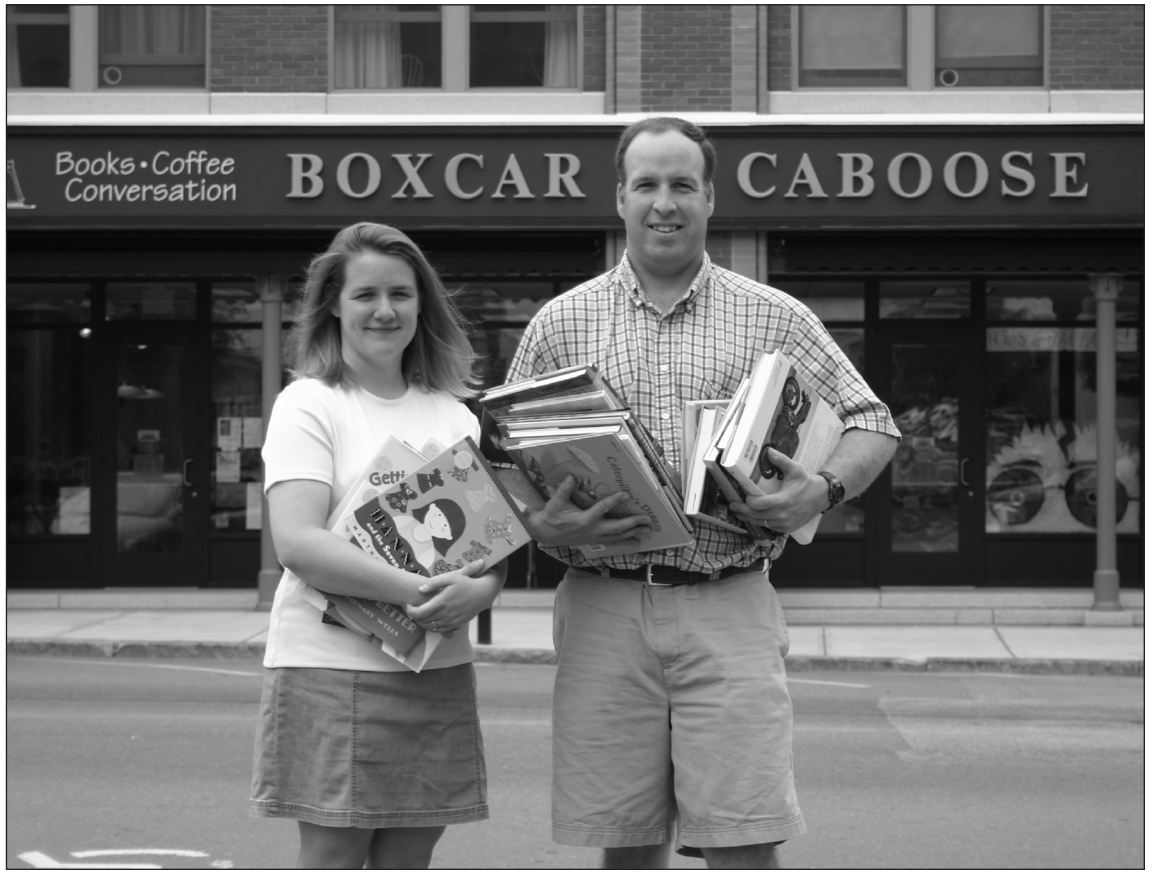


Photo By: North Star Monthly

Joelle and Scott Beck opened the Boxcar & Caboose Bookshop & Café on Railroad Street in St. Johnsbury in July.

**When I mentioned a bookstore with a café they treated me like rock star.**

**- Scott Beck**

Joelle works as the mother of six children all under age 9. She says, “Scott and I are both readers, and we know what kids like to read. Scott is good with numbers. He taught math and studied economics. All of a sudden selling cookies online and the progression became a business plan, and here we are.”

The Boxcar & Caboose Bookshop & Café features Seattle’s Best Coffee. Joelle says, “Scott is from St. Johnsbury, and I love it here, but I was raised on an island in Puget Sound. This is my choice. Seattle’s Best is the best coffee in the Northwest, and when it comes to coffee I think it’s the best you can buy.” Café sandwiches are made fresh daily at Tim’s Deli on Portland Street, and Joelle says, “People must

like them. They sell out every day.”

There was a lot of talk and a lot of hoping in St. Johnsbury after the Northern Lights Bookshop and Café closed in February 2004. Where is the place, we all heard, to get a newspaper or a book, coffee or a light lunch and a place to hang out for a while - perhaps even with kids.” It looks like all the hoping paid off.

Gary Ely is store manager at Caplan’s Army Store. He says, “It’s a traffic store. It’ll bring people to downtown. They’ve got a nice place to grab coffee and something to eat. They’ve done a tremendous job, and it’ll be good for us all.”

Robin Little is one of the owners at Sunshine Boutique. “Every town needs a place like

the Boxcar. It’s totally appealing. It’s so nice to go in there - it’s gorgeous. They’ve done a lot of homework and it shows.”

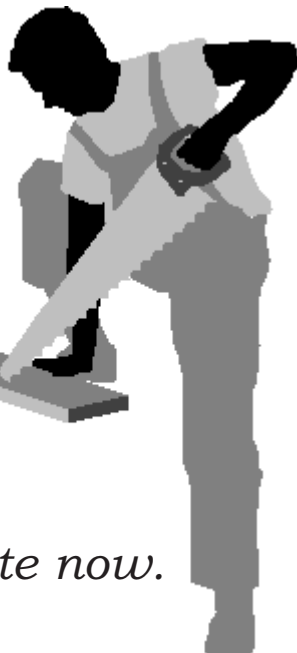
Beth and Dave Kannell own the specialty shop Kingdom Books on the second floor above Railroad Street, and both describe the new store as an asset to the area. They hope people will see the area as rich with bookstores. Beth says, “The Boxcar and Caboose staff already prove that buying in person beats Amazon or Barnes & Noble online any day. Booksellers can help you find what you want, and it’s great to have a place to gather.”

Look for the *North Star*, the latest title from your favorite author and Seattle’s Best Coffee at the Boxcar & Caboose. It’s open daily, and it is very nice. ★

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# Follow the Money

by Rachel Siegel

## A View from Central Europe: The Other Side of Outsourcing

The countries of Central Europe are anxious to define their role in the global economy, and to grow their economies, relatively new to modern capitalism. An obvious comparative advantage for them is cheap labor. Or is it?

**Being the "source" for outsourcing can be a useful tool for developing economies as a means to an end, but those countries must take care to use their windfall paychecks to create real capital, and then to create their next comparative advantage.**

Wage levels are still lower in these countries than in Western Europe, yet the labor force is highly educated, with literacy rates of 100%, a widespread fluency in English (the lingua franca of business), and in computer technology. There are common cultural bonds, fairly modern infrastructures,

and a proximity to producers in Germany, France and the U.K. that make Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Poland, for example, natural destinations for outsourced work from Western Europe.

One growth strategy would be to capitalize on this relatively cheap and convenient labor force by selling it to foreign employers, who have the capital assets to build factories, call centers or technology campuses.

When we think of outsourcing, we think of domestic jobs migrating overseas as cheaper labor can be used elsewhere. For the country that is exporting the work, this seems to be a good thing: profits increase as labor costs decrease, adding to capital market wealth; producers remain competitive; the workforce is freed up from "old" economy jobs to pursue the next, most innovative work.

The economy that is exporting work worries that it is losing jobs, of course, especially higher-paying jobs. The counter-arguments are that although the jobs move away, the profits still come home. The decrease in jobs, as they move overseas, is temporary and will be resolved by advances in innovation and discovery, as they always have.

Anyway, outsourcing is inevitable, as producers will always seek the lowest costs of production and consumers will always seek lowest priced goods.

What does outsourcing look like from the other side? We assume that outsourcing works

for the economies getting the jobs: we assume that countries are happy to have new opportunities to sell their labor, and at a higher price. This raises wage levels, and thus incomes, and thus tax revenues, so both individuals and governments have more capital to invest in growth. Individuals can begin to save capital that can then earn returns for them, which is how one succeeds in capitalism.

Governments can use increased tax revenues to lower deficits and/or debts and to invest in public goods such as education or health care or infrastructure that will nurture growth. So, being the "outside source" of labor seems to be a successful strategy for a developing economy.

Real growth, not just enrichment, requires capital. Selling labor for comparative advantage works as a growth strategy only if it brings capital into the economy, capital that can fuel growth by developing diversified strengths in the economy, capital that stays in the economy. If German or French corporations reinvest their profit in Hungary or Poland, then that capital can be used to accelerate growth in that economy. If the profit just goes home to German or French shareholders, then the Hungarian or Polish workers enjoy higher wages, which stimulates the economy to an extent, but the significant catalyst of reinvested profit is lost.

Cheap labor is bound to be a

temporary comparative advantage. As the strategy succeeds and the standard of living rises, there will be demands for higher wages, and producers will look for even cheaper labor. They'll find it in less-developed economies further east, say in Ukraine or Romania, where the infrastructure has by then caught up to modern needs and the labor is still cheaper.

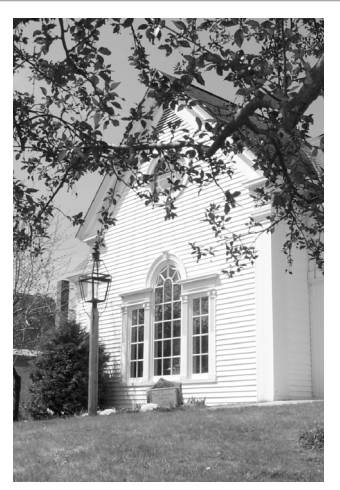
In our modern global economy, capitalizing on comparative advantage is a moving target: the countries of Central Europe are in the right place at the right time to cash in on their labor, but there will be a limited window of opportunity for that to work as a strategy for growth.

English economist David Ricardo first articulated the idea of comparative advantage in the early 19th century, when colonial empires defined the world economy. The countries of Central Europe are anxious to define their role in the global economy, very conscious of the fact that it has been defined for them, one way or another, for hundreds of years.

Being the "source" for outsourcing can be a useful tool for developing economies as a means to an end, but those countries must take care to use their windfall paychecks to create real capital, and then to create their next comparative advantage. Otherwise, marketing themselves as cheap labor, selling themselves as a resource for more developed economies,

will once again make them economic, and thus eventually political, colonies of their more powerful neighbors.

*Rachel S. Siegel, CFA, consults on investment portfolio performance and strategy, and on accounting and tax dilemmas. She has an MBA from Yale; she is a professor in the business administration department at Lyndon State College. Siegel recently had the opportunity to travel to Hungary and the Czech Republic to study their emerging economies.*



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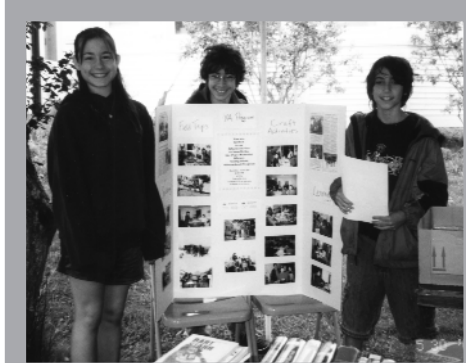
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## Pope Library YA Program Short of Funds

We at the Pope Library Young Adult (YA) Program were disappointed to learn that we did not receive a grant which would have partially funded the program for the next three years. Therefore, we have only half the amount of money necessary to continue for the next school year. We have re-invigorated our fundraising efforts to reach out to people and organizations in the area. If you are able to make a donation, please forward checks to **Pope Young Adult Program, P.O. Box 260, Danville, VT 05828.**

Look for us at the Danville Fair. We will be next to the Pope Library booth selling dollar tickets for a **Shuffle I-Pod** to be raffled off that evening.

L-R: Megan Austin, Mike Willis and Max Willis.  
Photo by Rita Foley.



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# They Laughed When Someone Said There's a Market for Spider Webs

TERRY HOFFER

"I have no idea how the creative process works," Will Knight says with his delightfully easy manner. "But one day my wife noticed a flower in the garden with a spider web stretched out behind it. She was experimenting with decoupage (that's applying shapes and transferring colors from paper cutouts to a permanent flat surface), and it occurred to her the web would make a great background."

Knight's wife put glue on a board; she eased the board up against the web; and the art was born.

Thirty years later Knight and his wife have become an institution in Williamstown, just south of Barre with a following that spans 50 states and, at last count, 80 countries. This is no ordinary web site. They call it Spider Web Farm.

In 1975 Knight and his wife were quietly admiring her first spider web artwork when some-

one, they don't remember who, said, "If you had a plain web - leave off the other stuff - I think there'd be a market for it."

**As someone once said, "Build it and they will come," and sure enough the media loved it and came.**

Knight was semi-retired at the time and selling cabinets and other wooden accessories at craft shows and from a small shop in their home. Both were intrigued by the spider webs, and they tried spray paint (first black and then white), various glues, combinations of lacquer and surface finishes and they sold a few to curious customers.

In 1980 Knight agreed to exhibit his work at the Faneuil

Hall Marketplace in Boston. Almost sheepishly but then with an infectious laugh he says, "I sold 400 of these things in a week." The next summer people started looking for the spider web folks in Vermont.

Knight has a charismatic personality, and he loves to talk about spiders and the process, but he is quick to credit his wife for the idea. "It was hers," he says. "I'm just the systems guy." And the system evolved as public interest grew.

Knight noticed he had a cellar window with a missing glass pane, and spiders seemed to love that location. There was something about the draft, he thought, and on a hunch he made a rack - sort of a picture window with small rectangular openings but no glass. He hung the rack in a shed, and the spiders loved it. The next summer Knight moved the cars out of their garage and suspended 16 racks totaling 188 openings - all the size of his wooden plaques. The spiders were fascinated, and



Photos By: North Star / Dave Ballou

*Will Knight has a great sense of humor. It's dry, and it sneaks up on you as his eyes sparkle with his own pleasure. Semi-retired and selling his wooden cabinets at craft shows he and his wife discovered an amazing interest in what began as a variation on her decoupage. They transferred a spider web to a wooden board - first one and then another - and, he says, they sold 400 in a week at the Faneuil Hall Marketplace in Boston. Over time the process has become more sophisticated with these frames as a means to attract spiders and harvest their webs. On a good day he gets 20.*

up went their webs. Admittedly the system is less than perfect. On a really good day, he says, he gets something like 20 webs.

But at 79, Knight isn't complaining, because with too much success this would be like a job. The webs are, to the human eye, colorless, so he sprays them with paint and collects what he can. Then he transfers them on eat a time to wooden plaques and then begins the process of finishing for display and sale.

As someone once said, "Build it and they will come," and sure enough the media loved it and came. Knight has explained the process to writers for *Yankee Magazine* and the *Boston Globe*. Television crews moved in to tape segments for *The Today Show*, *That's*

*Incredible, You Asked For It* and a Japanese program that Knight never did quite understand. He has been featured by Paul Harvey on the radio and as part of the WCAX television weather report. He loves it, and publicity hasn't hurt.

Last year (he keeps records of the number of visitors, where they are from and what they buy) he sold 373 spider web plaques, and a sign over the garage boasts "Over 13,000 Sold," sort of like the hamburger sign at McDonald's.

His pricing is an art in itself. Knight says, "They start at 20 bucks, but I look at the size, the complexity, proportions and the balance of the web, and I price them according to my taste." His eyes sparkle. "I have very

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good taste, and if you pay 50 bucks for one of these things it says to me you have very good taste, too."

He says, "The most I ever got was 75 bucks, and I should have asked a hundred, but I keep telling myself the object is to get rid of them. People often ask me which one I like best, and tell them I want to get rid of them all."

He is careful not to have too many on display at one time because browsers get confused. "Give them too many choices and they're here forever." He likes to have a dozen on display at any one time - maybe a few more or maybe a few less, and in spider season (mid May through the fall) there are more on the way in racks in the garage or in the finishing room in the back of his shop.

"After 25 years of this," Knight says, "I've heard a lot of stories, and I suppose some of them are accurate." He describes spiders as much smarter than humans given the size of their brains. "They are unbelievably clever. I've seen them drop down and connect a thread to a pebble and use that as a floating counterweight for the rest of the web, and the symmetry of their work is amazing." Knight doesn't think spiders can see well, if at all, but he thinks their work and their response to a fly in the web is based upon vibrations and feel. He wants to believe that a web is put together on the basis of the spider tuning the threads sort of like strings on an instrument.

Knight loves to talk to people, and he can tell some pretty funny stories about his visitors. He sports some intricate tattoos including elaborate spider webs on each of his elbows. He tells

about showing them to one lady who asked if he'd like to see her tattoo and started to take off her clothes. Fortunately another customer arrived, and Knight was spared from whatever was about to be unveiled.

One customer was admiring his work and kept saying that "E. B. would like this," and "E. B. would like that." She bought one of his plaques and returned a few months later with a long letter thanking her for the gift from the author of *Charlotte's Web*. That was, of course, E. B. White.

Knight says he doesn't mind waiting for the next customer. He's happy with what he does, and seldom does someone leave empty handed. What will he do when he really retires? He says, "I don't know. Maybe I'll go to Hollywood and see if they need spider collectors. They seem to have money there for everything." Then for the first time he seems to be dead serious. "But I don't think there are any real people out there anymore. This would be hard to beat, and I'm pretty happy right here in Vermont." ★



Will Knight and his wife have become an institution in Williamstown, just south of Barre, with a following that spans 50 states and, at last count, 80 countries. This is no ordinary web site. They call it Spider Web Farm.

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## Wednesday, August 24

### Children's Day

Gates Open at 7:00 a.m.  
Judging of 4-H Exhibits, Poultry and Rabbits  
Water Slide Opens  
Midway Opens  
King of Silly  
Ice Cream Eating Contest  
Steven Richard Lindholm  
Chicken Calling Contest  
Beef Show  
6-Horse Hitch Presentation  
Billy Currington

## Thursday, August 25

**Honor Our Troops Day**  
Gates Open at 7:00 a.m.  
Midway  
Horse Petting  
Egg Hunting Contest  
King of Silly  
6-Horse Hitch Presentation  
Steven Richard Lindholm  
Sugar House Specials  
Cattle Judging - Youth  
Figure 8 & Backseat  
Driver Competition  
Pony Pull - 1400 lb.



## Friday, August 26

### Senior Citizens Day

Gates Open at 7:00 a.m.  
Sheep & Goat Show  
Antique Tractor Pull  
Pony Pulling - 1800 lb.  
King of Silly  
Midway  
Horse Petting  
Mane & Tail Demo  
Ice Cream Special at Dairy Center  
Cattle Judging - Open  
Horse Pull - 3300 lb.  
Harness & Draft Horse  
Volleyball  
6-Horse Hitch Parade  
Steven Richard Lindholm  
Pony Pull  
Starship - featuring Mickey Thomas

## Saturday, August 27

### Family Day

Gates Open at 7:00 a.m.  
4X4 Pull  
Volleyball  
Horse Pull - 3100 lb.  
Cattle Costume Contest  
Midway  
King of Silly  
Steven Richard Lindholm  
Hilltop Cloggers  
6-Horse Hitch Parade  
Grand Cavalcade  
6 Horse Hitch on Parade  
Grand Cavalcade  
Horse Pull - 3500 lb.  
Sheep Shearing Demo  
Tractor Rodeo  
Horse Petting & Talk on Belgian Breed  
Lawn Mower Races  
Horse Demo Show  
Horse Pull - Free-for-all  
Big Rig Truck Pull

## Sunday, August 28

Gates Open at 7:00 a.m.  
Volleyball  
Horse Show  
Gymkhana  
Youth Ox Pull  
Midway  
King of Silly  
Harness & Draft Horse  
History  
Ice Cream Eating Contest  
Steven Richard Lindholm  
Pig Scramble  
Ox Pull - 2900 lb.  
Ox Pull - 3300 lb.  
Horse Petting, Talk on Belgian Breed  
Horse Shoe Demo  
Ox Pull, Free-for-all  
Demo Derby



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## No Small Potatoes

Vanna Guldenschuh

I am enduring the heat wave this summer with a smile on my face because of one word – Tomatoes! The day and night heat so rare in Vermont is what tomatoes crave. It's why the flatlands can boast a delicious crop year after year. So, my fingers are crossed that this will be a great tomato year in the Northeast Kingdom.

