

THE North Star MONTHLY

Every Small Town's Newspaper

DANVILLE, VERMONT

GOOD FOR THE WHOLE MONTH

\$1.50

MAY 2006

Volume 18, Number 1

PAGE TWELVE

Peacham Church Celebrates 200 Years for the Meeting House on the Hill



PAGE TWENTY-EIGHT

By the 1920's creameries had turned to the business of fluid milk.

PAGE THIRTY

Chicken Cutlets Never Tasted This Good

Vanna Guldenschuh

ALMOST EVERY TOWN HAD A DOCTOR

LOIS FIELD WHITE

Dr. Mackay hitched his horses to the sleigh that cold January day and drove off to attend the first birth of 1903 in Peacham. Margaret Eliza Ramsay, the third child of William James Ramsay and Elizabeth B. Hastie, was born on January 16. Dr. Mackay completed his duties, signed the Certificate of Birth and filed it with the Peacham Town Clerk.

Albert J. Mackay of Peacham was only one of the many "country doctors" who delivered babies, tended to the sick and injured and cared for people in their last illnesses in rural Vermont many years ago. The country doctors had horses, sleighs, buggies, wagons and snowshoes to transport them to their patients in all the surrounding towns. These dedicated men set up offices in their homes. They kept a stock of medicines and reference books. They were often paid with foods and wood rather than cash. They kept in touch with their wives and patients through the telephone operators who kept track of their

(Please See *Almost* on Page 8)

Cindy Cady Would Be Happy To Work Herself Out of This Job

AMY EHRLICH

The Lyndon Dog Pound is a utilitarian-looking building with fluorescent lights and cement floors, but at the door there is a mat with dog prints and the words, "Wipe your paws." There are other touches of home at the Pound. Country music is playing, rubber hamburgers and other dog toys are scattered around, and each cage is outfitted with a soft dog bed.

The Pound has eight cages, but when I last visited there were five dogs in residence – a white German Shepherd puppy, a hound named Dallas with a lot of beagle in him, a three-year-old mixed breed named Hannah, a lanky border collie/husky cross named Patches and a Rottweiler mix named Skyla.

Cindy Cady, the dog warden – her other title is "Animal Control Officer" – says that about 30 percent of the dogs she takes in are surrenders – dogs

brought to the Pound by their owners. Sometimes people are forced to give up pets – for example they're moving or they have allergies. But usually when an owner brings the family dog to the Pound, it's because the person just doesn't want to take care of it any more.

What would make a dog's owner give it away? Cady says she tries to understand, but it's hard. "You hear a lot of excuses – they can't let the dog into the house because it isn't housebroken. Or it jumps up. Or it digs up the lawn. But whose fault is that? Not the dog's certainly, not if it hasn't been trained. Same thing with a puppy that chews. Well, it's a puppy. Or like recently some owners brought in their seven-year-old dog – there was nothing wrong with it, but they wanted a younger dog that would play with their children.

"It's an attitude toward the animal – that it's a piece of prop

(Please See *Lyndon* on Page 6)

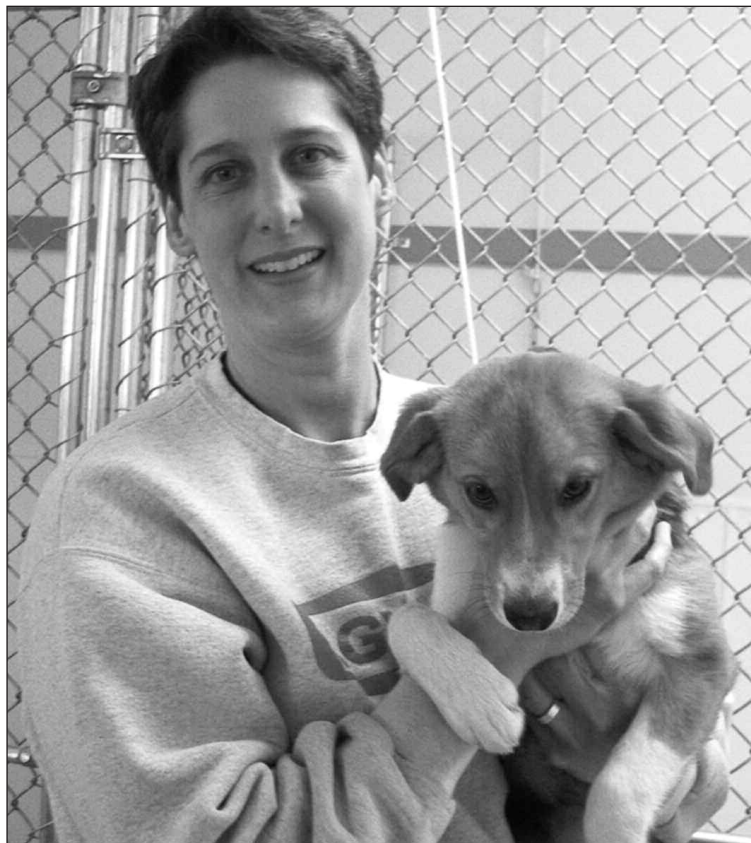


Photo By: Amy Ehrlich

Cindy Cady is the Lyndon dog warden, animal control officer and the moving force behind the establishment of the new Lyndon Pound.

"I was here when the dairy age started in Vermont, and I guess I'm watching it come to an end."
- Ken Ward



Ward Family Photograph

Ken and Florence Ward bought into the family farm in 1942 and sold the property to their daughter in 1980. According to Ward this farm and the Gillanders on Crow Hill in Danville were the last two successful dairy farms south of US 2 in Danville. In early April the Gillanders sold their cows to an Amish Farm in Pennsylvania and the land will be used to raise grass fed organic beef. Ward's granddaughter expects to sell the cows on the Ward Farm, known now as the Pumpkin Hill Farm, in May.

TERRY HOFFER

"I was at a supper once with mixed company. There were people there from all over - from all walks of life, and this one fellow sitting next to me was trying to strike up a conversation. He asked what my hobby was. I told him I didn't have a hobby, I was a farmer. But the truth of it was that if farming wasn't my hobby, if I didn't love it, I wouldn't have stuck with it." Ken Ward was born on the dairy farm in the Pumpkin Hill area of Danville where his father, and his grandfather before him, kept cows.

Ward graduated from high school in Danville and spent a year at the Vermont School of Agriculture (VSA) in Randolph Center. He graduated in 1938. Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal was in full swing with federal programs under the National Recovery Administration, Public Works Administration, Civil Works Administration and Works Progress Administration designed to lead the country out of the depths of the Great Depression.

Ward remembers a speech by the head of the school at the time, who told the gathered graduates that they had more education than most of the farmers in the state. He urged the graduates to get involved with some of the federal programs, serve on committees and do all that they could to educate farmers.

Ken Ward remembered that advice, and he served for many years on the local resource conservation district. He served on state and federal committees, and admits that he lost track of the number of national conventions that took him and his wife to places like Hawaii, California, Nevada, Utah and all over New England. Ward is a quiet man, and he carries his pride gently. "I'm not sure I did the county any good," he says, "but we had a lot of fun trying."

Ward served with distinction in the cause of helping other Vermont farmers, but you don't have to listen long to understand that he thinks his best days were in the barn, and he finds changes in the dairy

(Please See *People Have* on Page 7)

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Leave That Cell Phone on the Hook

I'm afraid. I suppose this is a sign of my own age or my technological intolerance or both, but I have noticed the mixed blessing of cell phones. The number of drivers that I have seen coming my way engrossed in conversation on their cell phones is a frightening sight.

I know that cell phones have been used in emergencies and saved time and saved appointments that had to be changed and I suppose there is data about calls that saved lives. But those aren't what I see with increasing frequency on our winding roads in Vermont or on multiple lane expressways in urban centers like Burlington, Boston and Hartford.

The Cellular Telecommunications and Internet Association tells me that in 1990 there were 4.3 million Americans using cell phones. By December 2005 that number had grown to more than 200 million. And it seems obvious that a lot of those phones are in use by drivers in cars. There are two clear dangers associated with driving and cell phones. First, drivers take their eyes off the road and oncoming traffic while dialing. Second, people become so absorbed in their conversations that their ability to concentrate on the act of driving is severely impaired, jeopardizing the safety of vehicle occupants (theirs and mine) and pedestrians.

A study conducted by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety demonstrated that motorists who use cell phones while driving are four times as likely to get into serious crashes.

Studies from the University of Utah found that motorists who talk on hand-free phones are 18 percent slower in braking, they take 17 percent longer in resuming speed after braking and they are less likely to recall seeing pedestrians, billboards or other roadside features.

A study published by the Journal of Experimental Psychology shows the distraction risk is as high and as likely to cause accidents for hand-held or hand-free phones.

Whether I like it or not cell phones play an integral role in our modern life. Not long ago I was standing in a courtyard tiled with slate and surrounded by brick walls. In an area the size of half a basketball court I counted (and could almost hear) 27 phone conversations in progress - all important, I am sure, and clearly the people I saw were oblivious to their surroundings. Most of their conversations, I suppose, were about profound matters of business, recreation or personal relationships - the same matters that are distracting the attention of drivers on the highway, all but oblivious to their surroundings.

What can we do? We can try to regulate and we should, but enforcement is difficult. In 2005 Colorado, Delaware, Maryland and Tennessee banned the use of cell phones by young drivers. We can celebrate court awarded damages for personal injury. In 2004 a Virginia jury awarded \$2 million to the family of a young girl killed by a driver using a cell phone at the time of the accident. Phone records convinced the jury that the driver was talking to a business client, and the plaintiff filed suit against the driver's employer as well. And as in driver education training, which includes vivid demonstration of alcohol impairment for drivers, we should introduce drivers of all ages to the risks of cell phone distraction and the subsequent impairment to attention behind the wheel.

Cell phones are a wonderful advance in our ability to communicate, but there is a reason that people who are involved in tasks requiring undivided attention don't use them. There is a reason that surgeons, airplane pilots, professional athletes and, actually, most people don't use cell phones while they work. I believe the same reason is why drivers of moving vehicles should leave their phones on the hook.

Terry Hoffer

A Tax by Any Other Name Is Just as Regressive

Once again, I am pondering an unanswerable question. How and why is it that the method of paying for public services generates such a visceral response? In our market economy, we are accustomed to paying for the goods and services we use. We pay for public services - the actions of our governing institutions - through a variety of methods: use fees, registrations, licenses and taxes.

Why is it that when we call the method of payment a tax there is a primal response, an objectionable, fingers-down-the blackboard, biting-on-aluminum feeling? Why does paying taxes hit our emotional panic button, but registering our car, buying a fishing license or paying the entrance fee to a state or national park not? Perhaps it is the illusion of a more direct connection between fees and the services those fees may cover. The something-for-your-money effect is better reinforced when, say, we "buy" a drivers license, whereas with taxes there is only the very indirect connection through the election of those who are making decisions on how to spend our tax money. Are taxes less palatable because we feel we have little control over them? Perhaps it is a political divide and conquer phenomena; there seems to be little public outcry (and consequent political risk) when, for example, automobile registration fees or professional licensure fees are raised. Our elected representatives have justifiable trepidation whenever they vote to increase taxes.

Vermonters have the opportunity to receive a substantial increase in federal transportation funding over the next four years, provided we come up with matching funds. According to the Vermont Agency of Transportation website, on average, we can receive \$61 million per year in federal funding of transportation projects if we come up with about \$12 million per year in new state funds. A mixture of fee increases and reshuffling of general fund dollars has been proposed to come up with the needed matching funds. Use of the state property tax, by appropriating money from the education fund, was briefly discussed and discarded as a possible funding mechanism. At the time of this writing, debate continues between the Vermont House and Senate on a proposal to increase fuel (diesel and gas) taxes.

I believe that how we individually pay for public services should be linked to our ability to pay. Fees and taxes that are not sensitive to income place a disproportionate burden on those with lower incomes (so-called regressive taxation). Yet, as painful as it may be with gas prices pushing \$3 per gallon, I am in favor of a small increase in the gas tax as part of the mechanism to raise the needed state match. The fee increases planned to obtain the federal transportation dollars recently made available are just as regressive as the gas tax, and they are born only by Vermont residents. More than just Vermont drivers cause wear and tear on our roads. It seems only fair to ask all users of roads and bridges to help pay for their upkeep. The gas tax, unlike vehicle registration or drivers license fees, spreads the funding burden among all, residents and non-residents, who purchase fuel and drive the roads of Vermont.

Tim Tanner

THE North Star MONTHLY

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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.

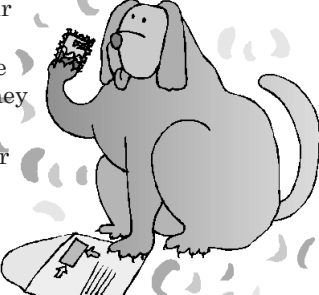
ARTICLES: We don't have a big staff of writers. So we look forward to you sending your writing. If you have questions or ideas and want to ask us first, please call. We'll send our guidelines. No fiction, please.

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:

A Fallen Soldier, A Fallen Friend, A Fallen Brother

Dear North Star,
I have been asked so many


times if I knew Stoney [Sgt. 1st Class John Thomas Stone of Tunbridge, VT] that I wanted to tell all just how I knew him.

I want people to know, at least through my eyes, just what kind of a man Stoney really was. I well remember the day when Stoney called me at my office at

(See *Letters on Page 4*)

Steamship Schiller Lost Off Sicily Isles Fire Sweeps Harvey's Hollow Woolen Mill

The North Star
"WHERE LIBERTY DWELLS THERE IS MY COUNTRY"
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THE NORTH STAR

May 7, 1875

Snow fell in Norfolk, Va., Saturday and Sunday, and fruits and early vegetables are killed by the cold snap.

The capital of Vermont was the scene of another very destructive fire believed to be the work of incendiaries, burning several business and dwelling houses and leaving some twenty five families without a home. The fire took place last week Friday night April 30. The alarm was struck about midnight. A strong wind prevailed, and it seemed at first as if the flames could not be prevented from running their course through Main Street north, but rather fortunately the fire was driven towards the Berlin end of the street into a less rich part of the village. Nearly everything touched by the fire was totally destroyed. Engines from Barre and Northfield were sent for and arrived in good time and did an

excellent service with the aid of a favorable wind which set in. The fire was got under control between two and three o'clock. Men worked nobly with pails of water and wet blankets. Many families of moderate circumstances are homeless and large quantities of household stuff are lost, the fire flying with such frightful rapidity as to make it impossible to move all to places of safety. Hundreds of barrels of flour and many other goods fell prey to the devouring element.

The late cold snap has choked off the croakings of the "frog family" and they are now dumb as an oyster.

Hon. Horace Fairbanks of St. Johnsbury has for a few days past been very ill in Boston with pneumonia. His family and brother are with him and at one time it was feared the disease would prove fatal. Later accounts report in a decided change for the better.

May 14, 1875

Awful Ocean Disaster - A London dispatch for New York dated Sunday May 7 says, The intelligence reached this city yesterday of the terrible ocean calamity resulting in the loss of the Eagle Line steamship Schiller, which sailed from New York on April 28 for Hamburg by way of Plymouth and Cherbourg off the Sicily Isles. The shipwreck occurred at 10 o'clock last Friday night at which time the steamship struck on the dangerous Betarriere Ledge near Bishop's

Rock. A fog prevailed at the time. A boat from St. Agnes the southernmost of the Sicily Islands landed some of the survivors who were swimming with the tide. They declare that the number lost is between 200 and 300 persons. The captain of the vessel perished with the rest.

Dr. Hosea Farr, of this village, has been appointed liquor agent for the town of Danville to sell for "medicinal, mechanical and chemical" purposes. The agency was transferred to him last Monday.

Frank Gosneau has recovered \$4000 from the town of Milton for injuries received from a defective highway.

N. Stafford of Cambridge has invented a machine for dropping corn. A seed box and charger on the hoe handle, and a jerk on the string leaves just six kernels in each hill.

E&T Fairbanks & Co have just received from New York and Boston large invoices of goods making our stock complete in all departments comprising in part dress goods in all wool debeiges, all wool serges, all wool vigognes, silk and wool grissales, silk and wool poplins and low priced goods in plain and plaided effects.

May 20, 1875

On Thursday of last week the roof of C.M. Shattuck's woolen factory in Harvey's Hollow was discovered to be on fire. The fire caught from sparks which fell

from the chimney and short time the roof was in flames. The wind was blowing from the south and in less than an hour the main factory, the ells, the store house and machinery were burned. The flames spread to Mr. Shattuck's home and outbuildings and nothing was saved except more or less furniture in a damaged condition. D.O Gookin's house caught fire as many as twenty five times and was saved only by great exertions. The mill burned was known as the Simon Harvey factory. It was erected some thirty years ago on the site of one also destroyed by fire. It is hoped that Mr. Shattuck will be able, with some aid from the public, to rebuild the factory.

From the wreck of the recent fire Mr. C. O. Shattuck saved a new and nice wool carding machine which had not been removed from the depot, and he requests us to announce that he will very soon be able to do wool carding in first rate shape. Orders left at his house will be promptly attended to.

May 28, 1875

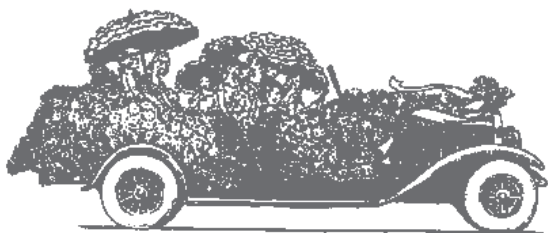
Mrs. Lincoln Insane - Fears are entertained that Mrs. Lincoln, widow of President Abraham Lincoln, is hopelessly insane. Her insanity manifested itself more clearly than ever last week in an attempt at Chicago to poison herself. After being removed from the courtroom where she was adjudged insane she was put under strict surveil-

lance, it being feared she might do injury to herself. Robert Lincoln the President's son, was before the court and reluctantly testified to his mother's insanity. His evidence showed that for several years Mrs. Lincoln has acted strangely. She believed she was haunted by an Indian spirit, who with hideous yells would remove and replace her scalp and at other times scraped bones out of her head. At one time she bought \$600 worth of lace curtains, three watches costing \$450, \$700 worth of other jewelry and \$200 worth of soaps and perfumes and a whole piece of silk. The evidence of her derangement was very complete and on the following day she was sent to a private institution at Batavia, Ill.

Montpelier - The new Pavilion at Montpelier is being built of brick, four stories high, with a basement and flat metallic roof. The great fireplace in the office, so famous in the old hotel, is being rebuilt, and there will be two fireplaces in the large dining room. The main entrance to the building is on State Street and is approached by twelve granite steps.

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Letters to the Editor:

(Continued from Page 2)

Brigade and introduced himself and requested that he be put on the list to come to Afghanistan with our small staff. At the time I didn't know that Stoney had already been here twice before. I quickly found out that he would be an invaluable asset to our team.

Stoney and I hit it off right out of the box. Our time at Camp Shelby quickly blossomed into a terrific friendship. Stoney's personality was infectious, he knew how to make people laugh, and most of all he was a mentor for all of us on Task Force Catamount. The experience and knowledge that he brought to the table was critical to our success. Stoney had the Heart of a lion; his caring and compassion for all he worked with was incredible.

Stoney and I spent many days rucking many miles at Camp Shelby and sharing many stories. Stoney never quit. He always pushed me and others one more mile, and I was in awe of his motivation. Everyone on Team Nightrider was touched by Stoney in more ways than one. I guess I

could go on for endless pages of what Stoney meant to me, but the one story I want to share is of my last day with the team in Herat.

We all stood around the tarmac waiting for the plane to show up shooting the breeze and telling stories. The plane finally arrived, and I said my goodbyes to the team. Stoney said to me "Damn it Sergeant Major don't get hurt because I won't be there to fix you up." He leaned over gave me a hug and whispered in my ear "Be safe my Brother."

I got on the plane and headed out. Days before my departure I noticed Stoney had made some covers for his ACOG sight on his M-4 rifle being the crafty person he was. He made them out medicine bottle caps and covered them with ACU camouflage tape to fit the scope perfectly. I said to Stoney jokingly how my ACOG site didn't have such fancy covers.

When leaving Herat our M-4's were placed in the nose of the small plane. When I arrived at Bagram airfield and deplaned the pilot handed me a weapon that I immediately didn't recognize and said no that's not mine. The pilot said, "It better be because it's the last one in the plane." There they were these two ACU camouflage

covers on my ACOG scope.

Stoney had taken my weapon and secretly removed his covers and placed them on my weapon. A smile came upon my face and I thought Stoney strikes again.

I know so many people have had the chance to be touched by Stoney and his wonderful ways. He was an amazing man who traveled to many places. Now he is in the hands of God, and I say Your travels have only just begun, Doc.

Thank you for being a mentor, a friend and most of all a brother. I will never forget you. I hope that those who read this will take a moment to remember the ultimate sacrifice that this warrior and all those before him have given to us all.

CSM Kevin White
Gardez, Afghanistan

CSM Kevin White is serving with the Vermont Army National Guard in Afghanistan. The letter was submitted by his mother and father, Mary and Buck White, of Barnet.

Thanks

Dear North Star,

We look forward to *The North Star's* arrival. Its positive, thoughtful and sane approach to the news of our world past, present and future brings enjoyment and hope.

Phyllis and Ted Campbell
Scarborough, ME

Dear North Star,

I read *The North Star* from cover to cover and especially enjoy the articles by Lorna Quimby.

When I'm done with it the paper circulates amongst several of our church members who are transplanted Vermonters here in the Lynn - Swampscott area.

John Buscemi
Lynn, MA

Old Remedies

Dear North Star,

I loved Lois White's article on the old remedies [April 2006]. It brought back a lot of memories. My mother was a nurse and we never saw a doctor unless we needed stitches or surgery. The "cures" were in the cupboard and were a lot cheaper with little in the way of side effects.

Susan Gagetta Kessinger
Waldron, IN

Cleaning Need Not Be Hazardous to Health

BETS PARKER ALBRIGHT

By the time you read this, spring will surely be here to stay. Won't it? Please? For so long we were tantalized by warm sun one day and winter the next. Even our back road couldn't seem to make up its mind this year, and there are still a few wet spots in low shaded areas.

Having noted all this, there's

no denying it: the calendar doesn't lie. It's time for spring cleaning! Everything looks grungy this time of year - droopy curtains, and windows that don't sparkle are dispiriting. The urge to spruce up is moving us to action!

I recently read an article, from a very reliable source, with some information that made me sit up and take notice. It now

appears that some of our cleaning products, like good old Clorox with its promises of whiter-than-white, have been shown to be not simply toxic, but, according to some, even carcinogenic. Oh dear - toxic was bad enough! We need to look for alternatives, some of which date back to times before today's cleaners were invented.

So I offer the following list of spring cleaning helps that are safe to use and effective in getting the job done:

Vinegar, mixed with water and put into a spray bottle, works well on windows and other glass.

Vegetable oil and lemon juice, stored in a screw-top jar and shaken before use, makes an excellent furniture polish.

Use hydrogen peroxide, obtainable at the drug store, as a whitener instead of the risky chlorine bleach.

Use baking soda in water to clean tubs, sinks and toilets. It works and is harmless.

Clean up your refrigerator and freezer! Avoid plastic wraps for storing food - some of them can act upon the contents. Waxed paper is okay for short-term. For longer storage, use Tupperware, glass or ceramic containers.

Perhaps without the modern cleaning materials, we will have to use more elbow-grease and settle for slightly less gleam. But surely it is worth it if we can be clean without endangering our health.



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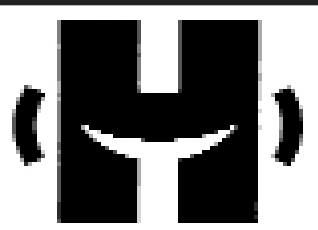
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Family Relationships Across Generations

I am fortunate to be in my 60's and have the joy of seeing back two generations to my grandparents and forward two generations to my grandchildren. This has made me think about how we relate within our families, across generations and how these relationships enrich our lives.