There are many garden treats that come our way, but nothing quite rivals the tomato. It must be because it is impossible to find a store bought tomato that tastes even remotely like a home grown one. Enjoy them now while the warmth of the garden is still on each fruit.

### Fresh Tomato Salad

You simply can't make this salad in the winter from super-market tomatoes. You have to savor this treat in the summer with a loaf of hot French or Italian bread. Use this bread to sop up the ambrosial liquid the salad creates – It's a great summer culinary experience.

- 4-5 fresh ripe tomatoes - cut into wedges
- 3/4 cup celery - finely diced

- 4 scallions - chopped
- 1/4 cup parsley - chopped
- 1/4 cup fresh basil - chopped
- 2-3 cloves garlic - finely chopped
- 1/3 cup good olive oil
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- Salt and pepper to taste

Cut the tomatoes into a medium bowl and add celery, scallions, parsley, basil and garlic. Toss together and pour the olive oil over all. Toss again until well mixed. Let sit for about 15 minutes. Add the balsamic vinegar, salt and pepper before serving and give it one last toss.

### Pasta and Fresh Tomato and Basil Sauce

This is a great summer dish because you don't have to cook the sauce. The fresh taste is indescribable. Use your favorite pasta with this sauce. It works well with many shapes and sizes of pasta.

- 8 fresh tomatoes - peeled and coarsely chopped \*
- 1 cup fresh basil - chopped
- 3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar (any sweet vinegar

- will do)
- 3 ounce jar capers - drained and rinsed
- 1 cup good olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste

Combine the tomatoes and basil. Let sit for about 2 hours. Blend vinegar, capers, salt and pepper into the tomato mixture. A nice addition to this sauce is a few pitted Kalamata or Greek olives. Put them in now.

Bring a large amount of salted water to a boil and add pasta. Cook until done and drain well. Transfer to a platter and add enough of the oil to coat the pasta well. Mix in the tomato sauce. Serve with grated cheese and a green salad.

\* The easiest way to peel a tomato - Bring a medium pot of water to a boil and plunge the tomatoes into the boiling water for about 15 seconds. Take the hot tomatoes out of the water with a slotted spoon and place in a colander. Run cold water over them. The skins will slip right off the tomato and you are ready to use them in any recipe.

### Stuffed Summer Tomatoes

Place these tomatoes all around the edge of a big platter with your barbecued meats piled in the center for a spectacular effect. Top with fresh basil leaves.

- 6 tomatoes - cored
- 1 onion - chopped
- 3 scallions - chopped
- 1 clove garlic - minced
- 1/4 cup olive oil

- 1/2 cup bread crumbs
- 3 tablespoons parsley - finely chopped
- 1/2 cup chopped and pitted Kalamata or brine cured olives

Cut off the top third of each tomato. Set the tops aside. Scoop out the pulp from the tomatoes and invert the tomatoes to drain. Coarsely chop the pulp with the reserved tomato tops. Set aside. Sauté garlic in olive oil until lightly browned – add the onion and scallions and cook over moderate heat until it is softened. Add chopped tomato and cook the mixture for about 10 minutes or until most of liquid has evaporated. Stir in bread crumbs, parsley, olives and salt and pepper to taste. Fill tomatoes with the mixture, mounding it up and bake on an oiled baking sheet in a 350° oven for about 15 minutes or until they are heated through. Serve as a side dish to enhance any meal. They can be served hot or at room temperature.

### Scalloped Tomatoes

This is one of my favorite summer tomato dishes. Everyone will ask about this when it's served. It is a real American tomato recipe.

- 8 fresh tomatoes - peeled and cut into thick slices
- 3 cups fresh bread crumbs \*\*
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 lb. butter - softened
- 1 cup cream- more or less
- 1 onion – finely diced
- 1/2 onion thinly sliced

Butter a large glass pie plate (a regular baking dish will do) and place a layer of tomato slices

on the bottom. Sprinkle with some of the diced onions, a tablespoon of sugar and 3/4 cup of the breadcrumbs. Dot with butter, salt and pepper and about a tablespoon of the cream. Repeat this process two or three more times depending on depth of the dish. Put sliced onions on top and dot with butter. Bake in a 350° oven for about 45 minutes or until it is bubbly. After removal from the oven let this dish sit about 45 minutes before serving.

\*\* Make breadcrumbs in either a food processor or blender. I like to use English muffins or a toothsome white bread. You can use store bought crumbs but the homemade ones are superior.

### Tomato and Fresh Mozzarella Cheese Salad

A very simple recipe that requires the best ingredients you can find. You can use this dish as a salad or an appetizer. A sliced loaf of Italian bread is a good accompaniment.

- 3 ripe tomatoes
- 1/2 lb. fresh mozzarella cheese
- Extra virgin olive oil
- Salt and fresh ground pepper
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1/2 cup chopped basil
- 1/2 cup chopped parsley
- 1 clove garlic – very finely chopped -optional
- 3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar

Slice tomatoes in rounds and lay on a large platter. Sprinkle with a little salt, pepper and sugar. Pour a small amount of olive oil on the tomatoes. If you want to use the garlic put it over the tomatoes now. Cut the mozzarella into thin rounds and lay one slice on each tomato slice. Sprinkle salt, pepper, basil and parsley over the entire platter and drizzle olive oil over all. Pour balsamic vinegar over all just before serving.

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From left: Cindy White, Donna Percy, John Blackmore, Joan Field, George Coppentrath, Betsy McKay, Sam Kempton, Darlene Pilbin, Sue Coppentrath and Cindy Hastings.



## Up on the Farm Early

Lorna Quimby



"I did a Caroline Long," Karen told me. I looked a question. "I pulled down the shades," she explained. I understood immediately. It was July 4, the sun was shining and the air getting warm. Like many another Vermonter, Caroline pulled down the shades on the sunny side of her house—not to keep the carpet from fading, but to protect against the sun's heat.

**Maybe the summer folks used fans. The rest of us made do.**

I've done the same since we had shades at our windows to pull down. We were married in October. That first winter we had curtains at the windows, but not a shade in sight. Dick's mustering-out pay bought my engagement ring. My savings paid for the wedding. As our neighbors were not too close, we didn't notice the lack of shades. When temperatures fell to -20°, we welcomed the warmth from the sun. With temperatures that low, we had trouble starting our vehicles.

I had a Ford "woody," second-hand, and vulnerable to all sorts of ills. Dick had a Studebaker, also second-hand. The Ford would always start - but sometimes it didn't do much after the motor got going. The Studebaker was another question. It would run once we got it started, but that was the problem. We spent many a cold early morning hour towing the

Studebaker until it finally coughed and started.

The morning the thermometer reached -30°, the Studebaker refused to start in spite of our efforts. Garage bills for both cars used up all our spare cash.

The next summer, however, in the afternoon, sunlight poured in the west-facing windows. By late afternoon the sun hit the northwest windows as well. The floors were hot and remained so. The house took hours to cool. We'd finally paid off the garage. Although the list of things we needed and wanted to buy was large - a washing machine headed the list - we decided to invest in some window shades. And the expense paid off.

Our house is situated with its peak ends roughly north and south. There's a sort of gable in the upstairs hall that faces west. The doors open conveniently, so there is a flow of air from the north end to the windows on the south side. Drafts made the north rooms uncomfortable in winter, but in summer, air blowing in the windows on that end helped cool the upstairs. After we put up the shades, I would pull them down in the morning and go around the house, letting them back up as the sun moved toward its setting. We had a cooling system that took little energy—only mine as I followed the sunlight. Later on, room-darkening shades made the rooms even cooler.

Things were quite different on the old farm. Maw had a flow of air from the dining room windows toward the door onto the porch. That cooled the sitting room. In the kitchen, she had a window over her work area

across from a door onto the porch. If she'd only had a screened door, that set-up would have been perfect. As things were, Maw had to choose between a breeze and fighting flies. The two north bedrooms down stairs had no cross-ventilation.

Upstairs we sweltered under the uninsulated roof. The north room had two large windows, but only toward morning did the temperature drop. My little room, with its witch's window, was stifling. I didn't feel the small cross-draft from the hall window under the eaves. I sometimes had a nosebleed because of the heat. The hired man's room had a window in the Lew Abbott dormer facing east and a small west-facing one, tucked under the eaves. There was, however, no way the bed could be arranged so its occupant could enjoy moving air.

The summer I started high school, Deedee and I dragged the mattress from the hired man's room and set it on the floor under the hall window. It filled the space below the sill. With our heads on pillows in front of the window, we luxuriated in the cool breeze that blew over our faces. After that summer it was part of the end-of-school ritual to make our bed on the hall floor.

Maybe the summer folks used fans. The rest of us made do. There was no electricity in the South Part nor on Mack's Mountain. Gar and Alvin had a Delco generator, but its output was strictly for milking, 30-watt bulbs and the washing machine. The villages had power but most people used hand fans, slowly waving them back and forth to make a breeze.

Maw had planted wild cucumber vines, which shaded a section of the front porch. We sat on the porch when people came to call or when we had a minute to spare. Fly strips hung

from the ceiling. No matter how many flies we trapped, there were always more.

In the Corner, the elms that lined the main street made dark pools of shade that helped cool the houses. Elsie Choate had an arbor around her front door and trees on both sides of her property. Evenings, the tourists that stayed with Elsie could sit with her and enjoy her comments on cars driving by or speak to people walking to the post office, the

stores or the library. Aunt Martha had a screened-in porch, which was the height of luxury. Caroline Long had a small front porch and a side porch. When she was here summers, she kept her house comparatively cool by pulling down the shades as the sun moved across the sky.

We didn't have air conditioning, but we knew how to make ourselves comfortable in spite of the heat. ★

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Petroleum spills are messy, disruptive and expensive to cleanup. Releases may be due to ice and snow falling off roofs, tanks tipping over in soft ground or underground tanks deteriorating from rust.

Are you thinking of replacing or upgrading your Heating Oil Tank?

If you are, there are state grants of up to \$1,000 available to qualifying home owners for removing, replacing or upgrading their heating oil storage tank (either aboveground or underground). The State is taking applications for grants to be awarded on October 1, 2005.

This grant program has been available to homeowners since 1998. "We hope the grant will encourage homeowners to replace old oil storage tanks. We hope that people who have old tanks or tanks that are poorly installed will apply for the funds and get their tank upgraded to prevent a spill of petroleum to the environment," says Chuck Schwer, of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation.

Every year, there are releases from both underground and above ground oil tanks, which impact ground and surface water, soil and indoor air. The grant program will pay for removals of underground tanks, upgrades of aboveground tanks such as a concrete pad to support the tank, roofing to protect the tank from ice and snow and for the replacement of old tanks and piping.

The department has \$150,000 for grants for tanks located above or under ground per fiscal year. To receive a grant application form call (802) 241-3888.

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## GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

Saturday, August 27 at 11:00 a.m.

## THE GALLERY AT LOON COVE

- The Vermont Institute of Natural Science will be present to celebrate the volunteers from the Loon Recovery Project of Vermont.
- Premiere showing of our newest loon photos and "married art" (come find out what that is!) by Ray and Evelyn Richer.
- Ongoing multi-media presentation on "The Life of a Loon."
- Loon storytelling.

Guest artists including:

- An Abenaki Elder Basketweaver and alpacas and their yarns from Walden Mountain Alpaca Farm

Also... Potluck Picnic (grills available), kayaking, canoeing and many more surprises!!!  
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239 Sandy Beach Road off West Shore Road at Joe's Pond

## Field Guide to Champlain Valley Battlefields Explains Battle of Bennington

As Bennington Battle Day rolls around as Vermont's unique state holiday in August ask yourself just how much you really know about the battle that some view as "the moment the tide turned in the American Revolution" and "one of the most significant battles in the history of the world."

Fresh from the Countryman Press is *Guns Over the Champlain Valley a Guide to Historic Military Sites and Battlefields* by Howard Coffin and Will and Jane Curtis.

It's a fine handbook and fieldguide - a compilation of the history of the valley from Fort Chambly on the Richelieu River

near Montreal south along the banks of Lake Champlain to Saratoga and the Bennington Battlefield.

We were particularly interested in the description of the activity in mid summer of 1777.

General Burgoyne and his British army were attempting to slice down from Canada across Lake Champlain and meet a British force coming north from New York City and another moving east across the valley of the Mohawk River in New York and thereby isolate New England.

Burgoyne's veteran army was pointed like an arrow at the heart of the new nation and heading south.

On July 7 the Americans caught the British by surprise at Hubbardton and there were significant losses on both sides. [Former National Park Service Chief Historian Edwin Bearss says Hubbardton best retains its setting at the time of the battle among all Civil War and Revolutionary War battlefields.]

Building 40 bridges as he went Burgoyne slogged on heading south. Finding his supplies and horses depleted he dispatched Lt. Col. von Baum and 500 British to Bennington where a stash of American cattle, cows, horses and wheel carriages were said to be poorly protected.

In a clever and perfectly executed response John Stark's troops from New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Vermont with reinforcements from New Hampshire and Vermont under Moses Nichols, Samuel Herrick

and Seth Warner stunned the British as they approached Bennington from the west.

Authors Coffin, Curtis and Curtis say, "at Bennington Stark did to Baum something very much like what Crazy Horse would do to Custer a century later," and many have said that the defeat was the death knell of Burgoyne's invasion.

Look for this book of historical highlights through the Champlain Valley from the Last of the Mohicans to the Confederate attack on St. Albans in 1865, and answer all your questions about those violent days of our ancestors who, with their backs to slopes of the Green Mountains, resisted the enemy and held their ground.

Put your feet up on Bennington Battle Day and understand why some of us have the day off.

## Free Day at State-owned Historic Sites

Vermont's state holiday Bennington Battle Day honors the stunning victory of colonial forces over the British at the August 16, 1777 conflict during the Revolutionary War.

To celebrate the anniversary of this event, all of Vermont's State-owned Historic Sites will be open free on Tuesday, August 16 to Vermont residents and Vermonters at heart.


Four Vermont state historic sites help tell the exciting story of the American Revolution.

American forces withdrew from Mount Independence, now the least disturbed Revolutionary War site in America, on July 5, 1777. The Hubbardton Battlefield preserves the July 7, 1777, location of the Revolution's only battle fought in Vermont. The

next day the Vermont constitution was completed and signed at the Old Constitution House in Windsor.

The 306 foot tall Bennington Battle Monument, the tallest structure in Vermont, marks the site of the arsenal British and German troops were trying to capture that August 16th day they were soundly defeated at the Battle of Bennington.

Other state-owned historic sites open to the public include Chimney Point in Addison, the Justin Smith Morrill Homestead in Strafford, the President Chester A. Arthur site in Fairfield, the President Calvin Coolidge site in Plymouth Notch, the Hyde Log Cabin in Grand Isle and the Eureka Schoolhouse in Springfield.




Swing into summer's grand finale at Kingdom Books on Monday, August 8 at 4 p.m. with jazz poet Wyn Cooper reading from his new collection: *Postcards from the Interior*.

446 Railroad Street, Suite 4 St Johnsbury (Upstairs, across from Uniquity). Our events are free and fun, and we have books for purchase; reserve yours at (802) 748-5488, KingdomBks@aol.com. See [www.KingdomBks.com](http://www.KingdomBks.com) for the latest reviews!

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August Guest:  
Wyn Cooper

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## the ARTS around

- 29 - August 4** *Brothers* (2003, Denmark) [R] Director: Susanne Bier. Story of two brothers wrenched into change by circumstances beyond their control. One, an aimless drunk, has always been the embarrassment of the family, and is just out of prison. He is met and judged by his older brother Michael, who is called to military service. Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury. (802) 748-2600.
- 6** Bow Thayer Band, Middle Earth Music, Bradford.
- 7** Jazz on a Sunday Afternoon, Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury.
- 9** Government Mule, Bank of America Pavilion, Boston, MA.
- 11** The Sophia Kings, Middle Earth Music, Bradford.
- 12-18** *Heights* (2004, U.S.) [R] Director: Chris Terrio. Glenn Close's acclaimed actress Diana may as well be speaking about her own (and her photographer daughter's) life in post-9/11 Manhattan and their intertwined romantic relationships. Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury.
- 12** Brooks Williams, Middle Earth Music, Bradford.
- 13** Michael Hahn Band, Middle Earth Music, Bradford.
- 13** Tori Amos, Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs, NY.
- 14** Collective Soul and Gin Blossoms, Meadowbrook, Gilford, NH.
- 14** Brian Wilson, Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs, NY.
- 15 & 16** Elton John, TD BankNorth Garden, Boston.
- 18** The Sophia Kings, Middle Earth Music, Bradford.
- 19** Glengary Boys, Middle Earth Music, Bradford.
- 20** Toubab Krewe, Middle Earth Music, Bradford.
- 21&23** Rolling Stones, Fenway Park, Boston.
- 24** Bob Weir and Rat Dog, Higher Ground, Burlington.
- 19-25** *Me and You and Everyone We Know* (2005, U.S.) [R] Director: Miranda July. A video artist who forms an attraction for a shoe salesman who is raising his two "off the wall" boys after having separated from his wife. Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury.
- 25** The Sophia Kings, Middle Earth Music, Bradford.
- 26** An Evening with Senayit, Middle Earth Music, Bradford.
- 26-September 1** *The Beautiful Country* (2004, Norway) [R] Director: Hans Peter Moland. Rejected by a foster family because of his mixed heritage, a twenty-year old Vietnamese man sets out from his village, 300 miles south of Saigon, and heads for a farm in Texas to find his long-lost GI father. Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury.
- 27** Willie Edwards Band, Middle Earth Music, Bradford.
- 27** John Hammond, Higher Ground, Burlington.
- 30** BB King and Joe Bonamassa, Meadowbrook, Gilford, NH.



**"We Get The Point! Do You?"**

**95.7**

# Dorothy Larrabee Named Danville's Outstanding Citizen

MARY PRIOR

The Danville Chamber of Commerce selected Dorothy Larrabee as its 2005 Outstanding Citizen. Dot is the worker. You can depend on her. She's originally from the west part of town but North Danville, South Danville and Danville Green are all proud to claim her. Why? Because if there is work to be done anywhere in Danville, that is where you will find Dot Larrabee.

Alice Hafner describes Dot as, "Quiet but substantial; there is a firmness of character there. She rises to the occasion and gets the work done and done well."

Born in West Danville during the Great Depression, Dot was educated at the West Danville Graded School and graduated from Danville High School in 1951. She recounts the honor granted in her high school year book; she was voted Best Dressed. "I only had two blouses and two skirts, but I always kept them clean and well-pressed and that must have counted for something," she laughs. An accomplished writer, she has contributed articles to local publications.

She started her career directly

out of high school with a job at the Caledonia National Bank. In 1953 she married Earl F. "Buddy" Larrabee Jr. They moved to Burlington where he attended business college while she supported them by working at McAuliff's and the Bishop DeGosbriand Hospital. She recalls buying a half pound of hamburger for 25 cents and making two meals out of it. Upon their return to Danville, she assisted in the management of her husband's contracting business while raising three children, Steven, John and Elizabeth.

In 1964 Dot and her husband established the very successful Larrabee's Building Supply business in West Danville, which is currently owned and operated by their son, Steven.

There is scarce a non-profit in Danville that she has not served as an officer. Dot has been a member of the Danville School Board, president of the Danville High School Alumni Association, co-president and secretary of the Danville Chamber of Commerce, trustee of the Danville Historical Society and long-standing representative to the North Danville School Association governing

board, presiding-partner officer in an investment group, treasurer of the West Danville United Methodist Church for 20 years and an officer in the United Methodist Women's Club. Dot has volunteered at the American Red Cross blood drawings for 23 years, and she is an active volunteer at the Open Door Food Shelf.

When asked by an acquaintance, "What do you have to do to be named the Danville Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Citizen?" her reply was, "You have to live in the same place for 72 years." Her self-effacing humility is what makes her a valuable member of the Danville community.

She is the one worker you can always count on to: attend the meetings, keep the minutes, put up the tent, work on the float, drag the brush at the South Danville Historical site, be the last one to leave when she has cleaned absolutely everything in sight after the Game Supper. It doesn't matter the group, the organization or the affiliation, Dot Larrabee will show up early and stay late and get the work done.

Steve Cobb, owner of the Danville Inn, describes Dot as, "the one who is always, without fail, doing things quietly behind the scenes without people knowing all she does."

The Danville Chamber of Commerce commends Dorothy Larrabee for 72 years of hard work for the members of the community and looks forward to her continued service in the future. Her good works are greatly appreciated. She is well-deserving of the acknowledgment. Thank you for all you do.



Photo By: Mary Prior

Dot Larrabee (second from right) enjoys the Danville Chamber of Commerce recognition of her years of service to the community. With her are her sons Steve (left) and John and daughter-in-law Wendi Larrabee (rear).

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## Danville United Methodist Church

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Southern folk gospel concert  
**Sunday, August 7 at 7:00 p.m.**  
in the bandstand on the Danville Green  
(in case of rain in the adjacent United Methodist Church) sponsored by the Danville United Methodist Church

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# Patriotism Builds Bridges

VAN PARKER

A couple we know went to an Independence Day concert at Tanglewood in the Berkshires. The concert featured Garrison Keillor. The first thing Keillor did when he stepped on the stage was to start singing America the Beautiful. The audience, caught by surprise, began to sing with him, and as they did the old words took on fresh meaning - "O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years, thine alabaster cities gleam undimmed by human tears." It was a special moment, and many in the crowd of thousands had a lump in their throat as they sang on.

A few days later we all heard the news of the terrorist attack in London. It seemed so senseless, so hard to take in and so close to home. A day after the attack the headline in the *Burlington Free Press* was simply "WE'LL CARRY ON." That was a summation of the British spirit, expressed in the words of a London tour guide named Michael Cahill. Cahill said: "As Brits, we'll carry on. It doesn't scare us at all. Look, loads of people are walking down the streets. It's Great Britain - it's not called great for nothing."

Something in the words of that tour guide and in the words of "America the Beautiful" seemed to reach out and touch people. You don't have to be an American to appreciate the spirit behind the words Katharine Lee Bates first wrote in 1893, and you don't have to be British to be strengthened by the way the British respond to a crisis. In a sense the true meaning of patriotism was affirmed in both Tanglewood and London.

Our dictionary gives a very simple definition of patriotism: "Love for or devotion to one's country." But it strikes me that there are two kinds of patriotism. One builds walls. The other builds bridges.

Examples of wall building patriotism are not hard to find: "My country, right or wrong;" "America, love it or leave it" and the often belligerent "These colors don't run."

The patriotism that builds bridges is less concerned about the flag itself as it is with what the flag stands for, namely "liberty and justice for all." All doesn't mean all who live within the boundaries of the United States. It means all people, period. Nor is the tradition of carrying on and keeping a stiff upper lip a quality to inspire only citizens of Great Britain. It's there to help everyone through hard times.

One day I was following a car in fairly heavy traffic. I had plenty of time to read the bumper sticker, which read, "God bless the whole world. No exceptions." I think bridge building patriotism is a little like that. It isn't fearful about being taken over. It connects. It reaches out. It overcomes barriers. I suspect that was what our friends at Tanglewood experienced.

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Dinner: Tuesday - Saturday at 5:00.

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## What's Happening at the Town Hall?

### Barnet

Town Clerk: William Hoar  
Selectboard: Ted Faris, Stanley Robinson and Gary Bunnell

June 27, 2005

**Caledonia Sheriff** – Board approved agreement with Caledonia County Sheriff for road patrols for year beginning July 1, 2005. Sheriff will patrol 6 hours each week from June 1 to October 31 and 4 hours per week during rest of year.

**Church Street Bridge** – Board signed maintenance agreement with VTrans for work on Church Street bridge in Barnet Village.

**Barnet Village Appearance** – Board noted letter from Rae McBride commending the town for painting the library building and for the Barnet Village appearance. She asked that the orange ribbon on the town hall door be removed and the stones around the soldiers monument be straightened up. Board will work on both.

**Zoning Board** – Board appointed Kathleen Crown to zoning board of adjustment and planning commission.

**West Barnet Rescue Building** – Board approved pre-buying 650 gallons of propane gas for the West Barnet Rescue Building from Patten's Gas for \$1.49 per gallon.

**Constable** – Board authorized David Stevenson to purchase a radio for his 2nd Constable duties with an expenditure not to exceed \$600.

**Buildings Committee** – Board discussed forming a buildings committee for capital improvement planning.

**Town Vehicles** – Town Treasurer Bill Hoar noted the need for increasing the annual level funding for the town truck fund. Board agreed to discuss suggestion at budget time.

**Town Audit** – Board presented Town Clerk Bill Hoar with a card and gift certificate in appreciation for work done recently on town audit.

July 11, 2005

**Tax Rates** – Board signed certificate of tax rates for 2005. Total rate for homestead properties to be \$2.0752 (\$2.0208 in 2004) and non-residential rate will be \$2.1035 (\$1.9861 in 2004). Board noted agreement with TransCanada Hydro Northeast for its tax assessment for 2005. The valuation will be \$33,731,719, the same value as that used in 2004.

**Town Building Capital Planning** – Board discussed forming committee to help Board with maintenance and replacement of town buildings. Board appointed Ken Norris, Merle Fitzgerald, Terry Bunnell, Maurice Gingue and David Shields to the group to be called the facilities committee with a main priority to be construction of a new town garage.

**Planning Commission / Zoning Board of Adjustment** – Board appointed Moses Roy to the planning commission / ZBA.

**Utility Easement** – Board discussed request from Green Mountain Power for a utility easement on East Peacham Road. Board wants to talk with GMP before acting on request.

**Road Work** – Board discussed work on Barnet Center Road with Road Foreman Maurice Gingue. Project is between Little France Road and Joe's Brook Road and it includes paving the entire distance after replacing 15 culverts. Gingue estimates project to be within \$90,000 budget with state paying up to 80%. Board agreed if necessary to use funds from highway construction reserve fund for any overruns.

**Fire Station** – Fire Chief Ron Morse described July 23 open house at the new fire station.

**Barnet Water System** – Board agreed to allow test well on Bimson Drive for Barnet Water System and to convey the permission in writing.

July 25, 2005

**Harvey's Lake Dam** – Richard Downer, representing the committee working on replacement of dam at Harvey's Lake, met with Board and discussed the required hydraulics and hydrology study and the consulting engineers interested in the study. Board agreed that three selectmen, Downer and Merle Fitzgerald would meet and select one of the firms to complete the study.

**Facilities Committee** – Board met with Merle Fitzgerald, Terry Bunnell and Maurice Gingue as members of the recently formed facilities committee to discuss what Board expects from the committee. Top priority will be new town garage, but committee will look at all town properties.

**Utility Easement** – Board approved utility easement for Green Mountain Power on the East Peacham Road near Peacham town line.

**Highway Access Permit** – Board approved access permit for John & Sharon Bradley on Sunnyside Lane.

**Trustee of Public Funds** – Board accepted resignation of Gregory Clayton as trustee of public funds. Board will write two remaining members, William Graves and Joseph Roy and ask for recommendation for replacement.

**Transfer Station** – Board noted training workshop for transfer station operators on August 2 and agreed to pay for attendants who are attending.

**Vermont League of Cities and Towns** – Board appointed Stanley Robinson as voting delegate to VLCT town fair on September 14.

**Animal Abuse** – Board noted establishment of animal abuse hotline established by Caledonia Animal Rescue.

**Town Forest Road** – Board noted concerns from Terry Bunnell regarding speeding and dusty conditions on Town Forest Road.

**Transfer Station** – Town Clerk Bill Hoar reported data on usage of transfer station for the first six months of the year. Total revenues were \$17,346, and total expenditures were \$17,508. Figures do not include surcharge of approximately \$3,400 paid to the Waste District for their services. Recycling collections were 44.48 tons of which 14.5 tons were scrap metal. Total expenses for recycling operation were \$2,900.

### Cabot

Town Clerk: Chris Kaldor  
Selectboard: Larry Gochey, Caleb Pitkin and William Walters

July 6, 2005

**Speeding on Town Roads** – After Steven Godin expressed his concern for speeding on the South Walden Road, Board discussed the situation and reviewed schedule for sheriff's patrols.

**West Hill Pond** – Board discussed the request from the West Hill Pond Association that the town assume ownership of West Hill Pond. Board discussed the process of taking over ownership of the pond by eminent domain.

**Personnel** – After executive session to discuss a personnel matter, no action was taken.

**Zoning Appeal** – Board reviewed material associated with an appeal from Charles and Alice Aimi, Joanne Davis and Dale and Judith Wells for a sewage permit issued to Marilyn Rouleau.

**Tax Rate** – Following presentation of municipal tax rate worksheet by Chris Kaldor, Board set 2005 tax rate: highway: \$.4015; general : \$.3001; homestead school: 2.1313; and nonresident school 1.9496 per hundred. Total homestead property tax rate: \$2.8329. Total non resident

property tax rate: \$2.6512.

**UDAG Loan** – Board reviewed partial mortgage discharge for Walter and Mary Churchill's UDAG loan. Peter Dannenberg, UDAG committee chair, explained that two UDAG loans are delinquent. Board discussed collection measures.

**Junkyard** – Board signed certificate of approval for location of a junkyard from state department of motor vehicles.

**Town Forest Fire Warden** – Board reappointed Andrew Luce as town forest fire warden.

### Danville

Town Clerk: Virginia Morse  
Selectboard: Marion Sevigny, Larry Gadapee, Rick Sevigny, Gary Turner and Michael Walsh.

July 7, 2005

**Town Green** – On request of Lois White Board approved use of the Green for a Red Hat Society luncheon on July 14.

**Route 2 Improvement** – David Dill of VTrans and Alex Aldrich and Irv Gelber of the Vermont Arts Council presented the town with the Vermont Public Space Awards for the planning and design work for the Danville Transportation Enhancement Project.

**Town Hall** – Terry Hoffer and Matt Healy presented Board with an American and a Vermont flag with cherry flagpoles and flag stands for use in the second floor of the town hall. The stands were made by Healy and Joe Hollowell. Chair lift in town hall is operational but not yet licensed.

**Joe's Brook Road** – Kevin Gadapee reported work on Joe's Brook Road is nearly complete. Next project will be bridge #27.

**Town Employees** – On request of road foreman to review medical reimbursement process and following executive session Board took no action.

**Historical Society** – Danville Historical Society is planning a commemoration of the 1805 meeting of the state legislature in Danville. The event including a dinner and legislative gathering is to be on October 13.

**South Danville** – Historical Society has voted to turn its South Danville Property over to the town and asked Board to accept the transfer. No action taken.

**Water Andric Road** – A group of staff, trustees and faculty from Proctor Academy spent a weekend in Danville and in a community service project they cleaned up a great quantity of trash. Board voted to send a letter of gratitude to part time residents Bill and Betsy Peabody for the efforts of the group. Merton Leonard reported town got the \$6,500 grant for stream bank erosion project along Water Andric.

**North Danville School** – Allenwood Construction has recommended that roof on North Danville School be replaced. Town is waiting for an estimate of the cost and an evaluation of the school's furnace.

**Joe's Pond** – Recent test of Joe's Pond water quality shows the water safe for swimming.

**Curbscuts** – Board approved curbscuts for George Churchill and Duane Webster.

**Liquor License** – Board approved temporary liquor license for Sedexho at Joe's Pond Pavilion.

**Sheriff's Contract** – Board decided to skip over Sheriff's contract.

**Town Recreation Fields** – Board approved request from Tonya Friend to install power from town garage to softball field as her senior project.

**Legal Matter** – After executive session to discuss letter from Joseph Garcia, Board voted to reply to the letter.

July 21, 2005

**Reappraisal** – Board of listers met with Selectboard and explained they will not be able to meet the state's deadline for reappraisal of town's grand list. Listers are entering upgrades and changes to buildings and properties into old listing computer with unchanged appraised values to meet state schedule. Board approved license agreement with state for property valuation and review computer program of Marshall and Swift cost tables.

**Personnel** – After executive session to discuss a personnel issue no action was taken.

**Road Work** – Merton Leonard reported Joe's Brook Road has been paved, as has the fire department driveway, and shoulder work will be completed after pavement sets up.

**Speeding on Town Roads** – Leonard reported an increase in complaints about speeding.

**Joe's Pond** – Weekly tests of water at Joe's Pond indicated conditions are safe for swimming.

**Curbscuts** – Board approved curbscuts for Emery Fellows, John Agor and Harold Webster.

**Greenbanks Hollow** – Board voted to accept gift of land at Greenbanks Hollow from Historical Society with Society retaining custodial rights of the property.

**VT League of Cities and Towns** – Board appointed Merton Leonard as town's voting delegate to VLCT town fair on September 14.

### Lyndon

Town Clerk - Lisa Barrett  
Selectmen: Martha Feltus, Bruce James and Rob Elmes

June 27, 2005

**Highway Report** – Board reviewed highway report for week ending June 17. At 46% through the year,

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**Excerpts from Selectboard Minutes from Area Towns**  
*See your Town Clerk for complete minutes of the meetings*

entire budget is 26% expended.  
**Tax Anticipation Loan** – Board signed documents for tax anticipation loan from Chittenden Bank approved on June 13.  
**Access Permits** – Board approved access permits for Keith Franco on South Wheelock Road and Roland McClure on Deer Run Lane.  
**Center Street Bridge Project** – Board signed completion agreement for Center Street Bridge project.  
**Highway Foreman** – Board discussed job description for highway foreman.  
**VAST Ride In** – Board discussed request from Vermont Association of Snow Travelers to hold a ride-in during 2006 Snowflake Festival using access from Lynburke Motel to Outing Club.  
**Lyndonville Agway** – Board discussed request from Lyndonville Agway to hook into existing private wastewater line at White Market Plaza.

Dune Way and Betty McClure on Fall Brook Road.  
**Stars and Stripes Festival** – Board voted to make a \$50 donation to the annual Stars and Stripes festival.  
**Bandstand Park Noise** – Steve Pitman expressed concern for noise and traffic, including racing and tire squealing, around Bandstand Park. Board will work with Village trustees and police department.  
**Town Bequest** – Board noted a \$50,000 bequest from the Harriet Masure/Alfred Smith estates. Money will be used to reduce debt on new public safety building.  
**Traffic Injury** – Board discussed a child's injury while riding a bicycle on Zeke's Lane due to a vehicle leaving Speedwell via Zeke' Lane. Board will ask town agent to block off all access to Zeke's Lane from Speedwell.

**Town Equipment** – Administrative assistant reported everything moving along. He found a replacement wing to purchase.  
**Fire Department** – Fire Chief Berwick discussed fire department matters. Drivers of department vehicles should be department members to be covered by insurance.  
**Cemetery Regulations** – Board discussed proposed cemetery regulations.  
**Town Office Septic System** – Board discussed septic system at old town office. Board voted to hire B&B Septic to pump the system.  
**Town Plan** – After discussion Board voted to adopt proposed town plan as amended.

sidewalk area easement controlled by the Town between Railroad Street and the door to the bank to provide improved access and compliance with federal law.  
**Truck Route** – Board discussed the existing designated truck route through St. Johnsbury and voted to seek a waiver from the federal highway administration to allow use of I-91 and I-93 for trucks to access US 2 and thereby bypass the Village.  
**Design Review Board** – Board appointed Mary Hughes to design review board.  
**East St. Johnsbury Septic System** – Board reviewed bids for East St. Johnsbury Septic System project: GW Tatro, \$334,450 and Raymond Heath Construction, \$173,505 and voted to approve project with Raymond Heath Construction subject to approval by project engineers.  
**East-St. Johnsbury/CSO Shortfall** – On recommendation of town manager and after review of financial reports and project estimates Board voted to commit an additional \$10,000 of local funding toward the combined East St. Johnsbury Septic System Project and CSO Cliff Hastings Hill project to assure adequate financing.  
**CALEX** – Board confirmed that Mike Welch and Barron Gilding are the designated board representatives for CALEX-EMS.

Development Association to review proposed town plan. He suggested town plan be a priority now and that planning commission will start meeting again when schedules allow.  
**Welcome to Walden** – Melissa Patoine met with Board and asked for payment for varnish for "Welcome to Walden" signs she has made. Board approved request and discussed where the signs should be installed.  
**Roadside Mowing** – Board discussed bids for roadside mowing.  
**Vermont Better Backroads** – Lamont reported that four grants from Vermont Better Backroads were approved for work on Bayley Hazen Road, Ferguson Road, Houston Hill Road and Coles Pond Road.  
**Board of Listers** – Lamont reported that listers had their grievance meetings and all went well.  
**Town Clerk's Office** – Diane Cochran suggested there should be a sign for town clerk's office. Perley Greaves will look into this with Caledonia work camp.

**Peacham**

July 11, 2005  
**Highway Report** – Board reviewed highway report for week ended July 1. At 50% through the year the entire budget is 28% expended.  
**Dog Complaint** – Art Sandborn informed Board that Archers installed a chain link fence.  
**Access Permits** – Board approved access permits for Katie Parker on

Town Clerk: Patrick Downes  
 Selectmen: Gary Swenson, Richard Browne and Tim McKay  
 June 1, 2005  
**Tax Appeal** – Board voted to appoint board of listers to represent Board and Town of Peacham in tax appeal filed by Joseph Garcia.