Thinking back, the person I remember most fondly is my maternal grandmother. She was a Victorian woman in upbringing and outlook, though she lived into the 1950's. A small person barely 5 feet tall, her life was completely devoted to supporting my grandfather in every way possible. She cooked like Julia Child whatever fish or game he brought home; she sewed; she knitted socks for my uncle in the army in World War II. She had artistic talents such as painting, embroidery and wood-carving; and though frail, she ruled the household and never complained. As a small child I learned to make bread with her, inherited her writing desk and learned to sew on her sewing machine.

My maternal grandfather was retired by the time I knew him. He was a gardener par excellence; an art collector; a fisherman and sportsman; demanding of my grandmother and encouraging of my education. These grandparents were very important to me. They helped my mother when my father died and provided a stable base for my early life. I regret that my children never knew their grandfathers. Both had died before our children were born. Grandfathers are very important figures in a child's life; they can do lots of neat stuff; they are patient; they do not need to be "buddies," but can be friends and mentors.

It can be difficult to see our parents as unique individuals. Their lives and those of our siblings and grandparents were all part of the mix that was our growing up. There is so much "baggage" entwined in that process: sibling rivalries, discipline, friendships, the ups and downs of school and family life. These many memories make it difficult to see our parents as they appeared to their contemporaries as individuals in the wider world, because most of us as children did not see them in their working or social environments.

Sometimes it takes life-changing events in the family such as marriage, birth, divorce or death, to make us aware that our lives are based on individuals, with lives of their own separate from our needs. These events can alter and enrich relationships if they are accepted positively. Sometimes this is not easy. When I was teaching childbirth classes I always made a point of discussing how family roles would change as children became parents and their parents became grandparents. For some adults these new roles are difficult to assume. It's important to realize that the former roles do not disappear; they change, mature and become richer.

As parents and grandparents, we see with delight the interests and talents of our children and grandchildren developing before our eyes. Do they look back and see similar changes occurring in us? I don't think so, because life is focused on the future. When parents later in life find new careers, new interests and new talents, it may be surprising and sometimes difficult for their adult children to appreciate these new roles. It means giving up a little of that picture of our parents with a particular set of qualities that forms our comfortable memory.

Relationships with our grandchildren are very special. When they are very young they accept us with unquestioning love and joy. They know that they are important to us and we to them. They don't care what we do. There is no "baggage." What we say to them is important. This came home to me very clearly recently. Two years ago while visiting us, our eldest grandson, now 11-years old, said he was bored. This is not an acceptable word in my vocabulary! After he went home, I thought long and hard and finally I sent him an email explaining why I never wanted to hear him use the word "bored" again, and suggested many ways to avoid that state of mind. On a recent visit the word came up in a conversation about winter sports. I mistakenly used the term "boarding" instead of "riding" a snowboard.

While laughing about my mistake he said, "Granny, you're not supposed to use that word!" Different spelling, different meaning, but my original message had stayed with him and always will. Blessings on the power of a grandparent and on the wit of a grandson!

We need to take time to discover the real people who are our relatives. Underlying everything are those special family relationships that are unchanging, but grandparents and parents have rich and varied lives. Their talents and achievements enrich succeeding generations in many ways. Separation in time gives us all a chance to love and be loved without question but also to acknowledge all family members as real individuals with talents that are unique.

Isobel P. Swartz

Green Up Day is May 6

The first Saturday in May is Vermont's annual Green Up Day, that one day when volunteers take to the roadsides and town lands in every municipality in the state. With their individual efforts or in some places sophisticated organizations they gather discarded litter and unsightly trash. You have seen them with their familiar green trash bags, and the result of their collective effort is a vastly improved landscape. This year the date is May 6.

In Danville, Green Up collection bags are available at the town hall. They may be picked up at the bandstand on the Danville Green any time after 9 o'clock on May 6.

Bags containing collected trash should be taken to the wood dump on the Bruce Badger Memorial Highway before Noon on Green Up Day. Some non-hazardous bulky wastes (such as unpainted wood, scrap metal, furniture and kitchen appliances) may also be taken to the wood dump on

that day. Please call Jim Ashley (802) 684-3491 with questions as to what constitutes acceptable bulky waste.

A free community picnic lunch will be served to Danville Green Up participants at the bandstand (in the town hall in case of rain) at 11:30 a.m.

Danville Green Up coordinator Jim Jung says, "Please take a few hours out of your May 6 morning to help Danville shine. Together we can make a huge difference."

For questions and details about activities in your town call the town clerk.

Blueberries

Harry Perkins startled a cub black bear last week beneath the mountain power lines where, this year, high bush blueberries abound. Refusing to be known as one to scare,

he thumped his stripping bucket with a stick, halloooed, sang Jesus Loves Me, chased it off, picked ten quarts he yoked down in milking pails over mossy rocks, spruce roots boot-scuffed slick,

then rang Dorothy from the IGA-three longs, two shorts-and whispered noisily about the bear (so big), the berries (few), the awful slippery climb, his fright that day.

Next day she dropped him where the power line met the road. He climbed, sang, banged on his pails, picked twelve more quarts without a trace of bear, or pickers, which he took to be a sign

that breathless whispers on a public phone with party lines apparently sufficed when pickers wanted to be left alone.

William Biddle



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New Lyndon Pound Opens on Lyndonville Agway Land

(Continued from Page 1)

erty and therefore disposable. Owners don't realize that 95 percent of the time, they're the problem. As another pound keeper I know once said, 'Some people shouldn't be allowed to own a goldfish.'"

"Some people shouldn't be allowed to own a goldfish."

Last year 30 percent of the 71 dogs housed at the Lyndon Pound were surrenders, and every year there are more. Sometimes people bring in animals that they claim to have found as strays, but the dog's attachment to them makes Cady suspect that the dog is actually theirs. Her suspicion is often confirmed later when someone knows the dog or the owner.

Cady is not sure why people don't want to admit they're surrendering animals. Money could

be an issue because there is a \$25 fee. She says, "Friends tell me I should charge more, but I worry that if a dog's owner doesn't want to pay, the dog's fate could be worse - it could be neglected or tied outside 24 hours a day."

She would rather take the dog, even for nothing. In getting a dog adopted or even in caring for it, information is valuable. "I wish the person would be up front and just surrender the dog. That way I can find out the dog's name, its age, its breed. A five-year-old dog that's had a name all its life - at least let the animal keep its identity."

If a dog comes to the pound as a stray, Cady holds it for 10 days and runs its picture in the newspaper before putting it up for adoption, hoping the owner will see it and contact her. Sadly this is the exception not the rule. "I got a dog last week, a young puppy just four months old. A really nice dog. It killed me because I didn't even get a call."

Most strays that come to the Pound are first reported in complaint calls. There are barking complaints, loose dog complaints and neglect and abuse

complaints. The telephone number for the Lyndon Pound is (802) 626-PAWS. There is also an area Animal Abuse and Neglect Hotline, and the number for that is (802) 748-2315. According to Cady, animal abuse and domestic violence go together, and they often occur in the same households.

Once Cady is alerted to a stray, she sets out to find it and catch it. A few years ago a family in Lyndonville called to say that two dogs had been hanging around their house. One had porcupine quills in its mouth, and the other had a mange-like skin condition and smelled awful.

It took several nights to actually catch the dogs. Cady says, "We tried to bait them into the garage with food, but it was hard because they were so scared and defensive that they wouldn't let us near them. But once you get a leash on them and they realize you won't hurt them, they have a different attitude."

"The female with the skin condition who smelled so bad - all she wanted was for you to touch her. We put her on meds, and the woman who adopted both dogs changed her diet - it was some kind of nutritional problem. She looks great now. You'd never know it was the same dog."

Three months is the average length of a Pound stay. Puppies and small breeds tend to be adopted more quickly. An older dog that weighs 60 or 70 pounds is likely to stay longer. Cady does everything she can to avoid putting a dog down. One that she

particularly remembers was a German shepherd mix named Butch.

"I had him for more than a year, and I adopted him out to two separate owners, but both returned him - he was afraid to climb stairs and growled at strange men, probably because of what had happened before he came to the Pound. In my last advertisement in the 'Absolutely Free' column in The Burlington Free Press, I said, 'Butch needs a woman and a ranch.' I couldn't find him that."

"Putting Butch down was one of the hardest decisions I ever had to make because he was a great dog and was great with me, but I thought he deserved more than a dog pound for the rest of his life."

When people call looking for a dog to adopt, Cady will tell them about the dogs that are there and try to screen the people by asking them about their situation and their reasons for wanting a dog.

There is a \$50 charge for the adoption, and every dog from the Lyndon Pound has been wormed, neutered, and given shots. A week after the adoption, Cady calls if she hasn't heard from the family, to see how the dog is doing. Sometimes it's just not a good match, and she emphasizes that if the adoption isn't working, she'd rather have the dog back.

In every adoption she tries to match the dog to the prospect's situation. Recently, for example, some people called who wanted a Rottweiler, but they lived in a small third floor apartment, so Cady tried to talk them out of it. "If I don't feel comfortable with people, I don't have to give them a dog," she says. "Sometimes I probably misjudge them, but I try to do the best I can."

It would be an understatement to say that Cady has done the best that she can. What she has done is remarkable.

Cady became dog warden for Lyndonville in June 1999. At the time the Pound was in a small building near the town garage. There was no running water and the building could house only

four animals. She put up dog-houses outside, which worked fine in the summer, but four months later she had 11 dogs. All had been surrendered from one household, two were already pregnant, and another became pregnant at the Pound. "At one point with the litters, we had 22 dogs, so most were outdoors, and it was cold."

After that Cady always had it in her head that she needed something bigger, and in the fall of 2003 she decided enough was enough. She began lobbying the town for building money and doing fundraising with the help of concerned friends and animal lovers.

The big breakthrough was when the Lawrence family that owns Agway donated land for the building. The new Lyndon Pound was built in four months, and it opened officially on March 18 of this year.

Cady comes into the Pound three or four times a day to feed and water the dogs and to let them out for exercise. In addition to their cages, each has a small outdoor run. When the weather is warm, she leaves the doors open so they can go in and out at will. And in her evening visit, at about 8 o'clock, she gives each one a dog biscuit before turning out the lights.

When asked her next wish, now that the Pound is finished, Cindy Cady does not hesitate. "I would like to see everyone treat their dogs as family members and not as possessions. They are innocent and look to us for their livelihood and to keep them safe. The ideal thing would be if I had no dogs to pick up and I could be out of a job." ★



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People Have More Money and Less Interest in the Hard Work of Farming

(Continued from Page 1)
industry to be troubling.

Ward says, "I was here when the dairy age started in Vermont, and I guess I'm watching it come to an end." He remembers his father and grandfather making a weekly trip to the North Danville Cooperative Creamery where they sold their cream separated from skim milk. On the Ward farm, anyway, that was the end of self-sufficient farming and the moment when dairy became a livelihood and a business.

"I told him I didn't have a hobby, I was a farmer."

Ten years or so later the farm turned to selling whole milk, and they drove it to the Cabot Creamery. Ward says there were creameries in Danville, South Peacham and Barnet but the Cabot Creamery was the biggest plant with a branch located off Western Avenue in St. Johnsbury.

Farms grew in size, and the creameries became more competitive for business.

Ward and his wife bought into the family farm in 1942, and eventually they acquired a total of 600 acres and a farm that milked 80 cows. They raised replacement heifers and 15 head of beef every year, and Ward says, "We were getting along fine."

In 1980 the Wards sold the farm to their daughter, Barbara, and her husband, and they moved into the neighboring building formerly used as the Pumpkin Hill School.

"We didn't sell because it was going out," Ward says. "We were doing fine, but as I look back at it that was about the peak

of the dairy age."

He says, "That's about the point where the world market appeared and the price of milk in the Midwest affected the price of milk in New England. They make milk in (I call them) milk factories in those big, flat open spaces like Kansas, Nebraska and Wisconsin. They are specialized, and they can produce milk for less than we can produce it on a hill farm in Vermont.

"There are dairy farmers out West who do nothing but produce milk, and there are places where half of that work is done by robots. Somebody else raises pigs. Somebody else raises corn, and somebody else hauls manure. You pick up a phone and somebody delivers a load of hay.

"There are people with lots of money to spend, and they invest it in those big farms. There are places with thousands of cows and they run like a big corporation. They pay big money for replacement stock, and it makes a difference."

But the picture isn't all rosy to Ward, and the troubling part of the farm factory production is the extent to which cows are treated as disposable assets. "People around here break their necks to raise cows, and they have had some really good ones that last six or seven years. Big farms looking for the most milk at the lowest cost put cows on bovine growth hormones, and those cows last only two or three years. They're burning them out."

Ward worries about cows being chemically treated for the sake of their increased milk production, but he sees pressure building from a market demand for organic products. Until recently there were two active and successful dairy farms south of US 2 in Danville. Early in April the Gillanders on Crow Hill sold their 56 milking cows to an Amish Farm in Pennsylvania, and the land will

be used to raise grass fed organic beef. "The whole country's going organic," Ward says.

The last dairy herd south of US 2 is maintained by Ward's granddaughter on the family place known still as Pumpkin Hill Farm. Those cows, too, are headed soon to Pennsylvania.

If Vermont is ever again going to reclaim its status as a dairy state, Ward says, the state has to find a way hold back the tsunami of change in real estate values. But he doesn't see that happening.

Ward was a lister for the Town of Danville for 35 years, and he remembers when "every house had one or two cows." He says, "A good dairy had a dozen to maybe 24-30 cows, and prosperous farmers were paying as much in personal property tax (on their cows) as they paid on their land."

The personal property tax was repealed and the winds of change came slowly at first. Few people noticed them.

Ward says, "It wasn't all that long ago when someone would come to Danville and spend a pile of money building a house, and we knew exactly what it cost, but our assessment had to be discounted as much as 20%. There was no way we could relate a fair market value to the cost of the place, and the assessed value of those brand new houses was way below what they cost.

"More people have found their way to this part of the state with more money and less interest in the hard work of farming," he says, and the result is a clear shift in the market for residential real estate.

"Listers are seeing more and more expensive homes. The places people are building are unbelievable in their costs, and those are the same prices they sell for." Ward says, "The prices of homes on Joe's Pond have

exploded, but it's not just about Joe's Pond. The market is here, and it's people in their million dollar homes that will be paying the taxes instead of the farmers."

Ward doesn't flounder in his remorse over change, but he does see it as ironic that he remembers when a cow, a few pigs, some rabbits and a big garden allowed

a family to get by. Since then, dairy herds have come and they've gone. "Today," he says, "you've got to have a real job to pay for your fancy house and all the open land, the big cars and the three dollar a gallon fuel. I don't imagine that's a hobby anymore, but somehow, I suppose, it's better." ★



Photo By: North Star Monthly

In early April cows at the Gillander Farm on Crow Hill in Danville were loaded into trailers to be shipped to a new dairy farm in Pennsylvania.

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Almost Every Town Had a Doctor

(Continued from Page 1)
travels.

There were so many of these country doctors, nearly one in every town, that it is impossible to list them all. Dr. Mackay, Dr. Martin Paulsen of Danville and Dr. Paul Choate of West Barnet and Monroe, NH were three of these medical men.



Photo Courtesy of Lois White
Paul M. Choate (right) was a doctor in Monroe, NH from 1946-1970. Choate was an avid hunter and fisherman. At left is his uncle Claude Field.

Dr. Mackay had been practicing for six years by 1903. He arrived from Quebec, Canada (where he was born in 1866), graduated from Peacham Academy, the University of Vermont and UVM's medical school, graduating in 1897. He joined local physician Dr. Luther Parker in his Peacham practice. Albert married Mary Clark Blair of West Barnet in 1902, and they had three children. Dr. Mackay probably had the first automobile in Peacham.

Dr. Mackay died of peritonitis in 1916 at age 50. His children were 13, 11 and 9 years of age. His funeral service was attended by 500 people and he was greatly eulogized. People asked, "What shall we do without our doctor?"

Dr. Mackay was involved with the Congregational Church, the Academy and the Library in Peacham, and he represented the town in the Vermont Legislature, all in addition to his medical practice.

Dr. Mackay's office, in two rooms of his home, attached to the Library in Peacham Corner, was left just it was by his widow, Mary. His grandchildren often



Photo Courtesy of Juloise Paulsen

Dr. Martin Paulsen practiced medicine in Danville from 1919 until the 1970's.

sneaked into the dim rooms to show friends the remaining cases of instruments and shelves with bottles, even though the "doctor's office" was off limits. Mary brought up her children, put them through college and lived until December 5, 1947.

Dr. Paulsen had the first answering service in Danville. Those needing his services were loath to "leave a message" so typically hung up if the doctor did not answer. Alice Blair remembers Dr. Paulsen. "He was the ideal country doctor. Once I telephoned his office, feeling very ill after returning from a meeting in Burlington. I got the answering machine and left a message.

The telephone rang right after that. Dr. Paulsen said, 'I'm so glad you left a message. You are the first person to do that! I'll be right over!'"

Martin J. Paulsen was born in 1892 in Jersey City, NJ. His father died in an accident at work and he was raised by his mother. Paulsen dropped out of school twice before finally deciding to become a doctor. He met his future wife, Louisa Douglas, at UVM and graduated from its medical school. Paulsen joined the medical corps during World War I and returned to Burlington following his service. The influenza epidemic was raging in 1919, and Dr. Mackay learned that Danville had no

doctor, so he came and established a medical practice, which continued through the 1970's. Dr. Paulsen died in 1985.

Ann Somers remembers Dr. Paul Choate. "Paul was awfully good. I was bitten by a dog in childhood, and he came up to the farm and treated the wound. I went to him during my pregnancy with Linda. We went up to Brightlook Hospital, and Linda was born in the early morning on February 22 (Washington's Birthday). Tim was dozing in the waiting room when Paul came downstairs and said, 'You have a Martha!' It took Tim a minute or so to understand what Paul meant.

Dr. Choate loved to hunt and fish. He and his family had a camp on Harvey's Lake, and he went out onto the Lake whenever he could. He said once, "I usually just got out there and was baiting my hook when I noticed my wife, Vera, standing on the dock waving a red scarf. That was my signal to come back in to take care of a patient!"

Dr. Choate's office was in the remodeled shed at the rear of their house in Monroe, NH, just across the Connecticut River from McIndoe Falls. His widow says, "We had a large stock of medicines, a whole pharmacy. Items needing refrigeration were

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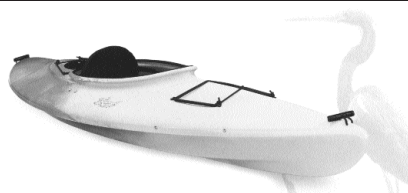
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Photo Courtesy of Marjory Cassidy

Albert J. Mackay (left) practised medicine in Peacham from 1897-1915. Following medical school at the University of Vermont Mackay joined the medical practice of Dr. Luther Parker.

babies at home. Conditions in some of those houses were appalling. Dr. Choate described putting newspapers around the mothers' beds to cover dirty areas. Most expectant mothers had no pre-natal care until births were imminent. Sometimes there were tragic consequences.

Today's doctors practice in modern offices in buildings separate from their homes. Patients make appointments and often go to emergency rooms when needing immediate treatment. Most expectant mothers go to hospitals where birthing rooms and surgery facilities are available. Today's doctors have physician's assistants, nurse practitioners, nursing staff, bookkeepers and receptionists. In the old days the doctor and his wife handled all office duties.

Country doctors delivered babies, tended to the sick and injured and cared for people in their last illnesses in rural Vermont.

Even though modern means of transportation and communication and the invention of medicines and cures for many conditions have revolutionized medicine, some local doctors still make house calls. They now have efficient automobiles, cell phones and beepers. Patients are as grateful for their services today as they were many years ago. ★

kept in our kitchen refrigerator. Paul was on call all the time. The town telephone operators were a great help; if a call came in I would phone them and ask, "Where's Paul?" They always knew his whereabouts and could track him down."

Paul M. Choate was born on the family farm in West Barnet. He graduated from Vermont Academy, UVM and UVM medical college. He met his future wife, student nurse Elvira Estivill, at UVM. He joined the U.S. Army as a medical officer and served in the African and European campaigns during World War II.

Dr. Choate began his medical practice on January 1, 1946 in Monroe taking over the office of Dr. Cyrus Eastman, who was away in military service. Choate continued practicing until 1970. Then Paul and Vera moved to Newmarket, NH where he became the resident physician at the University of New Hampshire Health Center. Paul and his wife had three children. He retired in 1988 and died in 2004.

Margaret Ide of Danville remembers Dr. Howard Farmer, another well known doctor in the area. He lived in St. Johnsbury and had a home office but kept his riding horses at Albert Danforth's in Danville. Dr. Farmer often drove to Danville and rode horseback on his rounds. Ide watched him ride by her home during one of her pregnancies, and each day she raised the window and called out, "Not

today, Dr. Farmer!" Eventually it was "the day" and the infant was born.

Bad roads, snowstorms and mud seasons often delayed doctors' trips in the "horse and buggy days," and sometimes infants arrived before the doctor. That happened when Thelma Schoolcraft White was born in South Walden in February 1915. Her father, Gaylord Schoolcraft, hitched the horse to the sleigh and went to fetch the doctor. They didn't get back until after Thelma's birth.

"Maternity homes," where expectant mothers went to have their babies and recuperate afterwards, were common during the 1920's, 30's and 40's. Vivian Churchill of Peacham described having her babies in one of those homes, staying for two weeks afterwards and writing letters to her husband at home on the farm.

Some women still had their

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Pope Notes

Dee Palmer,
Library Director

Our 2006 Novel Dinner was a great success, and we thank all who participated. The table hosts were very creative in their book choices and table decorations. We had everything from *The Titanic* to *Snowmen at Night*.

Reeve Lindbergh donated four signed books for a silent auction and we raffled off two gift baskets. Shirley Richardson and Joy Jensvold were the lucky winners of the baskets.

As always, we are grateful to Marion Beattie and her crew of volunteers who helped cook the delicious meal and work in the kitchen.

Our Memorial Day plant, book and bake sale is fast approaching. This event will be on Monday, May 29 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Please remember the library when you are dividing your perennials. Please make sure all plant donations are labeled with the name and color of the plant. Plant donations can be dropped off at the library until 8:30 a.m.

We will also sell coffee, lemonade and baked goods. Don't miss this special fundraiser as we always have a fantastic variety of plants just in time for your early summer planting.

We will again have members of the NEK Master Gardeners chapter to staff the "Ask the MG" table and answer any gardening questions. We will accept book donations only during the week of the sale - May 22 through May 27. We ask that books be fairly new and in good condition. We cannot accept text books or out of date computer or reference books. We appreciate your cooperation as we are responsible for storing and recycling any books that are left over.

Our newest book acquisitions are: *The Penelopiad* by Atwood, *Arthur and George* by Barnes, *The Book Thief* by Zusak, *Anansi Boys* by Gaiman, *The Brief History of the Dead* by Brockmeier, *Dark Assassin* by Perry, *Teacher Man* by McCourt, *The Grizzly Maze* by Jans, *Losing the Garden* by Waterman, *Marley and Me* by Grogan and *Self-Made Man* by Vincent.

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\$ Follow the Money
by Rachel Siegel

"Huddled Masses and Economic Growth"

Economics is a "dismal science," as sciences go, because there is not much that can be proved, or even definitively stated. We do know that resources are the essence of economic growth, and most crucial are human resources. Even in our seemingly less labor-intensive information age, the productivity of an economy - even our service economy - is limited by the number of productive laborers that it can put to use.

We have used foreign labor to expand our workforce and our growth prospects since the United States began. Foreign labor is just as critical to our growth prospects today as it was when we were clearing land for farms, building railroads, mining coal or manufacturing cars. Given our low birth rate and aging population, typical of more developed economies, we need to replenish our stock of human

resources from abroad, by importing labor.

Our recent debates about illegal immigration are not about whether we should import labor but about how we should do it. We argue about whether or not we should try to control this flow of labor into the U.S., which would seem to make sense, since we could only import the labor that we need. Controlling immigration would allow us to control the size of our labor supply, and thus its price in the labor market: we could prevent a glut of labor from depressing wages and incomes.