**St. Johnsbury**

Town Manager: Michael Welch  
 Town Clerk: Sandy Grenier  
 Selectboard: Bryon Quatrini, Dale Urie, Reg Wakeham, Jerry Rowe and Gary Reis  
 June 22, 2005  
**Union Bank Easement** – On request of Ken Gibbons of the Citizens Bank Division of Union Bank Board voted to approve construction of a small 4'X30' ramp, landing, and stairway, within the

**Walden**

Town Clerk: Lina Smith  
 Selectboard: Randolph Wilson, Daniel Lamont and Douglas Luther  
 June 27, 2005  
**Upgrade of Town Roads** – Dan Lamont reported that no one showed up for the June 15 hearing on the upgrade of Cobb Road and Keene Road. Board voted to upgrade the 0.26 miles of Class 4 on Keene Road to Class 3 and 0.14 miles of Class 4 on Cobb Road to Class 3. Board discussed additional road upgrades and agreed to schedule the discussion after the town clerk returns from vacation.  
**Town Offices** – Town clerk's office will be closed for vacation and road crew will be on vacation July 4-8.  
**Town Plan** – Bud Clifford reported planning commission has contracted with Northeastern VT

July 11, 2005  
**Constable** – Bill Huntoon reported a high volume of law enforcement matters in town and described a dog issue. After discussion, Board took no action. On request of Constable Huntoon Board authorized purchase of new constable decals for his vehicle with payment out of law enforcement fund. Dan Lamont reported that appointment of a second constable will require voter approval.  
**Road Reclassification** – Board discussed reclassification of Greaves, Weeks and Stevens Hill Roads. Changes will be discussed at a public hearing on August 11, 2005.  
**ATV Ordinance** – Dan Lamont noted petition requesting that ATV ordinance adopted on May 16, 2005 be revoked. Board signed a warning for an Australian ballot vote on August 10, 2005 at town clerk's office with polls open 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. and an informational meeting on August 9 at 7:00 p.m. at Emergency Services building. Stuart Smith commented that he wished ATV ordinance specifically prohibited use of ATV's in cemeteries, public parks and school yards.  
**Tax Rate** – Board set municipal tax rate at 0.7987.



Photo By: Mike Koenig

*A group of faculty, staff and trustees from Proctor Academy in Andover, NH joined in an annual retreat to gather in an informal setting - this time at the home Bill and Betsy Peabody near the Water Andric in Danville. According to Michael Koenig, director of college counseling at the school, it was especially significant this year as the Peabodys are assuming the role of heads of the school's board of trustees, and joining the group was the new Head of School Mike Enriques and his wife.*

*As is often the case for the annual gathering the group sought out a project of community service. This year 45 of the group gathered rubbish and other discarded materials along the Water Andric. Koenig says, "The project was planned to take about an hour and a half, but the spirit of volunteerism and environmental activism took over, and we pushed farther down the road than anyone expected." The photograph above shows the result of the group's effort. "It was a wonderful and relaxing weekend," says Koenig. "There were more than 80 of us. We set up a camping compound on the Peabody property, and we went in a variety of directions on Saturday before everyone chipped in for a delightful supper that evening. We square danced away to the vibes of a local and colorful band, and the evening ended with a bonfire until everyone headed to their tents and a restful sleep in the quiet Vermont wilderness."*

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# String Worth Saving

Bill Christiansen

I recently finished an interesting book, *The Great Influenza* by John M. Barry. It is both a history of the influenza pandemic of 1918 and a very good history of medical science. As the book explains, medicine started as an art and only became a science in the 20th century. Until that time medicine killed far more people than it ever cured.

The flu pandemic of 1918 started in Haskell County in Kansas in early 1918. Haskell

County is just west of Dodge City. The disease originated in the United States and spread around the world, killing more people than any other disease in human history. While the Plague of the 1300's killed about one quarter of the population of Europe, the absolute population number was rather small in comparison.

The low estimate of deaths from the influenza pandemic is 21 million worldwide, in a popu-

lation about one-third the size of the world population today. Modern epidemiologists estimate the toll was really between 50 and 100 million. While all of the medical knowledge of the day was brought to bear on the disease, the cause and cure were never found. By the time research was beginning to understand what had happened, the disease had run its course and disappeared. There were as many theories about the cause as there were people to create them. Speculation included bad air to the wrath of God.

This presents us with a classic case of how science works. Some of the greatest minds of the time used scientific method to solve the problem, without success. They did advance human knowledge with their work, and on the next go round we will be better prepared.

All science starts with a question. This may be the hardest part of the process. The question has to be precise and clear enough that it generates ideas about the answer. The ideas are referred to as hypotheses or theories. An hypothesis is the expression of an idea that might be the answer to the question. For any given question there can be hundreds of theories relating to the answer. Some will be simple and some very complex, but each theory may have merit.

Then the investigator is faced with the problem of prioritizing theories. Where do I start is a question that must be answered. Each hypothesis should suggest a line of investigation for which there is supporting evidence.

A tool often used to make the choice among theories is known

as "Ockham's Razor." This is a process to make choices between competing ideas. Simply stated, given two competing ideas, the simpler of the two has the greatest chance of being correct. Put another way, one should not make more assumptions than the minimum required. In mathematical modeling the principle would be stated: from your data induce that model which minimizes the number of additional necessary assumptions. The principle is attributed to a medieval English philosopher and Franciscan monk, William of Ockham. Ockham lived about 1285 to 1349. While he did not originate the principle, his usage of the principle in his writing has led to the association with his name.

Once one has chosen the idea to examine, science may go forward. The hypothesis should suggest a series of experiments that may verify the idea and account for existing data. Experiments will generate new data that supports the hypothesis. The ultimate and critical test is that the experiment must be repeatable by other people, in other places, using the same techniques and with the same results. If others cannot get the same results, the process must be repeated until all results are consistent. More often than not, data collected from experiments suggests ways to modify the hypothesis. This constant modification in light of new data is the self-correcting nature of science.

We sometimes tend to treat all hypotheses with the same weight. We often take a data set and find theories that range from very simple to very complex. All of the theories are accepted as having some "truth." Often, the exercise stops with no experimentation in order to gather more data so modifications to the theories can be made.

Instead of experimental evidence, we tend to go with anecdotal evidence. The problem with this evidence, is that we do not know the initial conditions for the data and we don't know how variables were controlled. Without this supporting information, the phenomena cannot be repeated to verify results. The truth has to be the same in all places and at all times.

Some think that only skeptics question reported results. We think that to question one's interpretation of an event calls into question the observers honesty. This is not the case. Interpretation only represents a

hypothesis, and there can be as many hypotheses as there are people to propose them. The problem is that the process has to proceed to the next step, investigation and experimentation to gather more data. New data supports the theory and strengthens it ... or requires the theory be modified.

**Some think that only skeptics question reported results.**

Sir Isaac Newton set forth a theory of gravity and how the world responds to its pull. Newton's theory went unquestioned for hundreds of years. In the early 20th century, however, discoveries about the very large and the very small brought Newton's theory into question. The theory was modified to reflect new data, and Quantum Physics was born. We still work with Newtonian Physics but with the understanding that it only works in restricted conditions. Newtonian Physics gets us through our daily life on Earth, but the truth of the theory is limited.

Early medical theory reminds me of an old story about the tiger. A man was walking down the street one day snapping his fingers. A passerby asked why he was snapping his fingers.

The man replied, "It keeps tigers away."

The questioner said, "There are no tigers around here."

The man replied, "Works well doesn't it."

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# St. Johnsbury Players and the St. Johnsbury Academy Theatre Present Horton the Elephant in Seussical

In the Stuart Black Box Theater in St. Johnsbury Academy's Morse Center for the Arts, actors rehearse for the musical *Seussical*.

Paul Scavitto, who plays the role of Horton the Elephant and is a member of the Academy history faculty, works with Luke Meierdiercks, a middle school student playing the role of Jojo, the Who. Horton, who found the dust speck-sized planet of Who, sings, "I'm all alone in the universe," because no one believes that the dust speck is inhabited with tiny people.

Jojo replies "I'm all alone in the universe" because no one understands his active imagination - his "thinks" that have caused him great trouble. In actuality, these two actors are surrounded by a cast of 30, which ranges in age from 10 to 60, all united by their love of theatre.

In this second summer collaboration between the St. Johnsbury Players and St. Johnsbury Academy Theatre, Director Bill Vinton selected the

play *Seussical*, a play based on a mélange of Dr. Seuss characters and stories, woven into a single, musical narrative. The show, written by Lynn Ehreans and Stephen Flaherty (both received Tony awards for the musical *Ragtime*) with assistance from Monty Python's Eric Idle, had a six month run on Broadway and has enjoyed a tremendous revival of interest around the country in community, college and high school theater.

Vinton says, "I read the script, and it was in my 'to-do' list. Then my daughter Joanna, a sophomore at Ithaca College, saw their college production last year and said it would be a perfect summer show! She's right - it's a wonderful play, full of the wild and wacky characters that we all remember and love from Dr. Seuss. It's the perfect follow-up to last year's production of *Godspell*."

The play involves a wide variety of Seussian characters in addition to Horton and Jojo. In his first appearance as a St. Jay Player Chris Churas, a graduate

of the Barnum and Bailey Clown School, plays the Cat in the Hat, who mischievously directs the action. Three Bird Girl singers (Joanna Vinton, Heather Baker, Erika Meierdiercks) provide much of the narrative connection as the Sour Kangaroo (Melanie Levesque) and the Wickersham Brothers (Jake Machell, David Baker, Tim O'Hare) scheme in various ways to keep Horton from protecting the Whos. One-feathered Gertrude (Janice O'Hare) jealously eyes the abundantly feathered tail of her rival Mayzie bird (Mira George) as she attempts to win the heart of Horton.

Jason Scherer plays the single-minded General Schmitz who instigates the Butter Battle. Mayor Who (Brendan Hadash) and Mrs. Mayor Who (Denise Scavitto) work to make the other Whos (Donna Goodhue, Graeme Hall, Jane Vinton, Emma Hoppe, Katrina Metcalf, Sue Montague, Denelle Noyes, Alexandra Patch, Gracie Lavoie) yell loudly enough to convince Judge Yertle, the Turtle (Pat Jensen) of their

existence. And of course, the Grinch (Nate Beliveau) appears to tell his Christmas tale.

Musicians for *Seussical* include piano accompanist Dottie Morton, bass player Bill Moulton, Dennis Prevost on guitar, Nick Gallerani on drums, Donna Murray on keyboard and Nate Beliveau on woodwinds. Backstage workers include Jan Clausing, Jennifer Goodhue, Justin Dow and Josh Douglas. Costumes are coordinated by Jane Vinton.

The summer collaboration involves not only this production of *Seussical*, but also includes a theater workshop and camp for middle school students run by Academy alums Joanna Vinton, Erika Meierdiercks and Heather Baker. The five week program involves about 15 middle school students in workshops, improvisation games and rehearsal for performances of fairy tales produced weekly for younger stu-

dents in the community. "There seemed to be a need for people who wanted to be involved in drama during the summer in St. Johnsbury," says Bill Vinton. "We wanted to do something fun and interesting, involving some learning and performance in a casual 'Reader's Theater' format. Judging by the response, it's been a great thing so far!" The program runs through August 7.

*Seussical* will appear on stage at the St. Johnsbury School auditorium on Western Avenue, on Friday and Saturday, August 5 and 6 at 7:30 p.m., and be repeated the following weekend, Friday, August 12 at 7:30 p.m. and August 13 at 2 p.m. only. Tickets are on sale at the door starting one hour before show time.

For information call Bill Vinton at (802) 748-4002.

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# Catamount Arts Will Have Permanent Home at the Masonic Temple

TERRY HOFFER

Reg Ainsworth says much of the history of Catamount Arts has been about chasing a dream ... a dream, that is, of establishing a permanent place for the arts in northeastern Vermont and securing their future with a collaboration of organizations.

**"The Masons have been incredibly generous. They want us to have the building - to deed it to us and secure its place among the other important landmarks of St. Johnsbury."**  
- Reg Ainsworth

Ainsworth remembers Catamount in its infancy and loading films into the back of

his 1968 Mustang with Jay Craven and taking them to screenings in places like Hardwick, Orleans, Franconia and Bradford and to venues in St. Johnsbury and Lyndonville. Ainsworth talks about the reception they had for those first films: Charlie Chaplin's *Limelight*, Alan Bates in the *King of Hearts* and Marlon Brando in *Burn!* "The response," he says, "was great," and the spark was lit.

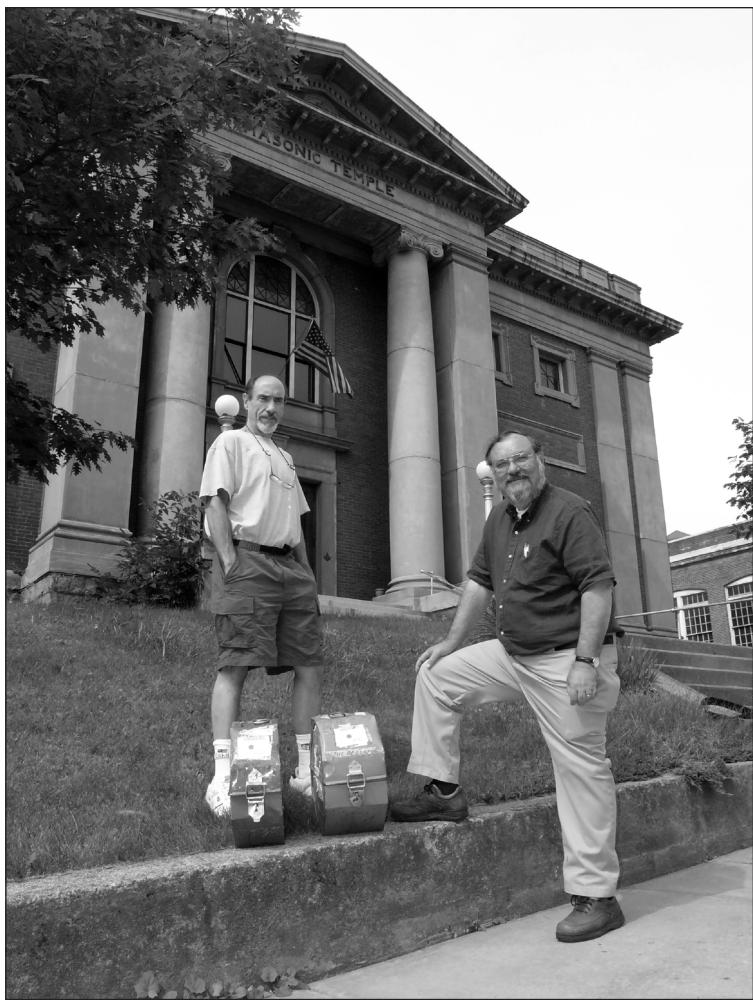
Despite the size of the region's population and data about its financial means, Catamount has always managed to attract a faithful following to presentations and performances. Catamount history includes Bluegrass superstar Bill Monroe looking out over the audience at Burke Mountain and saying, "I've never seen anything like this. You should take this audience on the road, and people would pay you to play." Another time, a performance by the American Ballet Theater Dance Company was scheduled for a February evening in the auditorium at Lyndon Institute. The night turned out to be the climax

of a northeaster dumping snow and miserable driving conditions all over the Upper Connecticut River Valley. The performance went on, and to the amazement of everyone involved, there was not an empty seat in the house.

Ainsworth admits that like any organization trying to find itself, Catamount has weathered financial peaks and valleys, but audiences never stopped coming. Today, as the organization's executive director, Ainsworth says, "In a statistical sense we've always had a higher volume of ticket sales per thousand people in the area than any standard we might use for comparison." And that is the fuel that kept Catamount's fires alive.

Jerry Aldrich is development director, the only other full time Catamount employee. With three other part time employees they schedule events, present films and gallery shows in the former St. Johnsbury Post Office, and they produce a winter showcase of events in venues including those at St. Johnsbury Academy and Lyndon State College.

Aldrich compares Catamount's history to that of the national arts scene. "There was success in the 70's, and the 80's were heady days with Catamount presenting artists like Ray Charles, B.B. King, Wynton Marsalis, Willie Nelson and the American Ballet Theater. Shows were glamorous, sometimes at a distance from St. Johnsbury and expensive. Rarely were they prof-



Photos By: North Star Monthly / Dave Ballou

Reg Ainsworth and Jerry Aldrich of Catamount Arts look forward to accepting the gift of the Masonic Temple in St. Johnsbury. Catamount Arts will renovate two floors of the Passumpsic Lodge #27 building and relocate to the grand old landmark building on Eastern Avenue. The upper floor will remain in use by the Masons. Plans are to transfer ownership in late August and begin renovations as soon as it is possible.

itable, and in the 90's Catamount and lots of other organizations found themselves overextended."

Since then Catamount has reined itself in and devoted its energy to rebuilding in a way that is sustainable. Aldrich says, "There have been enormous lessons learned. What we can do well is be a local arts group with solid roots in the community and steer clear of opportunities that come with enormous financial risk."

Ainsworth says, "We have been in the black for four years." With financial stability provided by nightly films, video rentals, membership and, like any non profit organization, a host of fundraising activity, the

annual budget is \$270,000. He says, "At the start of each fiscal year I tell the board it's time to reinvent the wheel again, and we do that. We understand how, and we will do it again and again. There is no way this ship will sink." And with the experience of over 30 years, Ainsworth is confident and convincing.

Last winter, members of the neighboring Masonic Lodge on Eastern Avenue concluded that its own dwindling (and aging) membership might benefit from a relationship (maybe even a marriage) with the arts group at the old post office building next door. Stuart Corso is a member of St. Johnsbury's Passumpsic Lodge #27 F. & A.M. and past

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district deputy grand master. "The Masonic Temple," Corso says, "was a focal point for the community with regular dances, dinners, a bowling alley and card playing. In the 1930's the Lodge had 700 active members. There was a ton of activity, but it's harder now to get people to join. The Lodge charter provides that after 50 years a member no longer has to pay dues, and the financial situation was getting dire at the lovely old place on the Avenue. As a result, the members agreed to offer the building as a gift to Catamount, with the single condition that the Temple remain accessible for Masonic meetings."

Corso says, "It's absolutely consistent with the Masonic precept of giving to the community. The building can be saved and preserved. We give to the community, and the community helps us."

Ainsworth isn't one to be casual or free with his excitement, but this is different. Catamount Board Member Sharon Biddle says, "I've never

seen Reg so excited about anything."

Ainsworth calls the Temple one of the grand old buildings of St. Johnsbury. He says, "The Masons have been incredibly generous. They want us to have the building - to deed it to us and secure its place among the other important landmarks of St. Johnsbury. It is a landmark, and we will secure it for our needs and theirs. At a time when the community is celebrating the economic impact of the Academy, Fairbanks Museum, Athenaeum and Catamount - we are confident about what we are doing together."

Aldrich calls the gift a fresh breath of life. "Whereas in the past we just weren't able to do things in space that was leased, we will be in a much stronger position to seek financial backing with a building of our own."

Perched high on the hillside next to Eastern Avenue the Temple has three levels with high ceilings. The building was constructed in 1912 at a cost of \$35,000. Catamount has plans

for renovations to the building and is waiting for estimates of their cost.

Given a chance to describe the plans Ainsworth takes off like a bird dog pointing and talking to anyone who'll listen. He describes a performance space large enough to hold 125 and two theaters with capacities of 60 and 125. There will be a gallery and two classrooms, offices and a museum for the display of some of the recording equipment and historic music scores owned by Catamount staff member Martin Bryan. In a tribute to the generosity of the members of the Masonic Lodge both Aldrich and Ainsworth talk about maintaining furnishings and fixtures, which symbolize the 90+ year history of the building. At least one of the lounge areas will remain as will most of the unique architectural characteristics. The third floor will remain as it is with the Lodge room and offices used by the Masons, the agreement will read, ... as long as they choose to do so.

Ainsworth describes the Masons as "bedrock Vermont." He says, "They are completely gracious and full of goodwill. There has never been any second guessing or surprises. In fact, when we brought up the grand piano and some of the kitchen equipment - they said they just figured it was all included in their gift."

Aldrich says, "They are simply assuming we are going to treat them well - and we will."

Renovations, of course, will come with a price, and both Ainsworth and Aldrich are awaiting the cost estimate. They are prepared to apply for foundation grants and launch a capital campaign. With no firm numbers no plan has been completed, but Ainsworth will say with wisdom from his experience, "This has captured a lot of

attention among those familiar with Catamount and anyone who follows the progress in the Northeast Kingdom. The areas of support, the avenues of interest, are expanding."

The transfer of ownership of the property is scheduled to take place at the end of August. Both organizations are looking forward to it.

Stuart Corso says, "We've

already had new members, and I hope this will give the Lodge a better opportunity to attract people to walk the same paths that our predecessors walked all the way back in 1912."

Ainsworth says, "Catamount is going to expand, and it will reverberate through the area as it becomes a permanent and vital part of the state's creative economy." ★



Photo By: North Star Monthly

In late April at the State House in Montpelier and again on July 7 in Danville, honors were bestowed upon designer David Raphael and his company Landworks for their work over the last three years in anticipation of the reconstruction of US 2 through Danville. The award acknowledged the other project partners, as well: Vermont Arts Council, Vermont Agency of Transportation and the Town of Danville. On July 7 (L-R) Alex Aldrich, executive director of the VT Arts Council, David Dill, deputy secretary of the Vermont Agency of Transportation, Irv Gelber, chair of the board of the Vermont Arts Council and Danville Selectman Michael Walsh savored the glory of the recognition.

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# We Were Riding the RFD

BRUCE HOYT

Two years ago on a visit to the President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site in Plymouth, VT, I discovered an exhibit that sent my memory back 50 some-odd years. I was back in my youthful adventures riding St. Johnsbury's RFD 3 with mail carrier, Harold Lunnie.

On Saturdays and summer days I was often invited to go with him out through his North Danville route in his war-weary 1940 Chevrolet. He never told me of any earlier vehicles, so I was astounded to find, among the historic exhibits, an odd mode of transportation labeled "Rural Free Delivery Sleigh" with the further explanation "Harold W. Lunnie used this vehicle on his Rural Free Delivery mail route in

Concord, Vermont during the winter months 1920's and early 1930's."

This peculiar sleigh looks like a tall packing crate, painted green, stenciled "U.S. Mail," set on runners and affixed with a smokestack. It has a glass window in front and a sliding glass window in the door. The shafts are offset so the horse could walk in the runner tracks of previous sleighs. A tiny, cylindrical stove provided heat for the trip. The whole rig was bought new in 1914 and came by freight from a builder in the Midwest. According to the exhibit it cost \$25 when Harold Lunnie began delivery in Concord in 1920.

Curious about the history of the sleigh as used by Mr. Lunnie and about the intervening years between the sleigh and the vehi-

cle I knew, I sought out relatives in Concord and finally contacted George Morehouse, my own contemporary and Lunnie's grandson. He explained that the summer vehicle was a buggy drawn by "Old Proctor," the same horse that pulled the sleigh. In 1922, a Model A Ford became the summer vehicle, but until 1930 winter roads were seldom passable except by sleigh. True to the Postal Service code, Old Proctor pulled the mail through snow clogged roads as needed until 1941. Harold Lunnie came to the St. Johnsbury post office in 1941 and about that time acquired the 1940 Chevy.

Morehouse recalled that, as boys, his uncles, Milton and Paul (they were Harold's sons), had the morning chore of starting a fire in the sleigh stove, but when the roads were plowed and the Ford was usable in winter, they made a small fire in a pan beneath the engine to warm it enough to start.

Morehouse rode the North Danville RFD 3 when he was a kid, just as I did. The 1940 Chevrolet had a streamlined headlight blended to, but not totally integrated into the fender, as in more modern cars. On some parts of the route we boys were allowed to ride the fender using the headlight as a pommel, hanging onto the sturdy hood ornament on one side and the independent parking light on the other side. What a wonderful ride!

Morehouse and I never rode together on these trips but for each of us they are remembered

for their adventures, such as stopping to fire a shotgun at a propped up boot, rescuing a piglet under a bridge, stopping at the North Danville Store for a soda, shouting a greeting to the long-gone resident of a tumbled-down house, herding escaped livestock while riding our headlight horse, carrying a woman who had "fallen" from her car to her only slightly repentant husband up the road, plunging through muddy stretches of April roads, looking for trout off the Houghton Brook bridge or learning to milk at the Vance and Potter farms.

As much as from these adventures, however, we also gained from watching this rural mail carrier being patient, kind and jovial to the customers along his route.

Greeting the mail carrier was an important daily event for many on the North Danville route. There was man who walked out to the end of the road and a woman whose mail needed to be carried in. There was a man whose tweed suit spoke of wealth and a woman who raised chickens and delivered the eggs by horse and wagon. There was a frail, older person who enjoyed the security of a daily visit and a farm wife who just liked to talk. And no postal matter seemed too trivial, as money orders, Sears-Roebuck CODs, stamps and change came and went from his galvanized grain-measure place of business.

We boys were anxious to get on down the road but Harold Lunnie was always genuinely interested in the folks along the way and acted as if he had plenty of time.

After returning to the Post

Office to make up the next day's mail, he would go home and take a nap on a daybed in the kitchen. He retired in 1968 and bought a Cadillac.

**And no postal matter seemed too trivial, as money orders, Sears-Roebuck CODs, stamps and change came and went from his galvanized grain-measure place of business.**

The scenic beauty of North Danville probably had some impact on us boys at the time, but it has grown in importance over the years. Now, the drive along the RED 3 roads revives the feeling of what Vermont is all about and about our place in it. Elsewhere in this paper, for those who would like to take a pleasant drive, there is a recommended round-trip tour that covers a major part of that mail route.

The President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site and the surrounding town of Plymouth is off Route 4 near Woodstock. It is open daily, 9:30 to 5, and costs \$6.50 per adult with age 14 and under going free. Vermonters should visit it at least once. Viewing the Lunnie Sleigh will be an added bonus and may seem like an old friend from home to folks from our area.



Photos By: North Star Monthly

The Old North Church is one of Danville's most popular and arguably most historic landmarks.

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# Scenic Tour of St. Johnsbury's RFD 3 through North Danville



Many knew this location on Crepeault Hill Road for its wooden gate labeled in Latin: *Ecce! or Behold!*, which beckoned visitors to peer down into Goss Hollow and the surrounding farmland. Some still call the spot by the once familiar name: *Latin Gate*. There is a house on the site of the old gate, but fortunately, this clearing just a short ways over the crest of the hill opens up a similar and nearly unobstructed view to the horizon with a panorama from Mt. Moosilauke to Stannard Mountain.

BRUCE HOYT

This little guide will take you on a round trip through pleasant hills and valleys, over many of the roads that comprised my most favorite rural mail route.

Start on the north end of Main Street "on the Plain" in St. Johnsbury and follow it as it curves to the left and connects with Mount Pleasant Street. Open the moon roof, if you have one, and appreciate the tall pines by the cemetery. Mount Pleasant extension soon leaves the pavement as it climbs, passing a colorful flower garden and an unused barn close to the road on the right. Peer into the open doors and imagine a team of horses backing a wagon load of hay up the ramp to be pitched into the haymow. Passing another farm further up,

the road swoops over I-91 and comes to a bend where you might pull off and look into the Sleepers River valley and see the highway interchange twining through the landscape.

Keep straight along the Crepeault Hill Road, past the Frank Potter farm to the crest of the hill. There you will see a new house, nicely landscaped with clusters of white birches, marking the place once called "Latin Gate" after the wooden gate labeled "Ecce!" (Behold!), which beckoned visitors to peer down into Goss Hollow and the surrounding farmland. Fortunately, a clearing just a short ways over the crest opens up a similar and unobstructed view to the horizon with a panorama from Mt. Moosilauke to Stannard Mountain.

Going on, the road passes

Robin's Nest Farm, where prize Jerseys pasture around hillside apple trees. Down a slight grade past a field of larches, the road comes to a four way intersection. This is Coles' Corner.

Turn left and down through a wooded area to bridges across Burroughs Brook and Houghton Brook. Pull off, stop the engine, and enjoy the sound of these waters. Moving on into the clearing, take the next and sharp right onto Stanton Road, and follow along the brook to the Tampico Road. Wheelock Mountain lies in the distance.

Take a sharp left and pass the Drew Kelsey and Little Drew Cemeteries as you climb the hill. Just before the crest at the Heath Farm, views to the left reveal Burke Mountain and some of the White Mountains. Down again, the road passes by woods and fields and a paddock with two beautiful riding horses. A little farther on, a huge old maple tree stands near the road with only a few leafed branches to show it is still alive. The road drops into North Danville, passing houses with carriage sheds attached, in

the style of village life a hundred years ago.

There in the village there is a church, a school, a working farm and a large building with handsome double doors that mark the entrance to what was once the Daniels (grain and grocery) Store.

Up the street, by the church, take a right onto McReynolds Road and, keeping left, travel across the high field farms to the "T" not far from the Pope Cemetery. Make a right turn onto McDowell Road. The road swoops down across Pope Brook and climbs again to a clearing. At the intersection with Stannard Mountain Road a white house with an entire wall of windows shows that it once was a one-room school-house. To the west, the stand of trees on the flank of Round Mountain is the original "Maple Grove" where George Cary made syrup in a log cabin sugar house, which lives on today, some say as the logo on the Log Cabin Maple Syrup bottle or as the cute little log cabin maple syrup cans.

Continue north to the Broadview Farm Inn. With gambrel roof, shingled siding, leaded glass windows and dark green color, this century-old country mansion stands apart from the usual white clapboard architecture of the area.

Take the next right following the Old North Church signs onto Wheelock Road. In a short distance you'll find the Old North Church itself on the right. Be sure to stop and look around. This is one of Danville's most popular and arguably most historic landmarks. Back on the Wheelock Road continue to a high four corners. Straight ahead is the Great Corn Maze where diversity in family farming appears as a seasonal puzzle sculpted among tall corn plants. Turn right onto the Tampico Road, but pause and look across the valley to the Heath Farm where Holsteins graze on the hillside. Up an embankment on the left, the building with the belfry is the Tampico School. Unlike the Vermont Standard School, this one is not white. It has been dark reddish brown for half a century. (Perhaps forever. Someone else must know the story).

After the road continues down and cuts across Houghton Brook, turn left at the fork onto Stanton Road, reversing your earlier travel, but turn right at the "T" and then left at the fork on the Goss Hollow Road. Soon, in the high background, the white house and clustered white birches at Latin Gate come into view up on the left. Passing down through cedars on either side, this section comes to a bend and the little settlement of Goss Hollow before coursing down along Burroughs Brook to its confluence with Sleepers River. In this area, an adequate pull off, shallow water and river boulders invite water play. Leaving this refreshing place, continue on down to the second bridge and cross over to All Right Spring and the old Route 2. Turn left.

Just before new Route 2 (a divided highway to St. Johnsbury) take a left and follow the road down along the river to Emerson's Falls and the former site of the St. Johnsbury Fish Hatchery, a final "must-see" of this journey.

Back to the new US 2, cross the west bound lane with caution, and then turn east toward St. Johnsbury.

It's a beautiful trip from downtown St. Johnsbury and Mt. Pleasant Street Extension to Cole's Corner, up into the heart of North Danville and back. You'll pass some magnificent old farms, some very much still at work. You'll see some lovely new homes and some tired old places all part of the fabric of Vermont's Northeast Kingdom. It's a bit over 24-miles, a leisurely hour in a motorized vehicle or a longer but wonderfully satisfying trip on your bicycle. Either way you won't be disappointed.



The rolling hillsides of North Danville are unforgettable. Here from the four corners on the Tampico Road you can almost see Holsteins in the pasture at the Heath Farm across the valley.

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# Those Were the Heydays of the St. Johnsbury Fish Hatchery

LOIS (FIELD) WHITE

In the middle of the 20th century dairy farming dominated the Vermont landscape. And except for the children of millwrights, loggers or road workers, most youngsters in rural Vermont lived

on dairy farms. One young family, however, was especially unusual. Their father was a fish culturist, and they lived at the St. Johnsbury Fish Hatchery.

In the late 1800's elected officials in both Montpelier and Washington recognized the need

for fish hatcheries in the Green Mountains. In 1890 the Vermont Legislature appropriated funds for a hatchery, which was established in the Town of Roxbury. Shortly thereafter, a federal appropriation of \$15,000 was approved for a federal fisheries

station. The site selected was Emerson Falls on the Sleeper's River just west of St. Johnsbury.

In 1893 funds provided for a dam diverting the water flow at the head of the falls. From the dam, the water was piped under the main road to a large cement box, then down into the hatchery to troughs. The troughs stepped down to raceways, and the water continued to a series of outdoor ponds. Because fish species required differing water temperatures, pipes mixed colder water from a hillside spring above the hatchery building to meet the various needs of the fish.

In 1894 a commodious dwelling for the superintendent, a barn, the hatchery building and an icehouse for fish food (all painted white with green trim) were constructed, and the culture of lake trout began. John W. Titcomb was appointed superintendent. He was followed by Edgar N. Carter and then by Albert W. Dinsmore in 1912.

In his *Town History of St. Johnsbury*, Edward T. Fairbanks reports that in 1914 the fish hatchery handled two million brook trout, as well as steelhead trout, brook trout, land-locked salmon, smallmouth black bass, pike and yellow perch. A total of 90,653,560 eggs, fry and fingerlings were raised and distributed in a single year in the early 1900's.

Walter Blodgett started work at the hatchery as a junior fish culturist in 1926. Blodgett lived with his wife, Ruth Davis Blodgett, and their children in North Danville, but he had experience at the fish hatchery in West Milan, NH and qualified for the

position in St. Johnsbury by taking the civil service test. Blodgett and his family lived in and near North Danville, paying rent of \$8 a month.

In 1941 Maurice Hubbard was hatchery superintendent, and he converted the large, electrified 2½-story superintendent's house into two separate apartments, one on each floor. The construction was finished, and the Blodgetts, including teenagers Shirley, Malvern and Neal and seven-year-old June, moved to the second-floor apartment. The space consisted of a living room, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms and a bathroom. One of the boys slept in the attic.

Rent for the apartment and an additional monthly fee for the iron stove that heated the space was deducted from Blodgett's salary. Blodgett drove a Marquette automobile and raised chickens and an occasional pig in the barn. His wife kept house, tended a large garden and watched over her offspring. Superintendent Hubbard and his family lived in the first floor apartment below.

Another employee, Hugh Gregory and his family lived in an apartment over the hatchery building.

The Blodgett children had the run of the complex, and there was no shortage of things to do. They watched their father feed the fish a mixture of dry meal and ground-up scrap meat from Swift's. His regular routine included cleaning and disinfecting the raceways, moving eggs and the fry and fingerlings, disposing of dead eggs and fish and other tasks as necessary around the hatchery. The boys sometimes helped their father lug buckets of fish up to the dam pond and mowed lawns on the property in the summer.

Inside the hatchery they watched fish swimming furiously in the cold water. Some were in



A dwelling for the superintendent, a barn, the hatchery building and an icehouse for fish food (all painted white with green trim) were constructed in 1894.

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buckets and then put into the troughs. The big fish lived in several small ponds on the property. Kingfishers were often flying overhead and diving for fish. During the summer months the ponds were lighted to attract bugs as food from the wild for the fish.

**Pipes mixed colder water from a hill-side spring above the hatchery building to meet the various needs of the fish.**

Malvern and Neal fished for brown trout in the Sleeper's River when the water was high. They found an island and several pools at the foot of Emerson Falls as great places to play, and they often took picnics and swam there in the summertime. In winter the ponds froze over and they provided excellent ice skating and playing in the snow. Neal remembers cutting ice from the ponds.

The Blodgett youngsters had a natural playground, and in the years following the Great Depression they found great pleasure in simple sawhorses and the clay in the ground by the springhouse. They used an old caretaker's cottage from a previous fur farm as a playhouse and imagined fox raised in pens on a plateau nearby. The woods behind the hatchery buildings extended up the hill and all the way across the area we think of as US 2 and south to the present Route 2B.

The North Danville road followed the Sleeper's River east towards the Gilman fields and barns and the outskirts of St. Johnsbury Village. Jesse Davis'

mink farm was downstream from the hatchery, and there were four or five houses farther along in the area called Coreyville.

The St. Johnsbury school district sent a school bus for the school children living at the hatchery, and the youngsters attended grade schools in St. Johnsbury. Some parents took turns driving their children home for lunch, and if there was room in the cars high schoolers could ride along as well. Usually, however, they "hoofed it"

During the time that laborers from the Workers Progress Administration lived in St. Johnsbury and worked at the hatchery, Walter Blodgett drove his truck to transport them. His children often rode along to get books from the Athenaeum. The young Blodgett family grew up, left home and continued on with their lives. So what happened to them?

Shirley graduated from Danville High School in 1941, worked for the Charles Millar Company and married Arnold Langmaid. During World War II while Arnold was overseas in the U.S. Army Air Corps she lived with her parents at the hatchery. After the War and for more than 33 years Shirley and Arnold had a dairy farm. They raised four children.

Malvern attended high school in North Danville and Danville and graduated from St. Johnsbury Academy in 1942. He was drafted into the U. S. Army, served overseas and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. He later married Marilyn Morrill, and they raised four children. Malvern spent most of his working life at the General Electric plant in Burlington. Malvern died in 2003.

Neal went to the North Danville high school and graduated from St. Johnsbury Academy in 1943. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps and served for two years. He married Charlotte

Bailey, and they raised three children. Neal started walking the streets of St. Johnsbury as a postal service mail carrier in 1948. He continued that job for 37 years.

The youngest, June, attended the North Danville School and elementary schools in St. Johnsbury. She graduated from St. Johnsbury Academy in 1952, worked at the Impey Insurance Company and married Robert Sager. They were parents of three children. Robert worked for the New England Power Company for 39 years.

In the 1950's the federal fish hatchery closed, and Walter took a job with the Town of Barnet. He and Ruth moved to East Barnet where they lived the rest of their lives. The hatchery property was sold for \$14,000, one thousand dollars less than the original federal appropriation in 1893.

Recently the surviving Blodgett children, Shirley, Neal and June, all retired grandparents and great-grandparents, visited their childhood home at the St. Johnsbury Fish Hatchery complex and reminisced about their happy and busy young lives. Today the buildings are tan and brown and used as offices and a day care business. When the Interstate was constructed the road to the Gilman fields and

barns was cut off, and it ends abruptly at the big house. One pond is still visible.

Shirley, Neal and June agree that the complex was a great

place to grow up, and as a family they are grateful for the years there. Few people can claim life on a fish farm as part of their heritage. ★



Photo By: Lois Field White

Shirley Langmaid, Neal Blodgett and June Sager spent much of their childhood at the federal fish station at Emerson Falls on the Sleepers River. On a recent afternoon they told about the good days they remember there.