Controlling immigration, or the flow of labor into our economy, means that we are using the government to manage how much and what kind of labor is available for economic growth; we are not allowing the labor market itself to determine what it needs through the usual market dynamics. As we have so often found in so many markets, we are more likely to end up with an

over- or under-supply of labor, or of the kinds of labor that we particularly need, with less market information and more government control. When we allow the government to control the supply of labor, we have to accept a less efficient labor market.

Our recent debates about illegal immigration are not about whether we should import labor but about how we should do it.

Controlling immigration is difficult, because determined people keep coming, illegally if need be. This creates a black market for labor, which is even more difficult to control, and will surely undercut prices in the legitimate labor markets. Illegal workers cost employers less - they are in no position to negotiate wages, cannot enjoy union protections, do not require the

health, safety and benefit costs of other workers, and do not require employer contributions to taxes - and therefore can substitute for legal workers. Illegal workers tend to be less educated and skilled, so when they do compete with other, costlier workers, it is at the lowest end of the pay scales, where that competition is most damaging.

In periods of relatively low unemployment, like the one we enjoy now, the competition from foreign workers and its downward pressure on wages is not a big deal. What is a greater concern is that when an illegal market exists, that creates lots of other costs. One significant cost is the lost tax revenues, both income taxes from illegal employees, and payroll taxes from "illegal" employers. Illegal workers and their families use social services and protections, as we all do, but without contributing to the cost of providing them.

Perhaps the largest cost of having a shadow labor market is the cost of enforcing and evading the laws. Our attempts to control our labor markets are expensive, for illegal employees, for employers and for the rest of us who pay to try to keep control.

More recently, we don't import labor so much as we export jobs, we outsource abroad. Foreign workers perform work for American employers, but now, in many instances, they can stay in their own country; they needn't come here and live here. This relieves us of the worries and of the costs of immigra-

tion. It also denies us the benefits of expanding our workforce. The workers stay in their own countries but so do their paychecks, which go into their local economies rather than into ours as, of course, do their taxes. (Immigrants have always sent money home, more easily done now than ever, and in many countries, foreign personal income flows are a considerable part of the country's national income.) It also denies us the next generation, the immigrants' children who typically share their parents' ambitions and have the benefits of education, so can then contribute to increasing our economic growth.

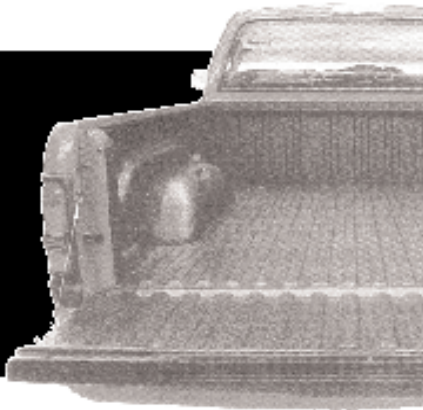
A larger and more productive workforce determines economic growth; that much we know. Our new human resources come through immigration. Whether or how to control that, and thus our economic growth, is the economic issue when we debate immigration.

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.



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Up on the Farm Early

Lorna Quimby



The other night I woke up for the usual errand, one of the joys of aging. The room was bright, not only with moonlight but with light from the neighborhood. Here in little downtown East Peacham we have street lights that burn from sunset to dawn. Neighbors have lights that not only illumine their yards but also shine in our windows. I can guess the hour by which neighbor's house shows a glow. Their headlights shine in either our own window or the hall window. Sometimes I hear their motors. Other times the light alone wakes us.

If we were bothered enough, we could draw the shades at night. One of the things I dislike about living in town is having to draw shades when the sun goes down. When we travel and stay in motels, I suffer a similar discomfort when we close the drapes to insure privacy. In extremely cold weather, we pull down shades to keep warmer. The rooms feel cozy, if somewhat claustrophobic.

Growing up on the farm, we had no near neighbors and not many people driving by. Shades were not necessary, although Maw drew the ones in her and Dad's bedroom. And because we had no electricity, there were no outside lights. There was darkness, complete darkness on moonless nights. During the summer, after Dad had driven into the place where we housed

the car, we'd go outside on the lawn to get to the porch and into the house. That was more fun than stumbling along the walkway through the shed to get to the kitchen door. The lawn would be wet with dew, the sky overhead dark as black velvet.

Stars twinkled brightly overhead. We looked north to see the Big Dipper and the Little Dipper. Dad told us how to find the North Star. We knew the name of no other constellation. The Milky Way floated overhead.

In winter we didn't go outside to get from the car to the kitchen door. No sense in tracking in all outdoors! Dad, coming in from milking, would say, "The Northern lights are beautiful!" or "Come see the sight!" We'd bundle up and follow him out to the path he trod to the barn and stand, gawking at the streaks of mysterious light that flickered and danced across the night. Shivers went up my spine at the sight. I would be overcome by a sense of immensity, completely awed.

I do mean "awed" - filled with wonder and fear at something so much bigger than I was. I find the overuse of "awesome" tiresome. School children use it indiscriminately for anything that pleases them, that and "cool." With children I can ignore its use. After all, although the offensive phrase is lost in the dark ages, I, too, had a pet expression that tried my older

sisters' souls. They groaned when they read it in the stories I'd stashed in the bottom drawer of the washstand in the Hired Man's room. But I did outgrow the habit.

What bothers me is to hear the same phrase used by the children's teachers. I understand that they want to talk in a relevant manner to their classes. I question the roll model they portray. Unfortunately, "awesome" springs to their lips whenever they comment on the students' work or, more tellingly, on another grown-ups' accomplishment. The Historical Association rents the former Town Office vault. There we house boxes of manuscripts, photographs and printed material. We are a small organization. It is a small vault. When I showed one of the teachers our collections, she looked around and exclaimed, "Awesome!" Oh, dear! How, I wondered, are children to learn the rich resources of meaning in their language if they are not exposed to them?

Another word almost worn out by overuse is "huge." That's the favorite descriptive word our nightly meteorologist uses, no

matter what the dimensions of the coming wind, snowfall or rain. Dick and I say, "It's time for Huge's weather report" and gain much amusement from counting how many times in one broadcast the poor man uses the word.

description. I'm sad to think that a mildly pleasing sight is considered "awesome" by our young.

The children not only lose the meaning, they also lose the experience. Each phenomenon is explained. Nothing is left to imagination. The night sky is full of stars and a child knows the name of every one of them. Scientists go further and further out in space. Big deal! We name it and, therefore, we control it. Where's the awe in that?

Children go to the Planetarium to view the stars. They would be hard put to find a place where they could just stand outdoors at night and look at the show above. I was thinking of our standing out on the lawn in the South Part, and how near the stars seemed. Now, with yard lights, streets lights, night lights and more, there are few places left where we can stand in the mysterious dark and regard the amazing universe around us.

Dad, coming in from milking, would say, "The Northern lights are beautiful!" or "Come see the sight!"

Don't get me started about the word "hero." And there are many others, good words that describe a person, place or thing. (Remember the old definition of "adjective.") I realize mine is a lonely voice crying in the wilderness. Sometimes I'm heartened by an article by another word-meaning quibbler, who also mourns the passing of accurate



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*By Reese Linnbough
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At the same time Penny Johnson at the Derby office helped me with the construction loan for my new house. There were times when I couldn't get to the bank, I was so busy, so the bank came to me. Now they've added the new courier service. That's awesome! The only bad part is I don't get to see my bank friends as often, just when they come in for an appointment to have their hair done.

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Peacham Church Will Celebrate Bicentennial

The history of Peacham dates to August 31, 1763 when the town received its corporate existence from Benning Wentworth, the governor of New Hampshire.

The first permanent settlement was made in 1776, a momentous year for the country as well, but, according to an 1894 history of the Peacham Congregational Church, there is no record of permanent organization until 1784 when a meeting was called by three selectmen to see whether the town would raise

the funds to hire a preacher. On May 20, 1784 the town voted to raise \$60 for that purpose with payments to be made in wheat at the rate of six shillings per bushel.

Annual sums of varying amounts were raised thereafter for the support of preaching until 1791 when the town offered 55 pounds per year and one half of the minister's lot to Rev. Chapin, and the town agreed to build a meeting house. Voters agreed to the dimensions, and 100 pounds were appropriated for materials, but in the absence of consensus on the meeting house location plans for construction were suspended.

Debate over a proper school began, and in 1795 voters agreed to establish a building large enough to hold a school and church under a single roof. On December 1, 1797, the doors of the Caledonia County Grammar School opened to pupils, and the second floor of the building was used as a church until 1806.

The church was organized with 12 members on April 14, 1794, and about 80 itinerant preachers conducted its services until 1799. On October 29, 1799 the Rev. Leonard Worcester was

ordained as its pastor. Worcester enjoyed the annual sum of \$400, the minister's lot and an annual "bee" where parishioners and others came forth and drew a year's supply of firewood to the minister's door, and parishioners made a "donation visit" providing whatever they could for the comfort and sustenance of the minister and his family.

Under the leadership of Rev. Worcester subscriptions for pews were sold and \$5,694 was raised and the meeting house was constructed on the common at the top of the hill.

Worcester was born in Hollis, NH in 1767 and worked first as a clerk and then as a partner in a publishing business in Worcester and Boston, MA. However, he turned his back on commercial business, and at age 33 with neither formal education nor seminary training he became a deacon in Worcester and temporary preacher in Milford, MA. In March 1799 he was invited to Peacham, and after preaching at only four services he received the call to stay.

Worcester received a Master of Arts from Middlebury in 1804 and from Dartmouth in 1827. His six sons received college education; five graduated from Dartmouth. Five became ministers, the sixth a physician. For 40 years Rev. Worcester offered prayer and counsel at the Peacham Congregational Church until he died in 1846.

The 1806 meeting house was 62 feet long by 48 feet wide with a bell tower 15 feet square, which reached 100 feet from the ground level upwards in front of the building. There were 48 pews on the main floor and 34 in the three-sided gallery. Hand hewn pine timbers, which supported the front of the gallery, were 22 inches square and supported by solid pine pillars. According to the church history, parishioners sat through long sermons and stood

through the prayers. All the heat they had come forth from the words of the preacher ("Men stamped their feet and clapped their hands in a vain attempt to materialize it.") and from footstoves reserved for a few fortunate women, until about 1815, when despite Rev. Worcester's objection, (he feared sleepiness) wood stoves were introduced, and heat, as it was, filled the sanctuary.

A bell was placed in the tower in about 1830, and church membership reached 370 in 1831. At the time, the Peacham church was said to be the second largest in the state, and its mission work spread into the American Indian territory and across the Pacific Ocean.

In 1844, after no small debate, the church voted to relocate down the hill, closer to the village center, in its present location. One story of the church was lopped off, the gallery and porch demolished and the bell tower removed. A low vestry was created below the sanctuary, a new pulpit was added, a choir loft constructed over the entry and a cupola replaced the old bell tower. In 1854 the town clock was given to the church, and for 27 years the building served the congregation and town.

The great questions of the abolition of slavery, temperance and the need for renovations divided the church congregation. In July 1870 Oliver Johnson, the Peacham native who found fame at *The Independent*, *The Christian Union* and *The New York Tribune*, addressed the congregation and announced his intention to donate an organ subject to one condition. He said, "I could not have the heart to bestow such a gift upon a divided and distracted church and society. An organ implies harmony, and it would be shamed and dishonored by discord. I offer my gift not to a party but to the whole congregation, old and young, and I must



Photo By: North Star Monthly
The meeting house was moved in 1844 to be closer to the center of the village. The congregation was organized in 1794, but 2006 marks the bicentennial of the building, known first as the meeting house on the hill.



Engraving from Anniversary Exercises of the Congregational Church, Peacham, Vermont published in 1894. The old meeting house on the hill was constructed in 1806.

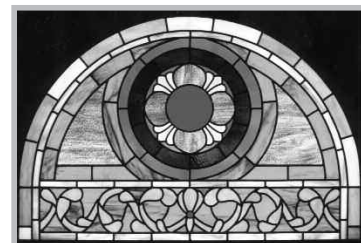
make it an inexorable condition that you shall bury all your differences, letting bygones be bygones, acting together in a spirit of mutual good will ... If you will one and all forgive and as far as possible forget the things by which you have been divided, I will immediately order the instrument to be made and placed at your disposal."

The proposal was accepted, and in 1871 the organ made by J. & C. Odell in New York City was installed in a new loft. The church was renovated and elevated to its original height allowing greater space for rooms below the main floor. A new pulpit was added, and a bell tower constructed.

Eventually electric lights were installed (1913), water was piped into the church (1927), and the building today is a visual and community landmark as much as ever.

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the Peacham Congregational Church building, and in honor of the bicentennial the Church, the Peacham Historical Association and the Peacham Fellowship of the Church will celebrate the occasion on Sunday, May 20, 2006.

On that day at the Church, there will be a display of wedding gowns from the pre Civil War era to the present. There will be a mock wedding reception and photographs of weddings and receptions gathered from the Historical Association collection and from other friends and members of the Church.



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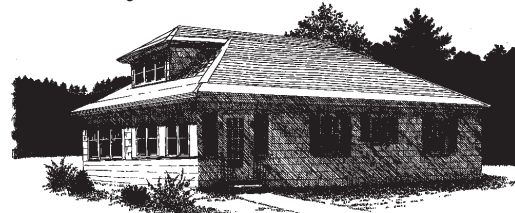
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See the History of the Wedding Dress at the Peacham Church

Lorna Quimby is famous, in Peacham and beyond, for her attention to detail and her love of all matters historical. For 10 years Quimby was president of the Peacham Historical Association, as well as its archivist, its curator and docent. According to David Brown, who succeeded Quimby as the Association's president, she is still (among other things) its archivist, its curator and docent.

Last summer when Sharon Fuehrer noticed an event to benefit a small town church in Maine she thought immediately of Peacham and called Quimby. "The idea," Fuehrer says, "was a fashion show of wedding dresses through the ages at the church in Maine. People with family ties to the church and others, as well, were bringing heirloom wedding dresses to put on display. It was a living scrapbook of church history and done in such a way the whole community was involved."

Quimby loved it. She's a long time member of the Peacham Church Fellowship (the group which supports work of the Church); she and her husband used to put on chicken pie suppers for the church; she sings in the choir, and she has served as church treasurer and then auditor. She and Fuehrer decided it would be a wonderful means to highlight the bicentennial of the Church building. The original meeting house was constructed at the top of the hill in Peacham and opened in 1806. In 1844 the congregation voted to move the church to its present location, but the building has remained substantially the same as it was two hundred years ago.

The Peacham Congregational Church event, "A Bride Adorned for her Husband," will take place on Sunday, May 20.

Drawing from the collection of the Peacham Historical Association, Quimby and Fuehrer found two remarkable dresses which predate the Civil War. The oldest is that of David Merrill's bride and second wife, Mary Grant Hunt, whom he married in 1837. The Merrill dress is coffee ice cream color - Quimby wonders whether that may be a function of age rather than the

original color, but the tone is consistent throughout the three piece outfit, and the color may still be true. There is a short-wasted top, a full skirt and a cape. The dress is quite beautiful in its elegant simplicity.

The second dress from the period Quimby associates with the middle of the century, perhaps 1850. She says, "Styles were changing dramatically and this is a far cry from the earlier dress." She describes the sleeves as pagoda-sleeves. The dress has a high neckline and is more discrete than the earlier one. The skirt is full and would have been worn over a hoop. Quimby estimates it includes almost 20 yards of material.

She says that most early weddings were not actually at the church but at home or the parsonage. The May 20 event will include a program with dresses identified as having been worn at the church, weddings at some other location in Peacham or even out of town but included by virtue of some current association with Peacham.

Sharon Fuehrer carefully opens a box holding the wrapped wedding dress worn by her grandmother, who was married on New Year's Day in 1901 in Mapleton, ME. Fuehrer says, "At the time of her wedding she had a 23-inch waste, but she went on to have 10 children." Fuehrer confesses that holding the dress in

her own hands gives a fleeting connection to her grandmother that's difficult to describe. "There is an association with family and community that just doesn't happen in any other way. I opened this box, and I looked at the fabric and immediately thought of my grandmother, my parents and my family. She gave me all this, and I don't take it for granted. Both of my two daughters were married at the Church, and I think they understand it as well."

Quimby was married at the Peacham Congregational Church, as were her two daughters. She says there are a lot of things that are unknown about the Church history, but the collection of the Historical Association includes wedding dresses from Nellie Blair Shaw (1905), Myrtie Craig Coggers (1916), Arlene Swasey Jennison (1922) and a wedding suit worn by Susan O'Brien in 1948. She says, "We could have as many as 50 outfits including those from the town's permanent collection and dresses (like that of Fuehrer's grandmother) on loan for the occasion."

Quimby says, "They used to say that until you used up your wedding dress you would never be wealthy." She tells about dresses that were cut up and remade into baptism gowns and those that were taken apart and

dyed and worn again as dresses for special occasions. She says, that despite the old saying, it says something about family pride that these dresses survived. "In a way it's an economic statement because someone had to have the time and the space and the good fortune that the material didn't deteriorate with age." Quimby says that once dresses were made from manmade materials they were particularly subject to vapors and gases emitted by the material and when stored in plastic bags or sealed boxes their storage life was not very long. "Natural fibers stored with archival practices or packed among similar fabrics in old trunks seem to be better able to withstand the passage of time."

Mark your calendar and note the event on May 20 at the Peacham Congregational Church. It will be a living scrapbook of family and Church history in Peacham. There will be a wedding cake, a wedding-like reception with punch and hors d'oeuvres and exhibits of cake ornaments and wedding photographs. If you have a family connection to Peacham and have items for display call Fuehrer (802) 592-3326 or Quimby (802) 592-3571. There will be space in the Church for your contribution.



Photo By: North Star Monthly

Sharon Fuehrer (left) and Lorna Quimby are preparing a collection of wedding dresses to be displayed as a living scrapbook of family and church history in Peacham. The event, to benefit the Peacham Congregational Church and the Peacham Historical Association will take place on May 20 at the Church.

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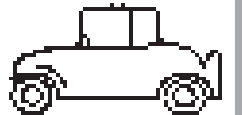
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Catamount Arts to Host Rainbow Film Festival

Catamount Arts in St. Johnsbury will host the **NORTHEAST KINGDOM RAINBOW FILM FESTIVAL** in May.

Subtitled *Celebrating Our Common Humanity*, the schedule includes nine films over seven nights exploring alternative lifestyle issues, themes and experiences, which affect and impact

us all in our communities.

Films featured in the series include *TransAmerica*, starring Felicity Huffman, who won the 2006 Golden Globe for best actress and an Academy Award nomination for best actress for her role of Bree. Bree is a perfectly adjusted and very conservative transsexual woman who

suddenly discovers she has a long lost 17-year-old son.

Breakfast on Pluto won best actor nominations for Cillian Murphy from both the 2006 Golden Globes and the 2005 Satellite Awards.

Two films from Germany, *Summer Storm* and *Unveiled*, the former a story of adolescent love and the latter the determination of a young woman to remain in Germany at all costs rather than be returned to her native Iran, bring an international face to the offerings.

Canada is represented by

Floored by Love and the United States by *Loggerheads*. A series of shorts entitled *The Ultimate Lesbian Short Film Festival* is also on the schedule.

Two acclaimed documentaries are scheduled. On opening night, May 5, Vermont director, John Scagliotti will present his documentary *Dangerous Living*. Michael Horvat's *We Are Dad*, which tells the struggle of 2 white HIV negative gay men and their family of 5 kids as they try for adoption, will play on Monday, May 8.

The series opens on Friday

May 5 with a 5:30 pm reception for director Scagliotti prior to the screening of his film. The reception is open to the public.

A series of four screenings of the film *Big Eden* has been set for satellite locations in Island Pond, Greensboro, Derby and St. Johnsbury. These will be open to the public, with discussions and refreshments to follow.

Tickets to the films are \$5, and a brochure with playtimes and film descriptions is available by calling Catamount at (802) 748-2600.



the ARTS around

May

- 3 Willie Nelson, Bell Center, Montreal, PQ.
- 4 Dartmouth College Glee Club, Hopkins Center for the Arts, Hanover, NH.
- 5 Ken Zuckerman presents Two Worlds of Music: Indian Ragas and Medieval Song, Hopkins Center for the Arts, Hanover, NH.
- 5 Dartmouth Wind Symphony, Hopkins Center for the Arts, Hanover, NH.
- 5 Dartmouth Dance Ensemble, Morse Center, St. Johnsbury.
- 5-11 **RAINBOW FILM FESTIVAL** featuring *Dangerous Living*, *TransAmerica*, *Ultimate Lesbian Short Films*, *Breakfast on Pluto*, *We Are Dad*, *Unveiled*, *Summer Storm*, *Loggerheads*, *Floored by Love* and *Such Great Love* at Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury. Call for times and film details. (802) 748-2600.

Dangerous Living: Coming Out in the Developing World, Director John Scagliotti. Portrait of the struggle of gays and lesbians in parts of the world where their very existence is still regarded as criminal and dangerous.

TransAmerica (2005, US) Director: Duncan Tucker. A perfectly adjusted and very conservative transsexual woman discovers her long lost 17-year old son. Afraid to tell her son the truth she sets off with him on a trip that will change both lives.

Ultimate Lesbian Short Film Festival, From comedies to documentaries, a series of ten acclaimed short films by lesbian directors from the US

and Canada.

Breakfast on Pluto (2005, Ireland) Director: Neil Jordan. A fashionable young beauty is the target of catcalls and whistles to which she responds with a salty retort. Her story is too strong for their likes. How does one survive a deeply aggressive world just being himself.

We Are Dad (2005, US) Director: Michel Horvat. Documentary of an unusual family - two white gay men and their 5 multiracial kids in a state that bans gay adoption.

Unveiled (2005, Germany) An Iranian lesbian assumes the identity of a man to gain temporary asylum in Germany.

Summer Storm (2004, Germany) Director: Marco Kreuzpaintner. Set in the context of a national rowing regatta two young men represent the emotional confusion of youth at the threshold of adulthood.

Loggerheads (2005, US) Director: Tim Kirkman. When a gay young drifter arrives in a coastal town to see the nesting endangered loggerhead turtles he's drawn into the lives of the people who live there.

Floored by Love (2005, Canada) Director: Desiree Lim. Heartwarming family comedy about a Chinese Japanese lesbian couple and an African American Jewish blended family in Vancouver.

Such Great Love (2005, US) Director: Michelle Kramer. When Megan joins her Jewish family for Shabbat she announces she's engaged to her girlfriend.

12 Pamyua, Hopkins Center for

the Arts, Hanover, NH.

12-18 *Why We Fight* (2005, US) [PG-13] Director: Eugene Jarecki. President Eisenhower's farewell address warned of the build up of the military industrial complex and is that and it motive for profit what drives Congressmen and their constituents to wage a near constant state of war. Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury.

13 World Music Percussion Ensemble, Hopkins Center for the Arts, Hanover, NH.

19 Richie Havens, Iron Horse Music Hall, Northampton, MA.

19-25 *The White Countess* (2005, US) [R] Director: James Ivory. Set in Shanghai in the late 1930's, this film tells the moving story of a former U.S. diplomat and a Russian countess who forge a bond at the "perfect bar" on the eve of the Japanese invasion. Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury.

20 Hal Holbrook in Mark Twain Tonight, Opera House, Lebanon, NH.

27 Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra, Hopkins Center for the Arts, Hanover, NH.

26-June 1 *Neil Young: Heart of Gold* (2005, US) [PG] Director: Jonathan Demme. Neil Young has been in the midst of an artistic renaissance, and as both writer and singer, he has never seemed musically and personally more vital than in Demme's film. Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury.

28 From the Ocean to the Mountains, Pianist Silvard Kool, Town Hall, Lancaster, NH.

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Walden Hill Journal

ELLEN GOLD

May 1, 2005 - April showers may bring May flowers in some parts of Vermont, but on Walden Hill they're bringing May showers. The only flowers are a few hardy pulmonaria and a couple of tiny yellow violets. Buds on the lilacs and shadbush look ready to burst but need to hold back until warmer weather is here to stay. Our bluebirds abandoned their nest building for now but hopefully will return once the sun warms things up. Swallows seem more persistent. I took advantage of some 4:00 sunshine for a walk along Kittredge Road. The sound of cascading streams and drilling woodpeckers signal spring is on its way. Two woodpeckers, probably hairywoods judging from their size, were drilling out territorial messages on a neighbor's antenna and mail box. Bloodroot and trillium blossoms are present but curled up tight, awaiting the sun's "kiss" before waking from their winter sleep.