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There are 1,440 minutes in every day — devote 30 of them to physical activity.

**Find a dog and walk it!** If people look like their pets, walking will make both of you trim, healthy and active. It's good for Fido too!

**Yard work rules!** A few reps with the shovel, a couple laps with the wheelbarrow and you'll be watching something grow besides your waistline.

**Tag, you're it!** Recapture your youth by playing with your kids for at least 30 minutes a day—now that's quality time!

**Become an active listener, literally!** Dance and jump around to the radio and your favorite CDs.

**There's strength in numbers.** Start an exercise group or find a buddy to give you a little push.

The important thing is to start slow and stick to it, setting small, realistic goals. Do you want more information about adding physical activity into your life? Visit [www.smallstep.gov](http://www.smallstep.gov).

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# The World is the Game Board and Anyone Can Play

TERRY HOFFER

Somewhere between the association of CB radio operators who convey the greeting, "Ah ... What's yer 20, good buddy," and the league of mountaineers who aspire to climb the Seven Summits, the highest points on each of the Earth's seven continents, there is a booming outdoor phenomenon known as geocaching.

**In terms of speed, accuracy and price, a GPS system is the most sophisticated device that was ever asked the question, "Where are we?"**

Geocaching was born five years ago. Until then, the two dozen satellites that circled the Earth 12,000 miles above the surface and transmitted bearings

to hand-held Global Positioning System (GPS) were controlled by the US Department of Defense. The satellite signals were scrambled limiting their accuracy for unauthorized or civilian use to a range of roughly 100 feet. It wasn't long before military applications were using still more accurate technologies, and on May 1, 2000 by congressional order the scrambling was removed. Almost overnight GPS units were appearing as options in high end motor vehicles and as standard fare in the tool kits of wilderness hikers.

Use of the technology was effectively declassified, and anyone with \$500 or so could pick up the satellite signals and read the coordinates for latitude and longitude in a way that would turn Christopher Columbus and other old world navigators in their graves.

Even the most basic GPS receivers, which sell in the range of \$100-\$500, will lock onto signals from any four of the orbiting satellites and calculate a position on the Earth's surface, generally within 50 feet and often within 20 feet. (In the



Photo By: North Star Monthly

Jack and Pat Moran are getting getting close to a "cache site" in St. Johnsbury. By means of hand held GPS navigational equipment the ancient game of hide and seek has attracted computer users and web site surfers all over the world. According to one Internet website there are more than 185,000 cache sites in 216 countries with scenes like this taking place around many of them.

United States an enhanced system is available, which receives the signals, determines an estimated position and compares the estimate to the location a known ground station, adjusts the estimate and displays the refined position accurate to within 10 feet or less, 95 percent of the time.) In terms of speed, accuracy and now price, a GPS system is the most sophisticated device that was ever asked the question, "Where are we?"

On May 3, 2000, within days of the satellite signal descrambling, a computer programmer outside of Portland, OR hid a container (or a cache) with a five dollar bill and a logbook and posted the coordinates of its location on the Internet. By May 6, three days later, the cache had been visited twice. By the following September a commercial Internet site appeared using the name geocaching, and the craze

was on.

Since then, geocachers have appeared all over the world establishing new caches and posting locations on the Internet.

Typically a cache has a message from the founder including history of the place or information about the location. Typically there is a logbook where visitors leave notes and their observations, but sometimes the cache is a "virtual cache," a place with a spectacular view, perhaps a man-made monument or distinctive natural landmark and nothing more.

Some caches consist of a film canister or a waterproof plastic box (Tupperware in its finest application) holding the logbook and a number of more or less valuable items. Some have maps, books, pictures, jewelry, tools and games and the instruction that you can take an item if you leave an item of equal or greater value in its place. One logbook entry reads, "What a great place. I took the eyeglass repair kit with tweezers and screw driver and I left a flowered bookmark and a blue whistle. Thanks."

And some include instructions for sending a part of the cache on its way. There are cache creators, for instance, who have established "hitchhikers"

or traveling caches hoping to have some piece of their cache take off on journeys with continuous feedback through the Internet website as to where the travels have led. One hitchhiker was reported to have been to 87 countries while enroute to Colorado from Texas.

The routine for the searcher (or geocatcher) is to follow the directions and seek out the coordinates of the "waypoint" posted on the website, solve the riddles and unravel the clues to the hidden cache. Some are in especially challenging locations such as cliff sides, underwater with access by SCUBA gear or in ingenious urban settings easy to overlook. At least one soldier left a cache in Iraq. Some are quite straightforward and conspicuous.

There are searchers who have found a thousand or more locations, and one from Washington State found \$100. "That was a fluke," he says. "If you added the value of all the other stuff I've found it might total five bucks."

The treasure in the hunt, however, isn't in the box but in finding it. And that's the great part of the appeal. Geocaches are everywhere, and if they were all easy to find, it would stop (See *It's the Biggest* on Next Page)

David Toll, M.D.

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# Plans in Place for Northeast Kingdom Foliage Festival

BETTY HATCH

While we swelter in the summer heat, let's pause and think about cooler days of fall in a couple of months. Some folks across the country have been thinking about a fall vacation in Vermont for months, and we'd like to invite them to the Fall Foliage Festival in the Northeast Kingdom from September 26 through October 2. Seven towns in the area are getting ready to entertain visitors this fall.

**Walden** starts off the week on Monday with a day of farm tours, a hymn sing at an historic church, old time machinery and tools and country music. Meet at the Walden Church, just off VT Rte 15 at 9:00 a.m. for homemade doughnuts and coffee. Arrange to pick up your bag

lunch at noon and purchase your tickets for a ham dinner at the church at 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. For reservations, call Eveline at (802) 563-2380. Or try [www.nekfoliage.com](http://www.nekfoliage.com) for information. If you need to talk to someone, call (802) 533-7122.

**Cabot** opens its doors on Tuesday, September 27, for a coffee hour at 8:45 a.m. at the Historical Building on the main street in Cabot. Other buildings that will be open include the Cabot School gym with hand-crafts for sale, the library and the Cabot Creamery, makers of the prize winning Cabot Cheese. Tours are arranged for both morning and afternoon, and a program will get you around town. The famous Beef Stew luncheon is served at 11:30, 12:30 and 1:15 at the United

Church, and tickets for the Turkey Supper are a must for the 5:00 and 6:30 p.m. servings. Blanche Lamore at (802) 563-2457 is heading the day's events.

**Plainfield** entertains on Wednesday, September 28, with activities emanating from the Grace United Methodist Church. Tours include visits to the Rock of Ages Granite Quarry, glass blowers, a winery, as well as favorite spots with scenic views. For hikers, there is a trip to Owls Head with lunch served in the summit shelter. Lunch will be served at the church and Barbecued Chicken-Mostaccioli and Baked Beans are the supper menu at 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. For reservations, give Beverly Bradley a call at (802) 454-7837 or Joyce Fowler at (802) 454-8306.

The historic village of **Peacham** is host for Thursday, September 29. Pick up a detailed program at the gym in the town hall, and be ready to visit the book sale at the library, a Ghost Walk at the cemetery and craft sale at the gym. There will be a nature walk and a bazaar. A

Spaghetti Supper will be served at the church at 5:00 and 6:30 p.m. Contact Jerry Senturia, PO Box 198, Peacham, VT 05862, or telephone (802) 592-3989 for reservations. Questions about the day should be addressed to Noreen Crane, P.O. Box 37, Peacham, Vt. Telephone (802) 592-3558.

A Vermont Pancake Breakfast from 8 a.m. to Noon starts the day Friday, September 30, in **Barnet** at the Barnet Center Vestry. The Goodwillie House, Ben Thresher's Mill and Barnet churches will be open for tours and Arts and Crafts Sales. Their day's program will help you find your way around town. A Ham Dinner will be served starting at 4:00 p.m. until all are served. Reservations may be made with Mrs. M.S. McLaren, at (802) 633-2681 or Pauline Urie (802) 748-8246.

The Lumberjack Breakfast at the Methodist Church in **Groton** from 7:00 to 10:00 a.m. will start you off Saturday for a fine day in Groton. There will be a band concert at 11:00 a.m., their annual parade at 1:30 p.m. The famous Chicken Pie Supper with servings at 4:30, 5:30, 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. is a must. Tickets are on sale now, and you must reserve them soon as they sell out fast. Write to Diane Kreis, 389 Scott Highway, Groton, VT

05046 or call her at (802) 584-4748 for reservations.

Spend Sunday, October 2 in **St. Johnsbury**. The Information Booth on Main Street will have a calendar of events for the day that includes an Arts and Crafts Fair, Farmers' Market, historic walking tours and Musical groups. A Pancake and Sausage Brunch will be served at the St. Johnsbury House from 8:00 to noon. The Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium, St. Johnsbury Athenaeum and Art Gallery will be open. Come soak up some of the history of these two institutions. Contact Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce, 51 Depot Square, Suite. 3, St. Johnsbury, VT 005819 or phone (802) 748-3678. [www.nekchamber.com](http://www.nekchamber.com)

Each town presents its own program, featuring what is available of interest in the community. Plan to find an accommodation in the area and stay all week. Accommodation sheets are available with fliers of the area. Become better acquainted with us that way. We like to visit, so don't be afraid to ask questions.

Mark the dates on your calendar September 26 through October 2 and head for Vermont's Northeast Kingdom for a week of fun with us.

## It's the Biggest Version of Hide and Seek Ever

(Continued from Page 26)

being fun. It's a game you can play by yourself, with friends or your family.

A quick look at [geocaching.com](http://geocaching.com) and you'll see caches referenced at Devil's Hill in Peacham and at Emerson Falls and "Domes in St. Johnsbury." There are 252 within 50 miles of Danville. To date there are more than 185,000 caches in 216 countries. During the third week of July there were 127,370 entries or finds posted by 22,432 account holders on the website.

According to the Appalachian Mountain Club, which remapped its entire White Mountain trail system with GPS equipment and refined its accuracy from 1/4 mile to 40 feet, the industry is booming. The AMC cites industry estimates of approximately 6.5 million recreational GPS units sold in 2004, more than twice the number (3.2 million) in 2002. Predictions are for that number to increase by 30 percent in each of the next five years.

Will this all end with geocachers romping across our backyards and swarming over our "Domes" in search of someone's geocache? What about the impact of 100,000 Tupperware

boxes and uncountable knick-knacks and mindless roving hitchhikers? Oh for heaven's sake - imagine what our ancestors thought when they first heard about the telephone. "There goes the neighborhood," they probably sighed.


Bryan Roth is cofounder of [geocaching.com](http://geocaching.com), and he says, "The future of the sport depends on it being environmentally friendly." He discourages hiding explosives, ammunition, drugs or alcohol in the cache and points out that placing a cache in any area administered by the National Park Service is a violation of federal law.

"Geocachers are on notice," Roth says. "If we get feedback from users that a cache is not environmentally safe we work with the geocaching community to move it or remove it."

Who can resist the confluence of high tech with the wonder of geometry - getting from point A to point B and maybe a hundred bucks when you get there. Grab your GPS unit, a spare set of batteries, a map and you're on your way. The world is the gameboard, and anyone can play. ★

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# Walden Hill Journal

ELLEN GOLD

**August 2, 2004** - It's finally beginning to feel like summer. At least the humidity has toned down a bit. Spent the day sprucing up Broadview Farm for a wedding. We were an amiable crew of seven, ages 14 through 70, all pitching in with chores to ready this historic and elegant family farm for its 4th generation wedding. Meanwhile we found a well-earned rest on a deliciously cool mountain evening. We went out to view the stars and had the bonus of a late third quarter orange moonrise, a beautiful end to a very full and satisfying day.

**August 3, 2004** - A huge summer storm just blew through with gusting winds and downpours. Thunder and lightning and an ominous blackness filled the sky. Now we're back to sunshine and billowy white clouds. I harvested the first of our 8-ball zucchini and stuffed them with chard, rice and portabella mushrooms. A little cheese on top and tomato juice in the pan were also included in this fine recipe. The first of our green beans and more snowpeas are marinating in teriyaki sauce.

**August 6, 2004** - We're entering an autumnal weekend with temperatures more usual for October than August. Lows are supposed to see 40° and highs only 50° to 60°. It may not feel like August but the wildflowers confirm that it's definitely late summer. Goldenrod is just beginning to yellow, black-eyed Susans dominate as most

beautiful, richly colored individual flower, marsh mallow retains the title for most profuse bush of pink blossoms and purple speedwell is sending up its dainty, richly colored spikes of violet flowers. First prize for summer's sensational masterpiece however goes to the clouds. No other season so richly fills the senses with immense, ever-changing skies and no other summer spectacle so fully takes one's breath away.

**August 8, 2004** - A chilly day for Danville Fair yesterday. It felt more like "Autumn on the Green" than Danville Fair but at least the rain held off.

**August 9, 2004** - Beautiful clear chilly night for the stars. It was a bit early for meteor showers, but we did see a few shooting stars. Several satellites were rapidly moving across the sky in all directions. Jeff observed the gradual shifting of the constellations when viewed against the straight edge of our roof line. A very steamy milky way was pouring forth out of the spout of the teapot Sagittarius and continued its long arcing over the house. The very distant howl of a coyote was the only sound other than the occasional whining of mosquitoes.

**August 13, 2004** - The first hurricanes of the season are making their way up the coast and bringing us rain, rain and more rain. Usually people are counting on those tropical storms to replenish the water supply but not this August. The garden is responding with zucchini appearing fully grown

overnight. Had one stuffed with lamb sausage last night and will make a zucchini whole wheat bread today and fry up some zucchini pancakes. Blackcap raspberries and blackberries are beginning to ripen. We even had a few red tomatoes. I'm not sure if they're actually ripe or just rusty from all this rain.

**August 14, 2004** - It's so refreshing to see actual individual clouds and sunshine today. Took advantage of a clear day to hang out an overdue laundry and pick more blueberries for the freezer. Our noon-time yogurt drink is now flavored with the king of the wild berries. I'm nursing two wasp stings and a very swollen and inflamed ankle. I was wearing my Wellingtons to pick veggies in the rain yesterday and somehow got a yellow jacket inside my left boot. It stung me twice before I got the boot off and set the wasp free. Ah, I'm just a martyr to my garden.

**August 18, 2004** - Ate our first husk cherry today. The lantern husk had yellowed, dried and fallen to the ground and the inside fruit was nice and yellow. It's a mild, sweet taste somewhere between an apricot and a tomato. Fedco Seed catalog warns not to eat these tomatillos while they're still green since "they can be a powerful emetic." Sounds like advice well taken.

**August 20, 2004** - Summer is winding down. Some of the maples are starting to turn and the one-sided red swamp maple across in the field is displaying its bright colors much earlier than previous years. It's fully dark by 8:30 without much twilight time left to enjoy. I went out to pick a few blackberries at 8:00 with what seemed like ample light. By 8:10 someone hit the dimmer switch, and shortly thereafter it was too dark to distinguish bears from the berries. Those lingering, lazy, extended twilight hours of summer are gone.



Photo By: Jeff Gold

The treat of the year is Jeff's once-a-summer blackberry pies.

**August 22, 2004** - Full sun and bright blue sky this chilly, autumnal morning. It's a rare pleasure to have clear weather this summer and especially this very wet, overcast August. The CT River Valley is a thick, winding sea of mist in an otherwise clear, back-lit mountain view. The sun is casting long morning shadows across a dew glistened, lush, multi-colored field. There's nothing tired looking about the well-watered, end of summer trees.

**August 26, 2004** - Three days in a row of no rain. The weatherman says we're into the first prolonged dry days of the season. It's perfect for harvesting potatoes. All of the vines have died back and the soil is dry and pliable. The Katahdin hybrids were just slightly below the surface so I was able to dig down and scoop out potatoes with my bare hands. Eighteen plants yielded just over 100 potatoes, not counting the 12 or so itty-bitties that we'll eat ASAP.

**August 30, 2004** - Our brief dry spell broke last night with virulent thunderstorms and heavy rain. Danville Town Band had wisely chosen to move its final "concert on the green" indoors and played to a thunderous accompaniment, flickering lights and finally a loss of power in the midst of "Bolero." We came home, turned out the lights before Mother Nature could and

pulled the couch up to the window for a close-up encounter with the storm. We partially opened two windows for a full stereophonic light and sound show. Most of the lightning strobed in various intensities behind the clouds but the occasional closer beam, zig-zagged with a blinding intensity that left its negative image imprinted during the next several cloud-muted flashes. The fully lighted field and near valley slowly disappeared as thick fog rolled in. Cars moving up the road spread UFO-like beams of light in the moisture-laden sky.

**August 31, 2004** - August is ending with more garden feasts from our own veggies and Mother Nature's bountiful harvest. The biggest treat is Jeff's once-a-summer blackberry pies. This year's contains a multi-berry mixture of two types of wild blackberries and raspberries. Students are back to school just as the early maples are giving off a teasing hint of the foliage splendor yet to come. I discovered a huge emerald green caterpillar with sparkling tiny bumps while I was weeding and have since identified it as a luna moth larva. There's no end to fascinating encounters in this beautiful rural setting.

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# From Little Oak Leaves a Tree Has Grown

BETS PARKER ALBRIGHT

I sit on our screened porch, looking across the valley below the house to the White Mountains. They are very blue today. Tall trees have begun to impinge on our mountain view, except in the winter.

At the edge of our garden, where beans and potatoes grow, there is an oak tree, and it has a story to tell. Twelve or 14 years ago I found a mere stick beside the road, with one short branch that carried a disproportionately large red leaf hanging nearly to the ground. Gosh, I said to myself as I slowed the car to a halt, that's a red oak leaf!

That wouldn't seem remarkable today, but in the early 1990's there were no red oaks in our area. A century earlier a blight of some sort killed off the oaks, and literally none could be

seen in the intervening time within five or ten miles of our place. A few years ago my husband asked an elderly neighbor about it — he was actually old enough to remember when the blight swept through in the 1890's. We tried repeatedly to plant acorns from other areas, but no luck. It wasn't until my discovery that Mother Nature decided it was okay for red oaks to return!

I had a trowel in my car, so I pried the little tree from between two sturdy rocks with just a few scraggly roots. I deposited my precious cargo in the car and brought it home triumphantly (Peter and the Wolf music, please!).

My husband smiled indulgently and helped me find a spot for my young hopeful. Friends and family members, even those with more knowledge of trees

than ours, were interested to hear of this adoption from the wild but tended to be skeptical of the outcome, even while cheering from the sidelines. We coddled the wee tree, we watered it and we talked to it (as we had learned to do in the 70's). The little leaf was droopy at first but soon perked up and had what we took to be a normal first year. The next spring it showed every sign of good health, as though it knew it was our pride and joy. We heard a few stories of other oaks starting up, and the revival was on!

We crowed about our tree and showed it to friends, and we said we would probably not live long enough to sit in its shade, but it fooled us completely. With a little judicious pruning, it now gives us a lovely cool place to sit. It has even outlasted one or two garden benches!

It is exciting to live in a place where one can plant a tiny tree or a few seeds and watch them sprout and grow. A hillside across the valley was once a grassy slope. We pastured cows there, and we have a picture of our eldest son leading our few cows down the slope to our barn. We are not dairy farmers now, but the land has not suffered from our tenancy, thanks in great part to another hardworking son who planted trees, kept some land open and used no pesticides.