May 3, 2005 - Had a brief window of sunshine yesterday to add six bags of Moo Doo to the garden before rain came to help percolate that manure into the soil. Today it's colder and adding hail to the mix. Meanwhile I'm tending my indoor solarium garden of tentative husk cherries and small but flourishing basil and kohlrabi sprouts. I've begun transplanting some kohlrabi into "bigger" yogurt pots. The sun is appearing between hail storms to try and warm the window panes. After all, the solarium needs sun to be an effective greenhouse.

May 7, 2005 - A cloudy sunrise for Green-up Day. The sun comes up by the poplars in its continuing journey northward. A melodious song sparrow greets the day. We got an early start to Green-up yesterday, picking up trash around our woods and across from the swamp. We were rewarded with one trout lily in bloom. Neighbors planted a few cultivated blueberry bushes near the wild ones to see what might happen with cross pollination. We walked their mowed perimeter and found more wild bushes than last year. We'll have to be sure to keep the field cleared to encourage their growth. We seem to have a plethora of indoor lady bugs this spring. When I open the window quilts it seems to rain lady bugs,

and Tobey the cat, who rushes to her window perch, becomes sprinkled with beetles.

May 9, 2005 - Cold, clammy weekend. We're still making use of the woodstove. Green-Up started out with comfortable working weather, but by the time lunch on the Green rolled around, it was windy and nasty. We filled seven green-up bags and a large box of recyclables. We had a few contributions of our own for the dump including our dead laser printer, which will be transported to Middlebury and used for parts or refurbished and brought back to life.

May 17, 2005 - We're back from Florida after a week of temperatures in the 80's with low humidity, a rare treat from Florida in May. We've returned to the beginning of spring. What was a brown field a week ago is now fully green. Poplars are sporting early yellow-green clumps of buds, and leaves and tamaracks are filling out their branches with soft green needles. Shads have rust red and green small leaves, but flowers have yet to open. On the western side of the Green Mountains, Vermont's other foliage season is in full bloom. It's what Sigurd Olson calls "warming-up colors in getting ready for spring." Shad and apple blossoms adorn the interstate with crabapples, forsythia and azalea flowers beautifying Burlington. Jeff's favorite wildflower, the dandelion, is just beginning to dot the fields.

May 19, 2005 - Cool and mostly overcast today. Took advantage of the cool weather to stack our 3rd load of wood. The 4th arrived this evening with blackflies. I planted snowpeas, chard, lettuce and spinach seeds today and gave the asparagus bed a good weeding, especially to remove the dandelions while the new roots are still small and the ground pliable. I noticed that

some asparagus shoots are poking through so I gave the bed a little moo doo to encourage its growth. Our neighbors reported their first hummingbirds so I've put up nectar and will fill the feeders tomorrow. They also reported a large bull moose near the road to their sawmill. We've been invited to walk the road and take a look. It's been a magnificent day with all sorts of clouds adorning the sky. Sheets of rain and the hint of a rainbow were visible to the east. Sunset has been lingering and is now leaving a residual rosy glow. Hills of budding maples are bathed in pink, and a waxing moon hangs high in the sky.

May 24, 2005 - Cold rainy weather continues, more like April than May. A tiny patch of sunshine briefly warms the valley but will soon disappear behind the rapidly moving thick layer of clouds. Maple leaves continue to hold back, in their early budding stage. Poplars and tamaracks are the only trees sprouting a fullness of new growth. The profusely blooming shads alone confirm that spring is here, and what a glorious confirmation they are. Delicate white blossoms nestled in rusty red and green leaves on heavily laden gracefully sculpted thin branches, make a beautiful arching entrance to our home. Trees are fully leafed out in Massachusetts, and lilacs and crabapples are in bloom but here in northern Vermont, spring is on hold. Peepers give off a relatively tame chorus in the cold, clammy nights.

May 26, 2005 - We're seeing a substantial patch of blue and some actual sunshine this morning. It's a welcome respite between coastal storms moving out to sea and rain over the Great Lakes moving in from the west. Hobblebush is in bloom, and our shads continue to hold their blossoms despite the wind. Each year they seem fuller and more elegantly adorned. I put out the hummingbird feeder two days ago and within the hour, a hummer arrived. They are making frequent appearances, using nectar to substitute for flowers that should be in bloom but haven't opened yet.



Photo By: Jeff Gold

Shad Blossoms.

Watched an unusual twilight effect a few nights ago. At 8:30, a thin band of cool blue shown at the horizon in an otherwise gray sky, softened with hints of rose and pink from the glow of a hidden sunset. Unseasonably cool weather continues. There are five inches of snow atop Mt. Washington, and Lake Champlain waters are a mere 40°. That's the coldest water reading for this time of year in recorded history.

May 31, 2005 - May is ending as it started with "rain, rain and more rain." It's been two weeks of cool, cloudy and moist weather. At least we were spared a May snowfall. The only white drifting down has been the delicate floating petals from the shadbush. After a glorious, lingering, profusely blooming week of shad

blossoms, the trees have shed their white speckles and revealed lush branches of rust green leaves. Cooler temperatures forced the blossoms to be cautious about opening, and consequently they bloomed longer than usual. We've managed to continue mowing and planting between rains. Tomatoes are in, protected by their "wall-of-water." Hopefully we won't have a frost to test their effectiveness. Despite cooler days, nights have lingered in the 40's. Dahlia bulbs are planted, too, and we hope to start a new bed for our Yankee Doodle deep purple lilac bush once the rain passes. Mr. Bluebird was back for another look at one of the bird houses. We'll see what he finally decides. Meanwhile, the graceful swallows are keeping us entertained.

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If Every Neighbor Helped a Neighbor the World Would Be a Different Place

Jodi Wheeler has the kind of enthusiasm and spontaneous energy that make people think about alternative sources of power. But she and her project partner, Amy Mayo, aren't generating electricity. Here in the basement of the Wheeler Sports building on Church Street in Lyndonville they have started a volunteer organization to make surplus clothing available for those who can use them. They call it HOPE for Helping Other People Every day.

"If people took what they needed and gave back what they didn't ... there would be enough for everyone and plenty left over for those in need."

Wheeler says, "For a long time my husband and some of his friends sponsored kids and provided them with things like baseball gloves, shin guards, pads and cleats. That generosity allowed kids who might not otherwise play sports to do so.

"I have three children, 16, 15 and 4, and one day I was looking at three years worth of supplies and equipment. I told my friends that if we put it all together and

people took what they needed and gave back what they didn't there would be enough for everyone and plenty left over for those in need." Wheeler says, "I figured we could give up our extra stuff, and there would be enough for the community around us."

The central collecting began in the Wheelers' garage but quickly grew beyond its limited space. Today HOPE is approximately 700 square feet of the Wheeler Sports building basement and has grown with volunteers who wash and sort and, in some cases, deliver the sporting equipment and all sorts of clothes.

Wheeler says, "We are associated with the Lyndon Area Food Shelf and get referrals from agencies, teachers in schools and sometimes concerned neighbors. If we learn that someone needs a snowsuit, for instance, we do everything we can to fill the need. The Food Shelf does the food, and we do the clothes."

Mayo says, "We like to think of it as giving hope where the hope is gone." Both Wheeler and Mayo have been single mothers, and they well understand the value of neighbors, community and providing help for others when help can be used. "Everyone needs help at times, and this is a way we can give it."

Mayo, who owns Shear Sensations Hair Salon in Lyndonville, says, "We raise about \$150 a month through donations from the stylists."

Those funds and others like them were used to make Easter baskets.

Wheeler says, "It's not a store. A financial empire is no one's vision. It's like Christmas or Thanksgiving boxes all year long." She thinks of it as an underground swap shop where money is neither expected nor accepted.

"Recently we learned of a young mother in desperate need of Desitin for her baby's diaper rash. We sought her out and offered what we could as any good neighbors might, and three weeks later that same young mother called back and wanted us to pick up two bags of clothes to be donated to HOPE." Wheeler says, "The spirit had been passed."

The appeal of project HOPE has spread indeed with more than 26 volunteers gathering, washing, delivering or simply finding new ways to promote the project as a valuable community resource.

Wheeler tells of a conversation with her 15-year old daughter and some of her daughter's friends about the annual "Snow Ball" dance at Lyndon Institute. "They noticed that a lot of kids weren't going to the dance, and it occurred to them that part of the problem was money. If some girl spends \$300 on a dress, it becomes pressure for some other parent who is trying to the best she can without a lot of extra money."

Mayo says, "These girls are class leaders, and they came up with the idea of a 'Princess Project,' where dresses can be donated for reuse. The way it works is that outfits for formal events are donated after they are



Photo By: North Star Monthly

Jodi Wheeler (left) and Amy Mayo are project partners in HOPE, a collection and distribution place for surplus sporting equipment and clothing. Project HOPE is located in the basement of Wheeler Sports in Lyndonville and seeks to distribute surpluses to those in need in Lyndon and the surrounding towns.

no longer going to be used, and the Princess Project closet becomes sort of a lending library for formal attire." The good faith assumption is that these dresses will be used, cleaned and returned to the active inventory.

Mayo says, "There are no income guidelines or concerns about who can afford what. It's not about the money. What is important is to make the surplus available in a way that is genuinely appealing." She says, "My son wanted to get a new outfit for a formal event, and he was headed to the Salvation Army in St. Johnsbury. I gave him fifteen dollars. He got his whole outfit,

and he gave me two dollars back that were left over. That's a pretty good deal - for him and for me. We hope to provide the same sort of thing - for free."

Wheeler and Mayo have found interest in their project among businesses with carpeting donated by the Carpet Connection, furniture from the Lyndonville Antique Center and clothing exchanges at the Village Kids Boutique.

Wheeler admits that it's a big undertaking, and she doesn't want to become the sort of place where tattered clothing and broken appliances are dropped off. "If you or someone you know wouldn't wear it or use it - we don't want it."

Mayo says, "We want people to see this as an answer to their needs without being a conventional charity or agency. If we can spread the spirit of neighbor helping neighbor we've done something really important."

For further information about project HOPE or the Princess Project, call (802) 626-3228.

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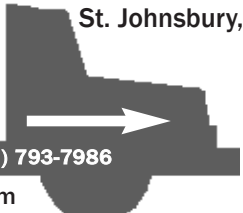
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From left: Cindy White, Donna Percy, John Blackmore, Joan Field, George Coppentrath, Betsy McKay, Sam Kempton, Darlene Pilbin, Sue Coppentrath and Cindy Hastings.

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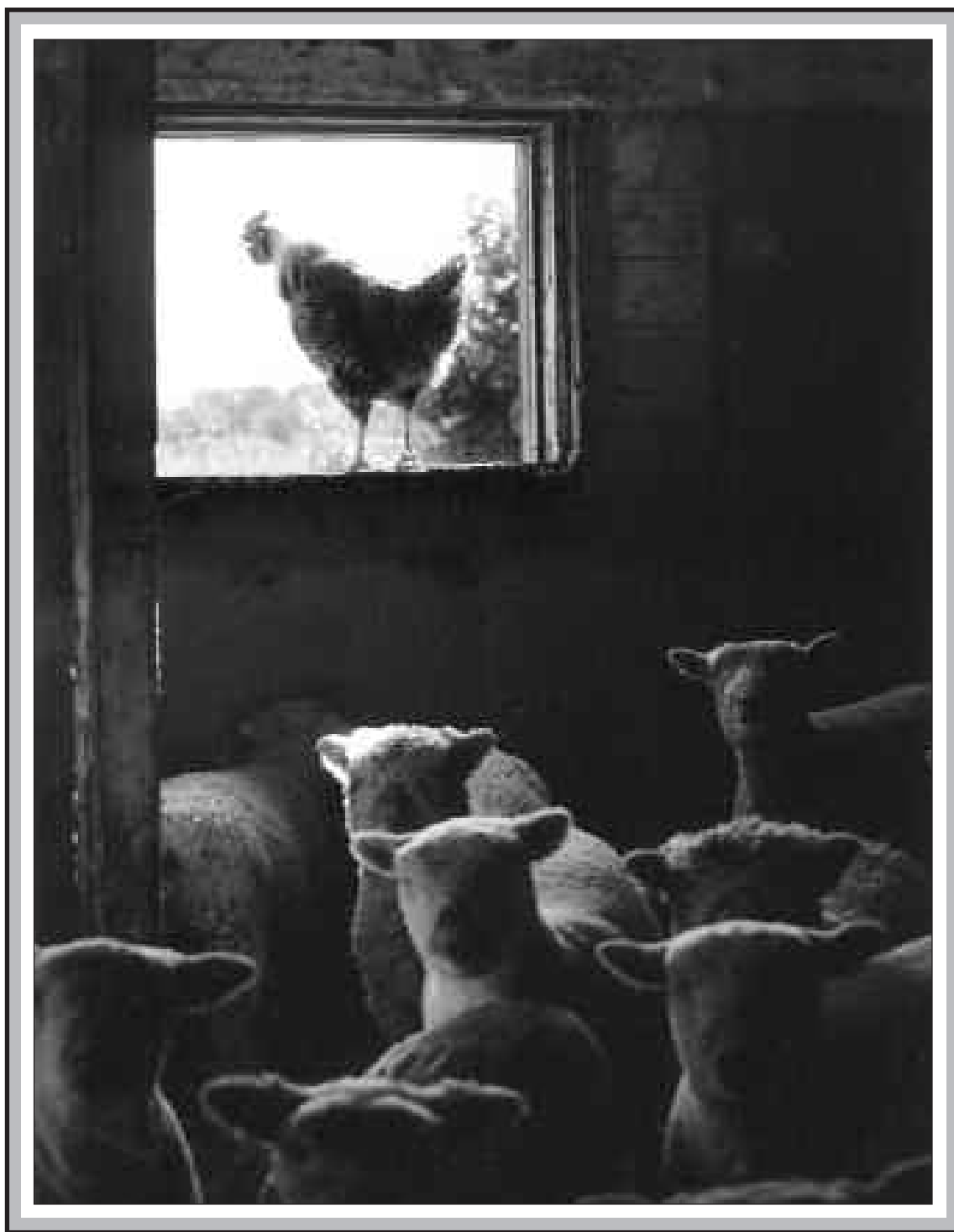


Photo: Courtesy of Jenks Studio of Photography, Robert C. Jenks

Vermont is a beautiful place, and the Northeast Kingdom is rich with its share of Vermont. We invite you to come stay with us, take your time and get to know this part of New England. Reeve Lindbergh, a North Star contributor and author of books for children and adults, describes the area like this: "It is very beautiful, whether or not our words are adequate to its beauty, in any century. It is absolutely real, however we choose to describe it, at any point in our lives. And best of all, however it may surprise us, after twenty five years or two hundred, it is still here."

Albro Nichols House Bed & Breakfast and Tearoom, Margaret Ryan
53 Boynton Avenue, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819. (802) 751-8434.

Restored 1846 Federal Farmhouse furnished with comfortable antiques offers three rooms with private baths. Located just off Main Street within easy walking distance of the Fairbanks Museum, St. Johnsbury Athenaeum and Art Gallery, the campus of St. Johnsbury Academy, two theaters and several fine restaurants. Full breakfast offered.

Branch Brook Bed & Breakfast, Ann Tolman

36 Branch Brook Lane, Lyndon, VT 05849. (802) 626-8316 (800) 572-7712.

Restored 1850 house with five guest rooms, three with private bath. Located 1.5 miles from Lyndon State College; 8 miles from Burke Mountain and within walking distance of two of the five covered bridges in Lyndon. AAA approved: 3 diamonds.

Broadview Farm Bed & Breakfast, Molly Newell

2627 McDowell Road, Danville, VT 05828. (802) 748-9902.

Four rooms with private and shared baths in an historic 1800's country manor listed in National Register of Historic Places. Located on 200+ acres, offering biking, country walks and wood trails, pond for swimming and fishing. Enjoy large continental breakfast. Open Memorial Day through October. BROADVU@webtv.net

Emergo Farm, Lori Webster

261 Webster Hill Road, Danville, VT 05828. (802) 684-2215 or (888) 383-1185.

In 1858 the Websters' great-great grandparents began farming the 230-acres still in use today. Handbuilt in 1890 and 1897, the connected farm buildings are fastened with pegs and traditional post and beam construction. Emergo Farm is hosted by the 6th generation and offers accommodations both private and shared in their homestead suite, which includes 3 bedrooms, full kitchen, sitting room and bath. A full breakfast is served in our dining room. Relax on the porch swing, visit the barns or help with the farm chores at "no extra charge." Hilltop picnic area with panoramic views of much of the Northeast Kingdom. www.emergofarm.com

The Gardeners Rest Bed & Breakfast, Margaret & Keith Rowlett

682 Daniels Farm Road, Waterford, VT 05819. (802) 748-9388 or 9657.

Our 1854 farmhouse located on 16-acres offers our guests comfort and relaxation. We have three well appointed rooms, which provide charming, comfortable accommodations with private baths. After an elegant breakfast, complemented by Vermont products, you might choose to stroll around the meadow, read a book by the pond or wander through the extensive gardens designed by your English hosts and guaranteed to give you a feast for the senses no matter what season. www.gardenersrest.com

Highland Lodge - Inn & Cottages, David and Wilhelmina Smith

1608 Craftsbury Road, Greensboro VT 05841. (802) 533-2647.

Since 1860's Inn and cottages with excellent restaurant and porch dining overlooking Caspian Lake. Private beach with rowboats, sailboats, paddleboats, kayaks and canoes. Tennis, bicycling, lawn games and children's play program for guests. Beautiful rooms and views. Opening for the summer season at dinner on Friday, May 26. Also the home of Porter Brook Environmental Day Camp. June programs for children. www.highlandlodge.com

Injun Joe Court, Beth Perrault and Family

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Located 10 miles west of St. Johnsbury on US 2 overlooking Joe's Pond. Beautiful views, private beach, swimming, boating, fishing, nice clean cabins and housekeeping cottages. Heated and completely furnished with fully equipped kitchens. Linens and towels provided. Cable Television. Rowboats, paddleboats and canoes free for guests. 15 Cabins. 7 RV sites. Firewood and picnic tables. Rates: \$50-\$100 per night and \$475-\$550 per week for cabins. RV Rates: \$25 per night.

The Old Homestead, Gail Warnaar

1573 US 5 South, Barnet, VT 05821. (802) 633-4016.

A quiet cozy colonial home in picturesque Barnet, eight miles south of St. Johnsbury on US 5. Enjoy private bath, screened porch with view of Connecticut River Valley and White Mountains, allergy free environment, antiques, treasures and collectibles. Expect a warm greeting and a gourmet breakfast. Come early to share afternoon tea. Lovely gardens and common areas are perfect for your special gathering. www.theoldhomestead.com



For further information on the Northeast Kingdom and beyond, contact the Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce at (800) 639-6379; see our website at www.vermontnekchamber.org; or visit our office at 51 Depot Square (that's above the Welcome Center) in St. Johnsbury.

Pumpkin Hill Singers Honor Their Founder David Hantman

LISA HANTMAN

The Pumpkin Hill Singers announce a spring concert - a mix of old favorites and new compositions by our director Susan Terry and her husband, tenor Steve Parker. We will perform at the North Congregational Church in St. Johnsbury on Thursday, May 18, and at the Danville Congregational Church on Sunday, May 21. Both concerts will be at 7:30 p.m.

We started as a strictly for-fun group, open to anyone with a voice and an interest.

As we prepare for this, our 30th year of performance, we think it fitting to honor our founder, Dr. David Hantman - not only by singing some of the pieces he chose for the group, but also

with this "brief life" of this multi-talented man.

Hantman was born in 1941 in Baltimore and grew up in Washington, D.C. His father was a respected teaching doctor, the inventor of an instructional model of the human ear and a gifted musician and songwriter. (David Hantman's sister, Louise, remembers that their father enlivened many a party with verses he created for the occasion.) Hantman's mother, a homemaker, was an active area volunteer; she docented at galleries and museums but was happiest tutoring inner-city children. The threads of medicine, music and social service were interwoven throughout Hantman's life.

He attended Williams College, where he majored in political science and wrote his senior thesis on Mahatma Gandhi and non-violent resistance. Following junior year he spent several summer weeks on a kind of "walkabout" through Virginia and Kentucky, during which time he made the decision to study medicine.

Following graduation and marriage in 1963, he entered Georgetown Medical School, and four years later began his internship at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston. In 1969 our son, Mauro, was born. Hantman went into the Public Health Service that year, at the VA Hospital in San Francisco. At the time the United States Aerospace Program was in need of information about the effects of weightlessness on bone loss. Hantman's job was to study the effects, with weightlessness simulated by enforced bed rest. The volunteer study subjects - draft resisters and conscientious objectors from a minimum-security prison in Southern California - became his good friends.

This, with the ambiance of San Francisco in the 1970's, propelled Hantman, who had already shown signs of counterculture leanings in college, into the mode of a full-blown "hippie doctor." He wore a bandanna headband (a familiar off-hours headdress for the rest of his life), honed his sometimes sardonic sense of humor and purchased the first of several disreputable automobiles, which even the most desperate non-profits refused to accept as a donation.

Hantman was also, however, a responsible husband and father. (We had a daughter, Cybele, born in 1971.) In addition to sharing household duties, he learned woodworking, building simple furniture, two looms for me, and a harpsichord from a kit for himself. He worked at a methadone clinic but had time left over for us to take advantage of the relaxed California life with its emphasis on outdoor activities.



Hantman Family Photograph
The Pumpkin Hill Singers will honor their founder David Hantman on the occasion of their 30th anniversary this spring.

After a third year in California and work on a renal (kidney) fellowship, Hantman was accepted to Mary Fletcher Hospital in Burlington for his residency. A year later we moved to the Northeast Kingdom and settled in Danville in 1974. Hantman established his practice in internal medicine in St. Johnsbury at about the time that 11 other doctors arrived in the area - rather a shock to the system, but definitely needed in the growing community.

Within several years, Hantman joined Drs. Rankin, Rassman, Thomas and Houle in building new medical offices

across from Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital. In 1977, he and Linda Desrochers established the Danville Health Center, which pioneered the use of nurse practitioners (and payment by health insurers for the cost of their services) in rural areas.

Under Hantman's aegis, Desrochers became one of the first graduates of the nurse practitioner program at the University of Vermont. They also introduced to their practices the "Problem Oriented Medical Record," developed by Dr. Larry Weed at UVM, which standardized and clarified patient records, thereby improving both long- and short-term care.

While establishing his career in medicine, Hantman was expanding his musical skills and interests. From early piano and saxophone lessons and a summer at the Interlocken Music Camp as a youngster, he went on to play semi-professionally in a high school jazz band. In college he was interested in the folk scene, playing guitar and listening to bluegrass. At the same time he was playing Early Music on his recorder and pennywhistle.

It was this Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque music that the Pumpkin Hill Singers first sang in the mid-1970's. We started as a strictly for-fun group, open to anyone with a voice and an interest. In his enthusiasm, Hantman was known to invite strangers off the street, if he had heard that they sang!

Soon, in true David Hantman
(Concluded on Next Page)

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St. Johnsbury Academy Spring 2006 Sports Schedule

Baseball & Softball			
5/2	BFA	H	4:30
5/4	Milton	H	4:30
5/6	Essex (SAT Day)	A	4:00
5/8	Spaulding	A	4:30
5/11	CVU	A	4:30
5/13	Burlington	H	11:00
5/16	Rice	H	4:30
5/18	Harwood	A	4:30
5/19	Middlebury	H	4:30
5/23	Mt. Mansfield	H	4:30
5/25	Mt. Abe	A	4:30
5/27	Colchester	A	11:00

All JV Games at Opposite Site

GOLF			
5/1	CVU, BFA, MMU @ St. Johnsbury	H	3:00
5/2	BHS, MUHS, ESS @ Middlebury	A	3:00
5/9	SHS, MMU, BFA @ Barre	A	3:00
5/11	MHS, MAU, MVU @ Champlain	A	1:00
5/16	MAU, SHS, SBHS @ Barre	A	8:00
5/17	NCU, CHS, VUHS @ Williston	A	3:00
5/18	Boys Invitational @ Newport	A	8:00
5/22	CVU, Rice, MVU @ St. Johnsbury	H	3:00
5/25	VUHS, MHS, MVU @ Champlain	A	3:00
5/29	Division 1 North @ Newport	A	10:00
6/1	Girls' Tournament - Harwood @ Sugarbush	A	1:00
6/6	States - Girls @ Proctor	A	TBA
6/7	States - Boys @ Middlebury	A	TBA

Boys' Lacrosse			
5/1	Lamoille	H	4:00
5/3	Randolph	A	4:00
5/6	Rice (SAT Day)*	A	3:00
5/9	U-32*	H	4:00
5/11	Spaulding	H	4:00
5/13	Montpelier (NL)	A	11:00
5/18	Harwood*	H	4:00
5/20	Spaulding	A	3:00
5/23	Montpelier	H	4:00

* All JV Games Follow Varsity Games
Go Hilltoppers!

Girls' Tennis			
5/1	Middlebury	A	3:30
5/4	Harwood	H	3:30
5/6	Montpelier (NL) (SAT Day)	H	3:30
5/8	Stowe	A	3:30
5/11	U-32	H	3:30
5/15	North Country	A	3:30
5/18	Lake Region	A	3:30
5/20	South Burlington (NL)	H	10:00
5/22	Harwood (NL)	A	3:30

Boys' Tennis			
5/1	Middlebury	H	3:30
5/4	Harwood	A	3:30
5/6	Montpelier (SAT Day)	A	3:30
5/8	Stowe	H	3:30
5/11	U-32	A	3:30
5/13	Middlebury	A	11:00
5/15	North Country	H	3:30
5/20	Burlington (NL)	A	10:00
5/22	Harwood	H	3:30
5/24	Burlington (NL)	H	3:30

TRACK			
5/3	w/ Peoples @ CVU	A	3:30
5/5	Burlington Invitational (Co-Ed) @ Essex	A	3:00
5/6	Burlington Invitational (Co-Ed) @ Essex	A	10:00
5/10	w/ Harwood, Essex	A	3:30
5/12	Bob White Boys' Relays @ BFA	A	3:00
5/13	Girls' Iverson-Rebel Relays @ SBHS	A	10:00
5/17	Danville, SBHS	H	3:30
5/19	Metro Frosh Meet @ Essex	A	3:00
5/20	Hanover Invitational	A	10:00
5/24	w/ Danville @ Lyndon	A	3:30
5/27	Essex Invitational	A	10:00
6/3	VT Meet @ Colchester	A	TBA
6/11	New England's @ Willow Brook Park New Britain, CT	A	10:00

Girls' Lacrosse			
5/1	Chelsea	A	4:00
5/4	Randolph	H	4:00
5/6	MHS (SAT Day)	A	3:00
5/11	Spaulding	A	4:00
5/13	Rice	A	11:00
5/16	Montpelier	H	4:00
5/18	BFA	A	4:00
5/23	U-32	A	4:00
5/25	Oxbow	H	4:00

* All JV Games Follow Varsity Games

Backroom Gallery Show
The Artist's Hand
An exhibition of drawings by Naomi Bossom, Susanna Bowman, Ellen Dorn Levitt, Dorian McGowan, Robin Rothman and Mary Simpson
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Back in the heydays of jug wines Chenin Blanc was one of the most popular grapes. It was easy to pronounce and made fragrant lightly sweet wines. Its popularity surprised even most producers, who started to intro-

duce several allocation schemes and thereby the end of the boom for Chenin Blanc.

Today the grapes are still widely planted in California, but in heavy decline primarily in favor of Pinot Grigio. Mostly

forgotten and marginalized, it remains one of the most versatile varieties, and it deserves better. Chenin Blanc can produce wines that range from crisp and dry to off-dry, rich, fruity; sparkling wine; long-lived, unctuous (syrup-like rich, sweet), nectar-like dessert wines, and even brandy.

Resistant to many diseases this late ripening grape is well suited to hot climates and adapts well to different soils. It can be

very vigorous. Its high production capability is, however, also its downfall, as it ends up getting overproduced into generally forgettable bland cheap white table wine. Careful growing and wine-making practices however can easily overcome Chenin Blanc's weaknesses and result in great and memorable wines.

Traditionally grown in the Loire valley, it is most famously the grape used in Vouvray and Anjou, where it often has nice honeydew melon and cantaloupe aromas; some sweet wood and vanilla notes, and rarely oaked; a certain floral, honeyed character with a zesty acidity, which makes it so adaptable to many different foods. When conditions are right, Botrytis (a fungus also known as "noble rot") adds complexity and turns it into great dessert wines. In "Cremant de

Loire" it turns into sparkling wine, a wonderful and much less expensive alternative to Champagne.

In South Africa Chenin Blanc has found a great new home, where it produces wines of remarkable quality. Introduced to the Cape area in the 1600's its long tradition provides for a great variety of styles, from distinctly fresh and fruity to dry, rich and oaked, with some old vines offering great intensity.

In general Chenin Blanc offers an affordable alternative. Versatile and food friendly it is a great choice at restaurants when available, especially with lighter rice or pasta dishes and even salads, seafood and veal. In the summer it makes for a great refresher by itself. So go ahead, chill a bottle of Chenin and rediscover this almost forgotten gem.

They Started with Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque Music

(Continued from Page 18)

fashion, he enlarged our repertory to include early nineteenth century American hymns from the sacred harp tradition, which used notes drawn in shapes to indicate their intervals. (With the help of itinerant music teachers, rural villagers could sing such hymns without knowing how to read music.)

As the "Pumpkins" became more confident, we began to appear in public, performing at such places as the Northern Lights Bookshop on Eastern Avenue, the Burklyn Craft Fair, the Fairbanks Museum and the St. Johnsbury Athenaeum. As our loyal audiences know, we eventually broadened our repertory to include folk songs and works by American composers such as Stephen Foster and Aaron Copeland.

Directing the Pumpkins was far from being Hantman's only musical activity during the 1970's and 80's. He joined the Danville Summer Singers, as the musical director of Bertolt Brecht's "Threepenny Opera," as an actor in "Brigadoon," and as a musician for "Oklahoma."

He provided piano accompaniment for several regional fiddlers' contests and participated in Bread and Puppet's Domestic Resurrection Circus. With Linda Fuhrmeister he mounted a production of Pergolesi's eighteenth-century opera buffa 'La Serva Padrona.'

In the 1980's he developed a new interest yet again - traditional Celtic music - and composed several Irish tunes. In the course of these activities, he was also learning to play other instruments, from the medieval krummhorn to accordions, fiddle and bagpipes, including the very challenging uilleann pipes of Ireland.

Hantman was just starting to rehearse the Pumpkins for his most ambitious project - a full-scale production of Henry Purcell's "Dido and Aeneas" - when he was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma. We carried on while he went into treatment, but the prognosis was not good. Despite radiation, chemotherapy and a bone marrow transplant

from his sister, David Hantman succumbed to the disease in June of 1983. He was 41.

He left behind a fine legacy. Both of our children spent time on stage in Danville and St. Johnsbury. Our son has become a professional actor at Providence's Trinity Rep and is a musician, singer and artist. Our daughter, who remembers the fun of selling raffle tickets with her father at Danville, and helping him draw the winning tickets, inherited his genuine interest in people. She sang in college, and her young daughter shows signs of having inherited the "performance gene." The Pumpkins are going strong, and the Danville Health Center, after financially weathering the early years, is serving the community well.

As I end this remembrance, I would like to have a few of Dave's friends and colleagues share their memories.

Lucy Hickey says, "Whenever I needed a hug, I went to Dave." She remembers his consistently helpful nature.

Frank Meierdiercks, who became Dave's partner in 1978, tells of the time they ate lunch at The Creamery Restaurant: "It was

filled with dowsers. Dave had a cheeseburger with French fries, and he was dowsing his food with the fries. This caused some interest among the dowsers!"

Judy Pransky, one of the early Pumpkins, says, "I will be ever grateful for the journey we shared, so many of us dancing and singing and following the minstrel man, learning so much of the music and each other along the way."

Linda Desrochers recalls Dave's "scruffy brown corduroy suit jacket, its deformed pockets bulging with pencils and pens absent-mindedly removed from NVRH, a spot of mayonnaise from a[n Anthony's Diner] 'Woodsmangler' decorating his tie."

I hope that wherever Dave is now, he has a plentiful supply of those truly atrocious ties, an endless loaf of Hebrew National salami, a dilapidated sofa and an equally rundown old Ford Falcon (His first car was a Falcon.) I hope he has a pennywhistle, several cats and last-but-not-least, the dreadful, tongue-like, industrial-byproduct objet, which was his own personal weapon in his "never-ending battle against death and disgusting..." ★

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DANVILLE SCHOOL

2006 Spring Schedule

Athletic Director: Merlyn Courser CAA

Baseball/Softball Mountain League

MAY		
2	Stowe @ Danville	4:30
4	Danville @ Hazen	4:30
9	Danville @ Winooski	4:30
11	Lake Region @ Danville	4:30
13	Richford @ Danville	11:00
16	Danville @ Peoples	4:30
18	Enosburg @ Danville	4:30
23	Danville @ Stowe	4:30
25	Hazen @ Danville	4:30
27	Danville @ BFA Fairfax	11:00

Boys' Club Lacrosse

MAY		
1	SJA @ Danville	5:30
9	Chelsea @ Danville	5:30
11	@ Danville	5:30
18	@ Danville	5:30
23	SJA @ Danville	5:30

Mountain/NVAC Track

MAY		
9	@ Peoples	3:30
17	@ SJA	3:30
24	@ Lyndon	3:30
26	@ U-32, Frosh/Soph	3:30

Middle School Track Meets

MAY		
10	@ Peoples	
16	@ Harwood	
19	@ U-32	
22	@ Peoples	
27	@ U-32	

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Lyndon Institute

Spring Athletics 2006

Varsity Baseball

Mon.	May 1	@ Northfield	4:30
Fri.	May 5	Lake Region	4:30
Tues.	May 9	@ Randolph	4:30
Thurs.	May 11	U-32	4:30
Sat.	May 13	Lamoille	11:00
Tues.	May 16	@ Montpelier	4:30
Thurs.	May 18	Northfield	4:30
Tues.	May 23	Randolph	4:30
Thurs.	May 25	Oxbow	4:30
Sat.	May 27	@ U-32	11:00

Varsity Softball

Mon.	May 1	@ Northfield	4:30
Thurs.	May 4	Harford	4:30
Tues.	May 9	@ Randolph	4:30
Thurs.	May 11	U-32	4:30
Sat.	May 13	Lamoille	11:00
Tues.	May 16	@ Montpelier	4:30
Thurs.	May 18	Northfield	4:30
Tues.	May 23	Randolph	4:30
Thurs.	May 25	Oxbow	4:30
Sat.	May 27	@ U-32	11:00

Track & Field

Tues.	May 2	Lyndon	3:15
Fri.	May 5	(Boys/Girls) BI's @ Essex	3:15
Sat.	May 6	(Boys/Girls) BI's @ Essex	10:00
Tues.	May 9	@ Peoples	3:30
Sat.	May 13	@ S. Burlington (Girls)	10:00
Tues.	May 16	Lyndon	3:15
Sat.	May 20	Windsor Invite	10:00
Wed.	May 24	Lyndon vs SJA	3:15
Fri.	May 26	Frosh/Soph @ U-32	3:30
Sat.	May 27	Essex Invite	10:00
Sat.	June 3	State Meet @ Windsor	9:30
Sat.	June 10	NE Championship in CT	9:30

Golf 9 Hole Matches Start @ 3:30

Mon.	May 1	@ U-32	3:30
Wed.	May 3	Lyndon	3:30
Mon.	May 8	@ Oxbow	3:30
Wed.	May 10	@ Lake Region	3:30
Mon.	May 15	Lyndon	3:30
Wed.	May 17	@ U-32	3:30
Thurs.	May 18	@ NC Invite (Boys)	8:00
Mon.	May 22	@ Montpelier	3:30
Mon.	May 22	@ NC Invite (Girls)	1:00
Wed.	May 24	@ Lake Region	3:30
Tues.	May 30	Div. II Sectionals @ Orleans	
Tues.	June 6	Girl's States @ Proctor/Pittsford	
Wed.	June 7	Boy's States @ Middlebury	

What's Happening at the Town Hall?

Barnet

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

March 27, 2006

Bathhouse Improvements – Andrew Mosedale presented a proposal to upgrade the bathhouse by installing new toilets and to do work on parking lot. Projected cost of \$7,242 to be funded by a \$4,122 grant from Connecticut River Joint Commission and use of town labor and equipment. Board voted to apply for grant.

Overweight Vehicle Permits – Board approved overweight permits for Chief Logging & Construction; Darcy Nelson; Gould Well Drilling; Green Mountain Power; Sidney Smith Trucking; John Colgrove Trucking; Calkins; Kirk Fenoff & Son; Ron Fenoff Excavating and Limlaw Pulpwood.

Liquor License – Board approved liquor license for Paul's Whistle Stop.

Highway Access Permits – Board approved highway access permits for Lawrence & Cynthia Ruggles off Roy Mountain Road and Matthew Burak and Cynthia Spring off Kitchel Hill Road.

Stormwater Mitigation – Board discussed federal program offering grants for stormwater mitigation and possible use of funds for a new salt and sand shed.

August Bicycle Tour – Board discussed information on Le Grand bicycle passing through Barnet on August 6. Approximately 2,000 cyclists are anticipated.

East Barnet Bridge – Board reviewed plans for repairs to East Barnet bridge.

Mileage Reimbursement – Board voted to change mileage reimbursement from .33 to .41 per mile.

Access to Private Land Through Barnet Landfill – Board discussed a renewed request from Reginald Dwyer for access to landlocked land through former Barnet landfill. Town attorney explained town has discussed the matter before and that town has been advised by federal mine safety officials to keep landfill locked and that compensation for lost access to the property was paid during acquisition of land for construction of I-91.

April 10, 2006

Mowing Bids – After reviewing bids for seasonal mowing of Palmer & Stevens Cemeteries, Library building lot, new fire station land, soldiers monument in Barnet Village and cleaning

around town hall and town clerk's office: J&B Property Maintenance, \$1,850; Wilderness Construction & Property Services, \$2,400; and William Warden, \$2,000 and following considerable discussion, Board voted to award bid to William Warden. Board agreed main reason for not going with low bid was its desire to give job to a person living within town limits if reasonably possible.

Overweight Vehicle Permits – Board approved overweight permits for Gil's Construction; H. A. Manosh; and Yarde Metals Inc.

Liquor License – Board approved liquor license for Barnet Village Store.

Highway Access Permits – Board approved highway access permits for Carl & Tricia Sanborn on Comerford Dam Road and George & Dorene Mears on Somerhill Road in West Barnet.

Summer Paving – Board signed applications for state aid for summer paving on a section of the West Barnet Road and a project to reclaim and pave about 1 mile of the Barnet Center Road.

Town Vehicle – Board discussed quote of \$2,473.90 to paint 1999 Ford pickup truck with about 150,000 miles on it. After discussion board agreed it was not worth it to paint a truck with so many miles on it.

Town Plan – Shirley Warden noted planning commission is nearly ready to submit new proposed town plan to Board. Board approved preparation of copies of several maps for the town plan assuming the price is within the budget.

April 24, 2006

McIndoe Monroe Bridge Work – Board met with representative of contractor doing reconstruction of McIndoe Monroe bridge and approved temporary excavation under railroad underpass to accommodate cement trucks.

Access to Landlocked Land Through Gravel Pit – Board met with Gary Dwyer and discussed access to Dwyer's father's land through Barnet landfill property in order to remove some lumber from the property. Board noted that the landfill land is under the jurisdiction of the Federal Mine and Safety Administration. After discussion Board voted to grant a one year access if permission to do so is available from the federal agency.

Overweight Permits – Board approved overweight permits for William Pinkham Jr. and Classen's Crane Service.

Memorial Day Coordinator – Board appointed George Pierce as Memorial Day coordinator.

Road Maintenance – Board discussed

road work with Maurice Gingue, road foreman. Tristan Vaughan offered to replace guardrails at entrance to fire station for \$750 with town digging the holes, \$1,000 if he digs the holes. Board accepted proposal with town digging the holes.

East Barnet Bridge – Barnet resident and representative Leigh Larocque met with Board and discussed bids for work on East Barnet Bridge. Larocque noted state funding commitment is currently a maximum of \$150,000 and recommended that town delay awarding contract until possibility of more state money is fully explored.

Cabot

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

March 22, 2006

Annual Audit – Board voted to sign management letter from Fothergill Segale and Valley for work in preparing the annual audit.

Rapid Response Plan – Board voted to sign the Vermont Rapid Response Plan.

Tax Anticipation Loan – Board voted to approve a \$300,000 tax anticipation loan from Chittenden Bank at 3.8%.

Lower Cabot Water Supply – John Kiernan from Phelps Engineering discussed estimate for proposed water main extension to Lower Cabot. Board voted to seek potential funding from Vermont Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund before exploring feasibility of the project.

UDAG Committee – Board met with Andy Leinoff, chair of Cabot UDAG Fund and discussed possible arrangements with local financial institutions for administrative oversight of the fund.

Town Website – William Walthers web site administrator described town's Internet web site known as www.cabotvt.us

Cabot Library – Board discussed petition to save Cabot Public Library shelves submitted by Bonnie Dannenberg.

Town Service Officer – Board appointed William Cobb as town service officer.

Regional Planning Commission – Board appointed Richard Payne as town representative and Jackie Folsom as alternate to Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission.

Department of Liquor Control – Board reviewed a letter from the Vermont Department of Liquor Control regarding underage tobacco sales in

Cabot. Further, Board noted a letter from board of directors of Cabot Coalition "...writing to express our appreciation for Ken Gokey" in the Coalition's continuing efforts to reduce abusive use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco in the area.

April 5, 2006

Town Web Site – Webmaster William Walters and Board reviewed a series of postcards, entitled "Quick Guide to Cabot Government" related to town's website.

School Budget – Board discussed special town meeting planned to reconsider school budget approved at March 7 town meeting.

Town Garage – Board discussed petition to reconsider the article which failed to pass at the March 7 town meeting as to authorizing purchase of land for town garage.

Dog Complaint – Board discussed dog complaints from Jeannine Greaves and Tim White and will initiate procedures in ordinance for control of dogs.

Bank Resolution – Board approved application for MasterCard BusinessCard from Chittenden Bank for town by town treasurer.

Fire Warden – On recommendation of fire warden, Board appointed Walter Bothfield Jr. as deputy town forest fire warden.

Board of Listers – Board noted resignation of Roberts Wilcutts from board of listers.

Danville

Town Clerk: Virginia Morse
 Selectboard: Marion Sevigny, Larry Gadapee, Rick Sevigny, Marvin Withers and Michael Walsh

April 6, 2006

Personnel – Following discussion among Scott Palmer, Troy Cochran and members of Board as to potential conflict of interest of Marvin Withers, Larry Gadapee and Merton Leonard, Board agreed there is no such conflict and entered executive session to discuss a personnel issue. Following executive session no action was taken, and Larry Gadapee left the meeting.

Deliberative Session – Board entered deliberative session to discuss a matter of personnel. Following closed session no action was taken.

Town Plan – Merton Leonard reported NVDA accepted Danville town plan.

Route 2 Construction – Leonard reported funds have been allocated for Route 2 project and must be spent by the end of 2009 or the funds will be reallocated.

Fire Department – Merton Leonard reported a proposal has been submitted to US Department of Homeland Security for new tanker for fire department.

Town Hall – Board noted water line to town hall sprinkler system is complete and lift to second floor is operational. Sprinkler needs to be connected and tested and lift needs to be inspected and certified. Board approved installation of screen door on back of building. Board discussed painting bids for town hall.

Curbscuts – Board approved curbscuts for Dwight and Sharon Lakey and for Dan and Nancy Lewis.

Sewer Connections – Board approved sewer connections for Dwight and Sharon Lakey and for Dan and Nancy Lewis.

Liquor License – Board approved liquor license for Creamery Restaurant.

Town Green – Board approved use of Green for Pope Library Book, Bake and Plant Sale on May 29 and Sunday concerts June 25 - August 27; Danville Fair on August 4-5 with approval of waiver of open bottle restriction on Friday evening and Saturday at the Fair. Board also approved use of Green for Autumn on the Green on October 1 and sophomore class yard sale on May 20.

April 11, 2006

Personnel – Board met with Scott Palmer and Troy Cochran and discussed town's conflict of interest policy. Palmer and Cochran requested copies of emails between Kevin Gadapee and Marvin Withers. Board agreed to seek legal advice on the request. Board discussed whether a conflict of interest might exist between Larry Gadapee and certain members of the highway department and did not reach agreement as to whether there is or is not a conflict of interest. Following executive session to discuss a matter of personnel, no action was taken.

Lyndon

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

April 10, 2006

Highway Report – At 23% through year total budget is 21% expended.

Department of Health – David Root distributed materials describing public health programs available to Vermonters.

Solid Waste Supervisor – Board appointed Steve Pitman as solid waste supervisor.

County Fair – Board approved demolition derby permit for August 27 at Caledonia County Fair.

Walk-a-thon – Board approved Darling Inn Senior Meal Site walk-a-thon on May 20.

Fire Truck Loan – Board approved renewal of fire truck loan of \$24,997.55 at 3.68% from Community National Bank.

Liquor Licenses – Board approved liquor licenses for Packing House

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

Lounge, Speedwell Mini Mart, Sweet Basil, Hi-By and Wildflower Inn.

Excess Weight Permits – Board approved excess weight permits for Calkins Rock Products, Camp Precast Concrete, John Colgrove Trucking, Feed Commodities, Ron Fenoff Excavating, Gould Well Drilling, Gil's Construction, Limlaw Pulpwood, Morrill Construction, Robert Switzer, Winterset, Yarde Metals and Marion Newland.

Red Village Road Right-of-Way – Board approved access to Drown gravel pit from Red Village Road subject to adherence with Act 250 and all zoning requirements.

Police Department – Board approved hiring part time certified officers until a full time police officer is hired.

Personnel – Following executive session Board approved a separation agreement with Bridget Tweedie, formerly of the police department.

Town Village Merger – On inquiry from Dick Boera as to future of town and village merger, Board noted Martha Feltus will identify a small group of committee members.

Peacham

Town Clerk: Bruce Lafferty
Selectmen: Richard Browne, Tim McKay and Gary Swenson.

March 15, 2006

Board Organization – Board appointed Richard Browne chair. Board voted to hold 7 o'clock meetings on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at office of town clerk and to follow procedures of *Roberts Rules of Order*. Bruce Lafferty was appointed clerk of Board.

Americans with Disabilities Act – Board vote to disband the ADA committee as it is no longer required. Board will assume responsibility if ever needed.

Private Road Signs – Request from Stevens School for private road signs was referred to administrative assistant.

Official Newspaper – Board designated *Caledonian Record* as the newspaper for publication of warnings and other official business.

Old Town Office – Board discussed draft of purchase and sale agreement for sale of Old Town Office to Peacham Community Housing. Public will have opportunity to review agreements prior to any action.

Cemetery Lot – Board approved sale of cemetery lot to Royal and Jane Bartrum.

Road Classifications – Board discussed 2006 work plan and added town-wide road classification for review.

April 5, 2006

Minutes – Board agreed to continue posting meeting minutes on town website.

Green Up Day – Board discussed Green Up on May 6 and request for town dump truck for trash collection. Board voted to allocate \$50 to Green Up Day volunteer luncheon.

Town Building Energy Use – Tim McKay reported energy use at town building will be discussed in greater detail after Dave Magnus gathers more information.

Parking Lot Incident – Board met with Ray Welch and discussed Welch's fall in the parking lot on March 30. Board apologized for the incident and ordered the defective area be cordoned off until paving repairs are complete. Accident report will be submitted to town's provider of insurance. Board discussed repaving the parking lot and garage apron of fire department building. Projects will be coordinated by administrative assistant when weather permits and if funds can be found.