I used to feel guilty about being surrounded by so much natural loveliness, but being good stewards is important. Our children are showing that the legacy is surviving, just as the little leaf has become a substantial tree. We enjoy sharing stories like this, about our life reflecting our ideas and beliefs. We hear from people that we have touched them, both old friends and those who will carry on when we are gone. That is immensely gratifying. ★



## Pope Notes

Dee Palmer,  
Library Director

We hope to see you at the Danville Fair on August 6. We will have our book sale on the Library lawn from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Our raffle item for this year, a hand crafted blanket chest, will be on display with tickets available. The drawing will be at 9:00 p.m. on fair night, and you need not be present to win. Stop at the Library's Ice Cream Booth for a variety of tasty treats.

Our book discussion for the fall will be "Julia Alvarez's Dominican Heritage." Suzi Wizowaty will lead discussions in this series featuring *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents*, *In the Time of the Butterflies* and *Yo!* Julia Alvarez is a world-famous writer and a writer-in-residence at Middlebury College. Discussions will begin on Wednesday, September 21 at 7:00 p.m. and continue through November. Books and schedules are available at the Library.

We will participate in Vermont Reads 2005 - the Vermont Humanities Council's one-state, one-book community reading program. This year's book is *Seedfolks* by Newbery winner Paul Fleischman. The Vermont Reads program brings communities and people of all ages together to read a book and participate in activities centered on it. Books will be provided to us by the Vermont Humanities Council.

We appreciate all who came to our summer open house to congratulate me on receiving my Vermont Librarian Certification and to wish Peter Albright well as he retires from supervising the Pope Library's Young Adult Program. It was a wonderful celebration, and we were pleased that so many attended on a very hot afternoon.

Our new books on CD are: *Zorro* by Allende, *Hot Target* by Brockman, *Absolute Zero* by Logan and *Kill the Messenger* by Hoag. Come in and check them out!

### From the Children's Room

The "Surf Your Library" summer reading program continues on Wednesday afternoons through August 17. Ages 4 - 9 meet from 1:00 - 2:15 p.m. and ages 10 and up from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. We have a great group of kids and I am thoroughly enjoying our sessions. Our most popular recent acquisition is, of course, *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* by J.K. Rowling. We have two copies in circulation and purchased the book on CD. Stop in or call to put your name on our reserve list.

### Elements of Summer

A bonfire on the beach.  
Sparks fly up into the dusk.  
Friends gather, laughing, feasting in the warm summer night.  
And each, from time to time, gazing at the embers,  
Sends hopes and wishes from the soul,  
Upward with the sparks.

Look closely now,  
And recognize your distant ancestors.  
Sitting, like you, around a fire.  
Celebrating, giving thanks,  
And casting their prayers  
Up into the summer night.

Beyond the fire, the waves gently slap the beach.  
As we slip into the water we feel a sense of buoyant freedom.  
A soft touch on the skin, that links us to our  
watery beginnings,  
Long before the womb.  
And so each summer, celebrating recent history and  
hoping for the future,  
Through fire and water we recreate our past.

Isobel P. Swartz

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# Philip Glick Turned the Soil for Federally Funded Locally Controlled Conservation Districts

JUDITH HOWLAND

Much of this information comes from a 1983 interview between Douglas Helms, National Historian, US Conservation Service, Washington DC, and attorney Philip M. Glick, former attorney with the US Department of Agriculture. Philip Glick was instrumental in helping to establish the Natural Resources Conservation Districts.

Philip M. Glick, was born near Kiev, Russia in 1905. He immigrated with his family to Chicago and attended schools in the city with other immigrant children. Glick always wanted to attend the University of Chicago and become a lawyer. However, in the 1920's the tuition for one half semester at the University was about \$75. Not counting the cost of books and fees, a year would cost about \$300, much more than he had available. So, sadly, he temporarily gave up his dream of going to the

University, and instead enrolled at Crane Junior College, which was free.

The Junior College provided an excellent education for two years, at which point he was able to transfer to the University, where he studied philosophy and almost gave up his dream of becoming a lawyer. However, after graduating with honors, Glick attended the University of Chicago Law School and went into private law practice in Chicago for three years.

In 1933, with Franklin D. Roosevelt in the White House, the New Deal just beginning, and America was in the depths of the Great Depression. Glick was hired to work for the Public Works Administration [WPA] in Washington. A month later, Glick met ML Wilson, then the head of the Federal Subsistence Homesteads Corporation of the Department of Interior. Wilson invited Glick to join the legal staff of Homesteads Corporation, and later both men worked for the US Department of Agriculture.

As his mentor, ML Wilson had a tremendous influence on Philip Glick. Although Glick was from the city and had no farming background, he found the decentralist philosophy promoted by Wilson to be most appealing. Regarding farmers, Wilson always maintained that the government worker must "remember whose farm it is and remember who has to be the real boss in the situation." Wilson said, "You cannot fool the people to whom you say you are delegating authority, if you don't in fact delegate authority...the pretense will do more harm than good ... and the projects will fail."

In setting up the Soil Conservation Service, the USDA set up "erosion control demonstration projects," which would show the best ways to prevent soil erosion. Wilson knew that farmers who saw the demonstration projects would be unable to afford the money that the government could spend. The science of the demonstration projects, as well as the government money spent on them, would all be wasted if no one could put the ideas to practical use. So he enlisted Glick's help to figure out a way to control erosion on millions of farms in the country.

Glick proposed a conserva-

tion district for his boss. The district was a local unit of government, established by state statute, responsible for building water projects, regulating water flow and irrigation, and able to levy taxes and receive appropriations from the state legislature. It could NOT be established by the US Congress, because the federal government has no authority to regulate private land use and has no authority to establish or abolish local units of government. Conservancy districts could only be established by States.

Wilson, who had great faith in the common man, particularly in the American farmer, wanted to facilitate the establishment of conservancy districts for erosion as well as for water issues. He and Glick listed their objectives and what they thought would be the arguments against them. This was to guard, they later said, against "fuzzy thinking" when the time came to present their ideas to Hugh Hammond Bennet [chief of the conservation service] and to USDA Secretary Henry Wallace.

What Wilson wanted was for locally established soil conservation districts to have broad powers to plan and carry out erosion control projects. He wanted a majority of the supervisors to be

elected by farmers, with the remaining supervisors appointed by the state soil conservation committee.

In other words, Wilson wanted a blend of democratic representation combined with technical expertise. Wilson believed that important social ideas could not be imposed on people from the top down. To be accepted, he thought, these ideas must be dropped like seeds and allowed to germinate and grow before they would be accepted. Convincing the leadership of the USDA was the first priority!

Secretary Wallace wanted to know how the districts would be financed. Glick believed that state legislatures would not approve of local districts with the power to tax local farmers. Therefore, the money and technical personnel to run the districts, as well as machinery and other equipment for projects, would come from federal appropriations. Money to pay administrative costs would come from state appropriations.

With the help of two assistants, Glick researched the US Constitution as well as each of the state Constitutions, to be certain that the law establishing conservation districts would be constitutionally legal across the country. After months of deliberation, the leaders of the USDA were ready to promote the idea of conservation districts. It was decided that boundaries of the districts could go along county lines, along watershed lines, or a combination of both.

After President Roosevelt approved the plan for conservation districts throughout the country, it took 10 years for the legislatures of the 48 states to approve legislation, but finally they all did. Through that period, Glick often went to the general assemblies of the various states to explain the concept and clarify misconceptions.

Throughout his life, Philip Glick remained a supporter of the philosophy of federal, state and local government collaboration as exemplified by the conservation districts. He liked to describe this system of local control and environmental conservation as a "marble cake, rather than as a layer cake." Glick died in January, 2004. He was 99.

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9 A.M.	9 A.M.	
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*Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man.*

Francis Bacon

*A man hath no better thing under the sun than to eat, And to drink, and to be merry.*

Ecclesiastes 8:15

So, which is it? To lead a full and rich life must one make like a philosopher and read, discuss, think and write? Is there value to our lives only when we forget pleasure and emotion, keep on task, contemplate great issues and attempt to answer life's most perplexing questions?

Or is all this ponderous seriousness a waste of time and energy and, in the end, meaningless? Does the true significance of life lie in enjoying these too quickly fleeting August days, together with good companions and the fruits of field, orchard and vineyard?

At the Peacham Library we thumb our noses at such absurd dichotomies! Yes, read, read and read some more - but have close at hand a warm muffin, a bowl of fruit or a piece of fine chocolate, along with a hot cuppa or a tall cool one. Please do confer, discuss and contemplate together - but over a pitcher of lemonade or a pot of coffee or a jug of wine, along with some treats that nourish your body while energizing your mind. And when you write - well, do it whenever and in whatever context works for you, but always and regularly break for food and the occasional good laugh.

The Peacham Library uses this approach to good effect in all its programming.

Come to be edified and you will be fed - and vice versa!

Our Wednesday morning summer reading program will

continue to enrich, inform and entertain some of our younger patrons with a combination of stories, craft activities and pleasing snacks. (Wednesdays, August 3 and 10, 10:30 a.m.)

The final lectures in our summer series will feature two longtime members of the Peacham community, Ronald Crisman and Johanna Branson. On both August 4 and 11 the edible fare will be less substantial and sustaining than the intellectual, but will nonetheless refresh one and all towards the evening's close.

On August 4 Crisman will bring us "Exotic Stories in Good Government: America's Answer to Terrorism?" His work as a fiscal, management and organizational advisor has taken him to places as far afield as Afghanistan, the Balkans, Palestine and, most recently, Morocco. The breadth of his experience and the ease with which he shares his insights are not to be missed. (Thursday, August 4, 7:00 p.m.)

Johanna Branson, a scholar in modern and contemporary art, has explored the uses of art in the culture at large. She will present and illustrate some of the intriguing challenges she has faced in recent years, including the study of images used as propaganda and stereotypes. Branson is senior vice president of academic affairs at the Massachusetts College of Art and a seasonal Peacham resident. (Thursday, August 11,

7:00 p.m.)

Our monthly "Senior Movie" (open to all ages) will be on August 18 and will follow the hilarious adventures of three hapless chain gang escapees who decide to try to sing for their supper. And what would a movie be without popcorn and drinks? (Thursday, August 18, 1:15 p.m.)

Finally, on Saturday, August 20, the community will be regaled with a "Book and Food Extravaganza!" to celebrate the launching of the Peacham Library's Bicentennial Campaign. Reeve Lindbergh will speak, and the whole family will be entertained with music, story reading, a barbecue and lots and lots of homemade cookies. And, as naturally as night follows day, there will be books aplenty on cookies and cooking, to peruse or borrow for deeper delving. (Saturday, August 20, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.)

Of course, in addition there's coffee hour every Friday from 10:00 a.m. to Noon - great conversation combined with sumptuous goodies. And every day our snack jar is full of nibbles to help you on your way.

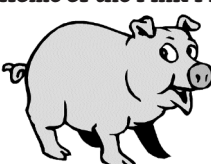
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## Peacham Historical Association Presents Expert on Costumes and Textiles

Lynne Z. Bassett, an independent scholar specializing in New England's historic costumes and textiles, will speak at the annual meeting of the Peacham Historical Association. The meeting will be on Tuesday, August 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the Peacham Congregational Church. The public is welcome to attend the program, which will follow a business meeting at 7 o'clock.

Bassett, a graduate of Mount Holyoke College with a master's degree in design and resource management from the University of Massachusetts, was curator of collections at Historic Northampton (MA) and curator of textiles and fine arts at Old Sturbridge Village.

Since 2000, she has undertaken a number of large projects, including organizing and cataloging the costume collection of the Connecticut Historical Society. She has mounted several exhibits including "Telltale Textiles: Quilts from the Historic Deerfield Collection" and for the Mark Twain House and Museum in Hartford, CT, "Modesty Died When Clothes Were Born: Costume in the Life and Literature of Mark Twain."

Bassett has written for *PieceWork*, *The Magazine Antiques* and *White House History*. She is currently editing a series on American costume history, writing the volume on the Antebellum period herself. She has given lectures for Colonial Williamsburg, the Smithsonian Institution, Historic Deerfield, the Peabody Essex Museum and the Antiquarian and Landmarks Society of Connecticut covering such topics as early costume, quilts and other bed covers.

Her presentation on August 9 will include several items selected from the Peacham Historical Association's textile collection. All items in the collection were made, worn or used in Peacham.

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- 2 - Mahoning Valley Scrappers
- 7 - Hudson Valley Renegades
- 8 - Hudson Valley Renegades
- 9 - Hudson Valley Renegades
- 16 - Tri-City Valleycats
- 17 - Tri-City Valleycats
- 18 - Oneonta Tigers
- 19 - Oneonta Tigers
- 20 - Oneonta Tigers
- 21 - Oneonta Tigers
- 24 - Lowell Spinners
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New & Used Television, VCR and other consumer electronic sales. Factory authorized service center for several brands. Professional repair service on all TV's, VCR's, Stereos and pro audio equipment. 159 Eastern Ave., St. Johnsbury, VT 05819. (802) 748-2111.

## Excavation

### Andre Excavation

All phases of excavation including septic systems, site work, demolition, drainage and ponds. 25-years experience. Free estimates. Prompt service. Call Denis Jacques at (802) 563-2947.

## Compact Excavation Services

Including stumps, trenches, drainage, crushed stone driveways, yolk raking, small building demolition, small foundations, tree length brush removed, rock retaining walls built, excavator (with thumb) picks up most anything. Also trucking and trailer to 10,000 pounds and 30' long. Matt Pettigrew, Danville, VT. (802) 751-8201.

## Fencing

### All Types of Fencing

Commercial, Agricultural and Residential. Chain Link, High Tensile, Barbed Wire, Woven Wire and Ornamental. Gordon Goss. (802) 633-2822. Cell (802) 777-0919. Fax (802) 633-3405. email gossmaple@kingcon.com

## Flooring

### Carpet Connection

The flooring specialists. All your flooring needs. Largest selection in the State. Depot Street, Lyndonville, VT 05851. (802) 626-9026 or (800) 822-9026.

### Country Floors

Complete Flooring Sales & Installation. Carpeting, Vinyl, Hardwood, Ceramic Tile, Area Rugs. Stanley H. & Joanne C. Martin, Hollister Hill Road, Plainfield, VT 05667. (802) 454-7301.

## Florists

### All About Flowers by Lallie and Sandy

All occasion florist featuring fine silk flowers, unique dried designs and the freshest flowers in town. Wedding and funeral arrangements for all budgets. Customized gift and food baskets available. 10% senior discount not applicable with other discounts. 196 Eastern Avenue, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819. (802) 748-5656 or (800) 499-6565.

### Artistic Gardens

Florist & Greenhouse. Unique floral arrangements for weddings and all occasions. Specializing in sympathy arrangements for funerals, fresh flowers, gourmet fruit baskets and balloons. FTD & Teleflora. Memorial Drive, St. Johnsbury Center. (802) 748-5646.

## Forestry

### McMath Forestry

Complete Ecological Forestland Management Services. David McMath, Forester, 4875 Noyestar Road, East Hardwick, VT 05836. (802) 533-2970. Toll Free: (866) 462-6284. www.mctree.com

### Everts Forest Management

Timber Inventories & Appraisals. Timber Sales. Tax Assistance. Forest Management Plans. NH License No. 207. Peter Everts, 278 Cloudy Pasture Lane, West Barnet, VT 05821. (802) 592-3088.

### New England Forestry Consultants, Inc.

Forest & Wildlife Management Planning Services. Green Certified Resource Managers. Contact Kurt Zschau at (802) 684-9900 or e-mail: woodlot@charter.net www.cforesters.com

## Furniture Restoration

### Chair Care and Klappert Furniture Restoration

Authentic restoration of old finishes and techniques for antique & fine furniture. Specializing in chair repair & all seat replacement. 90 5th Avenue, St. Johnsbury, VT. 05819-2672. (802) 748-0077.

## Hair Care

### Country Styles Family Hair Care

Janet L. Carson. Located at the K.P. Hall on the top of Hill Street, Danville, VT 05828. Follow the handicapped accessible ramp. Home service available to shut-ins. (802) 684-2152.





# Click & Clack Talk Cars

## When a Car Won't Start on Its Own

Dear Tom and Ray:

I am a student in Boston with a car originally from Texas. I have a 1996 Chevrolet G Van that has more than 150,000 miles on it. The van had been working really well until last fall. This was its first real winter. Basically, I have to jump-start my car every time I want to turn it on. It starts very easily and reliably with a jump. So I bought one of those portable jump-start boxes, because I got tired of praying that someone would be in the parking lot whenever I needed to go anywhere. I am hoping that you might have an idea of what is

going on with my car and what I can do to fix it.

Hannah

**TOM:** You must have made a lot of new friends, Hannah. That's a great way to meet people when you're new to a city - drive a car that never starts.

**RAY:** Two things come to mind. The first is very simple to fix. I think you might have a dead cell in your battery.

**TOM:** A car battery is made up of six cells - kind of like the unit where my brother did time after the IRS caught up with him.

**RAY:** If one cell in the battery is dead, the battery might only be producing 10 volts instead of 12. That's enough to work the lights, the radio and

the 40,000-watt stereo system. But the starter motor needs a full 12 volts, or it just won't move. When you turn the key, you might hear the starter lurch or you'll hear a clicking sound or nothing at all.

**TOM:** The solution to that is a new battery. That'll cost you 75 bucks. Just flag down one of the guys in your parking lot and say: "Excuse me, my car won't start. Would you mind putting in this new battery for me?" Then go hide behind a building in case he crosses the cables and sets your car on fire.

**RAY:** Or just go to a gas station, and have them do it. Because they can check for the other possibility: a current drain. It could be something like a light in the glove box staying on all night.

**TOM:** Or a fellow student running his laptop from your cigarette lighter all night.

**RAY:** It's very easy for your neighborhood mechanic to test your battery and your charging system and to check for a current drain. That shouldn't cost very much. But I'd bet on the battery. Good luck, Hannah.

a Jeep Liberty, my wife asked the salesman about the difference between "full-time" and "part-time" four-wheel drive. Being a typical know-it-all husband, I ran with the question, explaining that the part-time should only be used during certain slippery conditions and disengaged when the condition ends. "Full-time" can be left on indefinitely at the pleasure of the driver. "No, no, no," replied the salesman. "You've got it all backward. If you want to leave it on all the time, put it in 'part-time,' because of something to do with the transfer case. The 'full-time' should only be used on a full-time basis when it's slippery outside, again because of something to do with the transfer case." Am I stupid?

Jerry

**TOM:** Only if you believed the salesman, Jerry.

**RAY:** Your explanation is exactly right. "Part-time" (sometimes called "on-demand") four-wheel drive is the old-fashioned type of four-wheel drive. It's designed to be engaged when you're already stuck or in a specific situation where you know you might get stuck - like in snow, sand or mud. It's not designed for normal road use and must be disengaged before you drive on dry, paved roads.

**TOM:** "Full-time" four-wheel drive (better known as

"all-wheel drive" or by a variety of brand names like "real time 4WD," "4Motion," "4matic," "Quattro" and others) can be left on forever. In fact, most vehicles with all-wheel drive don't even give you the option of turning it off.

**RAY:** For the vast majority of drivers, all-wheel drive is far superior to part-time four-wheel drive. Not only do you never have to worry about when it's safe to use it, but since it's always on, it's ready to help you when you hit an unexpected slippery patch of snow, sand or a deep puddle of Olive Oil.