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

Fire Department – On recommendation of Fire Chief Berwick Board voted to house fire warden vehicle at fire station.

Town Financial Plan – After presentation by Phil Jejer, Board approved town financial plan.

Road Maintenance – Phil Jejer reported road work progress and safety issues identified during a loss control action survey by Vermont League of Cities and Towns. Board voted to complete all work noted in the survey.

Peacham Community Housing – Board discussed negotiations between town and Peacham Community Housing concerning old town office building. Board designated Gary Swenson as the person to communicate with town attorney on the matter.

Annual Audit – Board directed town treasurer to review 2003 town audit as it pertains to town and cemetery bond issues.

St. Johnsbury

Town Manager: Michael Welch
Town Clerk: Sandy Grenier
Selectboard: Dale Urie, Bryon Quatrini, Dale Urie, Reg Wakeham, Gary Reis and Jerry Rowe.

March 27, 2006

Tax Sale – Town Clerk Sandra Grenier presented list of properties that qualify for tax sale. Grenier reported that 98% of billed taxes for 2005 have been collected. Total of properties on proposed tax sale list is 21, of which 14 are mobile homes, for a total of \$54,601.22. Board voted to proceed with tax sale.

Property Valuation and Review – On recommendation of Sandy Grenier Board voted to withdraw its petition for appeal of State's property value and disbursement.

Proposed Bike Lanes – Alan Boye presented proposals for expanding bike lanes on Portland Street, Western Avenue and Main Street to South Main Street. Board discussed elimination of parking spaces, construction and maintenance costs and safety. Board asked Alan Boye to project cost estimates and get a firmer grasp of funding before Board takes action.

Portland Street Bridge Design Bid and Stairs – Board voted to table design bid until full board and Mike Welch are present for discussion. Residents of St. Mary Street were present to discuss stairs from Portland Street (Memorial) Bridge to Bay Street/St. Mary Street area and spoke in support of repairing them.

Revaluation Bid Result – On recommendation of Peter Whitney, manager of information systems, and Mike Welch, Board voted to hire Caroline Lockyer from Real Estate Assessment Consultants of VT for town reappraisal. Lockyer proposal was for \$199,000.

Economic Development Loan – Board voted as requested to amend the subordination agreement on an existing economic development loan with Microdata.

Railroad Street Marketplace – Board noted town's nomination of Railroad Street Marketplace project for recognition by Vermont Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

Methadone Clinic – Board noted request from Baart Behavioral Health Services requesting an increased cap of 75 patients at the St. Johnsbury Mobile Methadone Clinic. Board agreed it would rather encourage the clinic to be more mobile and actually take the clinic to outlying areas and other towns, as was the original intention.

April 3, 2006

Personnel – After executive session for the purpose of discussing evaluation of town manager, no action was taken.

April 10, 2006

Liquor Licenses – Liquor licenses were approved for Little Country Store and St. Johnsbury Community Food Co-op. On recommendation of Police Chief Leighton Board granted provisional approval for a new liquor license Dawg House Tavern on Eastern Avenue with certain restrictions.

Town Plan – Board voted to approve town plan and approve recommendation of bid review committee to have Acura Printing of Barre print the plan for a cost of \$9,000.

Mobil Methadone Clinic – After considerable discussion about request to raise cap on patients treated by mobile

methadone clinic in St. Johnsbury from 50 to 75, Board agreed the purpose of clinic was to be mobile and that it would accept a cap of 60 and asked to have other towns accept the service of the clinic as a multi-site program.

Memorial Bridge Repairs – Board reviewed estimate of \$82,559 for repairs to Memorial Bridge and for removal of two sets of stairs to lower level. An estimate of \$340,000 includes bridge repairs and replacement of both sets of stairs. Difference would be absorbed by town. Board agreed to proceed with bidding process and get quotes on replacement of stairs on westerly end of bridge and removal of the others.

Town Managers Report – Michael Welch reviewed priorities for his work in 2006 including cell towers, review of municipal services, housing study, labor negotiations, planning commission plans, reorganization of listers department, CSO update, taser use by police department and regional cooperation among surrounding towns. Board voted to accept goals as described.

St. Johnsbury Works – Board approved letter of support for St. Johnsbury Works application for collaborative creative communities program.

Transportation Path – Gary Reis reported on meeting with Railroad officials about Three Rivers Transportation Path including railroad's concern over path across its 2.5 acre lot.

Solid Waste Disposal – Priscilla Messier described efforts of zoning office to pursue a town-wide clean up of trash and discarded vehicles, furniture, appliances and so forth in people's yards and on vacant land.

Charter Amendments – Board discussed letter from Bob Gensburg representing Sandra Grenier explaining why Grenier is against Board setting town clerk's salary in proposed charter amendments. Board voted to support charter changes as approved by town voters.

Fire Department – Town manager reported fire department was recognized as EMS Vermont's First Responders of the Year.

Utility Pole – Board approved pole permit on Coffin Road.

Walden

Town Clerk: Lina Smith
Selectboard: David Brown, Perley Greaves and Douglas Luther

March 28, 2006

Road Posting Policy – On recommendation of Vermont League of Cities and Towns, Board voted against posting

Class 4 roads as not being maintained by town. Dave Bertrand asked if town had made any progress toward a policy for upgrading Class 4 to Class 3 roads. Board said it had not.

Liquid Chloride – Board discussed purchasing liquid chloride. Supplier can furnish 3,000 gallon tank. A 500 gallon tank and truck equipment will need to be purchased. No action taken.

E-911 Road Name – Board approved a request to name a new road, at 27 Bayley Hazen Road, Thayer Drive.

Cystic Fibrosis Walk – Board approved permission to hold a Cystic Fibrosis Walk for a Cure in Walden on May 20.

Appointments – Board appointed Herb Thayer to cemetery commission and Ted Jacques as representative to Central Vermont Solid Waste District.

Employee Pay Raise – On request of town clerk Board approved a .50 per hour pay raise for the assistant town clerk.

Insurance – Board discussed insurance for fire department and fast squad. No action taken.

Town Office – Board discussed repairs at town clerk's office.

Utility Easement – Board approved utility easement for Washington Electric on land owned by the town near old South Walden School.

Overweight Permits – Board approved overweight truck permits.

April 11, 2006

Road Work – Perley Greaves reported projects associated with Better Backroads grant funds received in 2005 need to be done this year. The work will be put out to bid and includes ditching and culverts on Coles Pond Road, Ferguson Hill, Houston Hill and Bayley Hazen. Dave Brown reported a complaint from a Cabot resident about condition of Bricketts Crossing. Brown noted praise from two residents on condition of their roads.

Selectmen's Handbook – Board asked town clerk to order new selectman's handbook from Vermont Leagues of Cities and Towns.

E-911 Signs – Board ordered replacement of sign for Bayley Hazen Road to replace one that is misspelled.

Liquor License – Board approved liquor license for Walden Country Store.

Reappraisal – Town clerk gave update on reappraisal.

Green Up – After discussion Board agreed to not establish a hazardous waste drop in conjunction with next year's Green Up.

Solid Waste District – Board appointed Ted Jacques to serve as representative to Central Vermont Solid Waste District.

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Tim Lewis - Reporter Turned Teacher in Search of a More Perfect Union

NICHOLAS R. PLANTE

Stacks of video tapes and full bookcases line the wall of his office. A group photo merging two families hangs behind his desk. Pictured there are the Lewises and Gores. The photo deceives those who look upon it in believing the group is separate families; however they are one in the same, different only in character and name. News related posters fill other spaces inside the office, including a poster of Robert Hager, the NBC news correspondent who lives in Woodstock, VT and political ads from Vermont newspapers. The makeup of the office mirrors Tim Lewis.

Lewis teaches television studies at Lyndon State College (LSC). "Did I always want to be a news reporter?" he asks. "No. Did I want to tell stories? Yes." While growing up Lewis

dreamed of becoming a movie maker. Although he does produce movies as a hobby, Lewis entered the news business because, he says, he wanted to pay his bills and stay in Vermont.

"I find more satisfaction being a representative of the news profession that I grew up in. I tell my students how the journalism I learned can be done and the rewards of that," Lewis says. "I teach them to tell tales that are truthful with information that nobody else knows. It's important they learn to ask tough questions for the people who don't have the opportunity to ask them, themselves."

Lewis' reporting is accurate and non-fictional, but that's not necessarily the case with some of his productions in his free time. Lewis plays a dual role bringing the fictional state representative and perennial candidate for governor from Avery's Gore, Danny

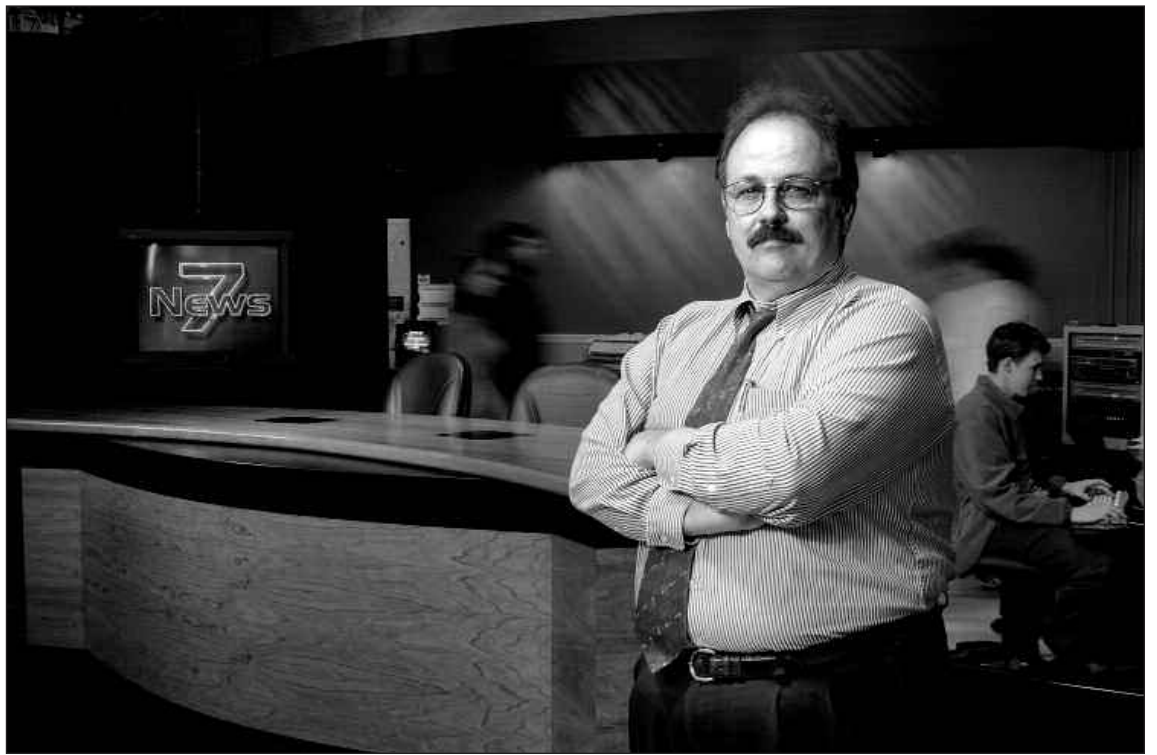


Photo By: North Star / David Ballou

Tim Lewis is a journalist and instructor of television studies at Lyndon State College. He likes to have the chance to be the first to report a story that has meaning to the audience and finds great satisfaction in seeing his students discover the means and the opportunity to do so themselves.

Gore, to life. Danny Gore is played by Tim Lewis' father Norm Lewis. The Gore campaign for Governor has been played out at election time since the early 1960's, and it is a well known comic act in Vermont. Tim Lewis plays two roles in the skit. "First I'm Tim Lewis the technical expert and manager," he says, "but I'm also Durwood Gore the son of Danny Gore who provides various musical and vocal abilities."

Danny Gore brings humor to politics in Vermont and at the same time reflects on the importance of the uniqueness and the culture of the state. Danny orates in the traditional Vermont accent and expresses himself in terms like, "going downstreet," to mean out for an errand. He entices his audience by telling accounts of fictional creatures like the egg laying woodchuck from Avery's Gore.

While attending high school in the 70's, Tim Lewis broadcast-

ed information from Newport's radio station WIKE. "WIKE is the reason I'm a reporter today," he says. Lewis worked at WIKE broadcasting Red Sox baseball games on Saturdays and continued the job during his breaks from the University of Vermont. He earned a bachelor's degree in mass communications in 1975 with intentions of becoming a movie maker.

After graduation he landed his first job in St. Johnsbury. "I was St. Johnsbury's first disco DJ," Lewis says. "Three nights at the discotheque [Le Bistro] I was making more than I would have full time at a radio station." He concluded that staying in Vermont was more important than making movies elsewhere, and he decided to find a Vermont job telling stories.

Having had enough of the night life as a DJ, Lewis returned to broadcasting and took a job at Waterbury's radio station WDEV. "I started as a news reader;

announcing the hourly broadcast," he says. He was promoted to news director when the position opened, and his expertise expanded to reporting on the state legislature and politics.

Five years later, Burlington's Channel 3, WCAX TV offered him a job. WCAX recognized Lewis' talent covering Vermont's legislature and made him the station's "Man in Montpelier." Highlighting his career at WCAX was his spot as anchor for the Saturday evening news and production of the station's award winning Vermont bicentennial series "First Republic - 14th Star."

"I could make little movies everyday and make money," he says. "I found I could pay my bills and live in Vermont."

"I'm a firm believer in the Thomas Jefferson saying of information," Lewis says. A quote from Jefferson hangs on his office door - "The basis of our government being the opinion of

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the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and ... whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive those papers, and be capable of reading them."

"I have faith that the quest for knowledge, and the truth about our world, will achieve the Founding Brothers' goal of a 'more perfect union.'"

Jefferson says the citizens of the government must have a say in how government operates, and one way citizens can be informed and have a say is through the media. Lewis explains how his reporting relates to Jefferson's beliefs. "News doesn't necessarily have to be profit centered," he says. "We [journalists] should be doing a public service because we have a slice of the public's airwaves. We the people [the public] need to know what the hell is going on."

In 1999, LSC contacted WCAX in search of an instructor to teach television studies. Lewis was the person. Keeping his position at WCAX, part time, he brought his books, tapes and family pictures to the college. He says he enjoys teaching at LSC because the student's work provides a service to the community. "Many of the viewers talk about how they really enjoy seeing reporters or photographers and watching them get better over

time," he says.

"The quality of their work and their commitment can be seen in the national recognition the station has been awarded. It's rewarding for those of us who are teaching to see students' work put up against those from places like Louisiana State University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill or Ohio State. There are all the big dogs and here's this little college that could, and it does."

Lewis has been involved with awards for LSC-TV since his arrival in 1999. He credits the entire television studies team at the college. The news team has received a total of 27 individual and group awards in state, regional and national competitions.

Lewis reflects on his two roles as a reporter and teacher. "As a reporter you are pleased when you can be the first to tell your audience an important or interesting story that has meaning in their lives in some way." He says his satisfaction comes from doing a good job even though it may be tough. "You're pleased when you have done your homework, taken the heat and held those in power accountable for their actions..."

Lewis likes to talk about fulfillment found in passing his knowledge on. "You're pleased when you see that moment when students 'get it' and they discover their passion and figure out why teachers are doing what they're doing. I believe each one of these jobs is a true public service that makes our democracy work, and I have faith that the quest for knowledge, and the truth about our world, will achieve the Founding Brothers' goal of a 'more perfect union' where every person has the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." ★

Letters from the Past

When writing was a necessity and an art

Lynn A Bonfield



Themes common to many parents with children away at school are seen in the 1842 letter Thaddeus Fairbanks (1796-1886) of St. Johnsbury wrote to his son, Henry (1830-1918). Henry was away at a boarding school in Derry, NH, and Thaddeus wrote to him of the importance of discipline, preparation for adulthood, the promise of better times to come, permission for a field trip, need for new clothes, near forgetfulness of a request to purchase a new coat and a sister's reading progress. Thaddeus, with his brothers Erastus and Joseph, was in the process of establishing a new school. The St. Johnsbury Academy began December 13, 1842 with James Kelsey Colby (1812-1866) serving as its first principal.

St Johnsbury
May 26, 1842

My Dear Son

I received your letter of 22nd this morning likewise a week ago yours of the 15th. It gives us much pleasure to receive your letters and to learn that you are well contented although you say you should rather go to school nearer home where you can go home once a week rather than once in 14 weeks, but I suppose you will consider it better that you should be from home some while young as it will be training you for that which you will probably at some time have to submit to, an[d] by going while young and mingling with other associates than those in the immediate vicinity of home you will have a

chance to learn more of human nature and be the better prepared for any circumstances which you may be placed in. I think you can make yourself contented this summer with the expectation of having a school here in the fall Mr Colby has given his final ascent to come and arrangements can probably be made he thinks for his release where he is at any time when we shall want him. We shall decide in a few days and shall probably have it commence in the fall as we at first thought of

If your boots are still too small you can get them stretched if you wish. In your last you mention a contemplate[d] boat ride and fishing tour and wish for permission to go. I wan[t] to say that if Mr Hildreth goes and manages the party I have no objection to your going but by no means to go under the care of any other person or to get into the boat unless he is in to manage it. The case of the boys in the vicinity of Boston under the care of a tutor who were drowned is too recent to be forgotten. I am confident however that you will not expose yourself unmeasurably. I hope you will continue to write us once a week and keep us informed how you do and how you enjoy yourself. How does the cap fit you? Is the paper you mention the [illegible] interesting will it not interest Charlotte? If you please you may enclose it to her after reading it yourself. She is learning to read quite fast

and I think it will learn her to read as well as amuse her, and to receive it from brother will be very pleasing as she speaks of you and thinks sometimes that the next stage will fetch you instead of your letters.

You will judge correctly if you think that I write badly as I am in a hurry and write upon a run and I hope you will not follow my example in this respect. When I wrote you last I mentioned that we had got through with that part of the work which required my personal attention and that I should not be so much in a hurry but I have felt our work lingered and have applied myself pretty closely ever since we commenced. We have now got almost through with our alterations and repairs. The men are painting the chimnies to-day which will about wind off except putting down carpets.

I had like to have forgotten your request about the cloak. I suppose the price seems small and I suppose it is. If you still feel anxious to get it you may if Mr Hildreth has no objection....

Yours with true affection
T Fairbanks

The original of this letter is preserved in the St. Johnsbury Academy Archives. The editor thanks Joanne Bertrand, the Academy archivist, for help in transcribing it. Letters in this series are transcribed as written with no changes to spelling, punctuation, or capitalization. Editor's additions are in brackets; words missing are indicated by ellipses.

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String Worth Saving

Bill Christiansen

According to folklore, Henry Ford said about his automobiles, "You can have any color you want as long as it is black." I remember when choices for a hot breakfast cereal were limited to Oatmeal, Cream of Wheat or Maypo, and cold cereal was limited to Wheaties, Corn Flakes or Rice Crispies. Those were the days when life was simple. Today we are faced with a multitude of choices in every thing we do.

on end, but that is the way it was. Choices were limited. How things have changed. Go to the supermarket, and the meat counter is loaded with choices - red meat, white meat the other white meat, chicken and the ever popular unknown meat. Once you pick a category, you have to choose a cut - roast, chops, steaks of 10 varieties, ground round or hamburger.

Higher education has faired no better. There was a time when you selected your education from limited choices. Each field of study had a prescribed curriculum, which you were expected to learn. There were one or two empty slots that you had to fill with a choice of art or physical education. Recently, Harvard offered 40 majors, and Princeton offered several hundred courses from which to satisfy its general education requirement. How things have changed.

Today students design their own course of study by picking and choosing from an unlimited list. If what they want is not on the

list, it can be added. As the saying goes, "Students know more and more about less and less until they know everything about nothing."

How did we get into this dilemma? It even has a name - the tyranny of choice. Business takes the position that if enough choices are offered, then every customer will make a satisfactory choice. With enough offerings, we can appeal to every customer. Health care has fallen into this trap.

There was a time when you had a doctor, a hospital and a health care plan. The plan was usually Blue Cross or Aetna, Medicare or Medicaid. Add to these choices MedPartners, Cigna, Columbia, Kaiser, Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO), Peer Review Organizations (PRO), and every day the list grows more complex as the government adds more choices. Medicare Part D has so many choices that most people cannot choose.

The supermarket is no better. The industry has what are called standard stocked units (SKU). (This last is just to confuse the issue.) The average supermarket has about 40,000 SKU's. The average family gets between 80 and 85 percent of its needs from 150 SKU's. Did you ever count the number of kinds of salad dressing on the shelf? I measured 30 feet of shelves for salad dressing. Look at the bread shelves. This

confusion of choice is happening in every area of life, and it is going to increase.

The whole thing starts with the law of division. It starts with categories of things. Like an amoeba in a Petri dish, the category begins to divide into segments. It makes no difference what the initial category is, it still divides. Look at automobiles, computers and television programs. Once there were three television channels, now you can get 500 channels and the number is growing.

Consider the following numbers: In 1970 there were 140 automobile models, in late 1990 there were 260. In 1970 there were 654 vehicle styles, in 1990, 1,212. In 1970, 0 software titles, in 1990 250,000. In 1970, 5 kinds of running shoes, in 1990 285. For lovers of soft drinks, there were 20 brands in 1970 and 87 in 1990.

This tyranny of choice has divided the consumers into at least two large groups. The maximizers and the satisficers. Satisficers are those who decide what they want before they go shopping, and they never look back. In the store, they select the items from among those presented, and they leave. They move on with little or no thought to the transaction just completed. They are satisfied with their choices.

The maximizers are always trying to make the "best" selection

from all of the items presented not just in the store but worldwide. They have a long list of considerations and spend great time trying to figure out the "best deal." After the purchase, the maximizer tends to worry about the choice. Was it the best choice, will it be on sale next week, could I have done better if I had gone to Burlington or to Boston? The maximizer is seldom satisfied.

Choices, like many other things in life are actually limited. As the saying goes, "You get one chance to grab the brass ring as the merry-go-round passes." Once a choice is made, live with it. We should all strive to be satisficers. Know what you are after before you go shopping and decide what you are willing to pay.

One of the places where choice can be a real tyranny is the Internet. When you look up information, it is easy to be overwhelmed by the choice. When a subject line produces a million hits, where do you start your search? How good is the information? You can spend the rest of this life looking through all of the choices you have found. After reading the first ten of the million choices, have you read enough or will the next ten give you more, important information. You need to decide.

For you seniors reading this article, good luck with Medicare Part D.

Too much information and too many choices.

"Down on the farm" choices for supper were limited to what was preserved last summer, what kind of animals were killed in the fall and that which was growing in the garden. I'm sure the caveman got tired of eating woolly mammoth three meals a day for months

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Ask the Shrinks

Alice S. Kitchel and Burton Zahler

Dear Shrinks,

I have a problem with my son who is 20 years old and a junior in college. He still lives with me for financial reasons and also because we are remarkably comfortable with each other. "Pete" has had a number of girl friends over the years, several have become family friends.

Currently Pete is going with "Tilly," a 34-year-old mother of two (from two different fathers).

I've told Pete that I think Tilly is wildly inappropriate as a girlfriend for a 20-year old. This led to our first completely unresolved argument. He is still seeing her, and I'm sick with worry about how this could lead to throwing his life away. I've asked him not to bring Tilly and her kids to my house. Can you help?

Worried Mother

Dear Worried,

We wish that we could offer you more because we certainly understand your anxiety, but we can only share our thoughts. We hope that your consideration of those will help you find a better way to handle this dilemma.

First, we need to say that recent brain studies confirm what many have long suspected. The human brain does not fully mature until a person is about age 25. That means that adolescence lasts a lot longer than previously assumed. If your relationship with your son is important to you (and it is clear to us from your letter that it is) the rule of thumb is: avoid power struggles,

especially about love affairs.

Why? There are several reasons: it is normal for adolescents to be rebellious. It appears from your letter that you haven't had a lot of trouble with Pete. If you struggle with Pete about his relationship with Tilly, his fight with you can easily overcome his commonsense when the relationship with Tilly starts to have problems. In other words, he may stay with Tilly because of his fight with you when, in the absence of the fight, he might break up with her. And we say especially love affairs because they do involve other people, not only you and Pete, and because mistakes made, as you are well aware, may have long reaching consequences.

What to do now that you've opened the struggle with Pete. First, take the long view. You want to have a viable and warm lifetime relationship with your son, whether or not he has good (or sensible) taste in women. Of course, you are scared for him. After attempting to smooth the waters by acknowledging that you cannot dictate whom he

spends time with, and after pointing out the obvious danger of his siring yet another child or acquiring a sexually transmitted disease, your task, as we see it, is to shut up.

Adolescence lasts a lot longer than previously assumed.

Work to have a normal, quiet relationship with Pete. Try to avoid devious plans to have others talk to Pete about breaking up. Take it as your job to watch you son making a mistake and hoping that he emerges older and wiser. Understanding that Pete is not fully mature can be both a source of anxiety and a source of consolation.

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

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Fossil fuels make up about 85 percent of the world's energy sources. Fossil fuels provoke wars, make us ill and endanger the planet; and they're running out. Have you ever felt like declaring your independence? Can the average American begin to move away from traditional energy sources without pulling out of society?

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Power Sources for the Average American, published by Lyons Press / Globe Pequot Press.

Woodside will discuss the most progressive and advanced options available to the consumer as well as tried and true energy conservation techniques.

You'll learn how much each method costs and how quickly you will recoup any investment in alternative energy. A chapter of her book describes fuel efficient cars and alternative fuel transportation. Also included are a list of contacts and resources, so you can get started today.

Woodside is an environmental reporter and award-winning journalist. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*,

The Hartford Courant, *The Washington Post*, *Woman's Day*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *New England Watershed Magazine* and many other publications.

She lives with her family in Deep River, CT. She hiked the entire Appalachian Trail in 1987.

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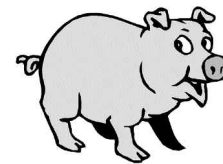
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(front) Isabelle
left-right (back) Diane, Sandi, Louise

Bill Cotte: Conveying a love of music with humor and enthusiasm

VIRGINIA DOWNS

It was a warm day as I parked my car by the Lyndon Center post office. The engine was on and Vermont Public Radio's classical music serenading all outdoors. Walking behind me to get his mail was a tall, rugged man who announced with a grin, "Schubert's C Major Symphony." I was about to meet Bill Cotte, who couldn't resist sharing his enjoyment of the

great orchestral piece.

That was several years ago. It was the year the group was rehearsing for performances of Handel's "Messiah" oratorio. Since then my husband and I have become enthusiastic singers in Cotte's Lyndon State College Community Chorus.

Singing in the chorus has been an unforgettable experience. Its blend of students and singers from area communities representing all ages is unusual



Photo by: Margaret Farrington

Dressed for a performance of the Community Chorus, Bill Cotte is in his home music studio where he gives private piano and voice lessons. On the walls are portraits of Cotte's musical heroes – composer Beethoven and conductors Leonard Bernstein and (above) Arturo Toscanini.

enough. Add to that the electric presence of a man who has a compelling way of communicating his love of music, and you have an unbeatable combination.

A typical expression of Bill's after we rehearsed a passage in Handel's work was an enthusiastic "Not bad!" He said it with a look of amazement, his brown eyes shining. "You guys are good - not perfect but very

good." When he illustrates a section with his resonant bass voice, the chorus is respectfully silent.

This way of encouragement works like magic. His humor, too, is captivating. Leading us through "melismas," those long passages that challenge lung capacity, he jokingly warned us not to take a breath at the same time. "For the audience that

would be a very visible moment, as if all the air were being sucked out of the room."

Cotte had been teaching music at Lyndon State College just a year when in 1991 he proposed the idea of a community chorus in which his choral students could sing and thereby receive course credits. "Rather than just involving the student body, I thought the young people could benefit from the experience of more seasoned choral singers. It has worked out really well, starting with our very humble beginnings." Today 55 singers are involved.

Cotte is an adjunct professor at Lyndon State College, teaching music appreciation in its broadest sense with links to art and history, private voice and piano lessons and chamber choir singing. He also gives instruc-



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tion in his home to adults and children.

We talked in his small studio in the house on Vail Drive in Lyndon Center, which he shares with Margaret Farrington, his lifetime partner. Farrington is a singer in the chorus.

The room is ringed by bookshelves with albums, compact discs and tapes of his favorite music. On the walls are portraits of his musical heroes – composer Beethoven and conductors Bernstein and Toscanini.

Singing in the chorus has been an unforgettable experience.

“I’ve been an avid collector of Toscanini recordings for years. He was an inspiring conductor and his orchestral players had a love-hate relationship with him because he sometimes scolded them,” Cotte says. “He had musical integrity and has been accused of being a time-beater because he stuck faithfully to the score.”

It was not until he was 16 years old that Cotte was turned on to music seriously. “I heard a lot of music at home, some classical and a lot of big band music which was popular with my parents’ generation,” he explains. It was not until the family moved to Rockaway, NJ, that a passion for music entered his life.

Before that he lived in

Parsippany in northern New Jersey. “At Parsippany no boys were in the chorus. At Morris Hills Regional in Rockaway there were as many fellows as girls. My choral teacher, Ivan Baker, introduced me to the whole world of music. Ivan and his wife, Ruth, were like family to us.”

Cotte graduated from the four-year Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ. “The founder of the school wanted the college to be within proximity of Philadelphia and New York, because at that time Leopold Stokowski used the choir almost exclusively. Bernstein and Bruno Walther would use no other choir.”

Choir rehearsals were always in preparation for an upcoming performance, he says. Besides Stokowski and Bernstein, he also sang under the baton of Eugene Ormandy. “These conductors had a self-effacing quality that was wonderful. We rehearsed in a large chapel on campus and then in the city, either in Carnegie Hall or Avery Fisher Hall in New York, or the Philadelphia Academy of Music.”

Cotte was a voice major, minoring in piano and conducting. “I am not a concert level type of pianist, by any means,” he says. “The thing I enjoy most of all is teaching music appreciation.” This is his tenth year of teaching “Adventures in Music,”

a music appreciation class with adults from the area meeting Monday evenings at the home of Peter and Joyce Ollman in St. Johnsbury. Joyce is also a member of the Community Chorus. Reading printed handouts ahead of time in preparation, they listen to the works of great composers with interpretive comments by Bill.

Cotte’s zest for teaching music appreciation over the years has included a year training the Lyndon Institute choruses in preparation for concert performances and preparing students for All-State and District Chorus auditions and concerts. For a year at St. Johnsbury Academy, he trained the Academy Chorus and the “Hilltones” in preparation for their concerts.

There was also a year when he taught music appreciation and choral singing to children from kindergarten through 8th grade at the Millers Run School in Sheffield.

At the other end of the age spectrum Cotte recalls with great joy his week teaching an Elderhostel program sponsored by Lyndon State College. Entitled “The three B’s of the 19th century,” it was an introduction to Beethoven, Berlioz and Brahms and their influence on the world of classical music. “They were wonderful people to work with,” he says.

Before joining the Lyndon

State faculty, Cotte had another career. “I felt called to the ministry,” he says. He studied at the Bible Institute of New England, then located in St. Johnsbury. He was ordained in 1977. He was a youth pastor for a time at his home church in Parsippany, then at the Fellowship Chapel in the same city. On the side he taught music at Northeastern Bible College in Essex Fells, NJ and began his present routine of instructing private piano and voice students. “I even taught Bible study at Bell Laboratories. They had a Bible club with 200 people – scientists and think tankers. Wonderful people.” When he left the area they presented him with two volumes of rare Stokowski recordings.

Cotte is now pastor and choir director of the First

Congregational Church in St. Johnsbury Center, the largest Congregational Church in the area.

May will be a busy month for Bill Cotte, in addition to his musical role at LSC graduation ceremonies. He has been asked to give a program for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute series at Newport on May 3. “Appreciating the Magic of Mozart is the title of that presentation.”

On May 6, the Community Chorus will give a rousing concert entitled “A Broadway Sampler.” It will feature music from “Les Miserables,” “West Side Story,” “Amadeus” and “Phantom of the Opera.” It is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. at Alexander Twilight Theater, with admission by donation. ★

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- (3) A community member volunteering directly at Danville School.
- (4) A community member that exemplifies those qualities that build a supportive and healthy community in which a school and young people can thrive.

Send nominations, including expenses, by **May 15, 2006** to: **Manning’s Danville School And Community Helping Hand Award**
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who represent all the communities served by NVRH, we firmly believe that every member of this community has a vital role to play.

Given the scope of this effort, we want to keep you informed about our plans, and we welcome your feedback. Over the coming months, we plan to provide you with more detailed information on each of these projects.

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All You Needed to Know About Starting a Creamery

CARROLL COLBY

Lois (Field) White's series in *The North Star* about creameries in every village [October and November 2005] prompted at least one reader to go to his basement and look at a row of old glass milk bottles with a kind of affection. It wasn't that long ago that it was unthinkable to have milk in anything but glass, and the snubbed nose delivery truck was as common on our roads as the RFD mail carrier is today.

White wrote with great enthu-

siasm about her first trip with her father and his milk cans to the South Peacham Creamery. The creamery operator was Stanley Munger. There in the draw between South Peacham and West Barnet, Munger unloaded each farmer's cans, tested the milk and prepared it for shipping to the bottling plant in Quincy, MA.

As White explained, neighborhood creameries were developed first in central New York and later appeared in Vermont in the 1890's. Typically farmers separated their cream from milk and hauled the

precious cream to be churned to butter at the creamery. In 1895 the South Peacham Creamery handled cream from more than 600 cows and shipped 3,000 pounds of butter to Boston each week.

By the turn of the century there were five creameries in Barnet alone, from which 850,000 pounds of butter were shipped each year.

By the 1920's creameries had turned to the business of fluid milk, and with better delivery trucks and the reliable railroad, milk was shipped to places like Quincy for bottling. A few, like the Cream Top Dairy established in 1938 and later known as Kilfasset Dairy in Passumpsic, bottled milk and delivered it door to door. It was the Kilfasset trucks and others like them that made a permanent impression on our understanding of the dairy side of grocery shopping. Where are those trucks that seemed to perpetually drip water from melting ice as the milkmen delivered bottles of milk and boxes of cottage cheese or other specialty products - house to house?

As I thought about it I was puzzled by the proliferation of these neighborhood creameries and the apparent record of their success in the precarious process of handling cream and milk and keeping it profitable. One source of that expertise and sophistication I found in an interesting catalogue published in 1896 by the Vermont Farm Machine Company in Bellows Falls.

The paper-covered booklet is a handbook and catalogue, a virtual course on the steps to organizing, financing, outfitting and operating a cooperative creamery. It was all they needed to know. The booklet includes recommendations for location including convenience for access for patrons and proximity to a "living" stream as a source of fresh water and a means to wash away creamery drainage.

The booklet gives plans and specifications for a proper ice-house with a capacity of 150 tons

of ice and key observations such as the note that ice weighs 55 pounds per cubic foot.

The Vermont Farm and Machine Company offered suggestions for incorporating as a way to protect stockholders from future assessments and other forms of liability. It provided model agendas for meetings, by-laws and policies for farmers as to proper cattle feed and milking and cleanliness standards as well as detailed procedures for operations at the creamery.

Possibly the most interesting part of the pamphlet is the section on plans and specifications for materials and recommended equipment for creameries themselves. It offers construction notes as to the recommended size of doors, windows, ventilators and chimneys. It gives details on the design and style of flooring, plumbing fixtures and heating systems. The Company describes the finished buildings as "ordinary" creamery buildings with a cost between \$300 and \$700 and

"good" creamery buildings, which were budgeted to cost between \$500 and \$1,500.

As the Company suggested in its 1896 catalogue, called *Creamery Architecture and Subtitled Good Buildings and Equipments at Moderate Prices*, its aim was to provide service and supplies at such quality and price that satisfied customers would spread the word and its success would follow.

The result was an industry of neighborhood creameries that ran like clockwork and allowed the smallest dairy farms to carry on.

"By our methods," it reads, "we reap the benefits, first in the consciousness of being engaged in an honest, upright business in which, by reserving for ourselves only a legitimate profit, we are enabled to really do the purchaser actual good because we give them the full value for money expended.



Fig. 9. JERSEY HILL CREAMERY, RYEGATE, VT. Equipped by the Vermont Farm Machine Co. Where the Gold Medal Butter is Made.

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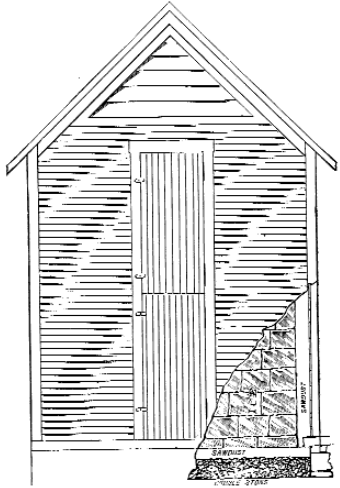
Good Buildings and Equipments at Moderate Prices.

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Plan for Construction of Ice House.



This cutaway view shows a building constructed with a six-inch dead air space on the outside and a space inside of that next to the ice of nine inches, to be filled with sawdust.

Secondly, purchasers once secured continue as patrons; and thirdly, the plants that we establish remain as actual working examples of what we supply and are thus the best advertisements that we have. We are not obliged to go into a new section every little while in order to do business, as is the case with the 'creamery shark.' It was a noble statement, but by the record of history and the testimonials and photographs of the Company's creameries in Barnet, Ryegate, East Ryegate and Lyndonville it appears the products were well received and the traveling salesmen were busy.

One of the featured creameries in the 1896 pamphlet was known as the Jersey Hill Creamery in Ryegate. Referring to a black and white photograph the text describes the creamery as under the operation of R.F. Jaynes and holding "front rank among all creameries in the state, leading all others in prices paid to patrons. The average price paid to patrons for the whole of the year 1895 was 24 17/100 cents per pound."

The Jersey Hill Creamery was supplied by the Company with two of its U. S. Cream Separators and

equipped with cream vats, churns and butter workers, which Jaynes described as "unequaled for first class work."

On two different occasions prior to the printing of the Company pamphlet, butter produced at the creamery was entered for competition at the Vermont Dairymen's Association Annual Meeting and carried off the Creamery Sweepstakes. Jersey Hill Creamery won the Grand Sweepstakes and Gold Medal at the annual meeting in January 1895 and again in January 1896. As the Vermont Farm Machine Company proudly maintained, "A record like this is dependent upon a first class product which can only be hoped for with good milk handled with such apparatus and in such a way as will bring out all the points that tell in the results."

The Vermont Farm Machine Company did fare well, and it provided the experience and the handholding that allowed farmers and the fledgling neighborhood cooperative creameries a chance to prosper. That was the heyday of customer support and long distance technical assistance provided even to our back roads and dark hollows. The result was an industry of neighborhood creameries that ran like clockwork and allowed the smallest dairy farms to carry on.

The Vermont Farm Machine Company was one of the leading manufacturers in the Connecticut River Valley in the 19th Century.

The company started in 1868 over a Bellows Falls livery stable where 4 or 5 men made a revolutionary evaporator for boiling maple syrup. Known as the Cook Sugar Evaporator it had iron sides instead of the traditional wooden sides. The evaporator was patented and sold well and found international attention at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893.

Success with the evaporator prompted company officers to

branch out into the manufacture of farm tools including harrows, cultivators, mowing machines and horse rakes. And in 1877 the Company began production of the Cooley Creamer, which separated cream from milk by submerging milk cans in cool water. The Creamer had demand so great that previous lines were dropped, and the Company concentrated on dairy products. Best known were the Davis Swing Churn, used to make butter, and the U. S. Cream Separator, which did just what the name implies. Both were advertised as capable of being powered by sheep or dogs on a treadmill.

The U.S. Cream Separator became the gold standard against which other separators were judged, and it was widely marketed and found on almost every dairy farm in America.

The company occupied a 4-story brick building in Bellows Falls, which was destroyed by fire in 1883. A larger building was quickly built, and by 1889 the company employed 800. In 1908 the company was described as the world's largest manufacturer of dairy equipment.

Despite patent lawsuits by the manufacturers of the DeLaval Separator and Sears & Roebuck, which made the Economy Separator, and further diversity with an improved maple syrup evaporator, the business saw tremendous growth and success.

At the outset of World War I the Vermont Farm Machinery Company switched from its profitable lines of dairy and sugar making equipment and retooled to produce munitions primarily for the Russian Army. When the war was over, according to the Rockingham Town History, the company was left with an enormous surplus of shells and unpaid accounts. The



Fig. 41. LYNDONVILLE (VT.) CREAMERY. Originally intended for Cream Gathering. Now operated on that plan and also on the whole milk plan, using U. S. Separator. Many of the patrons use Dairy Separator. United States Cream Separator.

Machinists Union was organized in 1915 and it threatened to strike, several key patents had expired, and nervous creditors pulled their support from the once Manufacturing Queen of the Connecticut River Valley. The company never recovered, and the Great Flood of 1927 washed away the building site and with it any last hopes of saving the company.

Testimonial on Behalf of the Vermont Farm Machinery Company

The butter that swept the board at Rutland this year taking eleven premiums, including the Grand and Creamery Sweepstakes and the Gold Medal for the state as well as the butter that did the same at Burlington in 1894 was made from cream separated by your U. S. Separator. The day I ran the milk

that provided the cream for the butter, which scored 97 3/4, I ran 2,300 lbs. per hour leaving no fat in the skimmed milk. In the run of two hours and twenty minutes I skimmed 5,364 lbs. of milk. I do not think that the separator is made yet that can do any better than this and get all the fat. As for quality of cream, we supply the best trade in Boston with its fancy butter, as our prices paid patrons in 1895 show averaging 24 17/100 cents per pound for the year.

R.F. Jaynes
Supt. Jersey Hill Creamery
Ryegate, Vt.
January 17, 1896

Illustrations from Creamery Architecture Good Buildings and Equipments at Moderate Prices published in 1896 by the Vermont Farm Machine Co. courtesy of Merton Leonard collection.

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No Small Potatoes

Vanna Guldenschuh

The tradition of chicken cutlets goes way back to my early childhood. When there was a celebration my mother always made this delectable dish. We accepted no substitutes and were always disappointed with something of a lesser quality.

And, while we always had the classic plain cutlets, I have found a number of ways to utilize them in a variety of dishes. In fact you don't even have to use chicken - pork, veal and even venison work great in cutlet form. All bring tastes of their own.

The frying/sautéing of these cutlets is what takes the time. So give yourself enough time to enjoy the process (it is quite soothing) and do it properly.

CHICKEN CUTLETS

You can make the cutlets up to a day ahead, but don't put them in the oven to finish them off until a short amount of time before service.

Boneless/skinless chicken breast meat or thigh meat - enough for 1/2 breast per person

- son
- 4-6 eggs
- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 4 cups homemade bread crumbs or Panko Japanese style breadcrumbs
- 1 tablespoon grated lemon zest
- 2 whole lemons
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- 1 cup finely grated parmesan cheese
- salt and pepper
- 2 cloves fresh garlic - kept whole
- 2 tablespoons butter
- Olive oil for sautéing
- 2 cups chicken stock

Prepare the chicken - Slice each chicken breast in half horizontally. Do this to each piece of chicken breast and set aside. When using thigh meat you will not slice it. Just go to the next step.

Put the chicken between two pieces of wax paper or plastic wrap and lightly pound them into cutlets with a meat mallet or the edge of a knife. You do not want to pulverize the meat - just turn it into a fairly thin cutlet. It is alright if a little hole appears here and there in the meat. Set them in the refrigerator.

Mix the flour with salt and pepper for flavoring. Spread the mix onto a flat plate.

Crack the eggs (use 4 at first and see if you need any more) into a fairly flat bowl, and scramble lightly with a fork. Add about 1/2 cup of water to thin the mix. In a large mixing bowl combine the breadcrumbs, lemon zest, basil, grated cheese and salt and pepper (couple of shakes of each.)

Take the chicken out of the refrigerator and line up the chicken, the flour, the egg mix and the breadcrumb mix in that order. Set out an empty flat platter on which to place the cutlets after they have been coated.

One by one dredge the cutlets in the flour and then dip in the egg to coat. Do about 4 or 5 pieces at a time. Take the cutlets from the egg mix and press into the breadcrumb mix to coat thoroughly. Place on the platter. Do this until all the cutlets are done.

In a large sauté pan heat 2 tablespoons of the butter with about 1/2 cup olive oil. You will have to judge how much oil and butter to have in your individual pan. It should be about 1/4 inch deep. A little more than a regular sauté but not a deep frying depth. Throw in a whole garlic clove and let the oil get hot - be careful not to let this burn as it has butter in it, but get it hot enough to sizzle the cutlets when you put them in. When it has reached the proper temperature place the cutlets in the pan with a little breathing room between each one. Adjust the heat so that they are browning lightly but not getting too dark. This step takes patience.

You must brown each side of the cutlets and not take them out too soon (they should be a golden brown) or leave them in too long so that they overcook or get too black. Continue until they are all done to perfection. A perfectly done pile of cutlets is a thing of beauty for the cook to behold.

Remember that the thigh meat cutlets take a little longer to cook than the breast meat cutlets, and you will be cooking them a little more when you finish them in the oven.

Place all the cutlets into a large baking pan so they overlap each other - There is always room for a few more; just move them around. Choose a baking pan that will require you to overlap them in it. This will make for better steaming.

At this point you may store the cutlets in the refrigerator - even overnight - until you are ready to finish them or you can finish them right away. You can even freeze them at this point for later use. They do lose a little flavor and texture after freezing, but this homemade version will beat any frozen ones you buy at the store.

Finishing: Pour the chicken stock over the cutlets until there is about 1/4 inch in the bottom and squeeze the lemons over all. I throw the lemon halves right in the baking pan. Cover tightly with aluminum foil and place in a 375° oven for about 30 minutes. The cutlets are now ready to serve as-is or in a variety of ways.

This steaming step gives the cutlets a wonderfully soft texture and a great flavor.

The cutlets make a great entrée "as-is" with a vegetable and starch on the side. But if you want to serve them in different ways here are a few suggestions.

CHICKEN PARMESAN

Ladle a light tomato sauce over 1/2 of the cutlet and sprinkle with fresh grated parmesan cheese. Serve with a vegetable and salad.

CHICKEN PICATA

Cut two lemons in half and roast in a 350° oven for about 20 minutes. This makes the lemons easy to use and intensely flavorful. This is a great way to use lemons in a variety of recipes. Cool and set them aside. In a sauce pan reduce two cups of chicken stock by half and squeeze the two lemons into it. Add 1/4 cup of dry vermouth and reduce it all slightly. Add 2 tablespoons of capers and 3 tablespoons of butter. Cook until the butter has blended in to the mixture and drizzle over the cutlets at service.

CHICKEN FLORENTINE

Roast two lemons as above and set aside. Wash enough spinach for a side portion for each person. Put 2 tablespoons of oil in a large sauté pan with a whole clove of garlic. When the garlic starts sizzling add the spinach at once. Toss the spinach until it all has a light coating of oil and has just started to cook. Cover the pan and turn off the heat. Leave the pan on the warm burner and wait about 5 minutes - the spinach will be cooked just right. Set aside.


Squeeze the lemons in a sauté pan with 1 cup reduced chicken stock and add 4 tablespoons of butter. Add 1/2 cup dry vermouth and cook until the butter has thickened the sauce and incorporated into it.

For service put a portion of spinach on a plate and place a cutlet on top. Drizzle with a small amount of sauce. Serve with a lemon slice.


CHICKEN CUTLET POBOY

These cutlets make an excellent sandwich, and this classic New Orleans sandwich is one of my favorites.

Cut a classic French loaf into 6 inch lengths. Cut in half horizontally and place chopped tomato and shredded lettuce inside. Traditionally, you dress this sandwich with a remoulade sauce, but you can just use mayonnaise. Salt and pepper it and serve with a nice flavorful hot sauce on the side. Cole slaw is a good side dish.



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A Visit with Maude Lund - Betty Hatch

When inspiration fails me, I can look in my file for something from Maude Lund. She was a prolific writer and we often swapped letters. I asked her for early history of her family growing up on Walden Mountain, and she was only too happy to oblige. Here is one piece that she sent.