**TOM:** Jeep offers both types of four-wheel drive on some models because the part-time four-wheel drive does have some advantages on true, off-road terrain. And even though most Jeep Liberty drivers won't be going any more off-road than into a dirt parking lot at the antique fair, Jeep's image requires that they maintain that capability.

**RAY:** But all-wheel drive is what you want, Jerry. And your description is correct.



ML#213539 This spacious 2½ story Colonial is conveniently located within walking distance of a beautiful Vermont village. The White Mountain views are spectacular, and the landscaping is top shelf with perennials galore and stonewalls and patios. Inside you'll find an eat-in kitchen, formal dining room and spacious living room with hardwood floors.

All this on 3.77+/- acres for \$389,000.



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www.parkwayrealtysociates.com



## Antique and Unique!

Step inside this 1900's grist mill and you have an open, airy year-round home that is over-looking the Stephen's Brook, near Harvey's Lake and sits on 2.5 surveyed acres on both sides of the brook. The owners lovingly made an inviting home, complete with 5 bedrooms and a huge livingroom and dining area with cathedral ceiling, deck and 3 bay carriage house. This is a MUST-SEE home and a drive-by does not do it justice.

**Century 21** **QUATRINI Real Estate**  
1111 Main St. • St. Johnsbury, VT 05819  
email: c21qre@sover.net  
website: quatrini.com • realtor.com or AOL Keyword "Century 21"  
**(802) 748-9543**  
"Real Estate for The Real World"

## Full-time Versus Part-time Four Wheel Drive

Dear Tom and Ray:  
Recently, while test-driving



**Kirby:** This log cape on 5 acres is well kept with nice landscaping. It's a great home or vacation getaway. There are three bedrooms with space available for a rec room. Views are nice. The house comes furnished. There is a small barn or storage building.

\$169,900

## REYNOLDS Real Estate, Inc.

791 Broad Street ■ Lyndonville, VT 05851  
(802) 626-9357 ■ Fax (802) 626-6913  
www.reynoldsre.com  
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**#6302 Westmore** Sink your feet into the sand on your 20 ft. of Lake Willoughby beach or gaze at the lake from the enclosed front porch in your year-round home! On 3.75 acres with 3 outbuildings plus a guest/rental cottage this property won't last for long!  
**Being offered at \$249,900**



**#6282 Burke MOUNTAIN VIEWS** This parcel has 296+ acres. Beautiful mountain views on a town maintained road, just minutes from Burke Mountain. Build your seasonal camp or dream home.  
**Being offered at \$296,000**



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www.allseasonre.com

## Danville Senior Action Center

### August Meal Schedule

- August 2** - Corn Chowder with Crackers, Ham Salad Sandwich, Green Beans, Tomato Juice, Oreo Cheesecake.
- August 4** - Kielbasa and Bratwurst on Bun, Sauerkraut, 3-Bean Salad with Pasta, Orange Juice. Library Day.
- August 9** - Baked Chicken, Fresh Tomatoes, Bruscetta, Pasta Salad, Strawberry Shortcake.
- August 11** - Tuna Salad Pocket Sandwich, Tomato Soup, Fruit Salad.
- August 16** - Cheeseburgers with Lettuce, Tomatoes and Pickles, Potato Salad, Watermelon, Oatmeal Cookies.
- August 18** - Shepherd's Pie, Blueberry Scones, Orange Slices, Gingerbread with Whipped Cream. Library Day.
- August 23** - Spaghetti with Meatballs, Garlic Bread, Spinach Salad with Mandarin Oranges, Pudding.
- August 25** - Chicken Divan, Rice, Cranberry Sauce, Rolls.
- August 30** - Sloppy Joes, Pasta Salad, Coleslaw, Potatoes Chips, Peaches.

Sing-a-Long with Winona Gadapee on Tuesdays at 11:00

Meals at Danville Methodist Church. All meals served with a beverage, homemade breads and desserts. Reservations are appreciated by calling (802) 684-3903 before 9:30 a.m. on day of the meal. A donation of \$2.50 for guests 60+ (Others \$3.50) is appreciated.



## Ask the Shrinks

Alice S. Kitchel and Burton Zahler

Dear Shrinks,

I am the parent of three children, two daughters and one son. Our youngest, a daughter, is going off to college this fall, and I am dreading it.

Until now I would have told you I had a great family, a happy home life, the whole nine yards - so to speak. With the departure of our last child, I sense that our home will suddenly seem enormous and empty. Can't imagine what I'll do with my time outside of work. And worse, I can't imagine what my wife and I will do together. I even wonder what we will talk about. For the first time in my life I feel old and spent.

What's going on?  
Can you help?

Dreading the Fall

Dear Dreading,

We think that you have probably heard of the empty nest syndrome, but never thought it would happen to you. Suddenly, it IS happening to you!

It seems to us that you and your wife have handled many aspects of your marriage very well. First, its clear your child rearing has gone well. Your phrase "a happy home life" implies that all the many tasks of housekeeping and cooking and earning enough money and economizing effectively to make life comfortable have been done very well. These are great accomplishments. However, we wonder if you have neglected some other parts of adult life and marriage.

No matter the number of children, marriage is always about the two adults committed to the relationship. That relationship must be nourished for its own sake, children aside. We think that you, and possibly your wife as well, overindulged yourselves in your children's lives, and allowed their social activities, sports and friends to crowd out adult time and the pursuits you needed as a couple to strengthen and deepen your own relationship.

We also speculate that you may have a particular closeness to your youngest. In some innocent ways she may have become more of a confidant or companion than your wife. This can happen because when one is emotionally separated from one's

spouse a common compensation is to grow closer to a child, which, of course, tends to increase the estrangement.

So what's to be done? First, we recommend that you take stock of how you use your own time. Think of activities you've wanted to try but couldn't get to. There might even be some you'd want to do with your wife. Even though it might be awkward, show this letter to your wife... it just might open some subjects for you two to talk about!

It is clear to us that you two already "get along." This could be a time of rediscovering your marriage, a process that might well enrich both your lives.

Alice S. Kitchel and Burton Zahler, each have a private psychotherapy practice in St. Johnsbury.

**Our youngest, a daughter, is going off to college this fall, and I am dreading it.**

Once your children have left home your relationship with them will never be quite the same. With your cooperation a new relationship can evolve.

## Do not buy a house... until you know what to look for and what to look out for.

The HomeOwnership Center provides expert information on financing, credit and more. There's even a program for qualified applicants that can get you up to \$2000 toward your closing costs.

Know what to look for and what to look out for!  
Call us at: (802) 626-1175

www.NEKhome.com

The NeighborWorks® HomeOwnership Center is a program of Gilman Housing Trust - a non-profit community organization serving the NEK from Lyndonville and Newport.

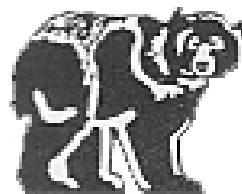


## Danville

**Danville-Peacham Road offers a very special parcel of land. 11.70 acres with approximately 50% mature maples, and the balance is glorious pines. Was old pasture with gradual slope, lots of road frontage, 2 springs, old sugarhouse, close to Joe's Brook with beauty all around.**

**\$79,000**

### BIG BEAR Real Estate



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bigbear@together.net  
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## West Barnet Senior Action Center

August 2005

- August 3 - Meal Site Closed.
- August 5 - Meal Site Closed.
- August 10 - Salad Day: Potato Salad, Macaroni Salad, Carrot Salad, Cottage Cheese, Dark Bread, Pudding with Topping.
- August 12 - Buffet.
- August 17 - Chipped Beef with Egg Gravy, Potatoes, Beets, Cole Slaw, Biscuits, Fruit Cup.
- August 19 - Liver & Onions with Bacon, Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Dark Breads, Pudding with Topping.
- August 24 - Macaroni & Cheese, Stewed Tomatoes, Green Beans, Muffins, Jell-O.
- August 26 - "Jessie Day:" Open Faced Turkey Sandwich, Mashed Potatoes, Cranberry Jelly, Squash, Brownies.
- August 31 - Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes, Fresh Carrots, Assorted Breads, Ice Cream.

Meals served at West Barnet Church. All meals served with a beverage. Reservations not required. Suggested donation of \$3.00 per meal is appreciated. Phone (802) 633-4068.



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### BEGIN REALTY ASSOCIATES



**Barb, Robin and Wendy look forward to helping you with any of your Real Estate needs.**

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INFORMATION ABOUT THESE HOMES AND OTHER LISTINGS CAN BE FOUND ON [www.realtor.com](http://www.realtor.com)



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Barb Machell.....	748-5248
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**Outrageous Views from this Hilltop Home!** This is a sweet newer cape with deck and screened porch. There is an open floor plan with three bedrooms, two full bathrooms and a walk-out basement that could easily be a large family room. Open and wooded land offer room to play and enjoy spectacular views. Located close to North Danville in Walden, 10 miles from St. Johnsbury. High school choice. Near VAST trails. MLS#209398 **\$245,000**

### Danville Lots

Two lots on the Oneida Road to purchase together or separately! Lot 1 is 3.51 acres offered for **\$37,500**; Lot 2 is 4.1 acres offered for **\$39,900**. Nice views with clearing; power nearby; quiet road; near Joe's Pond. Don't miss out on your chance to build your dream home this summer! Perc tested and permitted! MLS#180315/180316.



**Enjoy splendid White Mountain views** from the wrap-around deck of this 3,000+ sq. ft. family home. Special features include 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, wood and laminate floors, newer furnace, new roof, new low-E windows and fresh exterior paint. The 3-acre open lot and the fresh water pond out back invite the whole family to a fun-fest of activities. MLS#176058. **Priced at \$199,000**

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**AROUND THE TOWNS**

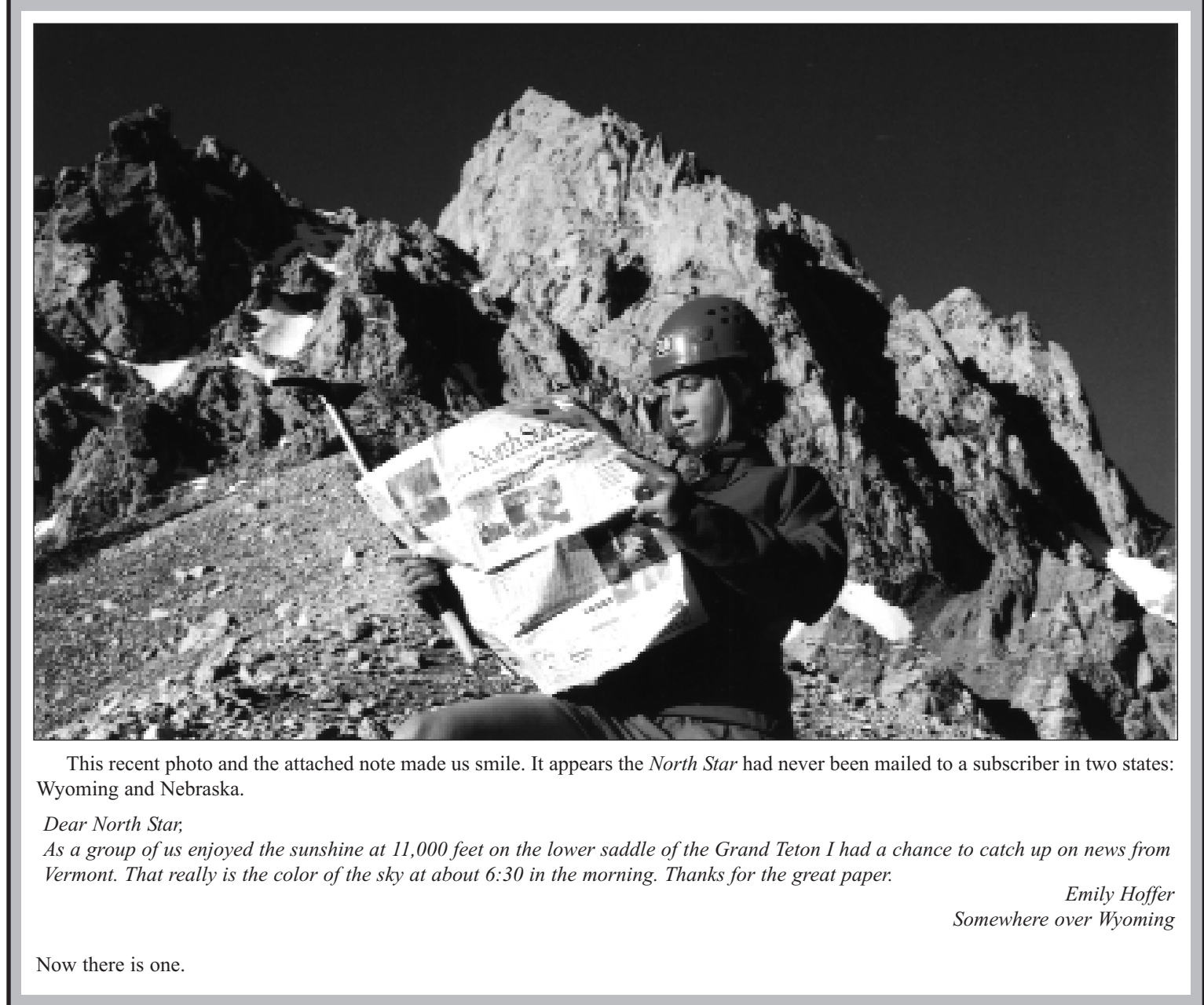
 **August**

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

- Daily** - Bread & Puppet Museum, Glover, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (802) 525-3031.
- Mondays** - Preschool Story Time, St. Johnsbury Athenaeum Youth Library, 10:00 a.m. (802) 748-8291.
- Mondays** - Story Time, Pope Library, Danville, 10:00 a.m. (802) 684-2256.
- Mondays** - Just Parents meet with concerns for drugs and kids, Parent Child Center, St. Johnsbury, 7:00 p.m. (802) 748-6040.
- Tuesdays** - Baby & Toddler Story Hour, Cobleigh Library, Lyndonville. 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. (802) 626-5475.
- Tuesdays** - Bridge Club for all experience levels, Cobleigh Library, Lyndonville, 6:30 p.m. (802) 626-5475.
- Wednesdays** - Read 'n' Stuff, Cobleigh Library, Lyndonville. 3:30 p.m. (802) 626-5475.
- Thursdays** - Introduction to Computers, Cobleigh Library, Lyndonville. 10:00 a.m. (802) 626-5475.
- Thursdays** - Read and Weed Book Club, Cobleigh Library, Lyndonville. 3:30 p.m. (802) 626-5475.
- Thursdays** - Danville Town Band Rehearsal, 7:00 p.m., Danville School auditorium. (802) 684-1180.
- Saturday & Sunday** - Planetarium Show 1:30 p.m. Fairbanks Museum, St. Johnsbury. (802) 748-2372.
- Saturday & Sunday** - Ben's Mill, Barnet, open 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (802) 748-8180.
- Saturdays** - Bridge Club for all experience levels, Cobleigh Library, Lyndonville, 1:00 p.m. (802) 626-5475.

**August**

- 4 Peacham Library Lecture Series with Ron Crisman, 7:00 p.m.
- 5 March and Vigil in commemoration of atomic bomb dropped over Hiroshima and Nagasaki, North Congregational Church, St. Johnsbury. 3:30-5:00 p.m.



This recent photo and the attached note made us smile. It appears the *North Star* had never been mailed to a subscriber in two states: Wyoming and Nebraska.

*Dear North Star,*  
 As a group of us enjoyed the sunshine at 11,000 feet on the lower saddle of the Grand Teton I had a chance to catch up on news from Vermont. That really is the color of the sky at about 6:30 in the morning. Thanks for the great paper.

*Emily Hoffer*  
 Somewhere over Wyoming

Now there is one.

- 5 Bingo, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Lakeview Grange Hall, West Barnet. (802) 748-8180.
- 6 Men's Ecumenical Breakfast, Methodist Church, Danville, 7:00 a.m. (802) 684-3666.
- 6 Scrabble Club, St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, Noon - 4:00 p.m. (802) 748-8291.
- 8 Cancer Support Group, Conference Room A, NVRH, 4:00 p.m. (802) 748-8116.
- 9 Peacham Historical Association annual meeting with lecture by Lynne Z. Bassett. Peacham Congregational Church. 7:00 p.m.
- 11 Peacham Library Lecture Series with Johanna Branson, 7:00 p.m.
- 11 Film discussion following 7:00 p.m. film at Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury. (802) 748-8813.
- 11 A Naturalist's Travels in South America with V. Pierce, 7:30 p.m. North Woods Stewardship Center, East Charleston. (802) 723-6551.
- 12 Sacred Circle Dance, Danville Congregational Church, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. (802) 684-3867.
- 13 Wildlife Workshop: What Lives in and Around Vermont Lakes? Town Hall, Danville. 9:00 a.m. (802) 241-4242
- 14 Concerts on the Green in Danville with St. Johnsbury Town Band, 7:00 p.m. (802) 684-2256.
- 16 Readings in the Art Gallery with Edward Hirsch, St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, 7:30 p.m. (802) 748-8291.
- 17 Cardiac Support Group, Cardiac Rehabilitation Room, NVRH, 6:30 p.m. (802) 748-7401.
- 18 Peacham Library Senior Movie Series at the Library. 1:15 pm.
- 18 Nearly Full Moon Paddle, 7:30 p.m., North Woods Stewardship Center, East Charleston. (802) 723-6551.
- 19 Bingo, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., Lakeview Grange Hall, West Barnet. (802) 748-8180.
- 20 Peacham Library Lecture Series with Reeve Lindbergh, 7:00 p.m.
- 21 Concerts on the Green in Danville with Cold Country Blue Grass, 7:00 p.m. (802) 684-2256.
- 20-21 Annual Vermont Zucchini Festival; Carve, throw, dress, eat, paint or race your zucchini in Ludlow. (802) 228-5830.
- 25 Concerts on the Green in Danville with Danville Town Band, 7:00 p.m. (802) 684-2256.
- 26 Sacred Circle Dance, Danville Congregational Church, 7:00 -9:00 p.m. (802) 684-3867.
- 28 Old North Church, Lamplight Service and Hymn Sing. North Danville. (802) 748-4096.
- 29 Diabetes Support Group, Conference Room B, NVRH, 6:30 p.m. (802) 748-7433.
- 29 Alzheimer's Support group, Caledonia Home Health, St. Johnsbury. 7:00 p.m. (802) 748-8116

See also the **Arts Around the Towns** Calendar Page 14.

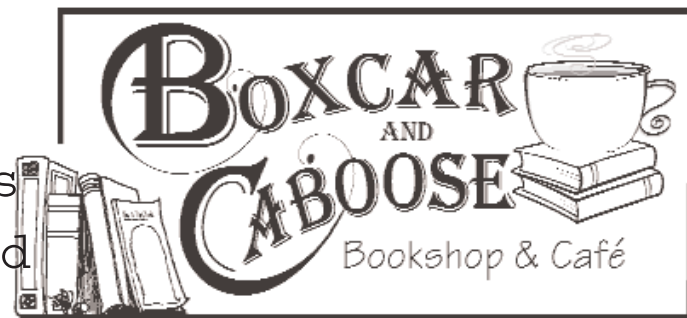
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Watch for Author Readings and Other Events in August including Don Bredes, Reeve Lindbergh and Jack Sanders. Stop by for an events calendar.

**Store Hours:**  
 Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
 Sat. 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
 Sun. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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