"I remember when Florence Revoir invited my sister, Lou, and me to the Fairbanks Boarding House on Walden Mountain. Her husband, Earl, was cook for the lumberjacks, and the mill was running full blast. The Revoirs had private living quarters and an Atwater Kent radio. Lindbergh was preparing for his famous flight to Paris. We spent a pleasant afternoon with Mrs. Revoir as this was our first introduction to radio!

"Mother told us to leave early

before the men came in for supper. As we passed through the dining area, the cook had a high stack of white crockery plates before him, at the end of a long table. With practice, he was able to spin those plates in place without moving from his tracks! I was impressed.

"I spent a restless night worrying about that lone pilot. What a relief when the RFD carrier brought the Boston Globe later, to our home, telling in glaring headlines, of his safe arrival.

"I remember when the Water Power Co. put in a new dam at Coles Pond, on Walden Mountain, prior to 1925. I recall my brother George and I walking the rim of it on our way to school. We got a reprimand from Mother when she learned about that.

"At a later date when more

water was needed, the gates to the dam were raised. One afternoon, Burl Langmaid, Mother's cousin, and his fishing partner, Les Stagles, stopped by our place. They gave us some large, fresh perch. They told us a pool was full of them, not far from the dam, on the lower side of the road by Alvin Stimson's. We kids went over and scooped them up by the hands full. Mother was surprised and pleased. Now, for the real work! We had all learned to dress fish. So, a few of us cleaned them. Mother dipped them into boiling water, then quickly removed the fish from the entire skeleton, packed them into pint jars and processed them by the hot water bath method. We had many nice chowders that winter!

"Sometimes, people ask what we did for recreation. As I recall, with older brothers and younger sisters and brothers there weren't many dull moments in a large family. Someone was usually doing something different. We all had work to do according to our abili-

ties. We all learned, at an early age, the satisfaction of accomplishing something.

"Dad was a hardworking man, up early in the morning, away most of the day. He worked in the woods or on the highways or as a caretaker of cottages at Caspian Lake, driving there with horse and buggy. We had big vegetable gardens, fruit and flowers, also a silver fox fur farm for several years. Mother was a capable seamstress, a good cook, cheerful and patient. We had company often.

As young kids, we had never had much money, so we learned to make things. I remember one Christmas Lou and I wanted a small tree in front of the bay window. The ceiling was rather low so Ned cut a short tree, got a 20 lb. wooden lard tub, put the tree in and we stuffed around it with old rags. We decorated it with colored paper and stars of tea lead [tin foil] from the pkgs. of loose tea. It looked real nice.

"I remember knitting little sleeveless sweaters for Glen and Leonard. I made a billfold for Ned. Put a five cent piece in it!

"Mother saved two colored paper doll heads. They were about six inches across. She pasted them to heavy cardboard bodies that she drew. She fixed them so they would stand up. She dressed them in colored crepe paper. We saved them for years.

"We had an old hand cranked

Victrola that sat on a table. Also records of fox-trots, waltzes and polkas. We rolled up the rugs and danced many hours away in the living room. The boys also played harmonicas.

"Other times, my brothers made bows and arrows and whistles from poplars. In springtime, they dammed up the brook, made a waterwheel, even made a saw with teeth that cut! Later, this spot became their swimming hole.

"With no electricity, it was early to bed and early to rise. Everyone learned to fill and wash kerosene lamps and lanterns. Sometimes, we sugared a little. We picked berries, fished the brooks, played ball, chinned the bar and jumped ropes. I also enjoyed the teeter board.

"The Dunbars were all nature lovers. Because of the various types of soil there were countless varieties of wild flowers. How fortunate we were to have this large classroom to roam in. I remember when deer, rabbits and partridges were plentiful. I even saw a bear when I was small! I will never regret those years on Walden Mountain."

I expect some folks reading this will remember Maude as town clerk and treasurer for years in Granby. Some will recall the people and places that she remembered on the Mountain. Thanks to Maude for this wonderful memory.

Good Things Happen Under the Radar

VAN PARKER

It's easy to be cynical these days. Maybe it's always easy to be cynical. There's plenty of bad news, whether in Iraq or Darfur or places much closer to where we live. Tragedies happen, people can be mean to one another, greed often gets the best of us. It seems as though it's always "the bottom line." Such as in baseball.

I was saddened recently when Bronson Arroyo, a Red Sox pitcher, was traded. Arroyo had just said how much he liked Boston and wanted to stay there. After the trade he was labeled "a vanishing breed." He probably is as far as professional sports are concerned.

But sometimes good things happen. *The Hartford Courant* is the paper we subscribe to about half the year, in Connecticut. It has good points but often seems to fasten on some scandal or other, like a dog with a bone. That was one reason it was refreshing to see a front page article headlined "From Discord to a Deal at Yale."

The city of New Haven, CT and the Yale New Haven Hospital have not had the closest of relationships. In order for the Hospital to build a new \$430 million cancer center the city needed to give its OK, and the permit process had ground to a stop. No one from the Hospital had ever gone to the surrounding neighborhood to meet with community leaders. The new hospital president, Marna Borgstrom, helped break the logjam. She met with local pastors and community leaders at a nearby church. They actually talked and prayed together. And out of it came an agreement. The Hospital would get the permits. The Hospital would also train neighbor-

hood people, donate \$1.5 million annually to the city, and "make it easier" for a union to organize employees. Good news for the Hospital, the city and southern New England.

That was a high profile event. Most good things, I think, happen under the radar. We need to look around to find them. Lately I've tried to do that. Here's a list of a some things that come to mind:

Our 103-year old neighbor and still active music teacher recently purchased a walker. A bolt in the walker broke off, making it very difficult to use. I explained the situation to a young woman at a nearby medical supply store. She said that Medicare would not pay for another walker but the company would give our neighbor another one. Then she relieved me of the old walker, adjusted the new one and, with a smile, gave it to me to take to our neighbor. It was done so simply and graciously I could hardly believe it.

The same neighbor a couple of days later seemed to be doing fine on her new walker and told me that

now she was drinking Gatorade. Why, of all things, I thought, is she drinking Gatorade. She then went on to say that she figured since all these athletes were taking Gatorade, she thought she'd take it, too.

A while back I was waiting in line at a very busy West Hartford post office. I found myself hoping I'd get a certain man to wait on me. He is an amazingly calm and friendly individual who has an infectious smile, as though he's on to something and hopes others are on to it, too.

I remember the dedication at a church service of three people who volunteered to help in clean up work in New Orleans. They are but a small sample of all those who have been drawn together to go there to "lend a hand." They weren't looking for credit. They just wanted to help.

That's not the whole list but a few things that come to mind, things that I found simply by pushing aside the cynicism and looking around.



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Stuart V. Corso, D.M.D.
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R.S.V.P.

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Click & Clack Talk Cars

Help with a Replacement Tool

Dear Tom and Ray,

My daughter needs a lug wrench and a jack for her 2003 VW Jetta. I don't want to give an arm or a leg to a VW dealership for these items, but I can't find them anywhere. Can you give me some particulars on these

items, such as size needed and where I might purchase them at a reasonable cost? Will a jack from WalMart work, or one from an auto-parts store? Are they called something else besides "hard to find"?

RAY: Well, I'm sure there's a good story behind how your daughter managed to lose the original jack, Tommy. But clear-

ly, you're not inclined to entertain us with it.

TOM: If you want the same jack that she used to have, the easiest place to get it is at a junkyard. Oops, I mean "auto recycling center."

RAY: Right. You'll find one that may have been used just once. Or never. Or, even if it was used 20 times, it's still perfectly good.

TOM: But I'm going to suggest that you pick up only the jack at the junkyard, and replace the lug wrench with something better.

RAY: Volkswagens and Audis use bolts to secure their wheels instead of just nuts, like most other cars. They're notoriously difficult to remove - especially when they get overtightened, which they always do.

TOM: So instead of that little 6-inch lug wrench that came with the car, you should go to your local hardware or auto-parts store and get a 17-millimeter impact socket and an 18-inch breaker bar.

RAY: The impact socket fits over the wheel bolt, and then the

breaker bar slips onto the socket and gives you leverage to twist the bolt.

TOM: You could also get a better-quality jack to replace the VW jack, but the new one will almost certainly be bigger and heavier, and won't store easily in the trunk. So I'd get the jack at the junkyard - sorry, auto recycling center - or, if you can't find one there, from the dealer. And then pick up a socket and breaker bar somewhere else.

RAY: That'll give your daughter a better set of tools - which will make the next person she "lends" them to much happier.

Old Cars Are Fun But

Dear Tom and Ray,

I am considering the purchase of a 1926 Buick, which appears to be in very good condition. I am not a mechanic, so I am a little doubtful. Does this seem like a stupid idea? I know my wife thinks it is! What are the pitfalls?

TOM: The only pitfall is to think that you're buying a car, Ray. You're not. You're buying a hobby.

RAY: Right. You might be lucky enough to drive this thing around from time to time, entertaining yourself and your neighbors in the process. But mostly,

you're going to be tinkering with it. You're going to spend as much time under it as you will in it.

TOM: You say you're not a mechanic. But are you willing to learn? Do you know of anybody who might enjoy working with you and teaching you? Whiling away some Saturday afternoons in the garage, out in the driveway or in the living room, until your wife catches you?

RAY: You have to be interested in learning about mechanics in order to buy this car. Because you're not going to be able take this thing down to Skippy Lube when it starts running rough.

TOM: But if you're willing to learn, have the time and don't mind buying some tools and reading some books, this 1926 Buick could keep you out of trouble for years. And that's why your wife should wholeheartedly endorse this idea. After all, which would she rather have you fooling around with - a 1926 Buick, or your former secretary?

#6423 Lyndonville
This beautiful 3 bdrm., 1-3/4 bath, well cared for, well landscaped ranch style home is ready to move into. Front & back porch, plus privacy. Plumbed for a possible in-law apartment in basement. Enclosed breezeway & 2 car garage with storage above.



A MUST SEE \$195,000

#6428 Lyndonville
Well maintained 1984 single wide mobile home, 2 bedroom, 2 bath with Jacuzzi tub. Central air conditioning, washer/dryer, gas stove, microwave, refrigerator and dishwasher are all included. Large storage shed, carport with paved driveway and 8x18 screened porch. Lot rent is \$212/month.



Offered at \$38,500

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ML#259715 Marvel at the mountain views as you sit by a roaring fire in the huge fireplace of the spacious sunken living room at this contemporary home. Situated on 70+/- magnificent acres within walking distance of the historic covered bridge, the land offers about 20 acres of open field, 50 acres of mixed timberland and a nice spring fed pond. The home features a convenient kitchen with pantry, formal dining room, living room with lots of glass and vaulted ceiling, master bedroom with private bath, and a fireplaced den on the first floor. The partly finished basement offers two guest bedrooms and another bathroom. There are a 2 car detached garage and a farm shed.

\$375,000



MLS 261472 This 4-bedroom, 2-bath cape would make someone a nice family home or a great year-round vacation home. It's just 2 minutes from Joe's Pond Beach, swimming, boating and fishing. It features an eat-in kitchen, huge livingroom, 3 bedrooms, 2 enclosed porches and an attached 2-car garage. What a way to start the summer!

\$165,000



MLS 261667 Here's a unique investment opportunity: a 3-unit apartment house with ample parking and a quarry for added income. Each unit is bright and cheery and could have separate utilities and offers a handy location. Call for more details.

\$175,000

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Danville Senior Action Center

May Meal Schedule

- May 2** - Lamb Chops with Mint Sauce, Parsleyed Rice, Sautéed Peppers, Broccoli, Onions, Zucchini and Tomatoes, Orange Juice, Wheat Rolls, Baklava.
- May 4** - Hamburgers or Tacos, Coleslaw with Pineapple, Tortilla Cheese Rolls, Tomato Juice, Carrots, Coconut Flan.
- May 9** - Chicken Cacciatore on Pasta, California Vegetables, Caesar Salad with Croutons, Orange Slices.
- May 11** - Guest Chef: David Hale of the New England Culinary Institute.
- May 16** - Shrimp Scampi, Broccoli with Hollandaise Sauce, Lemon Rice Almandine, Cantaloupe, French Bread, Lemon Cake.
- May 18** - Harrington's Spiral Ham, Macaroni and Cheese, Carrots, Tomato Juice, Pineapple, Rolls.
- May 23** - Pasta Primavera with Alfredo Sauce, French Bread, Oranges, Butterscotch Brownies.
- May 25** - Guest Chef: Danville 4H Club. Cabbage Patch Soup with Saltines with Sausage, Pepperoni, Carrots, Egg or Chicken Salad Sandwiches with Lettuce and Tomato, Orange Juice, Apple Pie a la mode.
- May 30** - Cream of Broccoli Soup with Saltines, Curried Tuna Salad Sandwiches, Fruit Salad, Potato Chips and Pickles.

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 \$3.00 for guests 60+ (Others \$4.00) is appreciated.



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The Inn at Shelburne Farms To Be Open on Mother's Day

Once a year visitors are invited to tour The Inn at Shelburne Farms from top to bottom before it opens to overnight guests for the season. This year on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14, from Noon to 5:00 p.m., the Inn, a National Historic Landmark, will extend a warm welcome to explore the elegantly restored public rooms on the first floor and all of the second and third floor guest rooms. Interpreters

will be available throughout the house to share information about the architecture, furnishings, restoration and history of the founding family.

Designed by architect Robert Henderson Robertson for the William Seward Webb family, Shelburne House was significantly modified and enlarged between 1887 and 1900. After many years as the family's place for entertaining relatives and guests from all over the world, the mansion, on the shores of Lake Champlain, was renovated and opened as a seasonal inn in 1986, continuing its tradition of gracious hospitality.

Advance tickets for the House Tours are recommended and may be purchased from the Shelburne Farms Welcome Center, open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by calling (802) 985-

8442. The ticket price is \$8/adults; \$7/seniors and \$6/members of Shelburne Farms.

The Inn at Shelburne Farms opens on Friday, May 12 for accommodations in a delightful historic setting with spectacular lake and mountain views, and for breakfast, dinner and Sunday brunch, fine cuisine featuring the freshest local ingredients.

Shelburne Farms is a 1,400-acre working farm, National Historic Landmark and nonprofit environmental education organization whose mission is to cultivate a conservation ethic by teaching and demonstrating the stewardship of natural and agricultural resources. The Inn at Shelburne Farms is an integral part of the Farms' public programs, and proceeds from the tours benefit Shelburne Farms education programs.



Photo by: Carl Verlund

The Tea Room, one of the public rooms of the Inn at Shelburne Farms, will be open for tours on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14.



Pope Library

Monday & Friday
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Wednesday 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. - Noon.

West Barnet Senior Action Center

May 2006 Menu

May 3 - Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes, Fresh Carrots, Assorted Breads, Peaches & Cream.

May 5 - Buffet.

May 10 - Broccoli & Ham Quiche, Tossed Salad, Homemade Bread, Butterscotch Bar.

May 12 - Barbecued Chicken, Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Homemade Rolls, Vanilla Pudding with Oranges.

May 17 - Macaroni & Cheese, Sausage, Beets, Dark Breads, Pears.

May 19 - Liver & Onions, Mashed Potatoes, String Beans, Dark Breads, Fruited Jell-O.

May 24 - Cheeseburger Pie, Potatoes, Cole Slaw, Butterscotch Pudding.

May 26 - Pot Roast, Potatoes, Asparagus, Homemade Rolls, Tropical Fruit Cup.

May 31 - Macaroni & Tuna Salad, Carrot Raisin Salad, 4-Bean Salad, Dark 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.



Newark: Immaculate ranch with large 2 car garage. Many recent updates. New roof. Privacy cedar hedge. True artesian well with 100 GPM. Close to skiing and Vast. Large family room in basement. **\$150,000**

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BEGIN REALTY ASSOCIATES

Ernie Begin, Principal Broker of Begin Realty Associates, Inc., is pleased to announce that **Robin Jacobs** has recently completed the educational requirements and testing necessary to obtain her Vermont Real Estate Broker's License. Robin has been working in the Danville office of Begin Realty since January of 2002 and will assume the position of Broker in Charge there. She appreciates the demands of an ever-changing real estate market and sets high standards for thorough, professional and courteous service.



Robin is the proud mother of two children, Adrienne and Colin. Having recently purchased her own home, she understands the emotions involved in the process. She has assisted dozens of buyers and sellers with real estate transactions and strives to make the process smooth and efficient.

Robin looks forward to her new challenge as Broker in Charge of Begin Realty Associates of Danville. Please stop in and say "Hi!"

Start your search here.



P.O. Box 68, Main St., Danville, VT 05828
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Wendy Fayen.....751-8216
Barb Machell.....748-5248
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LAND

Peacham: 16.2 acre parcel - Located on a town maintained road, you'll find this parcel of open & wooded land with easy access & power on the lot. Nice local views. ML 229263 **\$69,000**

Danville: 1.8 acres - Secluded building lot in the heart of the village, surrounded by stonewalls and shrubbery for uncommon privacy. All permits are in place and it's ready to build on. ML 183705 **\$44,900**

Danville: 10.9 acres - Building lot just a short distance from the center of a quiet Vermont village. The building site is prepared, engineered septic design available, and driveway in place. ML 216566 **\$69,500**

Danville: 3.51 acres - The last lot of a 3-lot subdivision - ready for your summer or year-round home. Nice views with a little clearing, easy access, power nearby. Lot #1 ML 180315 **Offered for \$37,500**

Danville: 98.5 acres - Don't miss this rare opportunity to own a large parcel of unspoiled beauty in the Northeast Kingdom. This land has a little of everything □ Over 3,000 ft. of road frontage, approximately 35 acres of rolling fields, beautiful views, mixed woodlands, year-round brook, beaver pond, and wildlife galore. Whatever your dream may be, you can make it happen here. ML 243098 **\$279,000**



Peacham: Circa 1840 farmhouse with recent systems updates, clean, spacious, bright & attractive home in a rural setting with very nice southeastly views. There are 3 BRs, 1 and 3/4 baths, den, a 2-room summer kitchen, attached garage on 1 acre of level land. ML 259297 **\$219,000**

Start your search here.



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Ernie Begin.....748-4218
Connie Sleath.....748-0016
Rosemary Gingue.....748-8843
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AROUND THE TOWNS



May

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Daily - Northeast Kingdom Artisans' Guild Backroom Gallery, featuring new artwork from guild members and invited guest artists.

Mondays - Story Time, St. Johnsbury Athenaeum Youth Library, 10:30 a.m. (802) 748-8291.

Mondays - Story Time, Pope Library, Danville, 10 a.m. (802) 684-2256.

1st & 3rd Mondays - *Six O'Clock Prompt*, Writers' Support Group, 6 p.m. St. Johnsbury Athenaeum. (802) 633-2617.

2nd Monday - Cancer Support Group, NVRH Conference Room A, 4 p.m. (802) 748-8116.

Last Monday - Alzheimer's Support Group, Caledonia Home Health, Sherman Drive, St. Johnsbury. 7 p.m. (802) 748-8116.

Tuesdays - Baby & Toddler Story Hour, Cobleigh Library, Lyndonville. 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. (802) 626-5475.

Tuesdays - Bridge Club for all experience levels, Cobleigh Library, Lyndonville, 6:30 p.m. (802) 626-5475.

Wednesdays - Preschool Story Hour, Cobleigh Library, Lyndonville. 10 a.m. (802) 626-5475.

Wednesdays - Read 'n' Stuff, Cobleigh Library, Lyndonville. 3:30 p.m. (802) 626-5475.

Wednesdays - Ordinary Magic. Meditation for Life, St. Johnsbury Shambhala Center, 17 Eastern Avenue, 6-7 p.m.

3rd Wednesday - Cardiac Support Group, NVRH, 6:30 p.m. (802) 748-7401.

Thursdays - Introduction to Computers, Cobleigh Library, Lyndonville. 10 a.m. (802) 626-5475.

Thursdays - Danville Town Band Rehearsal, 7 p.m., Danville School auditorium. (802) 684-1180.

Fridays - Read and Weed Book



Photo Courtesy of Merton Leonard Collection

Recent articles on the pages of The North Star about the Elm House and Thurber's Hotel prompted interest in the great Eagle Hotel, which stood at what is now the corner of Hill Street and Route 2 across from the Danville Green. The Eagle was destroyed in a fire that swept the village in May 1889. According to the Village in the Hills town history published in 1995 the fire scorched eight acres and destroyed 30 buildings. Only the Elm House and the Caledonia Bank remained standing. Twenty three families were left homeless.

Club, Cobleigh Library, Lyndonville. 3:30 p.m. (802) 626-5475.

Saturday & Sunday - Planetarium Show 1:30 p.m., Fairbanks Museum, St. Johnsbury. (802) 748-2372.

Saturdays - Bridge Club for all experience levels, Cobleigh Library, Lyndonville, 1 p.m. (802) 626-5475.

3rd Saturday - Breast Cancer Support Group, Caledonia Home Health, Sherman Drive, St. Johnsbury, 10 a.m. (802) 748-8116.

May

3 First Wednesday Series with *Olin Robison and Religion, the U.S. and International Affairs*, St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, 7 p.m. (802) 748-8291.

5 Danville Old Time Contra Dance with Union Suit Hull's Victory String Band and Caller Chip Hedler, Knights of Pythias Hall, Danville. 8 p.m. (802) 563-3225.

6 Silent Auction and Jazz Jubilee fundraiser for NEK Youth Mentoring Program, St.

Johnsbury Country Club.
6 Woodlot Management Tour at Ken Whitehill's and Charles and Missy Woods' properties with Vermont Coverts, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Northwoods Stewardship Center, East Charleston. (802) 723-6551.

6 Book Sale, Davies Memorial Library, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Lower Waterford, VT. (802) 748-4609.

6-7 Clyde River Canoe Overnight from Island Pond to Pensioner Pond on the Clyde. Call for details at Northwoods Stewardship Center, East Charleston. (802) 723-6551.

6 Green Up Day
6 Men's Ecumenical Breakfast, Methodist Church, Danville, 7 a.m. (802) 684-3666.

6 NEK Audubon trip to Champlain Valley to see early migrants. Meet at 7 a.m. at West Danville parking lot. (802) 626-9071.

6 Scrabble Club, St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, Noon - 4 p.m., (802) 748-8291.

11 Research and Experiments with the Vanishing Pitcher Plant with Nick Gotelli of University of

Vermont, 7:30 p.m. Northwoods Stewardship Center, East Charleston. (802) 723-6551.

11 Film discussion following 7 p.m. film at Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury. (802) 748-8813.

12 Nearly Full Moon Paddle, Moonlight on the Clyde River, 7:30 p.m. Northwoods Stewardship Center, East Charleston. (802) 723-6551.

12 Sacred Circle Dance, Danville Congregational Church, 7-9 p.m. (802) 684-3867.

13 Migratory Bird day trip to Victory Bog. For information email bbutler@audubon.org

13 Estate Planning for Woodland Owners with Thom McEvoy, Vermont Extension Forester and author, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Northwoods Stewardship Center, East Charleston. (802) 723-6551.

14 Bird walk at Blue Mountain School, Wells River. Meet at Fairbanks Museum at 7:30 a.m. (802) 626-9071.

17 *British Ballad Tradition in New England* with Burt Porter, 1:30 p.m., Riverside Life Enrichment Center, Lyndonville.

(802) 626-3900.

19 Black Fly ~ Black Tie, benefit dinner, 6:30 p.m. Northwoods Stewardship Center, East Charleston. (802) 723-6551.

20 Bird trip to Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge in New Hampshire, 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. (802) 626-9071.

20 Early Birds Outing, spring glimpse of the early arrivals, 6:30 a.m. Northwoods Stewardship Center, East Charleston. (802) 723-6551.

20 Huge Yard Sale at North Danville Church to benefit North D'F'erville Community Club. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (802) 748-5205

22 Northeast Kingdom Legislative Breakfast, 8 a.m., Black Bear Tavern, St. Johnsbury. (802) 748-3678.

28 NEK Birdathon in various locations around Vermont's Northeast Kingdom. (802) 626-9071.

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

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